


276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801
Office 570-278-2954, Mon., Wed. & Thu. 8:10am to 2:30pm
Click on link to email St. Paul's: stpaulsmontrose@epix.net
Click on link to go to our Website: <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org>
Click on link to go to our Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmontrose>

Mission Statement for St. Paul's: To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

Nov. 21 - 27, 2021

In person worship or you can watch live streamed on YouTube. Go to St. Paul's website <http://stpaulschurchmontrose.org> and click this red button  on the front page, which takes you to our YouTube page.

Bible Study 1st & 2nd Thursdays. We will start with a light supper at 5:00 provided on a rotating basis by one of the members of the group.



Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:00 this year.
Christ Church at 4:30 and St Marks at 6:30.

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski
Officiant: Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski
Announcements: Lynne Graham
Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth
Lector: Karen Blye-McAbee

Readings for this week

First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Psalm: 93
Epistle: Revelation 1:4b-8
Gospel: John 18:33-37

First Wednesday of the Month on Dec. 1st:

Free Soup Dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church from 4:30-6:00 p.m. **Please note** that the Free Dinners are take-out only.

View from the Pew

The loss of a pet is hard. I lost my 12 year old golden doodle, Maggie, last week. She was the light of my life and her love, affection, and attentiveness to me has played a major role in my daily life. I miss her physical presence deeply and memories of her happy personality.

I got Maggie when she was one year old. My cousin in Dover, Delaware has a grooming business; she knew I was looking for a companion. She had Maggie because Maggie's owner's father had moved in with her and Maggie was a little too "Happy" and energetic for him. Maggie was offered to me, but I declined because I thought I wanted a puppy. My Mother said she would like a poodle, so she acquired "Happy Girl", the name given to Maggie by her previous owner.

The first time I laid eyes on Maggie it was love at first sight. Mother was pleased because Happy Girl was pretty "perky" and a little too big for her. (She thought Maggie was going to be a little poodle). That's how "Happy Girl" and I found each other.

I changed her name to Maggie and the rest is history. I loved her and she loved me.

I am tearing up with a lump in my throat as I write this. Any dog lover knows about this love for a dog. It is a love that is reciprocated by

your dog; it is the most pure, simple, joyful, and unconditional love I know of. I think God created dogs for us humans to help us better understand His love for us.

In the end, I know that loss is a lesson and certainly a part of life. Loss brings things into perspective; it makes you vulnerable, it helps you reach out to others who have had loss, it makes you reflect on what you have and it connects you to people who love you and offer consoling hugs. Through all that, you move forward in sadness and happy memories and accept that no living creature is here forever.

I like to think that Maggie, after a happy life with me, is frolicking around with her clumsy long legs going in every direction, in heaven.

Ending on an upbeat note, I got my little Scarlett almost 2 years ago in preparation of the inevitable loss of Maggie. She is a good distraction and comfort to me. She is helping me thru this and I thank God for her.

Hugs and kisses to all my church family,

Karen

Advent—New Beginnings and Old Traditions

As is the case every year, Advent, which begins on Sunday, November 28 is a time of contradictions. On one hand, we know that this season is an opportunity for quiet time and reflection as we anticipate the birth of our Savior and ready our hearts to receive Him. On the other hand, it is a time of hustle and bustle as we make preparations to celebrate Christmas. This year we have opportunities to address both.

Deacon Liz has suggested two resources for Advent which will be available the Sunday before Advent. One is a calendar which walks us through the days leading up to Christmas. The other is a booklet of meditations for daily use put out by the Church following the Way of Love. Each day offers one short idea on how to walk in love. As you wish, please take these

aids and schedule a few minutes of quiet time each day to read and reflect. For those of you on the more “techy” side, there is *Advent Word* which is one word for each day received by email with a meditation.

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, several events dot the calendar. On Saturday, December 4 from 9-3, the **Country Store at St. Paul's** showcases a bake table, raffle baskets, and the North Pole Kitchen serving hot soup, hotdogs, chili, and walking tacos. This fun day of fellowship provides a day for the community to come into our church and the all the profits go to a local ministry. No need to be invited to help; we can use everyone in some capacity or another.

Our **Annual Memory Luncheon** takes place on Sunday, December 12 at noon following the service. A free lunch sponsored by Stop the Stigma gathers friends to remember and honor any loved ones in recovery or lost to addiction and those grieving any loss during the holidays. Come be with those who understand what you feel. No registration required. If St. Paul's parishioners will each bring a “brunchy” potluck dish for the meal, we will have a feast.



Coats for Our Community has a final distribution of free, warm winter coats on Wednesday, December 15 and Thursday, December 16 from 9-6 at St. Paul's. We need someone in the Parish Hall during those hours while people choose coats. If you have a

spare hour or two, please contact Dan Graham or John Finlon to spell the chiefs.

And finally, our Advent will culminate with our **candlelight Christmas Eve Service** at 5:00. All are welcome. Ask your friends and neighbors to join us for this beautiful, moving remembrance of Jesus' birth.



Trehab Feed A Friend Thanksgiving

Last year the program provided "turkey and all the trimmings" to 831 families (2,826 individuals) in Susquehanna County. As the pandemic continues, they are asking for monetary donations this year. All donations can be mailed to:

Trehab/Feed A Friend
PO Box 366
Montrose, PA 18801



Interfaith Christmas Dinner

Interfaith is asking for donations of stuffing mix for the Christmas Dinner give away. We have been asked for 50 boxes. All donations will need to be at the church by **Dec. 1**.



Interfaith Christmas Toy Tags

Gifts should be valued at \$30. Gifts are to be unwrapped with the tag securely attached. If batteries are required, please include them with the gift. All Gifts must be brought to the Church by **Dec 5th**.

For those who are ill or have requested our prayers: Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Johanna Masters, Jeannine Ball, Sandy Nagy, Ray Arcario, Addie Evans, Matthew Wilson, Cathy Hammons & Carol Marker.

As we continue to pray for those at Christ Church and St. Mark's, please remember Adeleigh (Addie) Evans in your daily prayers. She is the 6-year-old great-granddaughter of Nina Robinson of St. Mark's. She has been diagnosed with cancer. It would be lovely if we could send encouraging cards now and throughout the year. Her address is 3 James Way, Archbald, PA 18403. Thank you.

Birthdays for November: Brenda Syle 11/23.

Birthdays for December: Dan Graham 12/4, James Cain 12/9 & John Warriner 12/31.

St. Paul's Altar Flowers: If you wish to reserve, a Sunday please sign-up on the sheet at the back of the church. Then fill out an Altar Flower Card. Please use one card for each request, enclose your check for \$46.00 with the card in the envelope provided, and place it in the offering plate or send it to the parish office prior to the week that you are doing flowers. For those wishing to supply your own flowers please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church and fill out an altar flower card indicating you will do your own flowers. Thank you!



Donations You can scan the QR Code. Or go to St. Paul's Website and click the Donate Button for online giving. You can mail your tithes & pledges to the church office at 276 Church St., Montrose, PA 18801

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact: you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours call Deacon Liz 212-222-8109.

Our thanksgivings: We give thanks for those who celebrate their birthdays this week. *O God, our times are in your hand: look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives. Amen.*

anniversaries this week may live out the covenant they have made. May they grow in forgiveness, loyalty and love, and come at last to the eternal joys, which you have promised through Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with them this day and forever. Amen.

We give thanks for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week. *Grant o God, in your compassion, that those celebrating wedding*

17 Photos this week.

24th Sunday After Pentecost, November 14^h

THE GOSPEL- For nation will rise against nation

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birthpangs." *(Mark 13:1-8)*

Fr. Bill's Morning Prayer

In this early morning we pause to pray. We meditate on your goodness Lord. We realize that your love, forgiveness, and goodness are absolute. We beg to shelter under that umbrella of your loving kindness. Undeserving as we are, we are consoled by one ontological truth, that you are greater than our greatest imagination of you.

Lord we walk in mystery where you are concerned. We puzzle with the concept of 'adoration' or even worship for that matter. What God is narcissistic enough to crave worship? Unless God is that goodness and greatness that is far beyond any ultimate that we can define or imagine. Being itself would fit that category. We need our God to be, and to be completely.

No wonder Moses was told that he was 'walking on holy ground.' Too holy even for his sandals. And when he asked: "What name shall I tell them when they ask?" God replied: "I am. Tell them, I am has sent you." Tough concept imagining being as an eternal present. Tougher still to imagine 'that state of being that holds all things in existence'.

John MacQuarrie that wise and prophetic Scotsman, talked of God in one way only. "God," he said "is Being." A brave thing to say, without facing a storm of criticism for being no more than a pluralist. But what if we are talking about God's essence? We are so used to giving 'attributes' to God, when in reality God just is. Hence his words to Moses: "Tell them that 'I am' sent you."

God is not 'everything' in terms of physical reality or matter; rather God is everything in terms of being. Without God there is no being and no reality. In truth we worship, esteem and adore God, who is greater and more deserving, than the God we do believe in.

Strengthen our belief Lord. Give us faith seeking understanding. Amen.

THIS WEEK

November 14th Service

The November 14th live-streamed 10:00 Deacon's Mass was led by Deacon Liz. Lynne Graham made announcements, Tom Undercoffler was the lector and Mary Ann DeWitt played the organ Prelude, Organ Meditation and Postlude, along with four hymns. As with all our live-streamed services, you can watch it live or any time on YouTube.

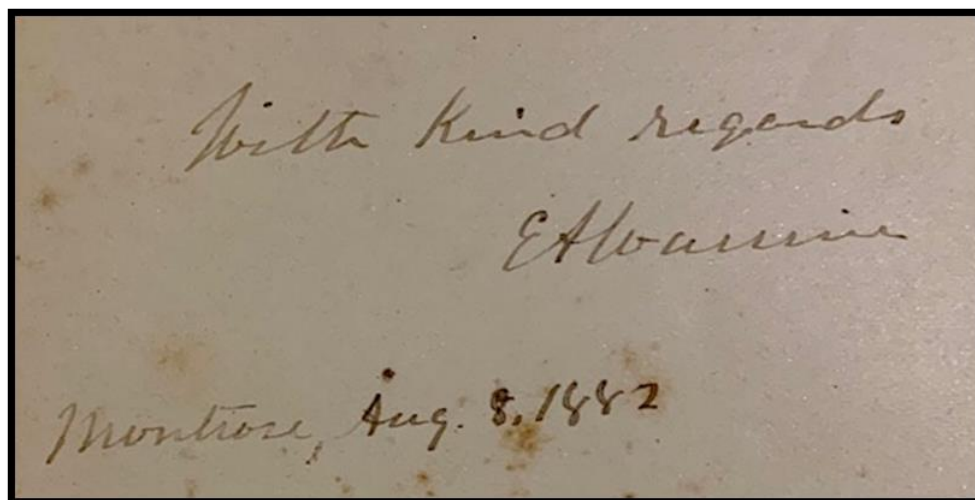
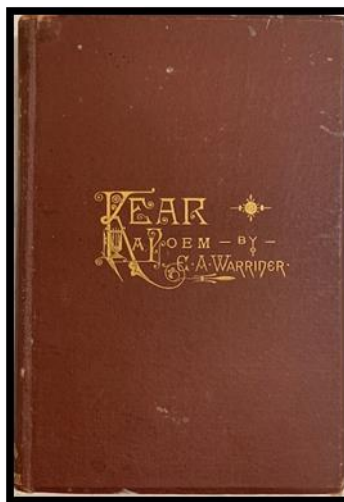
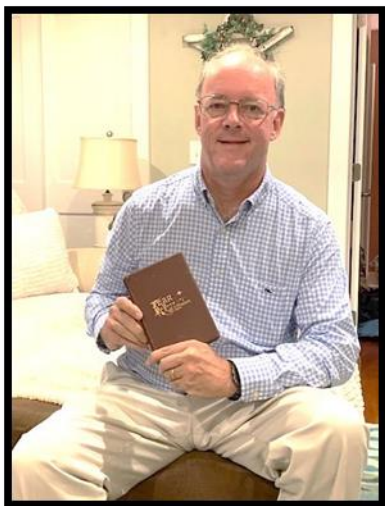
New Manger

A new church manger has been built to replace the existing one this Christmas. The older one had been used for a "long time" and Jerry Sock can remember repairing it in early 2000. The older one was just too large and too heavy for our current volunteers and getting it up and down the stairs was a challenge. The new one is lighter and smaller. The old one will be offered on Craig's List free to any church. "Well done good and faithful servant."



Rev. Warriner Book Received

Parishioner John Warriner received a nice gift recently from Peggy (Allison) Hamlin, daughter of the Rev. William Allison. Rev. Allison was St. Paul's minister from 1947 to 1956 and Peggy had lived in our rectory. It was a signed copy of *Kear: A Poem in Seven Cantos*. Originally published in 1882 by J.B. Lippincott, it was written by John's Gt. Grandfather, the Rev. Edward A. Warriner (1829-1908), who was St. Paul's rector from 1867-1906. It was written during Rev. Warriner's rectorship while in Montrose.



Bread Basket

As you know, because of Covid, we no longer pass the offering plates but put them on a table in the back. Don't forget, there are two collection plates. The money that is put in the breadbasket goes to purchase the bread for the Montrose Mobile Food Pantry, which distributes food on the second Friday of each month.



Betty Will be Retiring in the Spring

You may notice a “Parish Administrator Needed” ad in one of several papers soon. Betty is planning on retiring in the spring and we have begun to advertise for a new administrator. Check our webpage out for further information on the posting.




PARISH ADMINISTRATOR NEEDED
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Montrose PA, is hiring a parish administrator. The position description, job qualifications, knowledge, skills, and abilities can be found on the church website at
stpaulschurchmontrose.org
 If questions call 570-278-2954



Sleeping Bag Ministry in Full Swing

Coats for Our Community uses the motto “We keep your neighbors a little warmer” but the Sleeping Bag Ministry could use it also. They make sleeping bags from donated blankets and material. The finished bags are sent for use in Scranton. Their motto is “if you can tie a knot, you can help make sleeping bags.” They meet the 2nd Wednesday and 2nd Saturday of the month and are always looking for volunteers.



Mid November in Susquehanna County

"November came roaring in with gray skies, gusty winds and more wet weather." In November here we wait for the first snow – when will it be? It was on the 2nd last year, the 8th in 2019, and the 15th in 2018. LaRue's cow's don't seem to worry about it, they don't seem to mind the snow. There seems to be more uncut corn around than usual this year. You see it on the way to town. It's a perfect time for hiking or driving on our back country roads. The picture of the six-point buck was taken on Locust St. near Dave Calby's mom's place. So when is that first snow coming? Soon.





Remember When

Last year at this time St. Paul's volunteers were using a warm weather week to help decorate Montrose for Christmas. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

