



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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.



May 1 – May 7, 2022

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.

Thursday Bible Study will resume on May 5th at 5:00 pm in the Guild Room.

Social Night 5/6:

We will continue with Social Night at Dan and Lynne's on Friday, May 6 at 6:00 (144 Dayton Rd, Montrose PA 18801). Everyone is welcome. Please bring a beverage and a dish to share. We will provide the main dish. Weather permitting, we will be outside. Lawn chairs would be helpful. Carpool if possible. Hope to see you there!

Free Soup Night!:

This month's soup night will be May 4th, from 3:30-5:00; Drive-by pickup on the left hand side of the church by the HO Mart. ALL ARE WELCOME! The soup choices for this month are Cheeseburger and Vegetable Beef and comes with a small salad, applesauce, cookie and a roll! Hope to see you there!

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

Psalm: 150

The New Testament: Revelation 1:4-8

Gospel: John 20:19-31

This Week's Lay Ministers:

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski

Officiant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth

Lector: Vickie Calby

View from the Pew

Somewhere deep in our woods, a peacock lives with a flock of wild turkeys. I haven't seen it myself, but I don't really need to see it to believe such a wild and wonderful thing is true. It comes from a few hunter's tales — practical folk, hardly the types to invent such a story. A trail cam, I'm told, backs up their stories. So I will take it on faith.

The thought of it makes me smile when I picture the beautiful blue and exotic bird, it's magnificent tail dragging through the mud and snow of our fields and pastures, the companion of wild turkeys.

I have always loved peacocks. Since childhood, I have wanted one. Yes, I know they are ill tempered and scream wildly at the slightest upset. I don't care. They are beautiful and exotic and mysterious, visitors from a strange land far from our woods and pastures and cold and snow. And while my dream has gone unfulfilled I really haven't given up on it.

I have so many questions, though. Why did the peacock go native, so to speak? Was he abandoned by his owners and fall in with the turkeys in hunger and desperation? Is he lost? How does he live as they do — scratching through the snow for mast under the beech trees, picking through a freshly spread manured field for seeds? And how do the turkeys with their flock of hierarchies feel about him? The great and posturing Toms whose displays are nearly as magnificent as his? The

leagues of jakes jockeying for mastery of the hens and their poults?

Every week from the pew we proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. Those ancient words are more powerful at Easter time as we think about the resurrected Christ, which is the center of our belief. Unquestioned. We take it on faith.

There are mysteries in God's world that can never be answered, only accepted. Meanwhile, somewhere in Auburn, a peacock lives with a flock of wild turkeys. Why? And how?

That is the beauty of mystery. I will never know.

-Nancy Dooling

Birthdays for May: Robert Kimmel 5/1, Trent Caine 5/2, Mother Liz 5/5, Richard Marker 5/10, Scott Finlon 5/14, Carole Canfield 5/23, Gaby Warriner 5/26, Kate Bennett 5/27, Katherine Syle 5/28, Lucas Bartron 5/29, Jerry Sock 5/29

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, Addie Evans, Carol Marker, Ellen Ely, Rebecca Bechtel & Suzanne Beamish.

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency

Contact: you can call the parish office during office hours. After hours, call Mother Liz 212-222-8109.

Church Closures please turn your radio dial to WPEL 96.5 FM. We will announce any closure of our church service on that station.

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.

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

Social Night 5/20:

We will continue with Social Night at Wanda and Harry Peirce's at 73 South Lake Rd, Bel Air Lake Montrose Pa 18801; 570-432-4019; wpeirce21@gmail.com. Directions from Lake Montrose; North on Rt. 29 for 7+ miles, Left on Laurel Lake Rd for 1 ½ miles, Right on Mahoney Rd 1st Right on South Lake Rd 2nd House on the left (beige with red shutters) Everyone is welcome. Please bring a beverage and a dish to share. We will provide the main dish. Weather permitting, we will be outside. Lawn chairs would be helpful. Carpool if possible. Hope to see you there!



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

12 Photos this week

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER – April 24th

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

THE GOSPEL - My Lord and my God

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. (*John 20:19-31*)

View from the Pew – Fr. Bill

Prayer is the strangest word. We know what we mean when we use it. There is a space where it fits if we can find it. Prayer squeezes into the cracks and crevices of our lives. We feel its absence, know its importance, but find it hard to have any loyalty to it. Prayer is our lifejacket in times of desperation. We are glad that it is there, but we lose sight of it when the crisis has passed.

Psalms, scripture, even poetry tells us that our attitude to prayer should be different. Prayer should be like the air that we breathe. Life without prayer should be like life without flowers, music, or sweet perfumes. Too often we do not think like that. Rather we treat prayer like the 'cruise control' in the car. We simply forget that it is there.

Pondering on this in this 'morning prayer,' I can only think that it is because we too often worship a God who is 'out there!' We put too much distance between ourselves and the God that we

worship. We need to keep our God closer, like our favorite soccer team, baseball heroes, or even Linus' Blanket.

Would prayer be different if it was a conversation? We frustrate ourselves on 'Messenger,' because we are forced to wait too long for a reply. Praying, talking to the God within us simply calls for us to shut-up and listen to the God who inhabits our mind, heart and spirit. ----Did you think of this before? Sure, you did! Don't you remember thinking that all your best prayer is done in the car? And on a long journey?

You were trapped, weren't you? You switched the radio off to have a long think. You needed to talk to someone or rather have someone talk to you. God responded. You were amazed at the clarity; how clear things became. You just knew on reflection that it never came from yourself. God was speaking, in the deepest recesses of your cognitive thought. Maybe even welling up from that sub-conscious mind that carries all your hurt, pain, worries and concerns.

I asked a musician where his beautiful, distinctive melody came from? "Well, I wasn't really doing anything. Just sitting here running my fingers over the keys. Listening to the scales, adding a minor or a seventh. Then I did the same but switched key, and there it was begging for harmony. I played it over and over, in order not to lose it. I couldn't believe I had found it. I added a bass line and kept shifting it looking for a counter melody. But to be honest, it was really a piece of serendipity. I don't really know where it came from."

Prayer can be like that. Largely because the God that dwells within us is a much greater musician than we are if we stay with the analogy. Change the way we think about prayer, and we change the way we think about our God. We do not save our conversations with the 'one we love' till moments of desperation. Why do so with the God who is so close? Like Linus we need wrap ourselves in God's Blanket and simply listen.

-Father Bill

THIS WEEK

April 24th Service

The April 24th live-streamed 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was led by Lynne Graham who also did the announcements. John Warriner read as lector. Joyce Printz played the organ and the piano, which included the Prelude and Postlude, along with two hymns. As you know, our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube. Just go to our webpage and hit the red button.

Happy Birthday Naomi

After church on Sunday, there was a birthday party for Naomi Bennett who just turned 88. Yup, 88. Granddaughters Kate and Shyanne Bennett were able to help sing Happy Birthday and share a piece of the cake. Happy birthday Naomi.





Betty's Retirement Party

On Wednesday, April 27th, a retirement party for our long time parish administrator, Betty Depue, was held at the Montrose VFW. Betty has been our parish administrator since 2011. Lynne made a wonderful speech. Betty's card said: "We cannot thank you enough for everything that you have done for us over the past 11 years. Your organization and skill kept us afloat. It's been a privilege working with you, and now it's an honor helping you celebrate your retirement. We are keeping you in our prayers always, especially while you travel. May God bless your journey. Don't forget about us! We will be keeping an eye out for post cards from you! With the utmost heartfelt respect and gratefulness, Happy Retirement". Everyone was smiling at the table while having a wonderful lunch to honor Betty. Betty also brought a few family members, including her husband Dan.

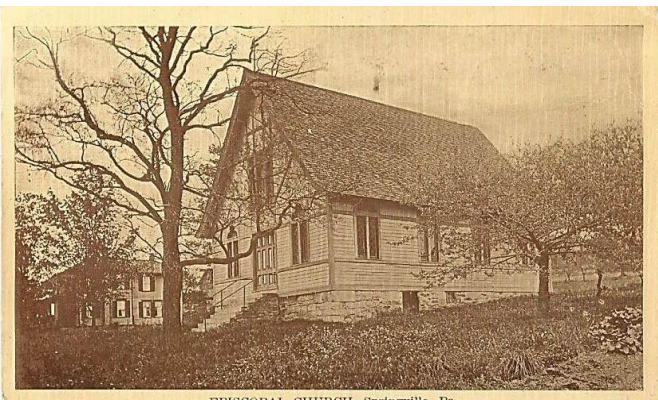


St. Andrew's church in Springville

Don Lee's antique shop in Springville has the old sign on its wall that came from St. Andrews Church. The church, which began its existence as St. Jude's in 1817, later was renamed St. Andrew's. The original church building was built in 1829 and consecrated on October 24, 1834. It burned on February 14, 1879. A new church was built in the spring of 1880 with the help of St. Paul's. The newer building is shown in the 1920 postcard below. It was located to the left (north) of the old Springville school. Throughout its existence, St. Andrew's often shared

ministers with St. Mark's and St. Paul's. As attendance dropped by the 1960s, it was put under the care of St.

Paul's, closed in 1972 or 1973 by St. Paul's Rev. Pease, and sold in 1976. It was demolished about 1980 but the sign was saved.



EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Springville, Pa.

LATE APRIL IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

No winter lasts forever, no spring forgets to come. Wow, what was that all about? We got hammered with about 12 inches of heavy spring snow last week. We cut up and hauled out a truckload of limbs and branches from St. Paul's to the town yard dump. The snow just broke lots of stuff. But the snow melted quickly and that harbinger of spring, forsythia, whose bright yellow blossoms are a welcome site, is blooming. And there seems to be several eagles around. This one was taken by Pat Gallagher near Lower South Main St.



REMEMBER WHEN

Here is one of Virginia Lewis' pictures of St. Paul's in early April in the late 1930s sometime. It was before the Memorial Garden was built and you can see the Knoll house on the far left of the picture (which was purchased by the church for the garden.) The chimney behind the church in the parish hall was removed when the new roof was put on in the 1970s because we went from two furnaces to one.

