

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Weekly Update

## September 18- September 24



**276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801**


Office 570-278-2954, Monday-Thursday 8:15am-3:00pm

Click on link to email St. Paul's: [stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto: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>

To proclaim God's love by word and example and to seek Christ in one another.

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.



**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

### Church Closures

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

# Statement from Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on the death of Queen Elizabeth II

Today we mourn the passing and celebrate the life and legacy of Queen Elizabeth II. My prayers for peace go out for her, for her loved ones, and for all those who knew and loved her throughout the world.

Her resilience, her dignity, and her model of quiet faith and piety have been—and will continue to be—an example for so many.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry  
Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Episcopal Church



# View from the Pulpit: Father Bill

In our morning prayer we pray that your Holy Spirit may come amongst us and bring us renewal. For renewal is something that we need to sweep away the clouds of doubt. Not a renewal that brings change but a renewal that reminds us of the pristine and ancient traditions in which we stand.

Our Baptism creaks with age, hanging on ancient words. We renounce some devil as if he lived next door, without ever giving him a name. When we really mean that we reject hate and in all its forms. Racism, discrimination, intolerance, abuse, violence, terror, slavery, crime, bigotry, jingoism, fascism, supremacy and all the 'isms.

Baptism calls us each day to follow our beliefs, teaching, understandings and wisdoms and give them flesh. Who really are the 'lost sheep'? Often it is not us, we are fine. No, Baptism calls on us to be the shepherd and go looking, searching and we will not find the sheep we are looking for in a church.

The whole point of Luke's story is that Jesus was speaking and eating with sinners and tax-collectors. They were the lowest of the low, the untouchables of Jewish society. They were the lost sheep of the tribes of Israel. So where do we find the 'lost sheep' of our day? Finding the 'lost sheep' is not an invitation to take a place in a church pew. Finding the 'lost sheep' is first a change in our own mindset.

We stand uneasy contemplating 'the lost sheep'. We do not mind so much when the Parable story, refers to ourselves as the 'lost'. For that only brings Christ searching for us and speaks of redemption. It is the thought that we are the shepherd and must go searching, because it takes us out of our comfort zone. Now we are treading through marshland unsure of our footing.

Hospitals, where we can catch anything; Nursing Homes with old people, reminding us of our own mortality; prisons where we associate everyone with violence; Funeral Homes where we need deal with someone else's loss and grief. Orphans with that dead look of desperation in their eyes. The 'lost sheep' are not as cuddly as the Bible pictures portray them.

Lost in a world of drugs, living always with a 'bin load of bottles'. It is hard to find your way when you no longer know how you ever got there. We still have 'untouchables', we just rarely talk about them in church. Now we need ask: "are our 'big red doors open or shut"?

Yet, Lord, there lies our renewal, the living Gospel in all its bare glory. Help us to be shepherds, Lord. Help us to dare to help the 'lost sheep'. Amen.

# View from the Pew:

**The following was written by a dear friend of Joe Weldon,  
Harold Gary.**

Joe Weldon and I shared a simple but most amusing sort of secret which with only a single sign from either of us, gleaned a knowing grin. But before I reveal that bit of humor. . . . I always enjoyed singing beside Joe in any of our community choruses including the Barbershop "Harmony Men" - bass or baritone, it didn't matter to me. It just seemed that I caught on to the music quicker if I sat or stood beside Joe. Some Montrose singers were invited to participate in the Oratorio, Elijah, with the Downtown Singers of Binghamton, twenty some years ago and once again I stood beside Joe. At about the third rehearsal, we both happened to notice a young tenor member, hair in his eyes and past his shoulders, dressed in broken rainbow colors ---Joe looked at me and I looked back at Joe and we refrained from laughing.

Each week the kid was dressed differently and uniquely, also with something different hanging from his ears. Finally at dress rehearsal we were not sure what he was wearing. His outfit looked like night pajamas and from his ears hung three paperclips, end to end from each ear. At that sight, we really did have to smother a laugh. The kid did look quite decent the night of the production. However, every time since, Joe and I greeted each other with a little tug on an ear and a chuckle.

From this brief encounter, we realize that no matter how we look or dress, we are still all children of God.

## **We would love for you to be included!**

Article submissions (photos, community news items, or a personal or faith story) are due every Wednesday. This is YOUR newsletter, and all congregants are invited to share their stories and photos. Please email your items to Kate at [stpaulsmontrose@epix.net](mailto:stpaulsmontrose@epix.net) or John Warriner at [atjdwarr@me.com](mailto:atjdwarr@me.com); post an item to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 276 Church St. Montrose, PA 18801 on Facebook; or drop a note in the offering plate.



# Sundays Service

Sept  
18



## Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Old Testament:

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm: Psalm 113

The Epistle: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

## This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Barb Undercoffler & Nancy  
Dooling

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Vickie Calby

Organist: Joyce Printz

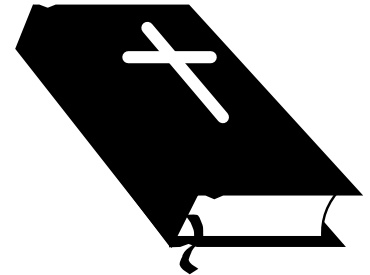
## This week's Hymns:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

There is a balm in Gilead

Be thou my vision Lord of my heart

God of Grace and God of Glory

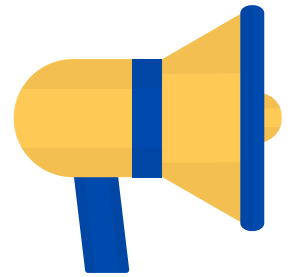


## This week's Gospel according to Luke:

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

# Happenings and Announcements



## Save the Date!

Women's Spiritual Retreat at beautiful Camp Archbald, October 16th from 1-5 PM. Local speakers with expertise on wellness topics: Donna Fetzko, Vera Walline, Donna LaBar, Deb Shurtleff. Information, activities and quiet time available. Topics/activities: self care, nutrition, spirituality. meditation. yoga. sensory hike. Healthy snacks will be served. To register, call 570-240-6390 OR send name, phone #, email address and check for \$5 (registration fee) to: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, PO Box 459, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.



### For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Jeannine Ball, Sandy Nagy, Addie Evans, Carol Marker, Ellen Ely, Rev. Janet Watrous, Joey Monaghan, Vanessa Smith.

### Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:

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



### This Months Birthdays:

Nancy Dooling 9/11, Sandy Seeger 9/15, Esther Welden 9/19, Sean Eckert 9/28



### This Months Anniversaries:

Harry and Wanda Peirce: September 4, 1981

### 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.

# Last Week's Service and Events

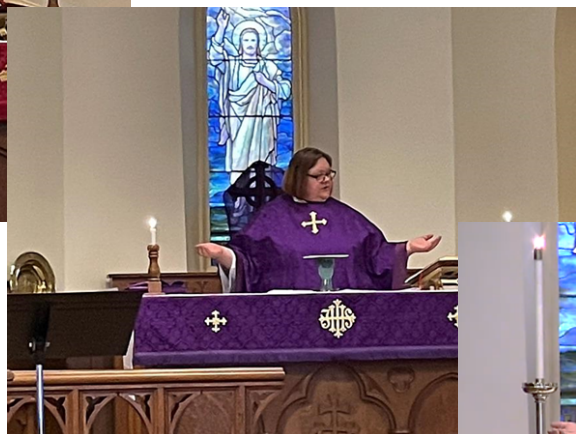
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – SEPTEMBER 11

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this  
that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

The September 11th live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and also read as lector. Cathy Hammons played the organ. The service included four hymns along with the Prelude and Postlude. 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.

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
evermore his praises sing.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Mother Liz Through the Liturgical Seasons





## Bible Study

If you missed Bible Study on Wednesday, September 7th, you missed a lot. We began with a light supper at 5:00 after we cleaned up from Soup Night. We had a lively discussion of the Gospel reading from Luke 15:1-10 in which Jesus told the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin. How many of us have lost something-- keys, credit card, a relationship--only to find it or have it restored and rejoice. God seeks us out and rejoices in the same way over one sinner who repents. Bible study is a great place to ask questions (that may or may not be related to our Gospel lesson!) The next study is October 5th. Come, have some soup, and join us..

### Jack Lasher Honored for Service

The United Fire Company honored our own Jack Lasher recently for his 53 years of service. "Our department would not be where we are today without the dedication and sacrifice that these members made. Thank you for your continued dedication to us." If you see Jack, tell him congratulations.



### Montrose Mobile Food Pantry

September 9th was the second Friday of the month and it was the day the Montrose Mobile Food Pantry distributed their food. This month, 256 portions were distributed. As you know, St. Paul's pays for the bread. Contributions to cover the cost can be put in the breadbasket at the rear of the church.



## MID-SEPTEMBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

For it's a long, long while from May to December / But the days grow short when you reach September. Yowzah! The Harvest Moon on Saturday night put on a show. Rising on the eastern horizon, it was big and orange. What a sight. Golden rod in our fields is at its height, its yellow color is bright. Mixed with it are the wild asters, a touch of purple. All kinds of fungi are growing – they waited all summer for some rain and once they got it, they exploded. Salt Springs Park north of town is calling. Just a perfect time for a walk on a trail there. It's beautiful. Finally, fall sunsets are worth going out and watching. Golds and reds. It's Early autumn in Susquehanna County. Outstanding! Maybe the best time of year!







## Stump Removed

The stump of the tree that fell down about a month ago was ground down Tuesday and is no more. Thanks to JJ Carpenter, who is also going to cut a tree for us.



## Soup Nights Past

Last week we had some early photos of our first soup nights. The article generated some interest and we received a couple more. Here they are.

