

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

September 4- September 10



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

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.

View from the Pulpit: Mother Liz

It's back to school time! The kids are headed back to school and here at St. Paul's we are starting up Bible Study on Wednesday nights. Join us as we gather to meditate on the word and have a spirit-filled discussion of the Gospel for the week.

My new schedule beginning in September is Tuesday – Thursday to accommodate my participation in the Vital and Effective Leadership Institute (VELI). This is a monthly meeting on Tuesdays for newly ordained clergy and clergy new to the diocese. The Diocese of Central Pennsylvania and the Diocese of Bethlehem will be partnering to provide a strong program. The Canon Barbara and Canon Melinda from our diocese and Canon Chris and Dean Sarah from Central Pennsylvania will be leading our discussions and seasoned clergy from both diocese will provide local mentoring support.

Topics range from ministry in context to stewardship, staff management, family systems, self-care, best practices in ministry and an Easter debrief. At the end of the year in May, we will gather in person to worship together to celebrate the end of the year. Having been with you for a year, I have been navigating many of these areas already, however, there is always more to learn. So, I too am headed back to school in a manner of speaking. I look forward to lively conversations with my new colleagues here in DioBeth and with clergy from Central PA too.

Last week Stop the Stigma presented the International Drug Overdose Awareness Day event. Several organizations provided information for the those gathered, there was a presentation on supportive messaging regarding addiction and recovery, someone in recovery shared his story of hope, and we rang a bell in remembrance for those we love and lost to addiction this year. Refreshments were enjoyed by all. A special thank you to the United Fire Company for the use of their hall. Needless to say, hardly a drop of rain fell on the gathering.

This week I attended the Homeless Community Task Force with our county commissioners, and we heard from representatives from Children and Youth Services, the Susquehanna Housing Authority, Trehab, the Women's Resource Center, and Tiny House Village. It was inspiring to learn about the services offered to those in need in our community and about how they can access them. We also heard about the challenges we face as a support community, from affordable housing availability, to transportation, and funding. The various agencies spoke about the collaboration that takes place between them in order to achieve positive outcomes for those they serve.

There was also discussion about perceived stigmatization by those in need when accessing services. When folks seek assistance, they sometimes feel as though they are being looked down upon for their circumstances. Therefore, it was suggested that when assisting them, do their best to treat them with respect because, despite the fact that they are in need, they are human beings. The thing that struck me especially was hearing about someone in dire circumstances attending a church that treated them with disrespect. She said that we are all God's children, aren't we supposed to love one another. I replied that what she said was true and that we are all sinners by virtue of our humanity, that it is God's place to judge, not ours, and that if they attend a church that makes them feel unwelcome, please continue to look for another because there are churches who will welcome them with open arms

View from the Pew:



One late summer I had a monarch butterfly caterpillar that was munching happily on a milkweed leaf. I had it in a jar with air holes poked in the top to let the air exchange in this little guy's new habitat. When they are ready, the caterpillar sticks its hind end to the underside of a leaf or branch and hang upside down, forming the shape of the letter J and from there, forms into a beautiful green chrysalis with a gold band before emerging as a butterfly.



Somehow I had miscalculated the time it would go through its metamorphosis process and thought it would complete sooner than it did. So, the chrysalis ended up making a 1,588 mile trip with me to Saint George Island, FL, then Grovetown, GA before it finally broke out of its shell into an alluring and breathtaking adult monarch butterfly. Its colors so vivid and contrasting, like something printed using a fresh color ink cartridge on the proper printer paper. From there I set it free and hope that its internal compass wasn't all messed up thinking it was still in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Speaking of setting something free, this past Friday, I had to let my cat Hazel and long-time furry companion go after coming ill several months ago. She really was my constant companion, always ready to greet me coming home and keep my lap warm when I would sit in my chair. It was the right thing to do, but what a difficult decision to make letting her go. Bon voyage, Hazel.

- John Warriner

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; 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

AUG
25



Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Old Testament:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm: 1

The Epistle: Philemon 1-21

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Barb Undercoffler & Nancy Dooling

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Nancy Dooling

Organist: Cathy Hammons

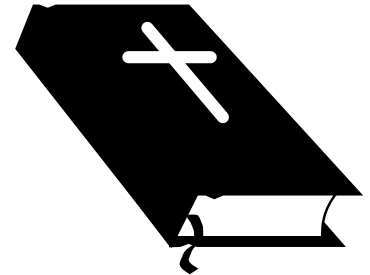
This week's Hymns:

All Hail

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Take up your cross, the Savior said

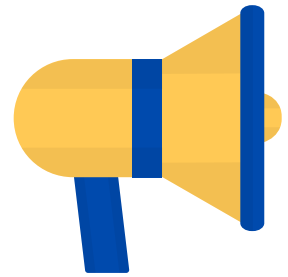
Praise to the living God



This week's Gospel according to Luke:

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Happenings and Announcements



Soup Night is back this month!

Don't forget September 7th is Soup Night! Come and get your Vegetable Beef or Chicken Noodle!



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.

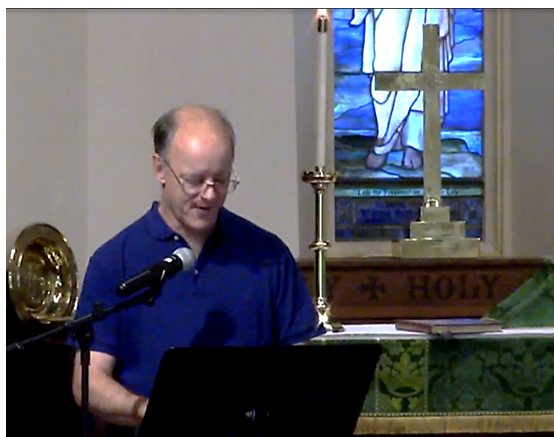
Last Week's Service and Events

TWELTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - AUGUST 21

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

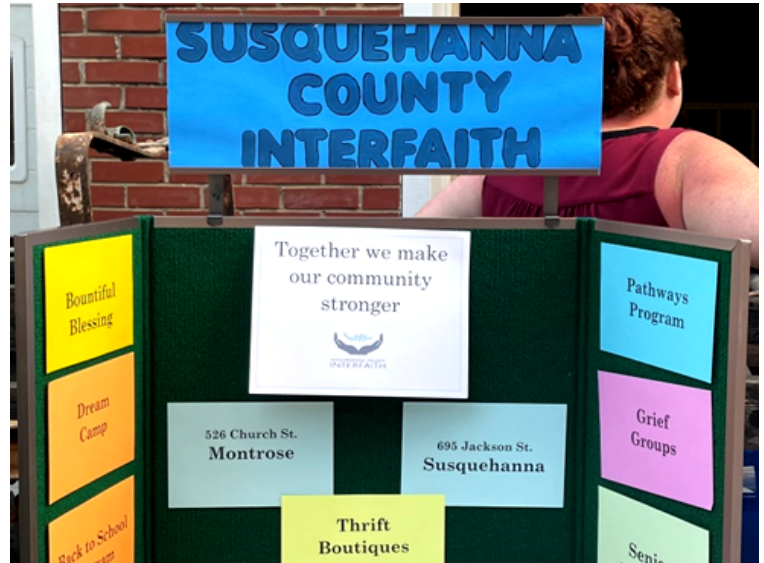
The August 28th live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and John Warriner read as lector. Joyce Printz played the piano. The service included four hymns along with the Prelude and Postlude. As you know, our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube. Just go to our webpage and hit the red button.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His Word;
In God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.



International Overdose Awareness Day Event

Thank you to the United Fire Hall for allowing us the space to hold our event without fear of rain for the first time in 4 years! On Friday, August 26th at 5:00 Stop the Stigma sponsored our annual event to raise awareness of addiction in Susquehanna County and to offer support to those touched by this disease. We had local speakers, educational resource tables, a remembrance of loved ones whose death was caused by overdose, and free food, always a draw! Many thanks to everyone on the Stop the Stigma committee who made this educational event possible and who work so hard to bring the subject of substance use disorder out of the darkness.



LATE AUGUST IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“The crickets felt it was their duty to warn everybody that summertime cannot last forever.” Beautiful sunny days, and a little rain on Tuesday. Staghorn sumacs along the roads are showing their “staghorn”. A little dew on the grass in the morning finally shows the spider webs. School started this week and all the parents did the happy dance. The barn swallows have left – see you next year. Susquehanna carrots have been harvested – the soil here is just not conducive to carrot growing! Short and stubby. A Susquehanna summer.





Morning Has Broken – Susquehanna Summer Sunrise

Morning has broken like the first
morning

Blackbird has spoken like the first
bird

Praise for the singing, praise for the
morning

Praise for them springing fresh
from the world

Our Traveling Betty

Betty is home! Our retired Parish Administrator has finally made it back from her scenic route to Alaska. She sent Kate a bunch of awesome pictures so if you would like to see them all and hear more about Bettys travels, come visit Kate in the office!



Vestry Highlights

August 24, 2022

Mother Liz opened the meeting with prayer and we approved the agenda.

We approved the minutes of the June 16, 2022 meeting.

Mother Liz read the Bible study scripture Luke 14:1, 7-14 in which Jesus tells a parable about humbling oneself and inviting the sick, lonely, homeless into our lives without expectation of repayment.

Mother Liz reported (among other things) on her discretionary fund; that she delivered sleeping bags to Keystone Mission in Scranton; she attended Morning Prayer at Meadow View (third Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m.); preached at St. Matthew's on August 7; held Altar Guild training; and has advertised for an organist to fill in once/month.

It was noted for the minutes that installation of the new water heater for the kitchen and the tree removal cost were approved by email.

We discussed results of an assessment of ministry priorities that was taken by each Vestry member and some options of how we might proceed with strategic planning.

We approved donations from our gas royalties to the Remembrance Book (names of those who died since last Diocesan Convention) which goes to United Thank Offering; to the Interfaith Backpack/shoe program for this school year; our china dishes to South Montrose Community Church which will have a commercial dishwasher; and purchase of a heavy duty sewing machine to help our Sleeping Bag ministry.

We reviewed and accepted the Treasurer's report.

Looking ahead:

Soup Night September 7 @ 3:30

Bible Study September 7 @5:00

Morning Prayer at Meadow View Wednesday, September 21 @10:00

Susquehanna Symphony Society Concert Friday, November 11

Mother Liz closed the meeting with the Lord's prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Our next Vestry meeting will be Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. This is a change from our usual third Thursday to allow Mo. Liz to attend DOK training.



1ST ANNUAL SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY RECOVERY DAY

JOIN US!

THERE WILL BE:

BOUNCE
HOUSE

GUEST
SPEAKERS

RAFFLES

FACE
PAINTING

& MORE !!

FREE
ICE CREAM

DUNK
TANK

LIVE
MUSIC

SPONSORED BY: SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY RECOVERY ALLIANCE
AND TREHAB



(570) 278-5220



Montrose Memorial Park
Between Union St. and Jackson St.
September 10th
11 am - 3 pm