

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

October 9 - October 15



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*

And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces. Luke 9:16-17, NRSV

Dear church family,

Today and every day, I am grateful to all of you. Throughout this, my first year, I have witnessed profound generosity as you contribute your ideas, your funds, and your time to our community. Every dollar that we raise, every minute of volunteerism, every good plan comes from the heart and breathes life into our mission.

Our pledge campaign this year focuses on the miracle of sharing, the ways in which our means meet the needs of the world, the ways in which we respond to the Gospel, the ways in which we sustain our community. In today's letter, I would like to focus on sharing your gift of Wisdom.

Our ancient texts treat Wisdom in a personified manner; the Greek word for wisdom is Sophia. Wisdom is a source of inspiration, creativity, and guidance that has been a part of the world since it was chaos. Wisdom smooths out the edges of our Creation and gives us ways to make order, plan for change, prepare for renewal, appreciate what we have. She (the pronoun often ascribed to Wisdom) is in all of us, resonant, reactive, reaching forward to make connections with our traditions and culture and experience.

More Than Enough, the theme for our campaign, brings us back to that moment of miracle described in Luke's Gospel, the one of the thousands having been fed by Jesus from a scant few loaves and fishes. The people in that story heard Jesus' call to share what they had in order that all might benefit; and that is what you do with the gift of Wisdom you possess. When we have strategies that need to be developed, or events that need to be staffed, or problems that need to be solved, you answer the call of your church, and share your wisdom and experience.

Wisdom adds to wisdom, and our whole community is filled with inspiration and action. You are that inspiration and action, without whom our church and our ministry would be diminished. Next week, you will have the opportunity to pledge the gifts you will make in the coming year to help our church and our neighbors. I ask that you pray with us as we prepare for our annual gathering of gifts and gratitude and consider how you will contribute your gift of wisdom.

In abundant gratitude,

Mother Liz

View from the Pew:

The beauty of change

We finally entered Fall, my favorite season of the year. I love Fall fashion and activities. Fall is best known for “sweater weather” and pumpkin spice. I get this warm, fuzzy feeling inside when I’m reminded of these little joys in life. The joy that comes with Fall, reminds me to always remember to find joy in the little things, and it will allow you to further enjoy the bigger accomplishments. Fall is also a transitioning point, as we leave summer behind and enter the last lingering warm weather and enter that cool crisp air. We also see a transition first in the color then the falling of leaves, as nature prepares for winter. A favorite part of Fall for me is the change of color in the leaves. It is such a breathtaking view as you drive through the windy backroads of rural northeastern Pennsylvania. The pure beauty of nature is always a constant reminder that we have so much to be grateful for. Change is inevitable and we must be flexible and open to change, because there can be so much beauty in change. What is important to remember is to keep our focus on the good and to not dwell on what we fear of change.

-Anna 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 or John Warriner at 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.

Weekly Reflection:



Luke describes a powerful scene after ten lepers are cured. What might this teach us about giving and stewardship?

Stories like this are tricky, making connections between healing and faithfulness. Misreading the text has led some to say if only the unwell could have more faith, they could be healed. Such readings are not only wrong, but they also perpetuate all kinds of injustice and ableism. Rather, the God found in scripture shows preference for the poor, the sick, and those on the margins.

The same phrase “made you well” can be translated from the Greek as “saved you.” Within a Hebrew understanding of salvation history, saving was both a deeply physical act (healing and liberation) and a reality rooted in community.

Both Hebrew and New Testament scriptures point to a God deeply concerned about the physical suffering and oppression of a people. When the prophets and the gospels both speak of a messiah figure, who would bring salvation, that saving act was expected as liberation for a collective people.

“Your faith has made you well” could be read as “You [collectively] are saved/liberated [together] from that which oppressed you.” What’s more, the one to receive this message is an outsider. In Jesus, the longed-for liberation of a people is realized, and Luke shows that this salvation is not reserved for the few on the “inside” but a Samaritan, as well!

People often think about stewardship as the 3T’s: time, treasure, and talent. There is a 4th: testimony.

This story includes the testimony of the Samaritan to his healing by God. Yet, here is an image of Jesus testifying as well. He says “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Jesus testifies to an expanding field of God’s saving work, to those who did not share ethnicity, race, or culture.

Here are reminded that our testimony, our witness, can be used to speak with and for each other as we reflect our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace among all people.

Today we are invited to give our gifts, not as an act of individual piety, but as a part of a collective action, participating in God’s work of repairing the world. This stewardship of gifts includes our words and voice. As we think of our relationships to those inside and outside our community, we are reminded how our testimony can be offered as an act of stewardship as we share in the work of healing.

Erin Weber-Johnson is senior consultant at Vandersall Collective, faculty at Project Resource, and recently co-edited a book *Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy* with Dr. Dustin Benac.



THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP

Sundays Service

OCT
9



Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Old Testament:

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalms: 111

The Epistle: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Sandy Seeger & Karen Blye
McAbee

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Ellen Ely

Organist:

This week's Hymns:

O bless the Lord, my soul!

O for a thousand tongues to sing

Now thank we all our God.

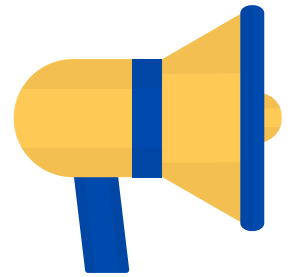
Wade in the water



This week's Gospel according to Luke:

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Happenings and Announcements



Sleeping Bags Ministry

NEEDED: Blankets, Comforters, Quilts, flat sheets, yardage (2 yds. minimum) neck ties, Socks and more socks, wool hats and gloves. Sample size soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and combs. .

Items need not be new but clean and can be left in the box at the ramp doorway. We meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 10:00 till noon, in room #1 downstairs. Since adding a sewing machine we are able to produce more sleeping bags per meeting. Please consider joining us on any day available to you or even just for a hour. You need ONLY to tie a knot!!! Your help is so appreciated.

Thank you to all who work for Sleeping Bag Ministry.



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, Vanessa Smith, Rebecca Bechtel.

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:

Carol Arnold 10/3, Al Leigh 10/12, Benson Bartron 10/13, Vickie Calby 10/19, Rachel Bartron 10/22, Robert Smith 10/23, Carol Marker 10/31



This Months Anniversaries:

Dan & Lynne Graham 10/5
Jerry & Maggie Sock 10/20

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.

Susquehanna County

Coats for our Community



We are collecting coats in
October & November

Distribution Dates

American Legion Post 154: Oct. 12-13

Christ Church: Susquehanna: Oct. 21-22

Christ Church: Forest City: Oct. 27, 28, 29

St. Marks Church: Nov. 3-4

VFW Great Bend: Nov. 14-15

St. Paul's Montrose: Dec. 14-15

Last Week's Service and Events

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - OCTOBER 2

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

The October 2nd live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and Karen Blye McAbee read as lector. Cathy Hammons played the organ. The service included three 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.

Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
Bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
Raise the glad strain, Alleluia!
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, powers,
Virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Cathy's Last Week

Our organist, Cathy Hammons, is leaving us for a new life adventure. We will miss her and those shoes that are next to the organ each Sunday. If you did not get to say your goodbyes and would like to send her your well wishes by mail, her new address will be: 2731 B. Emmitsburg Rd, Gettysburg PA 17425.



Fall Sunrise

What a beautiful world we live in. When we see the awe of God's beauty, we see God. Here's the sunrise last Tuesday on Ridge Road.



Soup is Back!

COME BY THE
CHURCH FROM
3:30 TO 5:00 FOR
YOUR FREE SOUP!

October 5, 2022
St Paul's Episcopal Church
276 Church Street, Montrose

This Months Soup:

Cream of Broccoli

Minestrone

Comes with a small salad,
a roll AND a cookie!

Pre-Orders and Donations
are appreciated
(570-278-2954)

Soup Pickup is on the left hand side
of the church by the HO Mart



St. Paul's Soup

On Wednesday, October 5th, St. Paul's had its monthly Free Soup day.

It's a ministry that has become well known in the area. We are always looking for volunteers to make soup, help warm and serve it, or prepare the bags with cookies and rolls. It's fun and rewarding and the comradery is great.

The next soup night is November 2nd. Come and join us.

REMEMBER WHEN

In the summer of 2015, Church Street was widened and we lost parking in front of the church.

With a generous gift from Ellie McKeage, we took the fence down that divided our property with Owen's next door and built the parking lot. At the same time, we put a walkway through the Memorial Garden to the lot. It seems now that it has been there forever.



EARLY OCTOBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

"I would hate to live in a world where there were no Octobers." More rain and clouds. It's been chilly at night and in the morning, and the sugar maple trees are just beginning to change. More sunrise pictures, they just keep trying to out-do the previous ones, but check Monday's sunset out – it was other worldly.

Uh-Oh! The neighbor's fall preview tree is red. It is always the first one to turn and it's beautiful. It announces fall. Now that they have water again, Salt Springs falls are always photogenic. Sophie discovered a Jake Turkey on a walk and went into her Springer Spaniel point; and two female turkeys came through the yard yesterday, just mosing along. Fall is in the air!

