

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# Weekly Update

January 29 - February 4



**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.

# View from the Pulpit: Mother Liz

This week we will celebrate our patronal feast, the Conversion of Saint Paul. I will speak more about him and his conversion during my sermon but I wanted to provide a little more information about him in the meantime. I will admit that I held a grudge about him for many years due to his writings on women. However, during seminary I came to a greater understanding regarding his teachings as a whole and so my negativity towards him softened. There is even a story of a young aristocratic woman named Thecla who became so enthralled by Paul's teaching that she gave up her family and her fiancé in order to become one of his disciples. Though he never knew Christ while alive, he is arguably one of the greatest of his apostles and certainly the church grew exponentially due to his efforts.

## **The Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul**

***Lesser Feasts and Fasts, page 60***

Paul, or Saul as he was known until he became a Christian, was a Roman citizen, born at Tarsus, in present-day Turkey. He was brought up as an observant Jew, studying in Jerusalem for a time under Gamaliel, the most famous rabbi of the day. Describing himself, he said, "I am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin" (Romans 11:1).

A few years after the death of Jesus, Saul came in contact with the new Christian movement, and became one of the most fanatical of those who were determined to stamp out this "dangerous heresy." Saul witnessed the stoning of Stephen and approved of it. He was on the way to Damascus to lead in further persecution of the Christians when his dramatic conversion took place.

From that day, Paul devoted his life totally to Christ, and especially to the conversion of Gentiles. The Acts of the Apostles describes the courage and determination with which he planted Christian congregations over a large area of the land bordering the eastern Mediterranean.

His letters, which are the earliest Christian writings, established him as one of the early founders of Christian theology. He writes, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Paul describes himself as small and insignificant in appearance: "His letters are weighty and strong," it was said of him, "but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech of no account" (2 Corinthians 10:10). He writes of having a disability or affliction which he had prayed God to remove from him, and quotes the Lord's reply, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, Paul went on to say, "I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Paul is believed to have been martyred at Rome in the year 64 under Nero.

The Collect for the Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

*O God, who by the preaching of your apostle Paul has caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we pray, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show ourselves thankful to you by following his holy teaching; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

# View from the Pew:



All God's creatures got a place in the choir,  
Some sing low and some sing higher,  
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire,



And some just clap their hands, or paws, or anything they got now.

As we left Meadow View's activity room on Wednesday, Mary remarked about how the residents, although some seemingly asleep, would join in the prayers from memory. Over our months there, I have noticed the same thing with old familiar hymns—residents unable to participate in any other way mouthing the words to our song. Both evident of a deeply embedded faith that yearns for an outlet in some way.

Some of the residents were alert and able to follow along with Morning Prayer. Some sat quietly and joined in sporadically. Some appeared to be fast asleep, but as we all know, hearing is the last sense we lose. Many have favorite hymns and the residents make the selections from the Song Book. We sing as many as we can fit in before 11:00 after Morning Prayer. Towards the end of the hour, one little lady spoke out at the end of each song, "Are we done yet?" We all laughed and moved on to the next hymn. It reminded me of being on a car trip with our young boys.

The above song just wrapped up my thoughts perfectly. I first heard a children's choir sing it, but have heard it many times since. A really stirring version is sung by Celtic Thunder on YouTube. Look it up if you want a smile on your face for the day!!

-Lynne Graham

## **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 [jdwarri@me.com](mailto:jdwarri@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

Jan  
29



## **Readings for this Week: This Week's Ministers:**

First Reading: Acts 26:9-21

Psalm: 67

The Epistle: Galatians 1:11-24

Gospel: Matthew 10:16-22

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Tom Undercoffler

Organist: Joyce Printz

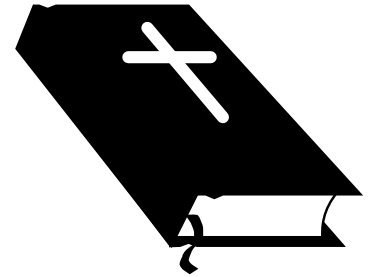
## **This week's Hymns:**

We sing the glorious conquest

Father, we thank thee

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

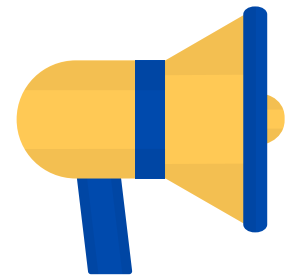
Amazing grace! how sweet the sound



## **This week's Gospel according to Matthew:**

Jesus said to the twelve, "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

# Happenings and Announcements



## **Soup Night!**

Soup Night makes its rounds again for February 1st. Come on in and help us dish some out or if you would like, make some soup! February will be vegetable beef soup and potato soup. Come in and help or stop by for a quick warm dinner prepared by your favorite parishioners.

**Don't forget Bible Study  
After Soup Night!**



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

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Charlotte Eckert, Nancy Finlon, Sandy Nagy, Addie Evans, Carol Marker, Ellen Ely, Rev. Janet Watrous.

### **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:**

John Brunner 2/4, Kristina Kinney 2/24, Carol Lasher 2/27, Nancy Finlon 2/28



### **This Months Anniversaries:**

John & Gaby Warriner: February 4, 1990

Robert & Vera Dunn: February 20, 1971

### **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.



# STOP THE STIGMA

## *Memory Luncheon*

**Sunday, February 12th**  
**12:00PM**

**St Paul's will be hosting a free lunch in  
memory of those lost to substance use  
disorder.**

**We welcome Nicole Watson from 'SAFE' as  
keynote speaker.**

**All are invited to attend!**

St Pauls Episcopal Church  
276 Church Street  
Montrose PA 18801



# Last Week's Service and Events

Third Sunday After Epiphany – January 22, 2023

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

The January 22nd live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and Vickie Calby read as lector. Jeanette Davis was our organist. 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

Christ for the world we sing;  
the world to Christ we bring  
with loving zeal:  
the poor and them that mourn,  
the faint and overborne,  
sin-sick and sorrow worn,  
whom Christ doth heal.





## The Shoes are Back

Well, when Cathy Hammond left for points south, we put a picture of her shoes (right picture) in the Weekly saying we will miss seeing them – and we did. But, the shoes have reappeared again and it appears that Jeanette has shoes too!



## Surprise Snow

On Monday, January 23rd, we got a surprise snow of about 4 inches. Heavy and wet, it didn't last, but we still had to shovel walks.





## Key for Front Doors

The key for the church's front door is in the desk near the back of the church. While we don't lock it anymore since we got the glass doors, the old lock had finally got crotchety a couple years ago. But, I can't imagine the old lock maker who made that lock in 1856, is proud that it worked flawlessly for over 165 years. In comparison, we just had to get a new washing machine replacing the old one that lasted 5 years! Well done Sir!



## Remember When – Rich Adds Railings

These railings won't be able to be used much longer since the stairwell will be turned into a new office for Mother Liz. But, for now they help the sleeping bag makers head down the stairs to the quilt room and also used as a coat chute late in the year,





## LATE-JANUARY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“It is deep January. The sky is hard. The stalks are firmly rooted in ice.” Hard, hard rain, causing flooding, and then snow. Farmers get to see a lot of sunrises as the milk barn lights attest to. They are already at work when the sun is just peaking from the east. The pond still has a little ice on it. Mid-week snow, pretty, but messy.

