

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

March 12- March 18



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 Pew:

Susquehanna Sunrises

There are disadvantages and benefits to living on top of the hill. The disadvantages are more obvious in the winter. One wonders how, before four-wheel drive, anyone living on a hill went anywhere when it snowed. It's as hard to go down sometimes as to get up. The benefits are the views. Lynne and I live in an old farmhouse on top of a hill. We look down on the morning fog.



I always wanted to be one of those people who got up before the sun and, with a steaming cup of coffee in their hand and while having profound thoughts, gets to see the sunrise. But for forty years our busy life of work and raising a family left no time for sunrises and sleeping to the last possible moment took priority. That changed when we moved here.

Our large bedroom window faces directly east and each morning, we see the sunrises. We wake to them – we can't hide from them -- they find us. The house I lived in while growing up and the ones we lived in in Maryland had too many trees on their horizon to see sunrises and while I must have seen some, I can't recollect any. In 1972 on Easter morning, I attended a sunrise service on a treeless hill, on the DMZ in Korea near a cemetery, which I still remember. But in retrospect, my life has been mostly sunrise free.

In science class in high school I learned that always, somewhere, there is a sunrise and it is morning. That bright streak of light extending from arctic to the Antarctic, that glittering boundary between day and night on our spinning sphere is always there somewhere. Because dawn is not an isolated event does not make it any less special.

We are no longer working, and our children are long out of the house. Sometime during our years here in Susquehanna County, I found time for sunrises or they found time for me. It started four years ago with our new bedroom and when we got Sophie. She gets up with the sun every morning to be taken out. Annie, our new dog, is now on that schedule. Often it is during that exact instant when the sun peeks over Reynold's fields across the Wyalusing Creek valley. For that one brief moment, the world stands still and God's in his heaven and all's right with the world.

Cherish the times you get to watch the sunrise, there are only so many in a lifetime.

-Dan 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 or John Warriner at 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

March
12



Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm: 95

The Epistle: Romans 5:1-11

Gospel: John 4:5-42

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Altar Guild: Gaby W. & Barb U.

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Tom Undercoffler

Organist: Jeanette Davis

This week's Hymns:

O Love of God, how strong and true,
My song is love unknown
Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
Come, thou fount of every blessing



This week's Gospel according to John:

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"

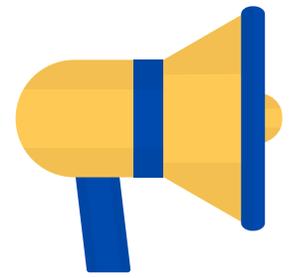
This week's Gospel according to John continued:

The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

Happenings and Announcements



Holy Land Presentation

After Church on March 19th, there will be a potluck lunch in the Parish Hall while Mother Liz and Mother Rebecca present and reflect on their trip to the Holy Land.

Day Light Savings Time

Don't forget to change your clocks one hour ahead this Sunday March 12th so we don't miss you at church!



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Addie Evans, Carol Marker, Ellen Ely, Rev. Janet Watrous, Edward, Betsy Arnold & Family, Paula Arnold & Family, Willis Barnes, Victor.

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 Finlon 3/6, Elizabeth Smith 3/15, Edgar Warriner 3/20, Elaine Petrzala 3/22, Robert Kuhn 3/24, Tom Undercoffler 3/30



This Months Anniversaries:

There are no anniversaries this month. If you would like to add your birthday or anniversary to the list, call or email Kate in the office!

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

Second Sunday in Lent– March 5, 2023

**Led on their way
By this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God
In conquering ranks combine.**

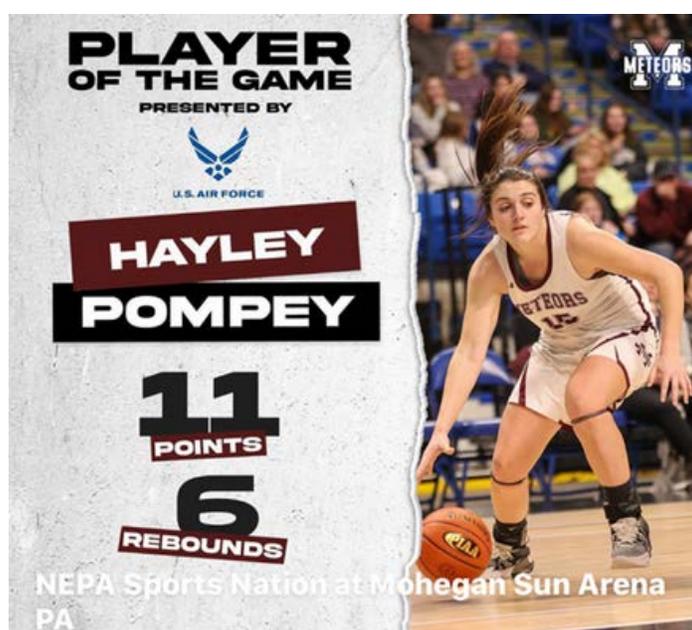
The March 5th, 2023 live-streamed 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by Mother Liz. Lynne Graham did the announcements and Vickie Calby read as lector. Mary Ann DeWitt was our organist. The service included three hymns along with the Prelude and Postlude. As you know, our live-streamed services can be watched live or any time on YouTube. Just go to our webpage and hit the red button.

**Lift high the cross
The love of Christ proclaim,
Till all the world
Adore His sacred name.**

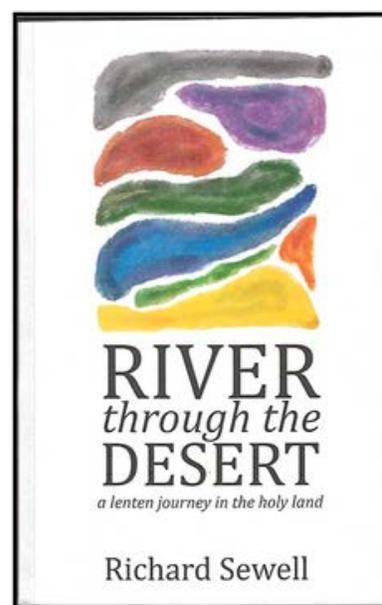


Montrose Girls Win

On March 3rd, the Montrose High School varsity girls basketball team romped to their first title since 2012 at the Mohegan Sun Arena. Dave and Vickie Calby's granddaughter, Haley Pompey, got player of the game. Congratulations Haley and proud grandparents, Dave and Vickie.



Lenten Book Study



On March 1st, St. Paul's long standing tradition of Lenten Book Study started. Led by Mother Liz, it will continue for the next 3 Wednesdays at 4:30. We are studying the book River Through the Desert by Richard Sewell. Through the landscape of the Holy Land, we will make a pilgrimage reimagining what it means to travel with Jesus during his ministry and his final days. Come and join us for some good discussion. Our next meeting is the 15th. Here's a picture of our 2019 study.



Sleeping Bags

It's the 2nd Wednesday of the Month and, of course, sleeping bag day. What a productive group! Mother Liz will take 9 more sleeping bags to Keystone Mission.



Who are these Guys?

We have a lithograph of the 1859 House of Episcopal Bishops of the United States hanging in one of our rooms. I read that we were given it shortly after the current church was built in 1858 but its origins are unknown. It's water spotted and torn and the frame has seen better days, but you can still make out the faces. It's probable that these folks never met but pictures were sent in and an artist drew the bodies in to match the way the head on the picture was pointing. We will put the face of Alonzo Potter (1805-1865) the Bishop of Pennsylvania in next week's weekly. He happens to be next to Leonidas Polk, who became a Confederate general during the Civil War.





Spring Forward Fall Back

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12th. We lose an hour somewhere along the line but it will start staying light for another hour. Spring's coming, never fear, blue birds will soon be here...

Spring Lambs are Coming

The surest sign of spring. Spring lambs began appearing this week in Susquehanna County fields near their Moms. They are so cute and fun to watch them on their new wobbly legs. Thanks to photographer Kate Aukema for the great pictures of her neighbors lambs, there are 3 of 12 pictured.



EARLY MARCH IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” Another snow, no snow, brown field week. There was a full moon this week. Always pretty when there is snow on the ground. Took a picture of a shelf fungi on a yellow birch. They’re kind of neat. The hop hornbeam catkins are just coming out – they’re early. The snow we got on Friday was more ice and slush than snow. The fields are brown with snow on the edges and the dogs have somewhere to run. Kate got a good picture of an Eagle who just caught a fish. Saw a big coyote but was too busy watching it to take a picture. Two more weeks till spring!

