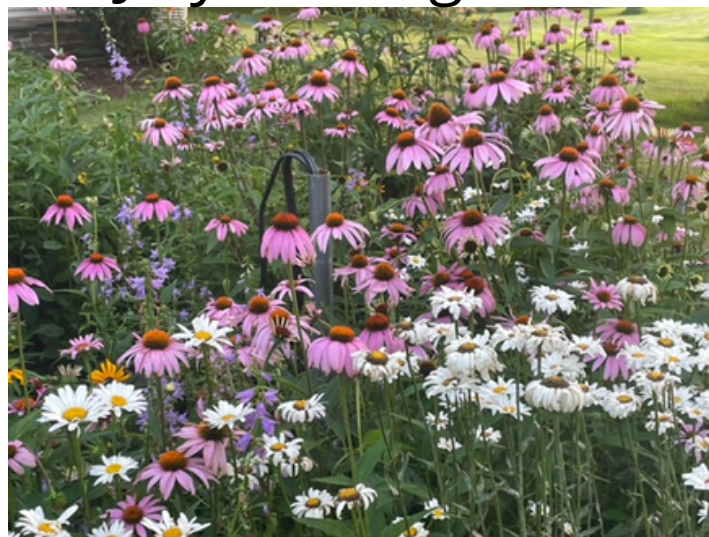


ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

July 30- August 5



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:

Bible Study 87 took place this morning at Trinity Church in Carbondale. It was our final session studying the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer, which concludes with a catechism of faith and belief.

The penultimate topic is 'The sacraments'. In our discussion it was interesting to hear the divergent views on the topic. It is tempting to think of the sacraments as events or even 'rites of passage' that everyone goes through. Much like graduation, bar mitzvah or bat mitzvah. Yet sacraments, per se, are none of those things.

Sacraments are not a noun, rather they are a verb. Sacraments are an 'activity'.-- They are something that we do. As the Vatican II Theologian Edward Schillebeeckx put it:

"Sacraments are the continuing saving activity of Christ in the world."-- You see, the story of 'Man's salvation' did not end with Christ dying on the Cross, nor with the resurrection. In Matthew 28f we read of Christ instructing his Apostles:

"Go ye and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, And I will be with you always till the end of time." We call it: 'The Great Commission.' For from Baptism flows all the other six sacraments. We cannot be 'passive baptized Christians.' Baptism calls us to follow Christ and to be like Christ; to teach his teachings; to heal and forgive as he healed and as he forgave.

Sacraments are to take the saving grace of the cross and 'feed my people.' Christ offers life, sin only offers death. We today live in a 'culture of death'. Christians are called to bring the light of Christ's spirit to all. it is that gift of the spirit that gives hope and brings faith that cuts through the darkness with Christ's teaching and his light.

In the Eucharist we celebrate that calling by sharing Christ with one another and bringing him out into our world. We live our baptism through matrimony, Confirmation, Healing, and Ministry. Our faith is a lived faith. And each day we are called to live it. We wear Christ like a cloak; a cloak in which others may shelter.

Amen.

Father Bill

View from the Pew:

What does it feel like to be old?

By Lunyta — in Oldsmar, Florida,
Submitted by Sandy Seeger

The other day, a young person asked me: What did it feel like to be old?

I was very surprised by the question, since I did not consider myself old. When he saw my reaction, he was immediately embarrassed, but I explained that it was an interesting question. And after reflection, I concluded that getting old is a gift.

Sometimes I am surprised at the person who lives in my mirror. But I don't worry about those things for long. I wouldn't trade everything I have for a few less gray hairs and a flat stomach. I don't scold myself for not making the bed, or for eating a few extra "little things." I am within my rights to be a little messy, to be extravagant, and to spend hours staring at my flowers.

I have seen some dear friends leave this world, before they had enjoyed the freedom that comes with growing old.

-Who cares if I choose to read or play on the computer until 4 in the morning and then sleep until who knows what time?

I will dance with me to the rhythm of the 50's and 60's. And if later I want to cry for some lost love...I will!

I'll walk down the beach in a swimsuit that stretches over my plump body and dive into the waves letting myself go, despite the pitying looks of the bikini-wearers. They'll get old too, if they're lucky...

It is true that through the years my heart has ached for the loss of a loved one, for the pain of a child, or for seeing a pet die. But it is suffering that gives us strength and makes us grow. An unbroken heart is sterile and will never know the happiness of being imperfect.

I am proud to have lived long enough for my hair to turn gray and to retain the smile of my youth, before the deep furrows appeared on my face.

Now, to answer the question honestly, I can say: I like being old, because old age makes me wiser, freer!-.

I know I'm not going to live forever, but while I'm here, I'm going to live by my own laws, those of my heart.

I'm not going to regret what wasn't, nor worry about what will be.

The time that remains, I will simply love life as I did until today, the rest I leave to 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 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

July
23



Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalm: 139: 1-11, 22-23

The Epistle: Romans 8:12-25

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: Lynne Graham

Altar Guild:

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Lector: Richard Marker

Organist:

This week's Hymns:

There is no music this week

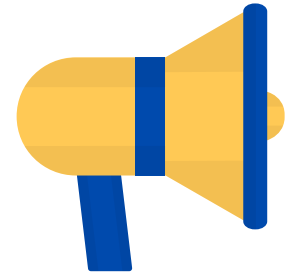


This week's Gospel according to: Matthew

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Happenings and Announcements



Social Nights Coming Up!

It is a blessing to have such great friends. These summer months are the best to celebrate those friendships with Social Nights!

There are TWO that are coming up that should go in your calendar.

Dave and Vickie Calby will be hosting Social Night at their place on Friday, July 28th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Boozy Beef and macaroni salad will be provided. Also, Manning's ice cream, hopefully Salted Carmel. Please bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair. The address is: 16559 State Route 706, Apt 2, Montrose. If you have any questions, please call Vickie at 570-8783439.

Cathy Hammons will also be hosting a Social Night which will take place on August 4th. More information to follow... or call Cathy.



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, Ellen Ely, Rev. Janet Watrous, Edward, Victor, Ralph Bunnell.

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:

James Bailey 8/2, Scott Price 8/13, Barb Undercoffler 8/19, Bob Aiken 8/23, Margaret Burgh 8/28, Patty Aiken 8/30



This Months Anniversaries:

Jack & Carol Lasher 8/6/1960
Cole & Kate Aukema 8/6/2022

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

LAST SUNDAY – Eighth Sunday After Pentecost – July 23

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is His new creation,
by water and the Word;

The live-streamed July 23rd 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was led by Lynne Graham who also did announcements. Rich Marker read as lector. 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.



Railing Gets a New Look

You may notice that the iron railing on the ramp looks a little spiffy. It was starting to rust and received a coat of black rustoleum paint. The ramp walk was put in in 2008.



Gutters getting a quick cleaning

The hard rains are causing some issues. One of our gutters was clogged and the overflow was causing problems in the basement. John got out the big ladder and Pat was nominated to climb up and clean the gutters out.

Gertie and Baby

People keep asking if we have seen the white deer that lives in Jessup Township. She is four this year and for the second year in a row had a brown colored fawn.



Susquehanna Blueberries

Susquehanna County is known for its blueberries and the annual Blueberry Festival is next Saturday. Netting keeps the birds away but the picker eats as many as they put in the bucket. We understand Tom Undercoffler is a superb picker. There are different varieties that ripen at different times and you can pick blueberries until the end of August. It's a great job kids and adults!



LaRue's Corn is In

Proof that summer is finally here, LaRue's farm market has their famous corn. Immediately west on Rt. 706, and it is worth the drive. The corn is in a class of its own and is delicious. They have lots of other farm grown veggies also. And our Kate helps out there on Fridays and Saturdays sometimes.



LATE-JULY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.” Couple of kids fishing for bluegills on a sunny afternoon exemplifies summer. Good memories. A swallow tail found a milkweed in the middle of a cone flower bed – the nectar of the gods. Farmers are doing a third hay cutting and the rain helped that out tremendously. Because of the May 23rd freeze, there aren’t going to be many grapes this year. The old standard Concords weathered the cold the best. It’s impossible to say how many flowers are blooming now. The end of July is perennial month but the fancy day lilies are taking the prize. Summer in Susquehanna County – it doesn’t get any better than this.



After women, flowers are the most lovely thing God has given the world.”