

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

November 12 - November 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 Pulpit:

Rooted IN Abundance **Generosity**



A Conversation between The Rev. Charles L. Fischer III and the Rev. Sheleta Fomby

I am blessed to be able to have individuals in my life who are willing to discuss their faith lives. Over the course of my years in ministry, I have met some wonderful people. Recently, I have become acquainted with a powerful preaching sister from Washington, D.C., the Rev. Sheleta E. Fomby. She has become both a friend and a spiritual guide in my life. In a recent conversation, Rev. Fomby and I were discussing how blessed we were in our individual and collective lives. And in a quiet moment, she stated that she lives a great life because she has experienced God's abundance. "If it were not for that, how could she be generous to others."

I was intrigued by her comments and asked for her to explain further. She stated that for her there is a distinct difference between abundance and generosity. "Abundance is what God has made available. And generosity is what we do with what God has made available."

When God created the earth, God deposited upon the earth and gave to its inhabitants all that they would need for survival. God provides more than enough for all to live fully and completely.

Rev. Fomby blessed me with sharing this simple lesson. The more she reflected upon her own life and the lives of those who have poured into her own ministry, I had a moment of understanding the distinction. She was generous in her sharing because of all that others had given to her out of their own abundance. And now the cycle continues because now I can share with others out of the abundance of love, care and prayers that others have showered upon me.

The Rev. Sheleta Fomby is the Pastor at New Life AME Church in Laurel, Maryland and is fully committed to liberating lives, encouraging hearts, and inspiring hope through the faithful proclamation of God's word.



THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP

View from the Pew:

This past week we had some furry brown visitors grace us with their presence. These industrious beavers are finding use of one of my favorite maple trees along the waterfront. The lake is already dammed up so there is no need for them to use this wood for that purpose. The small twigs and buds will provide them with food for the winter which they'll store in the water nearby their lodge. The rest they will use to make repairs to their home and building other lodges for their ex-panding family or colony. However, throughout the winter, they will primarily only use one lodge. One of the creeks that feed into the lake comes from a beaver dam, so some must have migrated down here unfortunately.

Unlike bears who will hibernate throughout the winter, beavers will stay active all year round, although they will spend much of the cold season in their den at the top part of the lodge, above water. This section of their home will stay quite a bit warmer than the outside air or water. The mud and sticks together make for very good insulation. When they do venture out, the doorway is under the ice and into the water.



For many other species, and us, with the exception of the more outdoorsy types, we will hunker down in the comfort of our own lodges. Sometimes we have to force ourselves into ac-tion to change the thought process from 'should' to 'want' to do. It is important to keep your brain active and to have a sense of purpose. Just like not exercising your body causes your mus-cles to atrophy, your brain needs to be worked out or exercised as well, before it starts to waste away. If you let things go, they naturally fall into disuse.

-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 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

Nov
12



Readings for this Week:

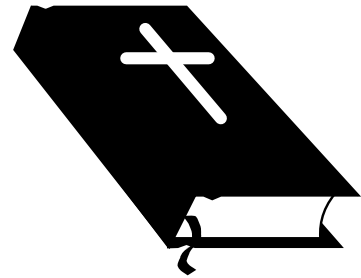
First Reading: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm: Psalm 78:1-7
The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski
Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski
Announcements: Lynne Graham
Lector:
Hospitality:

This week's Hymns:

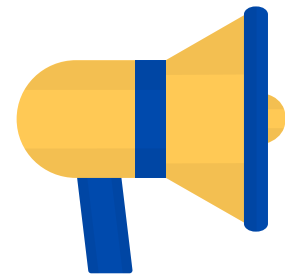
Lo! he comes, with clouds descending
“Sleepers, wake!” A voice astounds us
Let all mortal flesh keep silence
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates



This week's Gospel according to: Matthew

Jesus said, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Happenings and Announcements



Church Tours!

Our church is featured in the Montrose Church Tours happening soon. We would like to have a few more Christmas mugs here at the church for coffee or soup so if you have an extra mug lying around we would appreciate it if you could bring it in for us to borrow!!



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, Sandy Seeger, Chris Moffett, Matilda Rogers

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:

Bob Dunn 11/25



This Months Anniversaries:

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.

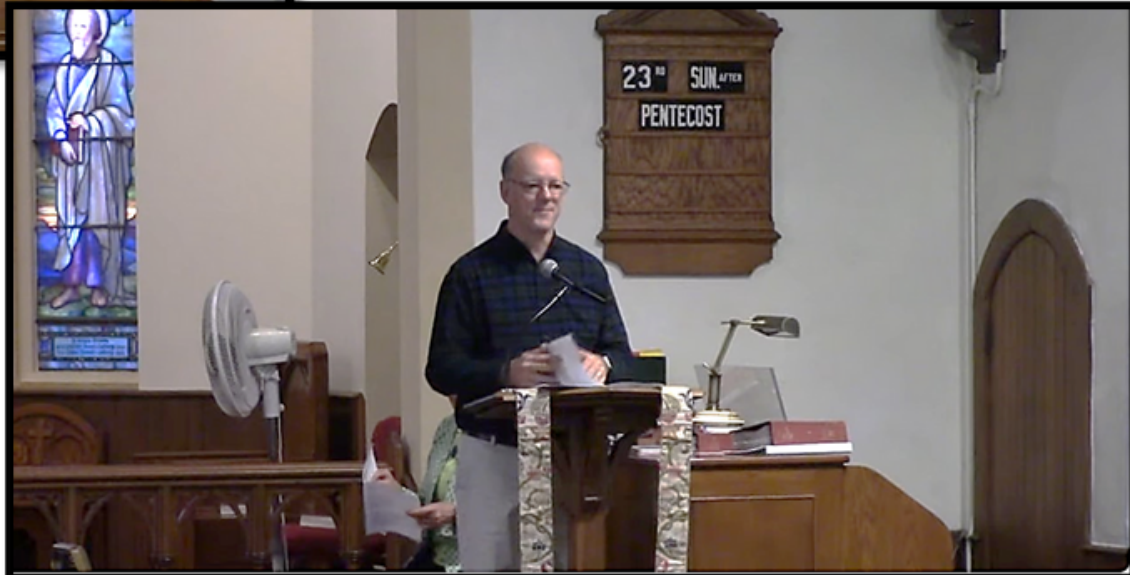
Last Week's Service and Events

LAST SUNDAY - Twenty Second Sunday After Pentecost – October 29, 2023

I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.

The live-streamed November 5th, 10:00 Morning Prayer Service was officiated by Lynne Graham who also did announcements. John Warriner read as lector. Mother Liz was on vacation. As you know, our live-streamed services can be watched live or anytime on YouTube. Just go to our webpage and hit the red button.

And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.



Soup Night

November 1st, was the first Wednesday of the month and yup, you guessed it, it was soup night. Teddy, Dave, John, Sandy, Lynne, Nancy, Kate, Martha, Wanda, Harry, Vera, Victor and Mary Jane showed up, and a good time was had by all. Martha and Victor even took some soup to Meadow View. Soup next month is minestrone and chicken gnocchi.



Concert

On Friday, November 3rd, St. Paul's hosted the Susquehanna Symphony Society as the Northeastern PA Chamber Music Society presented a Mozart concert. Almost 80 neighbors and friends attended and shared a lovely evening of exceptional music.



Our First Frost

We finally had our first fairly heavy frost and the windshield scrapers were out in force. It looked like snow but had melted by 10:00



Election Day

Tuesday, November 6th, was Election Day. Hopefully, everyone voted at their polling places.

Bitter Sweet

Bittersweet remains a popular fall decorating material. Bittersweet vines are not only eye-catching, but they are also versatile and pliable.

They are easily bent to conform to almost any shape, allowing them to be effortlessly added to existing floral arrangements and wreaths as an accent, or to be used alone in construction of a free form autumn wreath. You can see them in the winter before the red and yellow seeds fall off.



EARLY NOVEMBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“November woods are bare and still. November days are clear and bright. Each noon burns up the morning’s chill, the morning’s frost is gone by night.” Fall vistas in Susquehanna County abound. What a view. Corn remains uncut and the fireplace has been turned on during coffee hours. Our turkeys have flocked up and be careful driving as deer move into rutting season. It’s early November.

