

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

October 6- October 12



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.

Our Vestry Members

John Warriner, Sr. Warden

Vickie Calby, Jr. Warden

John Finlon, Treasurer

Wanda Peirce, Clerk

Jack Lasher

Dan Graham

Vera Dunn

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: Father Bill

“Choosing.”

19th Sunday of Pentecost, and the First Reading comes from the Book of Esther Chapter 7. The Israelites are slaves in Babylon, and the story of the reading involves four characters. Mordecai, a leader and prophet of the Jewish people; Ahasuerus the king, and his Commander Haman, and lastly, the very beautiful Hebrew Queen Esther, married to the King.

There is a saying in the British Navy from Napoleonic times: ‘to be hoisted by your own petard’. This is exactly what happens to the evil Haman, when he builds the gallows in order to hang Mordecai. He reckons without Esther who has the ear of the king. In the end, Haman is hung on his own gallows.

James continues his plea to the Jerusalem to Christians, ‘seek salvation through prayer’. To lay hands and anoint one another, but also to forgive, even sin. With forgiveness comes healing, life, and renewal.

Once more, the disciples turn to Jesus for teaching. It is a Gospel full of paradox, where Jesus challenges his disciples to fully commit. There can be no half measures, when it comes to choosing life. For God’s word and his will, brings life, while sin brings evil and darkness.

This dualism of light and dark, that we find so often in the teaching of Jesus, is very much alive in our world and nation today. As Christians we are asked to choose, Choose good over bad, virtue over vice, life over evil. At times this choice entails that we lay aside our preferences, opinions, and favorite themes. We must make God, our choice. We are asked to choose what is right and cut off what is wrong.

Choices are difficult. Sometimes, like the Christians of old, we have to make a stand. For that we face persecution, ridicule, and heavy criticism. We ‘nail our flag to the mast’, when we say: “I choose Christ. I choose his teaching. I choose love, not hate. I choose to love my neighbor.”

There is a danger, that when we ‘go our own way’, we get to hang ourselves on our own gallows. There will come a time of judgment for all of us. Life is not a free ride, there comes a time to pay the Piper.

Let us all choose Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sundays Service

Oct
6



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

Psalm: 19:7-14

The Epistle: James 5:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: John Warriner

Altar Guild: Vera Dunn

Announcements: John Warriner

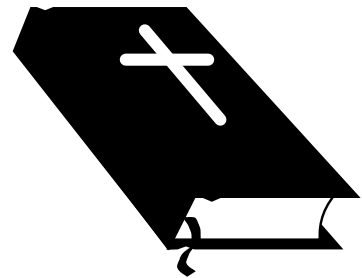
Lector: Ellen Ely

Hospitality:

This week's Hymns:

Love divine, all loves excelling
Jesus loves me!

All hail the power of Jesus name
Joyful, joyful we adore thee



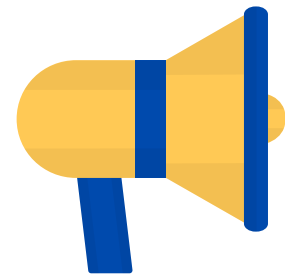
This week's Gospel according to: Mark

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Happenings and Announcements



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.



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker,

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:

You can call the parish office during office hours. After hours, call John Warriner at 570-278-2317.



This Months Birthdays:

Vickie Calby 10/19, Robert Smith 10/23, Carol Marker 10/31



This Months Anniversaries:

Dan & Lynne Graham: October 5, 1974

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

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost, September 29, 2024

The September 29th, 2024, 10:00 Morning Prayer service was led by Vickie Calby. John Warriner read the announcements and Tom Undercroffler served as lector. Penny Jaggers played a prelude, 3 hymns and a postlude on the piano. 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.



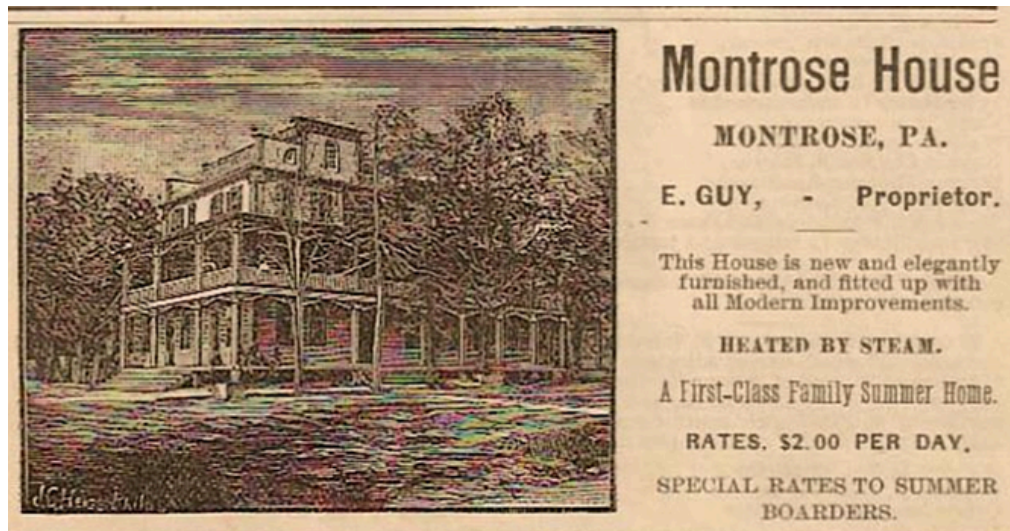
Sleeping Bags

Yup, Sleeping Bags have started. On every 2d and 4th Wednesday of the month, that faithful sleeping bag crew, makes sleeping bags. It's quite an operation and as they say: "If you can tie a knot, you can help make sleeping bags." You're always welcome to join.



Montrose House (1883-1921)

Before there was the Montrose Inn, which is now the bank across from church, there was the Montrose House. For almost 40 years, it was the structure parishioners saw when coming out of church. The cost in 1892 was \$2.00 a night. Below is an advertisement that appeared in a New York City newspaper.



Montrose House
MONTROSE, PA.
E. GUY, - Proprietor.

This House is new and elegantly furnished, and fitted up with all Modern Improvements.

HEATED BY STEAM.

A First-Class Family Summer Home.

RATES. \$2.00 PER DAY.
SPECIAL RATES TO SUMMER BOARDERS.



Fall is Here

It's the perfect time to go out and enjoy the outdoors. Fall trails are beautiful and the temperature is perfect for walking. Susquehanna County awaits.

Movie Night

Friday night the 27th was movie night and Chariots of Fire was the movie du jour. Yummy dinner items, popcorn, snacks, and treats were shared by all so we could munch while we watched.



FALL IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

"I loved autumn, the one season of the year that God seemed to have put there just for the beauty of it." We had a little (and needed) rain and the ponds are full. Perfect days for working outside and putting the gardens to bed for the winter. Fall sunrises which occur now at 7:00 am, are easy to go out and enjoy. Russell's apples up Rt. 267 in Brackney are the best. Crab apples are waiting for birds to eat them and the showy winterberries are waiting for a snowy backdrop. It's early fall here in Susquehanna County.

