

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

January 26- February 1



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.

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:

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

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

“Water into Wine”.

Epiphany 2.----The Gospel for the Second Sunday comes from John Chapter 2, ‘The Wedding Feast of Cana’. My immediate question, is to ask: “Who is telling this story?” It is tempting, just to believe that this story came from John the Evangelist as one of the twelve Apostles invited to the Wedding, but I wonder.

I wonder about the incredible details in the story, especially the dialogue. This is like a story repeated by women, and many times. It is also one of the few recorded times, where Mary the mother of Jesus, speaks. Would it be out of line to suggest that this is truly ‘Mary’s Story?’ Perhaps a story she told to John, in the post-resurrection era?

We must remember that Hebrew weddings did not follow the convention of today. It was not a church service followed by a reception with everyone around the same set of tables. A Hebrew wedding was a town or village event, that lasted an entire week. Families would travel far and wide to attend and stay the entire week. It was a celebration with food, dancing, storytelling, and festivity.

It is more than likely that Mary and Jesus are somehow related to the couple, or at least one of them. There is no mention of Joseph, so we must presume that he had died. The story in John’s Gospel, serves a purpose as it is designated as the first of the six signs that Jesus did, which will culminate with the raising of Lazarus. Beyond that, Christians have a certain love for this story. It arrives in the Gospel before Jesus is famous, or well known, so it brooks no opposition from Pharisees or Scribes, or any enemy. It has that feel of being a ‘family story’.

Although to me, the story holds so many complications. The six stone water jars at the door of a Jewish house, are always used for purification. That is a ritual washing: from elbow to fingertip, and from knee to toe, after a journey. It was a belief in Hebrew, that evil entered through dirt and uncleanness. It is almost as if Jesus uses this miracle to state that his ministry is to cast out evil, and bring forth the righteousness that comes with a cleansing of mind, heart and soul. Still, everything begins with Mary, who undeterred, instructs the servants: “Do whatever he tells you”.

It is an instruction we could ourselves take to heart. At the first light of day; at the first sound of the alarm; the first thought in your head, is Jesus saying to you: “Give me this day!” What is your response? —Surely, it is “Yes, Lord, I give you this day, in mind, heart, and soul. Everything that I do today will be dedicated to you and your ministry for the kingdom”.

You do know the consequences? You do know what this means? You cannot lie to almighty God! You cannot forget or give half the day, in a half-hearted fashion! Most of all you cannot sin! Not in words. Not in thought. And not in action. This is Christ’s day, it belongs to him, and you have been called into his service. ‘To follow Jesus is to serve’. Give Jesus your day, and you have rejected sin, repented, and chosen to ‘be a better self’. Do this and the ‘water becomes wine; do this, and you change from your ‘old self’ to a ‘Jesus person!’ Amen.

Sundays Service

Jan 26



Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Acts 26:9-21

Psalm: 67

The Epistle: Galatians 1:11-24

Gospel: Matthew 10:16-22

This Week's Ministers:

Celebrant: Susan Treanor

Altar Guild: Mary & Ben Zalewski

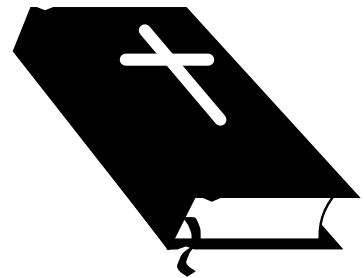
Announcements: John Warriner

Lector: Tom Undercoffler

Hospitality: Undercofflers

This week's Hymns:

We sing in the glorious conquest before Damascus' gate
Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
Father we thank thee who hast planted
I come with joy to meet my Lord
For all the saints



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

Cyber Security Awareness Training

Free! Virtual event: registration required.

Wednesday February 26 1pm-2pm.

Preregister by calling 1-800-982-4346.



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Margaret Burgh, Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, Harry Peirce, Linda Landis, Todd Davies, Rudy Mattes



This Months Birthdays:

Charles Cesaretti 1/2, Karen McAbee 1/4, Anne Shafer 1/16, Bill Rathbone 1/18, David Calby 1/24, Marsha Jones 1/26



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.

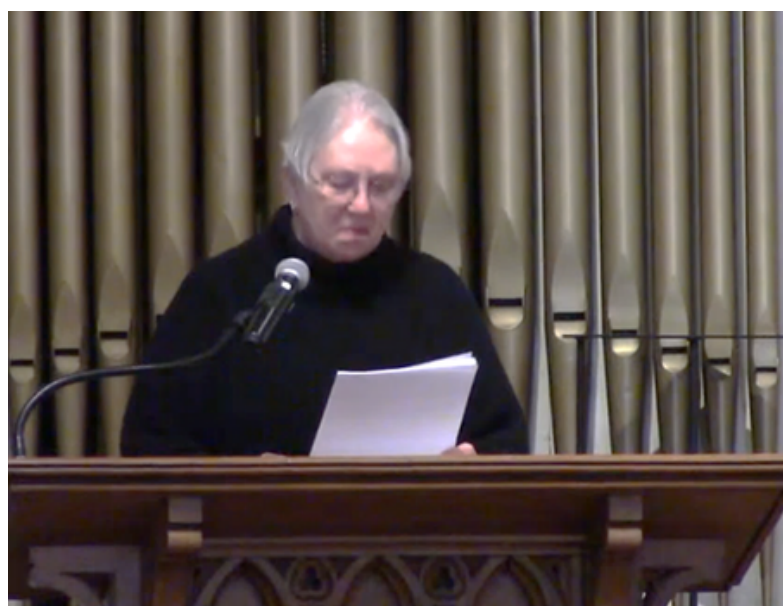
We give thanks for those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week. Grant o God, in your compassion, that those celebrating wedding anniversaries this week may live out the covenant they have made. May they grow in forgiveness, loyalty and love, and come at last to the eternal joys, which you have 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

Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 26, 2025

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise! Triumph over shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear!

The January 19th, 2025 live-streamed 10:00 Morning Prayer service was officiated by Vickie Calby. Lynne Graham served as lector and read the announcements. Penny Jagers 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.



Last Chance

Last Chance if anyone wants to take home some of the poinsettia that was used to decorated the altar for Christmas. They are in the Parish Hall.

Old 1906 St. Paul's Postcard

Here's a really neat old St. Paul's 1 cent postcard from E-bay..

It's addressed to:

Master Everett G. Ainey, # 230 Chatham St., Williamsport Pa.

Feb 10th 1906 - Dear "Loady" - This is where Auntie Bee and J (?) go to church. Auntie Bee is out sleigh riding with Grandma and Kathline - Jack is driving fine sleighing and lots of snow. Lots of love to all from Auntie Bee & all With love "Daddy Pete"

The photo was taken about 1902 and the ivy on the front was heavy.



Check This Crew Out

One of our first pancake suppers on Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras). We still had our old kitchen then. Our supper will be March 4th this year. We can always use help

On the Way to Church


Those of us who don't live in town often have to travel on unplowed back roads before we get to the main roads to go to church. This was taken this Sunday. It's been so cold, nothing has melted.



St. Paul's 2007

Dan and Lynne were using the cold spell to stay in and go through some file cabinets and throw things out. We came across a hand out that we got on one of our first visits to St. Paul's. It was about a month before we moved up from Baltimore and we were trying to decide on a church between St. Paul's and St. Peter's where Lynne's Mom went in Tunkhannock. Looking at the document, we marked it as putting in our first offering of \$20.00 for tax records. Father Charles was there then and he sold us that St. Paul's was where we wanted to be. Check the names out of who was here then. Not many of us around that remember them.

Welcome to
SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



they were all gathered together in one place. and suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the *rush of a violent wind*, and it **filled the entire house** where they were sitting.

Acts 2: 2

— Pentecost 2007 —

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
Founded in 1831
60 Church St.
Montrose, PA 18801-1231
570-278-2954
Fax: 570-278-2825

Parish Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Staff:

The Rev. Canon Charles Cesaretti Interim Rector		Email: chasesaretti@aol.com Home: 465-7174
Brenda Allen	Administrative Assistant	Email: stpaulsmontrose@epix.net
Scott Zimmerman	Music Director	Email: glamdring@stny.rr.com
Ed Ochse	Head Usher	Email: c.ochse@worldnet.att.net
Helen Viterito	Altar Guild Director	Email: castark@epix.net
Peggy Stark	Sunshine	

Vestry:

2008		
John Finlon	Junior Warden	965-2722
Bernie Zalewski		278-2848
Vickie Calby		278-2009
2009		
Maggie McGee Sock		833-4586
Jane Chandler		278-8402
Sarah Warriner		278-9091
2010		
Barbara Shingler		965-2497
Mike Shingler		965-2066
Rachel Bartron	Senior Warden	278-1482

Internet:
Diocese of Bethlehem: www.diobeth.org
Of interest to youth: www.diobeth.org/youthsubscribe.html

Email:
Youth: dbader_save@diobeth.org
Internet list: bethlehemnews@ecunet.org
Bill Lewellis' Interactive List: bethlebsmpa@ecunet.org

Ice Fishing

Lake Montrose is frozen over and those brave men and women are sitting on the ice in freezing weather. Hmmm, something a little crazy about sitting in the middle of the lake. Hope they get a few nibbles.



MID-JANUARY IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

“Let January open with the joy in the Lord, and December close with gladness in Jesus. There’s just something beautiful about walking on snow that nobody else has walked on. It makes you believe you’re special.” Susquehanna County vista in the snow. A poor cold pheasant was sitting in the snow at Salt Springs. Probably one of the last they released in October. Country roads in Susquehanna County – beautiful. The woods are lovely, dark and deep. Deer looking for food. It’s winter!

