



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Weekly Update

November 23- November 29



276 Church Street, Montrose, PA 18801

Office 570-278-2954, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am-2pm

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>

Embracing all in Christ through our love and service.

Pastoral Emergency or Non-Emergency Contact:

You can call the parish office during office hours. After hours, call The Rev. Susan Treanor at 845-800-0107.

Our Vestry Members

John Warriner, Sr. Warden	Lynne Graham, Jr. Warden
John Finlon, Treasurer	Wanda Peirce, Clerk
Vera Dunn	Dan Graham
Sandy Seeger	

Donations 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 middle aisle:

Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!

We have recently changed our ministry statement to: embracing all in Christ thru our love and service. We do this thru the care and concern we show one another, through our involvement in Montrose -it's needs and resources. Perhaps the coat program is a good example of this. Montrose gets cold. Most of our neighbors are seeing the rise of food, gas and shelter prices. Everyone needs a good coat, and our members spend the 12 months before weather gets below freezing buying and organizing and storing coats that will be begiven out starting in October of each year.

We don't do this in isolation. The coat distribution happens in 7 locations: all 4 of the Episcopal Churches in Susquehanna County, Blue Ridge High School, Grace Lutheran Church in Hop Bottom, and the American Legion Post 154. The last day of coat distribution this year will be Dec 18. Although we are still distributing, we have given out 1040 coats so far this year. In addition to the variety of distribution sites, there are dozens of volunteers who make this program possible.

This is a great example of Christ drawing us all together to love our neighbors.

I wrote in our newsletter recently that I have been impressed, really astounded by the depth of experiences our community of St Paul's contains. I hope as we approach the season of Advent, all of us are awaiting not only the historic coming of Christ but also getting our hearts open to how Christ is calling each of us this day and this year. To help our listening, I am planning a weekly Advent series that will concentrate on methods of prayer: Centering Prayer, the office, meditation. I want to make these prayer sessions accessible to all of us so I will be asking you if you prefer them to be offered during the day i.e. Thursdays at 1:00 or in the evening. I am aware that some of us, myself included, prefer to drive in daylight rather than at night. There are others who can not take off during the day. So, I will ask you this Sunday, who is interested in this series and when is the preferred time. Should I offer this twice each week?

Lastly: Birthdays and Anniversaries. Kate and I just reviewed the list of birthdays for December and found that she was unaware of three of us celebrating birthdays. Please make sure your important dates are being acknowledged by all of us. Tell Kate.

In Christ,
Rev. Susan

View from the Pew:

The Right Thing

It's been said that our life is a continuum of moral dilemmas. We go from one to the next, floundering sometimes, staying the course on others. They involve small daily mundane things to life changing predicaments. I remember an old Sanford and Son TV episode where Fred got two Social Security checks one month. Obviously wrong, LaMonte tried to convince him to do the right thing and return one. Fred, who was trying to rationalize why he should have both of them, said the Government wouldn't have sent two if they did not want him to have them and he should just keep both. I don't remember how it ended but it is a good illustration of a small moral dilemma that we are all sometimes faced with.

One from my childhood provided a life lesson that has stuck with me. I was in 5th grade and coming home from school a little before Thanksgiving and it was dreary, starting to rain, and getting dark. Low and behold, there on the sidewalk down the street from my house was a wet five-dollar bill. Now many of those who are reading this probably remember that in 1957, \$5.00 was not an inconsequential sum of money. I had my eyes on a Plasticville set at the Ben Franklin Store for our Lionel train set that my brother and I were allowed to set up Thanksgiving weekend. How wonderful I thought! It was like a Biblical miracle had occurred. I peeled it off the sidewalk and rushed home to show my mother my good luck.

However, my excitement was dashed when she declared that I needed to go back and knock on our neighbors' doors to see if any of them had lost it. Hmmm! I remember thinking, "Why would I want to do that!" Like Fred Sanford, I began rationalizing with her why I should keep it saying that we would never find the owner so we shouldn't try. My brother didn't help my situation by adding, with a brotherly smile, that if I found the owner, maybe he/she would give me a quarter finder's fee. Great! My Plasticville purchase was rapidly shrinking away.

Grudgingly, I went out in the rain, in the dark and knocked on about five doors. I showed them the wet five-dollar bill and explained where I had found it and asked if it was theirs. Nobody admitted to losing it, and, trying not to look happy, I was able to report back that it just looked like we wouldn't be able to find out who's it was. My mother hugged me and told me I could keep it and that she was proud of me for having done the right thing. It made me feel good.

Whenever I find myself rationalizing why I shouldn't do something that I obviously know is right, I often think about that five-dollar bill, my mother, and one of those neighbors who probably did lose it, and who might just have been rewarding me for doing the right thing. When you do what you know is right, it feels good. You stand a little taller. And, by the way, if you're wondering, I still have that Plasticville house with the little couple on the bench that came with it. Happy Thanksgiving!

Sundays Service

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Nov
23



The Last Sunday after Pentecost

Readings for this Week:

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Response: Psalm 46

The Epistle: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

This Week's Ministers:

Preacher: The Rev. Susan Treanor

Altar Guild: Mary Zalewski

Announcements: John Warriner

Lector: Tom Undercoffler

Hospitality: The Undercofflers

This week's Hymns:

Awake my soul

Rejoice! rejoice believers

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Come, thou long expected Jesus

This week's Gospel according to: Luke

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Happenings and Announcements

Announcements

1. Pledge cards are due November 23rd. Please take careful consideration when deciding your pledges for 2026. Think about all that we do for Saint Paul's and what the church contributes to our community and us as a parish.
2. Reminder that the toy tags and stuffing boxes are due to Interfaith by December 4th. Just bring your donations in and place them on the front pew here.
3. Three weeks to go for the Country Store for Christmas in Montrose. Bring in items for the raffle baskets, and baked goods for the bake table, which can be frozen ahead of time in the freezer downstairs.
4. The bishop's visit will be on the following day December 7.

Compassionately,
John Warriner



For those who are ill or have requested our prayers:

Naomi Bennett, Rita Leigh, Nancy Finlon, Carol Marker, Richard Marker, Carol Lasher, Elaine Petrzala, Tom Undercoffler, Janice Gavern, Wanda Peirce, Ellen Ely, Al Marchel, Lindsay Golden, John Reynolds, Al, Vera Dunn



This Months Birthdays:

Nancy Wagner 11/21, Bob Dunn 11/25



This Months Anniversaries:

If you have a birthday or anniversary that is not listed and you would like to add it, please let Kate know!

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

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost, November 16th, 2025

Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost, November 9, 10:00 Holy Eucharist Service was led by the Rev. Susan Treanor. Lynne Graham read announcements and Vickie Calby read the lessons. 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.



Montrose Mobile Food Pantry

It takes a lot of work and many volunteers to feed over 300 families. Every 2nd Friday of the month at the Community Church in South Montrose it all comes together. If you would like to volunteer one day a month for some meaningful work, this is it. This month we had high schoolers from Montrose helping out on their day off.





New Refrigerator

We just purchased an extra refrigerator that has been placed in the basement and will be used to store pots of soup or other produce for soup day. It will also let soup makers make soup prior to soup day and bring it into church early. Thanks to John Finlon for picking it up at Scratch and Dent.



Gertie is Still Alive

Gertie, the piebald doe, has appeared after 6 months. She must have been on vacation. She is six this year and has graced the Weekly Updates during that time. Welcome back Gertie. Stay safe during deer season!



Concert

On Sunday afternoon at the Methodist Church in New Milford, the Binghamton High School Steel Drum Band performed. It was part of the series that's sponsored by the Susquehanna Symphony Society. There were a bunch of St. Paul's folks there and if you weren't one, you missed a fun concert.



Fire Escape in Celtic Room

A fire escape has been added in the Celtic Room to replace the 2x4 ladder that Al Leigh had built a long time ago. The window has hinges that open out. The two shelves help sturdy the structure and will make a great place to put things that have no where else to go! We plan to do a live demo during the next sleeping bag meeting.



MID-NOVEMBER IN SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

"Fall Leaves – Jesus stays." We had a little snow and a little ice in the mornings, but the afternoons are great. The sunsets stay beautiful and create painting-like vistas. Even though archery and muzzle season have opened, deer are everywhere. A four point and a spike buck check us out driving up the road. The ponds had skims of ice on them this week. Farmer Kate sent a photo of their beefers. It's fall here in Susquehanna County.

