Easter Message 2013

“After the Sabbath, as the first light of the new week dawned, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to keep vigil at the tomb. Suddenly the earth reeled and rocked under their feet as God’s angel came down from heaven, came right up to where they were standing. He rolled back the stone and then sat on it. Shafts of lighting blazed from him. His garments shimmered snow-white. The guards at the tomb were scared to death. They were so frightened, they couldn’t move. The angel spoke to the women: There is nothing to fear here. I know you’re looking for Jesus, the One they nailed to the cross. He is not here. He has raised, just as he said”. Matthew 28:1-6a The Message Eugene H. Peterson

Long before Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem, God spoke through the prophet Isaiah. God promised to send a valuable stone as a strong foundation for us, his people. And God promised that anyone who believed in this stone would not be disappointed. That stone was Jesus Christ. Jesus’ victory over death and his promise of eternal life set you and me free from the fear of death. On Good Friday, our Lord, took on our sins, the sins of the whole world. Our assurance of the forgiveness of our sins is found in the risen Christ. Without the empty tomb there would not be forgiveness. Without the risen Christ, heaven would still be closed. Jesus paid the price of your sins and mine and hallelujah they have been accepted by God. The empty grave is the promise to all of us as believers that we are going to live forever. What a God we serve! This life that we are living right now is not all there is. The grave is not the end for any of us. The stone rolled away from the Jesus’ tomb removes our doubts concerning our own eternal destiny.

Easter is a day of Radiant light and Resurrection power! Easter is our assurance of the gift of eternal life. It is the reason we come to worship and give thanks. It is the reason we are a church at all! All of us who believe can say without a doubt with the hymn writer, “Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone; because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives”. UMH #364 “Refrain from Because He Lives” Jesus is Alive—Spread the Word!
Pastor Jane

HELP WANTED

Angie Frystak has been copying our weekly bulletin for several years now. She would like to have someone else take this job.

I send the bulletin to Angie via email and then she adds the names of the acolytes, nursery people, offering, and snack people. She then prints it on the copier at the church and folds it for us. Angie would be happy to talk with anyone about how the bulletin is put together.

Please take some time to consider if you could do this job for us.
SOUP NIGHT

The last soup night of this season is on Monday, April 15th. Charlie and Carol Reed, traveling evangelists, will be with us. Charlie will lead us in casual worship @ 4:00 and continue playing and singing during our meal. Carol will be selling Dayspring Christian greeting cards. Last year we had a good time when they visited. We will be serving BBQ Bean and potato w/ ham soup.

The last 2 soup nights, February 18 & March 18, both had yucky weather. Both nights had snow that turned into freezing rain. But did that stop us from having a good time? No way. We didn't get as many people as usual, but we were still able to serve free meals and donate something to the food bank. That's what it's all about.

So for this coming soup night, I want to think of it more like a party! I am hoping & praying it is a warm, sunny, beautiful spring day. I hope all the "regulars" come and I hope we meet someone new. I look forward to seeing the people who have been coming to soup night for 4 years now. I love when I see them around town and they ask about the next soup night. I love that they associate South Montrose Community Church w/ good food & friendly people. I love that the meal is free to those who need it. I appreciate the people who come for dinner & donate generously for our next soup night & the food bank. And it isn't just about soup. It isn't just about supporting the food bank either. We have met a number of people who were or had family members diagnosed with cancer. We were able to ask about them & pray for them. The same people prayed for Tim & my family the 2nd time he got cancer. I need to give God the glory right now too! Every single person I have heard about or met through soup night, who has had cancer, is right now cancer free!! People have also enjoyed watching Levi & Chloe grow. They bring them cards & cupcakes. We meet people that are lonely and they tell us how much they enjoy eating a meal with others. Lots of times from the kitchen window I hear Pastor Jane laughing & joking with our guests. They love it. I am also very thankful for the relationships I've made with people from our church, that I wouldn't have gotten to know like I do, had we not been working together at soup night for 4 years.

Hope to see ya'll there.

Chris Smith

What’s Happenin . . .
Mark Your Calendars

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner
When: April 13th
Time: 4:30 p.m. till ?
Place: First United Methodist Church of New Milford
Cost: Adults: $8, Youth 6-12 years of age: $5 Children, 5 & under are FREE
Take Outs Available

Young At Heart Luncheons

Montrose Bible Conference
Wednesday, April 10th: Easter Celebration
Wednesday, May 8th: Dr. Gary Russell, Speaker

Begins at 10:30 a.m. and concludes with lunch at Dreyer Lodge, 218 Locust St., Montrose.
Cost: $9 per person
Call for Reservations: 1-800-598-5030 or 570-278-1001

Friends of the Ministry Banquet
April 12, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
What to Expect?

Delicious buffet dinner and inspiring music
Testimonies of God’s Power in people’s lives.
Meet our staff and Board of Directors.
Ministry updates and future plans.

Offering will be taken for the ongoing Ministry of the Montrose Bible Conference
There is no charge but reservations are required: 570-278-1001
Banquet will take place in Dreyer Lodge. See you there!

Salt and Light Youth Ministry
Coming to
So. Montrose Community
ChurchWhen: Sunday, April 14th
Time: 6 till 7:30 p.m.

All Youth in 5th through 12th grade and their Youth Workers are encouraged to attend.
These are Youth Reaching Youth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Come join us for an inspirational evening of testimonies, drama, singing and worship

A Free Will Offering will be taken for Salt and Light.
Refreshments to follow in the Social Hall

Girls Night Out!!
Where: So. Montrose Comm. Church
When: May 10th Time: 6:00pm

Bring your friends for a night of food, games and entertainment! There will be a pot luck supper. Everyone is to bring a covered dish or dessert to pass. Plan on having a lot of fun!!
There will be a sign up sheet in the back of the church for what you’re bringing and how many guests you’re bringing. Deadline for sign up is April 28th.

1st Annual Red Cross 5K Run/Walk
Saturday, May 11, 2013 @ 9 a.m.
Enter Fee: $15 Pre-Registration by May 1st.
T-Shirts to first 50 registered.
Fee on the day of race: $20
Benefit: Wyoming/Susquehanna County American Red Cross
Check-In: Will be 7:30-8:30 a.m. @ Lake Carey Fire Dept. on Siren Drive, Lake Carey, PA

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### Person In The Spotlight

Our family revolves around our two boys. They have been Angie's and my priorities especially after losing Julia over ten years ago. We are a very close family that supports and relies on each other every day. I could not go on without Angie! She's the best wife and mother!!

Farming is our lifestyle and always has been. The farm has kept us busy and close. We work and play there and thank God for the blessing. To see the animals grow from little to big makes them a part of our family too. The toughest thing of having a farm must be to lose one of our animals but that happens when you have a bunch of animals. The more animals the more of that chance and it happens. Probably the best thing about having the farm is being able to hunt deer every year (something we look forward to every year). It is quality time that we all share even all year long watching the deer that we hope to see during the season. We also love to go search for shed antlers to see what we have to get excited about next year. The most exciting one being the 17 point that we found one of the horns one season and then was able to get him the next year!! Hunting is something that I have done for ever since I was a young boy, and I enjoy sharing the interest and time with Jesse and Tanner.

My family has survived a devastating loss over ten years ago when our daughter, Julia, died. It was our hardest trial ever. With the help of God, our family persevered. To this day we savor every day with each other that the Lord grants us.

Yes, no matter what we are doing... either working or on vacation at the Finger Lakes, we savor everyday. Time that we spend in the shop is also cherished working on trucks or equipment or welding on a project we are fabricating. I sure did enjoy shop class in high school with Mr. Jim Fluck. Through the years, there were many long days of not only farming and shop work, but I have also done grave openings for 20 years for added income.
**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**Trehab Food Bank Wish List**
Soup, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, canned fruits, canned vegetables, peanut butter, canned tuna and canned Chicken, canned applesauce and baked beans, mac and cheese, boxed meals, boxed cereal and oatmeal, jelly, canned meals like beefaroni, ravioli, spaghetti O's, etc.

Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Please place your donations in the box in the Narthex. We will be sure to take them to the food bank.

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**Library Books**

The church library is seldom used. At our board meeting on March 26th, we voted to dismantle it.

Some of the books are very interesting. We encourage you to spend a few minutes and choose some to take home. As well as on soup night, the church is open on Soup Night and during choir practice on Thursdays from 6:30 – 7:30pm if those times are more convenient.

Any books left over will be donated to the Blueberry Festival in June, 2013.

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**Our Prayers**

**In the church:** Wayne Singer, Melba Watkins, Joyce & Don Blaisure, Nic Remington, Ben Owen, Harriet Snell, Theresa Owen, June Allen, Craig Estelle, June Bishop, Marian Nye, Alice Porter, Belma Herrala, Doris Sebring, Doris Lamerd, Bob Dalrymple, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood, Kathryn Sterling

**In our community:** Grace, Debbie Bush, Jim Ochse, Ed Felding, Joanne McCain, Sarah and Bill, Tina Barton, Bill Severance, Robert Atticks, Sr., Alan McCarthy, Liz Oliver, Reva Cline, Corey Hollister, Julie Fair, Noah & Naomi, Randy Ward, Mary Helen Booth, Tom & Carolyn Reese, Dewey Hunsinger, Keith Pratt, John Paul Jones, Helen Crotta, Charlotte Maxey Ellis, Lisa Steele, Connie Williams, Aaron Olah, Brooke Arnold, Dee Pierson, Dick Millard, Duane Snell, Helen Petersen, Debbie Brewer, Terry Franks, Butch Rosenkrans, Jonathan and Daniel Snell, Katherine, David & Mary Ann Pierce, Sarah Manzer, Sterling Barefoot, Les Hawley, Josh Capwell, teachers and students, those in the military, the unemployed, flood victims and flood relief workers, those in nursing homes, people in prison, our country, our world, our church, and each other.