

***So. Montrose***  
***Community Church***  
***September, 13' Newsletter***

***From Our Pastor . . .***

Dear Friends,

Summer is quickly fading and fall is on its way. Our children are back to school. The college students have returned to higher education. Labor Day is upon us. This is our last chance for a long summer weekend to go to the beach, have a picnic, relax on our porches, and to just be in the presence of our Creator.

Many of our church activities that took a vacation this summer are now back in full swing. Meetings are beginning, choir practice is starting as well as our Kid's JOY group on Sunday evenings. We are also beginning a new Bible Study this week on the "Big Ten" as I like to call them. As I have been preparing for our 10 Commandment Bible Study, I have been reminded once again that these "Big Ten" are not options for the Christian life, they are commands. These are the 10 rules that we live by as a congregation. As we live out these commands, we are a witness in the community. So, I thought about how we as a congregation can be a reflection of Christ in our community and I came up with the 10 commandments of a loving church family.

**1.** Place the love of God above every other love. This kind of love is greater than your church building or your denomination, or even your favorite church dinner or your favorite small group

**2.** Let the Holy Spirit loose in your life as a church family. Let the Holy Spirit

empower you to maintain Christian Love in the congregation.

**3.** Let us recognize that all churches and all people have faults. None of us are perfect. Let us be patient with the weaknesses and sins of others.

**4.** Let us be loving and kind to strangers in our midst regardless of what language they speak, the color of their skin, or what their economic status may be.

**5.** Let us be merciful and kind to our congregants who have gone astray or are attending another church, remembering God's mercy and love to all people.

**6.** Love God's Word, keep it close to your heart, read it daily and pray that the words therein will touch our very lives.

**7.** When worship ends on Sunday morning, our ministry of outreach and visitation begins. May we be a witness of our faith in Jesus Christ so that others may know Christ and his love and forgiveness.

**8.** The church shall remember the poor, the sick, the widows, the prisoners, the oppressed, and the lonely and be available to help meet needs so that they can experience Christ's love and comfort through us.

**9.** Let us give because God has called us to give and let us give cheerfully. Giving improves our well-being.

**10.** In whatever we do as a congregation, let us keep in the forefront of our minds that we do what we do because Jesus lived and died and rose for each of us so that we might reap the benefits of eternal life.

May the Lord bless our congregation as we attempt to live before our community a life that is pleasing unto God.

Blessings for a great September!

Pastor Jane

## **Kids J.O.Y.**

By Chris Smith

We are starting something new for kids this September. Instead of a weekly Sunday School, we are starting a once a month meeting called **Kids J.O.Y.** The group will be for kids ages 4-12, and will meet from 4:00-5:30 the first Sunday of every month with the exception of September, due to Labor Day weekend. The kick off is September 8th. Each month we'll have a lesson, crafts, music, games, & snack. The **J.O.Y.** stands for Jesus, yourself & others. We want to focus with the children the importance of their personal relationship with Jesus, themselves & others, learning to love Him & their neighbors.

On September 8th, our theme is going to be "back to school." We're going to talk about bullying, being respectful & safe at school, the importance of education, and remembering Jesus is everywhere with you. You can take Him to school, on the bus, the playground, & every where in between. We are going to learn about the most important book ever written, the Bible! Pastor Jane is bringing a really cool song that teaches the books of the Bible. We are also going to talk about some scriptures the kids can start learning and carry them in their minds & hearts. We will be having pizza, chips & drinks that afternoon. The kids will also be involved in a scavenger hunt that will send them all over the church, using their brain power to figure out the clues.

In October our theme will be being a light for Jesus and include Christian autumn fun. In November our theme will be gratefulness and creating a thanksgiving tree. In December we are going to visit Gracious Living to do some caroling and start working on a skit to do for our Christmas program.

Please let anyone in our area with children know about our new group. We don't have as many kids in our church as we'd like. So the more the merrier. Also, if you have any creative ideas you would like to share with us let me know.



## **SOUP NIGHT**

By Chris Smith

**Mark your calendars!** The 5th season of soup night begins on Monday, September 16! Woohooo! I've missed cooking. I've missed all the people. I've missed my helpers. I've missed the smorgasbord of desserts. So let's get soup night started with a bang!!

As always this meal is for everyone. It is free to anyone. Any donations are used for upcoming soup nights and donated to Trehab Food Bank. I am proud to say that for 4 years we have been able to give nutritious meals to all our guests at soup night and make donations to the food bank. Each and every month I receive a Thank You note from the food bank letting me know how much our donation helps them monthly.

I think Sue & Kelly Pratt and The Montrose Independent really helped us get the word out about Soup Night too with the float on July 4<sup>th</sup> and the article and picture published!! We are going to serve chili and cream of broccoli. The meal will be served from 4:30-6:30.

**Can't wait to see ya there.**

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### **Trehab Food Bank Needs**

Our County Food Banks are located in Montrose and Susquehanna/Oakland. They serve approximately 481 households which equals 1,102 individuals per month.

Individuals include adults, children and the elderly.

Your generosity greatly appreciated.  
Thanks in advance for your generosity.

### **Food Bank Wish List Items include the following:**

Soup, Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Fruits, Canned Vegetables, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Tuna/Chicken, Canned Apple Sauce and Baked Beans, Boxed Meals, Mac and Cheese, Boxed Cereal/Oatmeal.

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The annual SMCC Fall Festival will be held on September 28, 2013. John Vandermark will be providing the pork roast once again...it is always delicious!!

The menu will be pork dinners, which includes a sandwich, cole slaw, beans, apple and a drink; or you can just purchase a sandwich. We will again be having a rummage sale, bake sale and craft sale. Workers are needed in all areas, if you can volunteer some time that would be great. We will be having planning meetings on September 1st, 15th, and 22nd, following church.

**Mark the date on your calendars,  
September 28th!**

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### **Saving Graces Singing Dates**

Saving Graces are having a busy month. They sang on August 31 at the Wyoming County Fair; they will be singing for Pastor Margie's churches on **September 29th for their 5th Sunday Charge-wide** service, and will be singing at the **Forest Lake Baptist Church on October 5th** for a special evening honoring their "Senior Saints". Saving Graces always love to share the message of God's love!!

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### **Clean up days held**

On August 15<sup>th</sup>, several of our members met to clean up the outside of our church. A big thanks to Bob and Paula, Mike, Mary and Matthew, Annette and Cassy, and Janet Small for spending a couple hours weeding, trimming and sweeping. A few days before that Mike and Ben cleaned out the storm drain by the lower doors. They removed a TON of sludge, another job well done!

A week later several people helped to clean the inside of the church. Thanks to Susan Pratt and Pastor Jane for organizing and helping with the clean up, and to Kermit and Sally, Annette and Cassy, Mary, Gigi, Mary Jane, Chris and Tanner for helping out! Also, Tom Weller has painted the wood around the front door, as well as the railing on the roof of the addition. Thanks everyone!

**We really appreciate the hard work!**

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## **Block Party**

God gave us the perfect day on July 21! We started our day worshipping outside that morning. The weather was perfect. The message was perfect. The special music was perfect.

At 2:00, hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, & drinks. We had ice cream sundaes for desert. We enjoyed music & karaoke. The kids had a blast in the bounce house, face painting, hula hoops, basketball & more. We also welcomed 4 new families outside our congregation.

Our free will donation that day was \$240 that has been given to the back to school shoe program through Interfaith. Also, the leftover hamburger, hot dogs & rolls were given to the food bank. They were so happy to receive meat. The best part is the leftover ice cream & toppings. We got to enjoy those 2 weeks later for "sundae Sunday." I say we make this an annual tradition!

Thank you to the congregation for the generous donations of time, food, and money. This is a fun church to be a part of.

Chris Smith

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## **Back to School**

It's that time of year already. The first day of school for most of our kids was August 28. The college students have already started their semester too. Some kids & their parents are nervous. Some are excited. The teachers, administrators

and staff all have big responsibilities at this time of year too.

Please join me in praying for all the children in this church and our community as they head back to school.

I pray that God watches over their classes and that they receive an awesome education. I pray the schools are filled with Christian teachers and staff, who can be excellent role models for the kids. I pray the kids have courage to try new activities and sports. I pray they are always safe in their school. God bless Montrose Area School District and Elk Lake School District. God bless our government as they make new laws and as they protect and defend our children against violence at school.

I also pray that more children feel welcome and start coming here to SMCC and joining our Sunday School. Please tell your friends with children about our church and Sunday School.

Kids be encouraged to bring your friends too. The more the merrier.

Chris Smith

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## **Happenings at Montrose Bible Conference....**

### **Chicken Barbeque**

Labor Day, September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1–2:00  
@ Recreation Hall.

\$9 per adult--call for children's prices

Reservations requested.

Concert at 2:30 p.m.

Chiz Rider, Trumpet Ministry

Concert held in our Lake Ave Dining Room

A free will offering will be received.

Contact Montrose Bible Conference for  
further information and to make  
reservations. 570-278-1001

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Montrose Bible – cont'd.

**Young At Heart Luncheons**

Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> - Musical Program with Rose Ann Clough and Donna Kosik

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**Hymn Sing**

Wednesday, October 9th  
Begins at 10:30 a.m. and concludes with lunch @ Dreyer Lodge, 218 Locust Street, Montrose. \$9 per person

For reservations: 1-800-598-5030

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**Fall Dinner Concert**  
**Featuring Reg & Gretchen Dunneman**

October 11th at 6:30 p.m.  
Montrose Bible Conference  
Lake Ave. Dining Room  
Adults: \$21 each  
Children 12 and under, \$5 each

Bed and Breakfast Option: \$50 per adult includes dinner, program, lodging, and breakfast. Plan to stay for the Quilt Auction and Fall Festival

Reservations Required:  
[mbc@MontroseBible.org](mailto:mbc@MontroseBible.org) or 570-278-1001

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**Quilt and Baked Goods Auction with Family Fun Day – October 12th**

- 11 a.m. Quilts on display, family fun day begins,
- 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. Lunch is served,-
- 1:30 p.m. Baked goods sold
- 1:30 p.m. Baked goods sold pie contest winners announced
- 2 p.m. Quilt Auction

Donations needed as well as quilts and baked goods, and entries for the pie contest.

For more information call: 1-800-598-5030. All proceeds benefit the Montrose Bible Conference.

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**Labor Day Sunday**

On this Sunday we lift up workers, to celebrate their contributions, and support their struggles. It is also a day of lament and a day to commit to improving jobs so that every worker has wages, benefits, and work hours that allow them to be self sufficient. Conditions and events at work absorb our energy, occupy our minds, and impact our psyches when we are at work and after returning home. Some workers confront unjust situations such as unsafe conditions, extremely low pay, racism, sexism, and other abuses in the work place. All workers, whatever their position in the job market may suffer from indignities that cripple their spirits and hinder their journey to greater wholeness. The body of Christ, the Church, is called to reach out to people wherever they are. So the Church must also be in our offices, fields, factories, stores, farms, schools and anywhere people work. As Isaiah reminds us, we are called, "to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke." Isaiah 58:6 (Observing Labor Day, [ucc.org](http://ucc.org))

### **Wedding Anniversary**

On September 24th we will have the joy of celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary. What a wonderful 25 years it has been, lots of joys, lots of struggles, here's hoping for 25 more!! Shown in photo: Rick Arnold, Dawn Arnold, Steve Hinds, Carol(Conboy)Jarnagin, Jill Cheetham, Mary (wearing her mother's wedding dress), Mike, Kellen LaBelle, Karen Hinds-Stankiewicz, John Moriarity, Dianne(Byerly)Hearst, Bob Palmer.



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### **Person In The Spotlight**



Our spotlight for September is Mary (Gussie) Fritz. I spent some time with her one morning talking about her very exciting life. This is not word for word, but I hope I

remember it as she told it. Here is part of what she said.

**Where did you go to school?** I went to the South Montrose School, and then the Montrose High School.

**Where did you go to college?** I studied nursing at Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre beginning in 1947. I got my nursing degree in 1950.

**Where did you work?** I was a private duty nurse, worked at Allentown General Hospital, in Danville and in New Jersey.

**What did you like the best about nursing?** Everything. The people, especially the older people. I worked on the floor, in the ER, OR. I liked the OR the least because I was so short, it was hard to work with the tall doctors.

**Who was your husband?** Clayton R. Fritz. He was in the Air Force.

**Do you have a favorite vacation spot or story?** I never took a vacation until our honeymoon in Washington DC. I liked to go to Atlantic City.

**Tell us about your family.** When I was in first grade I moved in with my Aunt Mae and Uncle Vinyl because my parents had 12 children and that was a lot. There were 9 boys and 3 girls, I was number 4 in the line. I lived with Aunt Mae during the school year then lived at home during the summer to help. I remember riding a sleigh to school, and walking up the hill to church (when SMCC was on the top of the hill). I remember going home to walk my younger sister Mae to school.

**You have been so active in our church, what has been your favorite role in the church?** Attending church every Sunday and working for the church.

**What were your hobbies when you were young?** Basketball, working. I loved to work.

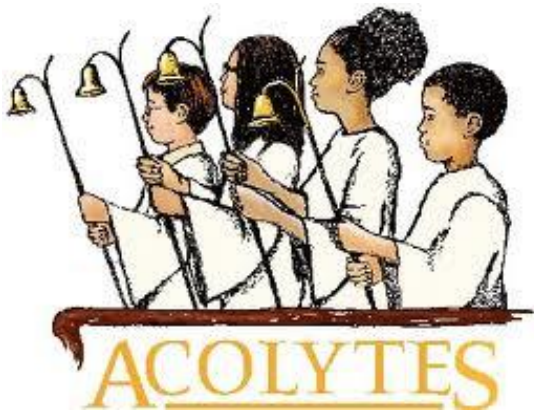
**Hobbies now?** Working & gardening.

Person In The Spotlight – cont'd.

**Do you have a favorite Bible verse?** No, I enjoy them all.

**Favorite hymn?** No, I enjoy them all.

**What does your faith mean to you?** I pray and thank God for everything. I have been lucky, I have not been sick much, I've had only 3 surgeries (tonsils, stents in heart and back surgery). I love all the people in the church.



**Acolyte Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Nursery</u>
9/1	Kohen	Kelly P.
9/8	Matthew	Sue V.
9/15	Tanner	Angie
9/22	Korena	Denise
9/29	Cole	Mary

Sebring, Doris Larnerd, Bob Dalrymple, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood, Kathryn Sterling

**In our community:** Justin & Jess, Kids back to school, Philippa Follert, Jennifer VanEtten, Delbert Potts, Sandra Lathrop, Dominic, Arden Baker, Jean Weaver, Wayne Littlejohn, Debbie Bush, Jim Ochse, Joanne McCain, Sarah and Bill, Tina Barton, Robert Atticks, Sr., Alan McCarthy, Liz Oliver, Reva Cline, Julie Fair, Randy Ward, Mary Helen Booth, Dewey Hunsinger, Keith Pratt, John Paul Jones, Helen Crotta, Charlotte Maxey Ellis, Lisa Steele, Aaron Olah, Brooke Arnold, Dee Pierson, Dick Millard, Duane Snell, Helen Petersen, Debbie Brewer, Terri 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, those in nursing homes, people in prison, our country, our world, our church and each other

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**Church's website:**

<http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/southmontrose/>



**Our Prayers**

**In the church:** Grace Harvey, Wayne Singer, Jim Linaberry, Gorden Linaberry, Melba Watkins, Joyce & Don Blaisure, Nic Remington, Harry Snell, Ben Owen, Theresa Owen, Craig Estelle, June Bishop, Marian Nye, Alice Porter, Belma Herrala, Doris