

***So. Montrose Community Church
May, 2014 Newsletter***



Pastor Jane's Message

The month of May is special not only for Mother's Day but because we have the National Day of Prayer. This is a time when Christians all across our country stop, open their hearts, and pray to God. Please take some time this month to be in the presence of God. Take some time to pray for family members, friends, governments, our country and its leaders as well as other countries around the world and their leaders. Prayer is an important part of our daily lives. For Jesus prayer was not an "if" thing, it was a "when" thing. If Jesus needed prayer, how much more do we need prayer? In Mark 1:35, we see that Jesus made prayer his first order of the day. In Luke 6:12, we know that at times, Jesus prayed through the night.

In Luke 6:13, we know that Jesus prayed before he picked his disciples. When we read Matthew 26:36 we know that Jesus prayed before he faced death on the cross.

I try to begin my day with a prayer of adoration and praise to the Lord who has brought me through another night and has awakened me to a new day. God daily provides for my needs. I know that without God I have nothing in my life. Jesus is the source of all that I need. When I awaken to a new day, I am sometimes overwhelmed with the wickedness in the world. I just have to remember that God is stronger than all of it and that the Spirit that lives within me will help me to rise above it. For me, prayer is like a compass. Prayer is a tool that God uses to order my life, adjust my course, and prepare me to overcome the storms of life that threaten me. Without

God's help each day, I run the risk of going adrift and being at the mercy of a turbulent world. If you haven't been praying on a regular basis, here are a few suggestions to get started: Find a quiet time during the day for just you and God. Start with Christian music or read some of the psalms for about five minutes. Focus on God. Shut the music off or let it go softly in the background as you begin pray for our nation and its leaders, our state, our town, and your pastor and our church leaders. Take some time to pray for those on the Prayer List, JOY Kids and Leaders, our school district, teachers, administrators and students, and our youth in the community. Let the Spirit move within you as you pray. You'll be amazed at what the Lord will put before you to lift up.

Have a blessed month,
Pastor Jane

Upcoming Events – In Our Church
Ladies Night Out – Friday, May 9th@

6pm. Bring covered dish or dessert. Meat and beverage will be provided. Program to follow supper.

Litter pickup on Route 29 Saturday, May 24th Meet @ the church @ 9am.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped clean up the Elk Lake Road April 19th! We filled up a small dump truck with 47 bags, and that was only 2 miles! Thanks to Mike, Mary & Matthew Hinds, Bob Remington, Kelly Pratt & Rusty Ely & family.



Thank You!

To Tim & Chris Smith for donating the hot water heater for the church which is already installed.



SOUP NIGHT

by Chris Smith

Our last soup night was April 21. As usual it was a great time. We served 80 people dining in & about 10 take outs. The guests were generous as always and the donations came to \$212. I kept \$100 to start up in September. I gave \$25 of it to our missionary guests, Charlie & Carol Reed. I sent the \$87 left to the food bank.

So many of the guests really enjoy soup night & also enjoy helping the food bank. So I kept more detailed records this year, just for fun. I thought you all may enjoy hearing them. From September to April we had 8 soup nights. We served 643 people who ate with us at the church. I didn't keep exact records of take outs, but it is usually 10-15 meals. We donated a total of \$815 to the food bank. We also donated unopened bread & produce. Some people gave me nonperishable foods to take with the donations as well. Whatever soup is left over at soup night goes into the freezer and Pastor Jane gives it to people in food emergencies. Soup night also made the front page of the paper twice in less than a year. I am so happy & proud that South Montrose Community Church is reaching out to our community & representing Jesus. Pretty cool, right?

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you to all my helpers, servers, dishwashers, entertainers, bakers and cleaner-uppers! I get a lot of credit at soup night but I could not do it with out you all. I only make 2 pots of soup! You all do the rest. I appreciate

everyone of you. Special thanks to my friend, Jennifa. The gumbo at our last soup night was delicious and I know the guests loved it. Most came back for 2nds. See you in September!

J.O.Y.

by Chris Smith

The children's group we started this year has proven to be a success. Our goal at each monthly meeting is to teach the kids something about Jesus' love for them & apply it to their life. That is how Pastor Jane gave the group it's name. J for Jesus, O for Others & Y for Yourself. We try to incorporate into our lessons and Bible time about how as Christians we need to love Jesus, others and ourselves.

In March & April the children learned about Jesus, His disciples and His experiences leading up to Holy Week. They participated in a foot washing. They learned about Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We talked about the Last Supper and Jesus' friends denying Him. They heard the sad story of the crucifixion. They celebrated the fact that on the 3rd day He rose from the dead. The children know He now lives in their hearts and has prepared a home for them in heaven. They learned the jelly bean prayer. Each color from the jelly beans represented a symbol for Jesus. They ate resurrection rolls which were quite yummy. They were similar to a cinnamon roll with a marshmallow inside. Once baked the marshmallow disappeared....just like the empty tomb of Jesus on Easter morning. We made an extra craft to send to our compassion child, Sayuri. We also sent her an Easter card signed by everyone.

May 4, from 4:00 - 5:30 will be our last meeting until September. The children are going to learn about Pentecost. We want them to know about the amazing gift Jesus gave them by sending His Holy Spirit. They don't ever have to be anywhere without Him! On May 18 the kids will participate in worship for our children's day.

If anyone has any nice ideas for a story, craft, game or snack for next year feel free to let myself, Mary Hinds, or Brenda Frystak know. Or if you'd like to join us or know someone who would, please invite them.

Happenings At Sky Lake

Open House: Sunday, May 18th from 1:30 p.m. till 5 p.m. Everything is free except the delicious Chicken BBQ which comes complete with all the fixins'. Tickets are \$8 in advance through the Sky Lake Office. \$9.50 at the Tent.

Special Needs Family Camp: May 23-26, 2014: Underwood Lodge @ Sky Lake Camp. Directed by Laura Coleman and Rev. Sara Baron.
Adults/Teens ages 13+, \$155 per adult,
Child/ages 4-12, \$105 per child,
Infants/Toddlers, ages 0-3, our treat.

Spring Fling 2014, May 23-26. A Memorial Day Weekend Retreat. Call Sky Lake for more information. 607-467-2750.

Change the World

Saturday, May 17th, held at Montrose UMC. It's an all day event to make a christian impact in our communities. Sponsored by the Montrose Area Cluster of Churches (MAC) Franklin Forks, Great Bend, Montrose, New Milford, South Montrose, Fairdale, Rush, Retta, East Rush, Dimock, Springville, Hop Bottom, Kingsley.

There are opportunities for all ages to get involved in this great day and to be a part of spreading the love of God in our area.

1. There will be work teams throughout the Montrose area cleaning yards, planting flowers, helping folks with small repairs. We are working with the Area Agency on Aging for referrals of those in need of help. Sign up today and let us know what you can do. Pastor Don Littleton is heading this project.

2. Making Ugly Quilts. Pastor Jane and South Montrose and New Milford are heading this project. Flo Wheatly with My

Brothers Keeper and Loretta Guiton will be coming to help us put together sleeping bags for the homeless. Items needed for the project will be listed in the bulletin as well as a sign up sheet so that we know how many we can expect for helpers.

3. Litter Pick-Up and or a Free Car Wash. Pastor Sara Kolenda and the Montrose and Franklin Forks churches are working this out. More news on this to come soon.

4. Cards and Crafts for Home-bound and Nursing Home Residents. The Fairdale, Rush, East Rush and Retta churches along with Pastor Ed Kerber are heading this project. We will need children and adults who love to do crafts to help us make as many cards and crafts as we can to deliver to our local nursing and personal care homes. There will be a sign up sheet for this project as well.

The Above Projects will take place at the Montrose UMC from about 9 a.m. till 2 or 3 p.m. Volunteers can then go home if they wish to get cleaned up before supper at 5 p.m.

5 p.m. A Picnic Supper with all the fixins. The supper will be provided by the Hop Bottom and Kingsley Churches and Pastor Richard Spering. There will be a sign up sheet for this as well so that we know how know how many people to approximately plan for.

6 - 8 p.m. Worship in many styles with a mass choir, skits, drama, traditional and contemporary and we will have the privilege of having Bishop Jeremiah Park with us to bring us the evening message and lead us in the service of Holy Communion. The Springville and Dimock churches along with Pastor Cec Eisley will be greeting and ushering for our service of worship and praise.

There is something for everyone on Saturday, May 17th. Plan now to attend. You won't be disappointed. It will be a great opportunity to make a United Methodist Witness in Susquehanna County.

Happenings at Montrose Bible Conference

Mother's Day (May 11th) Family Buffet

Time: Noon till 2 p.m.

Place: Dreyer Lodge Tea Room

Reservations Required.

Prices: \$15 per adult, \$5 per child ages 5-12, \$2.50 per child ages 2-4; under age 2--free

Prices include complete meal, beverages and gratuity.

Call for Reservations: 570-278-1001,
mbc@MontroseBible.org

Young at Heart Luncheon

Wednesday, May 14th: Dr. Gary Russell
presenting Missions in Jordan

Each day starts at 10:30 a.m. and concludes
with lunch @ Dreyer Hall, 218 Locust Street
\$9 per person reservations: 1-800-598-5030

Memorial Day, May 26th Family Fun Day

Time: Noon till 4 p.m.

Enjoy Free Camp Montrose Activities:

Indoor Climbing Wall, Giant Swing,
Paintball Target Range, Ga-ga Paper
Rockets, 9 Square in the Air and more fun!!

-Chicken BBQ served from 1-2 p.m.

Adult: \$9, Ages 5-12: \$4, Ages 2-4: \$2

Reservations are Required

All Weekend: Campground Round Up. RV
Sites Available, Call for Reservations @ 1-
800-598-5030

Camp Montrose Summer 2014 "Transformed"

Teen Camp Week: June 29-July 4th
(completed grades 8-12)

Youth Camp: July 6-11 (completed grades 5-7)
Day Camp Option Available.

Kids Camp: July 13 (completed grades 1-4)

Mini Camp Option and Day Camp Option
Available. Contact Montrose Bible Conference
for more information: 570-278-1001,

www.MontroseBible.org



Person in the Spotlight – Ben Hinds

- 1. Where were you born?** Johnson City, NY 6/17/91
- 2. Where did you go to high school?** Montrose
- 3. Were you involved in any sports or clubs in high school?** Yes, I played trumpet, baritone and tuba in the school band. I was a member of Key Club. I played varsity tennis.
- 4. Did you go to college? If so, where? What degree?** I went to Eastern University for one year. As a side note, that is the college that Pastor Margie went to seminary.
- 5. What was your first job? Other jobs? Any unusual job?** My first job was as cashier at H.O. Mart. I now work as an HVAC technician/propane installer for Hinds Energy, as well as being an EMT for the Montrose Minute Men.
- 6. When were you married? Children?** Not yet!
- 7. What places have you lived?** Montrose
- 8. What is your favorite vacation spot? Favorite vacation memory?** My favorite vacation spot is Tennessee. I like it there because it is secluded and the Smoky Mountains have beautiful views. I went to Pigeon Forge, Nashville, Dollywood. My mom's cousin lives in Nashville and he took me around to some great places, including the Station Inn. Vince Gill was supposed to be there, but he didn't make it. We did see Billy Dean though.

9. What do you do in your spare time?

Eat, sleep, video games, play with my dog, target shoot.

10. How long have you attended SMCC?

All my life.

11. Do you have a favorite Bible verse or story?

Favorite Bible verses are Philippians 4:13 (I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.), and Psalm 23 (1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.)

12. What is your favorite room in your house?

The kitchen!

13. How has your faith helped you through a difficult time, or was there a specific time that you could feel God working in your life?

Any time I find myself at a difficult time, I remember that if God brings you to it He will bring you through it, and He never gives you more than you can handle.

14. Tell us something about yourself that most people would not know.

I have tried joining every branch in the military but could not get in due to past injuries. When I was 16 I was chosen to be a People to People Student Ambassador and I traveled to Australia for 18 days. It was a great experience. I got to hold a koala and an alligator. I ate kangaroo, crocodile, green ants, and camel. The green ants tasted like 7-Up. I spent a day in an Aboriginal village, and spent a couple nights with an Australian family.

“You Took My Place”

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, 'I always park there! You took my place!' The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, 'That's my seat! You took my place!' The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing. After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, 'That's where I always sit! You took my place!' The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still he said nothing.

Later, as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, 'What happened to you?' The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye,"
I Took Your Place!

(Author Unknown)

Happiness Within
“Did Anyone See Me”

I first noticed it on a hot, July evening when the moon was full and bright. Several beautiful, large white flowers, emitting a frant perfume, were blooming o n one of the cactus plants in our front yard. The following morning, when I took my family outside to show them this stunning sight, not a single blossom remained.

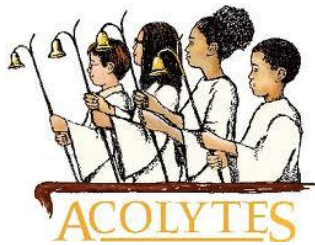
I soon discovered that this was a night-blooming cereus called the “Queen of the Night.” The flowers for this remarkable plant not only bloom just at night but each one for only one night. Imagine their one moment of glory and hardly anyone sees it!

I can relate to that. As a stay-at-home mom, I often feel I do my best work when no one’s around to know. Such as when I

find the magical combination of stain remover and elbow grease that saves my son Ross' favorite shirt from ruin. Or I call every Burger King in Phoenix finally to unearth the last remaining doll from the current Disney movie, the only thing Maria wants for her birthday. Nobody sees my moments of glory either, and sometimes I wonder about the merits of so much blooming in the dark.

But watching the Queen of the Night more carefully, I've noticed something wonderful. Come morning, after the flower closes, from it grows a bright red fruit, a delicacy for birds and small animals and the source of the seeds for new growth. It's the tiniest part of a great cycle, just as it's suppose to be, just as God has planned it.

It's the same for me. The little things I do for my family, the many tasks whose nearly invisible results help make our life together run more smoothly, are my contribution to the plan God has mapped out for us, and as I watch the fruits of my work grow strong, the rewards—a smile, a giggle, a thank you—are the tiny seeds that inspire me joyfully to begin the process anew each day.



Acolyte Schedule

May 4th	Korena
May 11th	Cole
May 18th	Kayleen
May 25th	Elizabeth
June 1st	Clay
June 8 th	Kohen
June 15 th	Matthew
June 22 nd	Tanner
June 29 th	Korena



Our Prayers

In the church: Dawn Arnold, Kelly Arndt, Jim Linaberry, Joyce & Don Blaisure, Nic Remington, Theresa Owen, Craig Estelle, June Bishop, Marian Nye, Alice Porter, Belma Herrala, Doris Sebring, Doris Larnerd, Bob Dalrymple, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood, Abe Linaberry

In our community: Dennis & Mary Carey, Dorothy Wegman, Deana Wickizer & family, Madison Koloski & family, family of Lucas Baker, Jan Krupinski and family, Staff @ Children & Youth, Terry Cooke, Dottie Henry, Catalina, Pat Whitaker, Mickey Patrick, Sandy, Justin & Jess, Jennifer VanEtten, Delbert Potts, Sandra Lathrop, those struggling with addictions, our teenagers in Susquehanna County, Devin, Sarah and Bill, Tina Barton, Robert Atticks, Sr, Randy Ward, Mary Helen Booth Keith Pratt, John Paul Jones, Helen Crotta, Lisa Steele, Brooke Arnold, Dee Pierson, Dick Millard, Duane Snell, Helen Petersen, Debbie Brewer, Terri Franks, Jonathan & Daniel Snell, Katherine, David & Mary Ann Pierce, Les Hawley, 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

Church Website

<http://southmontrose.umcchurches.org/>

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