

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



Message From Our Pastor.....

Dear Friends,

Greetings on this beautiful spring day! Hope this note finds you well and joyful as we take into ourselves the season of spring in Northeast, Pennsylvania and anticipate all those great summer activities just around the corner.

This month is a special month, because we celebrate Dad's day on June 15th. Most of us have had a father or father figure who served as a role model in our lives. It may have been our own loving father, a caring neighbor, or an adoring grandpa. But whoever this man was, he no doubt modeled goodness, forgiveness, and love. And hopefully this person was someone you looked up to and admired for his strength, courage, faith and guidance. The parable of the Prodigal Son comes to mind as I think of Dad's Day. The parable allows us to see a father's loving forgiveness and how that forgiveness helps a son that has done wrong.

The Prodigal Son parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. It shows God's loving forgiveness toward each of us. When our burdens are too heavy to carry, we need to set down our burdens and ask God for forgiveness. Think about a time in your life when you needed forgiveness. Have you ever forgiven someone? How did it feel?

When we're in need of forgiveness, God is always ready to forgive. We just need to ask. As Dad's Day approaches, what specific action can you take to forgive someone? Have a great Dad's Day!

This month we also celebrate with the graduating class of 2014 whether it is high school, college, tech school, or beyond. These individuals have reached a milestone

in their lives. Let us congratulate all our youth who have accomplished much in these past few years. Also let us pray for our graduates as they begin a new phase of their lives.

Blessings to Everyone! Pastor Jane



On May 24th, we finished the second half of our litter pick up duty. We were blessed to have several more helpers than usual, so the work went pretty quickly. Many thanks to Bob, Paula and Tiffany Remington, Mary Jane Long, Mary Hinds, Kelly Pratt, and the entire Kraynak family. We picked up 33 bags of trash as well as 2 bags of cans that Mary Jane took home to cash in for charity. Great job! Appreciate all who volunteered!



**Spotlight person for June is
John Vandermark.**

1. **Where were you born?** I was born in Wilson Hospital, in Johnson City, New York

2. **Where did you go to high school?**
Elk Lake.
3. **Were you involved in any sports or clubs in high school?** I played volleyball, I was in the French club and our senior play "Harvey". I also played saxophone in the band for a short time, and got to play in the Governor's inauguration parade.
4. **Did you go to college? If so, where? What degree?** I attended Penn State University for two year, and was a member of Coaly Honor Society, Ag student council, Dairy science club, and a Brother at Delta Theda Sigma fraternity. Due to a death in the family, I came home to run our dairy farm before I graduated.
5. **What was your first job? Other jobs? Any unusual job?** I was raised on a dairy farm, so my first job was chasing cows, and as I got older everything associated with the farm. My first job off the farm was catching and crating chickens at Loudon Hill. In 1993 I sold my cows and was working as a manager at McDonalds and part time at the Post Office. In 1999 I became a full time rural carrier and have been working in Brackney since then. **When were you married? Children?** I was married the first time in 1983 and have two children, John Glen who is teaching at Nature Classroom in Charlton, Mass., and Amanda who is a social worker for children and youth in Centre County Pa. I am now married to my wonderful wife Sue.
6. **What places have you lived?** I have always lived on our family farm except for the two years in State College, while at Penn State.
7. **What is your favorite vacation spot? Favorite vacation memory?**
So far my favorite vacation has been Hawaii, but I am looking forward to a trip to Ireland in August. My most memorable moment while on vacation was on a fishing boat in rough water Amanda was laying down with her head on my dad's lap, when she she got sick and puked on his shorts.
6. **What do you do in your spare time?** What is spare time? I never seem to have any of that.
7. **How long have you attended SMCC?** All my life, I was raised in this church, and joined it 45 years ago.
8. **Do you have a favorite Bible verse or story?** Roman 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life though Jesus Christ our lord."
9. **What is your favorite room in your house?** The Dining room, because the whole family gathers there, we eat, we laugh, we sing badly, and have made many major decisions there.
10. **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?** When I was going though my divorce, I turned to the church and it helped me get though it. Also every time I see a newly sprouting corn field, or the beauty of the fall leaves, I wonder how anyone can say there is no God.
11. **Tell us something about yourself that most people would not know.**
When I was 16, I worked as a staff member at the Boy Scout National Jamboree, where I was in charge of moving 2200 men and boys over a mile to and from the opening and closing events.

P.A.K.T.

Most of you know that Matthew has been diagnosed with autism, specifically Asperger's Syndrome, a year or two ago. Matthew doesn't know it, but he will soon. I've discovered that parents living with this cannot do it alone. I have wanted to start an autism support group, so I asked around and discovered there is a need for it. I asked the Director of Special Education at Montrose School District, Kelly-Jo Riker (our own Shelby and Ray's daughter), if she would be willing to help out, and she took the ball and ran with it! We had our first meeting, and had several attendees. We decided to name

the group P.A.K.T. (Parenting AuSome Kids Together). The plan is to support each other, inform each other, and plan activities and events for the families. Autistic children have a VERY hard time making and keeping friends. It will be nice for them to be able to get together and do some fun things. If you know of someone who may benefit from this group, please let me know. Our next meeting is on June 10th at 6:30 at the Montrose High School. Mary Hinds



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

Upcoming Events

July 19th – Luau dinner/sunset service

September 20th – Bus trip to Moses play

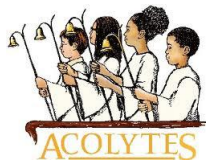
September 27th – Fall Festival

Happenings at

Montrose Bible Conference

**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



June 1st Clay
 June 8th Kohen
 June 15th Matthew
 June 22nd Tanner
 June 29th Korena

Church Website

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

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