

*So. Montrose Community Church
November, 2014 Newsletter*



From Our Pastor

"For all that God, in mercy, sends; for health and children, home and friends; for comfort in the time of need, for every kindly word and deed, for happy thoughts and holy talk, for guidance in our daily walk--For everything give thanks!

For beauty in this world of ours, for verdant grass and lovely flowers, for song birds, for hum of bees, for the refreshing summer breeze, for hill and plain, for stream and wood, for the great ocean's might flood--For everything give thanks!

For sweet sleep that comes with night, for the returning morning's light, for the bright sun that shines on high, for the stars glittering in the sky--For these, and everything we see, O Lord! Our hearts we lift to Thee--For everything give thanks!"
Anonymous

All that we are and all that we have are gifts from God. Our families, our friends, the warmth of the sun and the very food that we eat are gifts God gave us out of God's unending love for us. The pilgrims understood this and gathered with the local Indians to give thanks to God for a bountiful harvest. Each November we celebrate Thanksgiving. The very name of the holiday sums up what it is all about--giving thanks to our Creator who provides for all our needs. This month we will gather with family and friends around a table filled with turkey, stuffing, potatoes, carrots, pies, corn cranberry sauce, squash, green beans and so much more. We will all have a table of abundance; not only in food but also in life. The abundance of God's gifts can never be exhausted. I grew up knowing that I could never out give God and that knowledge has been reinforced throughout my ministry. I find that too often we as a church live with a mentality of scarcity. We are afraid that when we give, that we will have less. In fact, when

we give we are blessed with more than we ever expected.

In closing, I want to share with you a story by Bonnie Harvey, *The Spirit of Giving*. I have shared it before, but this story really speaks to my heart during this season and I hope it will yours as well. "John and his eleven year old son had frequently helped to serve needy people in their church food pantry. This year, the evening before Thanksgiving, the church had received the names of fifteen families who needed food baskets. One of the local grocers had donated hams and turkeys, and the church bought groceries from a neighborhood discount food distributor. As each one from the church packed his or her basket for the families, an anticipation grew for the families who would receive the food. The church hall overflowed with food items, and the people preparing the baskets became increasingly excited. Many of these families probably hadn't had enough to eat for some time. No doubt their Thanksgiving dinner would be the best meal they had enjoyed in recent days. Soon, the families began to arrive to pick up their baskets. Then, a new family appeared: A father, mother, and three children drove up in a battered old Chevy. They had just learned that the church was giving away food--would they be able to get some? They were new to the area, and the father had not worked for a while. As Jake, the person in charge, tried to tell the family that there were exactly the right number of baskets for the fifteen families and nothing extra, a man on the other side of the fellowship hall put his basket down and began to take canned items from it, placing them in a box he quickly located. Before long, others in the room imitated him until the good-sized box was filled with the new family's Thanksgiving dinner. Quietly, the spirit of love and joy invaded the fellowship hall and each participant in the little drama rejoiced that they, too, had been a part of someone else's Thanksgiving."

Blessings to everyone this Thanksgiving!
May the Lord fill you to overflowing with the spirit of generosity and thankfulness.

Pastor Jane

Dedication of Baby Grand Piano



On Sunday, October 26th, the baby grand piano in our sanctuary was dedicated to our church in memory of Werdon H. and Emma H. Allen by their daughter and husband, Ruth & Arthur Andrews, to whom it was given as a wedding gift in 1947.

Those in attendance from the Allen family were Ruth Andrews, her son, Tim, Werdon & Betty Allen, their daughter, Betsy, sister-in-law, Peggy.

After the church/dedication service, Ruth played a few hymns on the piano which sounded beautiful. Those of us that remained, asked her to come back any time to play!

Thanks again Ruth and family. We truly appreciate your generosity!
Here's the history of the piano and some pictures of it's past with the Andrews family.



History of the piano given to South Montrose Community Church in August, 2014 by Arthur and Ruth Andrews in memory of Emma and Werdon H. Allen

Ruth remembers her mother, Emma, teaching her how to play the piano, using the big, high upright piano in the living room. She sat on the swivel stool with claw feet, made by Grandpa Allen. Later she had some lessons from Helene Schlegel. Along the way she played piano at church and Sunday School. Studies at Eastman School of Music added to her love of piano.

In July, 1943 a new minister was assigned to Montrose and South Montrose. His name was Clarence Andrews. His 16 year old son, Arthur, came with him on the first Sunday (using the opportunity to try his new driving learner's permit). This day he met the 16 year old church pianist, Ruth. Eventually Art and Ruth were married on Christmas Eve in the South Montrose church (the first wedding ever in that church which was built in 1941).

Ruth and Art were thrilled when her mom decided to give them as a wedding gift a baby grand piano which she ordered to be delivered from Scranton to the parsonage at Tobyhanna where Art was the student pastor.

As Ruth remembers:

During the next 67 years this piano was a loved member of our family. We all played it, including my children, grandchildren, and students. We gathered around it and sang and played instruments. It was played on joyous, sad, confused, troubled, and happy times. (Sometimes I played it in the middle of the night. One section of Finlandia was a great piece to pound out when upset.) Hymns spoke to every occasion. Every time we moved furniture the piano had to be placed first. The bench always had a hand crafted cover that Mom Allen made. The last one (though faded) is still there today.

The piano was moved to 7 more parsonages and to 2 homes in Clarence, NY, and then in 1977 to our home in Vestal. We initiated each new home singing Bless This House. Finally when my hearing did not let me enjoy the piano, we hunted for a new home and found one in the church where my grandparents, Mom and Dad, brothers and I, and aunts, uncles, and cousins worshipped. We lovingly give it in memory and in tribute to Werdon and Emma Allen with the prayer that it will bring joy and inspiration to all who play or hear.





FEED A FRIEND Program

TREHAB is once again sponsoring the Feed A Friend Program. This is the 30th year! This is a combined effort of Trehab, local churches, organizations and agencies as well as WNEP Channel 16. Last year, we distributed over 856 baskets (2,911 individuals) to needy families, elderly and homebound in Susquehanna County. With the strain of high utilities, gas prices and more families facing unemployment, we appreciate all your donations.

Recipients of the Feed A Friend Program have been extremely grateful for the Dessert Fixings supplied by our local churches of Susquehanna County.

So, once again this year **we are collecting Dessert Fixings....**

Canned Pie Filling, Boxed Pie Crust Mix, Boxed Cake Mixes and Canned Prepared Icings.

Please place all your donations in the box in the Narthex.

We need all your donations of the dessert fixings by Sunday, November 9th.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mary Hinds or Pastor

Montrose Bible Conference Happenings



Single Parent Family Retreat November 21-23, 2014

A stress free weekend of fellowship with other single parent families.

Featuring: a peaceful, safe, setting appropriate; teaching for all ages; lots of laughter and family fun.

Get out of your routine to experience God!

Check In begins at 4:30 p.m. on Friday. Retreat concludes with Sunday lunch.

Special family rates available, call Montrose Bible Conference at 570-278-1001

Sky Lake Happenings

Second Sundays (October, December, February, & April). This is a gathering of youth that will take place at Sky Lake the Second Sunday of every other month from October through April. Start times will vary. See Pastor Jane for more information.

Community Workers

Community workers will be holding their annual gathering and fellowship at our church on Thursday, December 11th @ noon. We will be serving a light lunch and pack the Christmas cheer packages as well.

We have a list of who will receive the Christmas packages, but if anyone would like to add to the list, it'd be more than welcome.

We're asking for 2 dozen cookies and/or a monetary donation toward the expense of our packages. They are truly appreciated by the recipients and are sent with our thoughts and prayers from our Church Community Workers. So, mark the date on your calendars! Thank you!!



The next soup night is November 17th from 4:30 – 6:30. The soups will be creamy baked potato and taco. Charlie & Carol Reed will be providing the music and selling Day Spring assorted & Christmas cards. Hope to see you there!

Person In The Spotlight



The spotlight this month is on Garnet (Gigi) Salsman. She writes a great story!

Where were you born? I was born in Factoryville. My precious mother had all four of us at home. There was my sister, Jane, brother Merwin, me, and brother Bob. Sadly, I am the only remaining child and I truly miss them all.

Where did you go to high school? Graduated from Nicholson High School. Our class had 5 boys and 16 girls in it. We were the last class to graduate from Nicholson. Lackawanna Trail opened in the fall which consolidated many of our small town schools together.

Were you involved in any sports or clubs in high school? I was involved in Student Council, F.H.A. and cheerleading.

Did you go to college? Is so, where? What degree? I never went to college. Wish I had!!

What was your first job? Other jobs? Any unusual jobs? My first job was a waitress in Nicholson at a family owned restaurant. Great family and got to meet many people in business and around town. Took a waitress job at a diner too, and later got hired at Bendix. Leon Salsman was my boss--- and the rest is history!! Bendix is also the place I picked up my nickname. My group leader couldn't remember my first name, Garnet, and called me Gigi.

When were you married? Children? Leon and I were married August 31, 1963. He was a widower with 3 pretty daughters. We had two sons and our children's names are Leonna, Dianne, Cathy, Brent and Loren. We have 6 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and 2 more on the way. I hear one is a boy!

What places have you lived? I have lived in Carbondale, Nicholson, Laceyville, Brownsville

Texas, South Montrose, and Padre Island, Texas before we returned to our home in South Montrose. Now in Dimock country. We lived in Texas on the border of Mexico when Leon leased and opened a plant for Bendix in Matamorros, Mexico. Exciting times!

What is your favorite vacation spot? Favorite vacation memory? We had so many good vacations visiting amusement parks, zoos, beach vacations or fishing vacations in Canada. Such good times we had with our family and friends.

What do you do in your spare time? Joey, my dog and I go for walks, I like to read, do puzzles, watch TV, go to lunch, shopping or dinner with family or friends. My weekends are usually spent with my family. Whoever calls first gets me. It's usually Dianne.

How long have you attended SMCC? I have attended SMCC since 1972. Been active in Ladies Aid, which is Community Workers now, as President or VP. Taught Bible school for 10 years when we had a lot of children in church, Shirley Vandermark was superintendent of Sunday School, then for many years Gail Fair. I did Cub Scouts downstairs in our church. Our sons got us involved. We had 22 in our first troop and around 14 or so in our next troop. Lots of fun. Also was in choir for many years.

Do you have a favorite Bible verse or story? Matthew 7:12 The Golden Rule: In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, Also the Serenity Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

What is your favorite room in your house? My favorite room seems to be my living room. Joey, my dog and I rest on the couch. I watch TV, do puzzles or read. He naps, a lot!

How has your faith helped you through a difficult time, or was there a specific time when you could feel God working in your life? Being with my mother, sister Jane and husband Leon during their illnesses, my prayers were constant and I know God held us all, many times.

Tell us something about yourself that most people would not know. I only had one car accident in my life (knock on wood) and that was in Matamorros, Mexico. We had been told to run for the border-or if your car can go yet,

drive for the border and get back in the USA. I had my head bumped in the accident-so I didn't head for the border and the Mexican police did take me to jail. My sister Jane, daughter Dianne, her 7 month old daughter Barbie, my friend June and my 2 year old son Loren were in the car with me after shopping all day in the Mexican market. June and Dianne and baby, quickly got out of my car to find a phone to call Leon. The police station was flooded with people from Aero-tec's office. Aero-tec was the name of the Bendix plant in Mattamarrous--all trying to look out for us. Son Leon showed up with his friend, Mario, who knew the in and outs of the Mexican police. In Mexico, even a car accident, you are guilty until proven innocent. I knew Leon and Mario would get me home and they did. Moral of the story--- Call a taxi. "God is love"



Outreach Committee

We met on Sunday, October 19th to discuss what other areas we can support. We also wanted to remind our church families and supporters that if you know of a need, to please contact Pastor Jane, Peggy Jerauld, Mary Mead, Gussie Fitze or Paula Remington. Our mission is as follows:

The commission on outreach supports the local community by providing immediate assistance to needy families, individuals or organizations.

The Commission will address requests from the Pastor or individuals for monetary assistance within the local community.

All assistance, requests for assistance are to be kept confidential by the Pastor, commission members and auditors.

Funds: All funds not in cash reserve will be held in a separate account.

Fund will be audited by the audit committee at the annual audit of the So. Montrose Community Church.

Job description for the commission members:

- 1) Members will address all requests for assistance that comes before the commission,
- 2) Determine if request is from local community (not necessarily just South Montrose)
- 3) The Chairperson will contact other members for their approval or disapproval of each request,
- 4) The Chairperson will disburse funds upon approval of the majority,
- 5) Cash will be available for use in emergencies or for weekend and holiday disbursements,
- 6) A ledger of all funds received and disbursed will be kept by the chairperson,
- 7) Commission members should be aware of needs in the community, especially during the holiday season and convey these needs to the chairperson and/or Pastor,
- 8) Where possible, any assistance rendered should be paid directly to the provider of service. Use of gift certificates are encouraged in lieu of cash.

We also discussed having a \$100 worth of gift cards in \$25.00 denominations kept at the church in the event someone comes to the church asking for assistance. If you'd like to contribute toward these gift cards, please see any of the committee members.

As always, thank you for your generosity.

Women's Resource Center

Thank you so much for your generous donations this past month to the Women's Resource Center! We can all feel a little better knowing we did an awesome job, our basket is and was overflowing, just like God's love for each one of us. Let's continue to fill up that basket!

A few members of our church family gave me monetary donations and I went to the dollar store and shopped for them. If you choose to do the same I will be more than happy to shop for you too and I will bring you back the receipt for tax purposes.

**Here is WRC most recent Wish List
Cleaning Supplies:**

brooms, mops, sponges, dish soap, scubbies, scouring powder, Laundry detergent, 64 oz or smaller, fabric softener sheets, paper towels, toilet paper, aluminum foil, plastic wrap, quart and gallon size disposable plastic baggies.

Personal items:

shampoo, baby supplies, wipes powder, lotion, bath wash

Household:

Sheets, towels, hard covered journals

Gift cards:

Price Chopper \$25.00

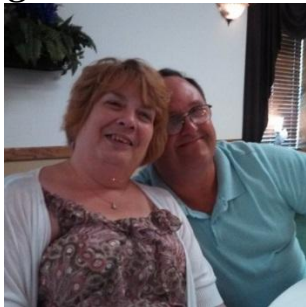
Pump & Pantry \$10.00

As I read their “wish list” and think about how many times a day we use each one of these items I can’t even put myself in their situation. It really is the simple things in life that we take for granted. Thank you again for your generous donations this past month and let’s take the time to pray for these women and children when we say our prayers. Let’s pray they gain strength and confidence and wisdom for the future and never find themselves in this kind of an abusive relationship again.

The holidays will soon be here and unfortunately abuse gets worse at this time of year because of the added stress of the holidays so let’s continue to do what we can for these women and children.

Thank you, Cathy McCain

Congratulations Char!!!



After more than 30 years at Susquehanna County Services for Children and Youth, our beloved Charmarie is retiring on November 14th. She has mixed feelings about this, but it is time for her to move on. Charmarie has changed the lives of hundreds, if not thousands of kids in her career. She will continue to have her private practice, because she can't stop helping kids!! Congratulate her, and pray for her new

adventures, and for maybe some down time that she can actually spend on herself!

Interfaith Donations for Christmas

We are collecting sliced pineapple rings for Interfaith for Christmas again this year. We need 120 cans by December 14th. Thank you for your faithful giving! Mary Hinds

His, mine ours?

Recently Pastor Jane gave a sermon on giving and stewardship. Since the end of the year is coming up, this is a great time to be thinking about our personal budgets for next year, and about what God wants us to do as far as giving to the church. When you think about giving to God, do you put Him first? Do you think of your money and belongings as His, mine or ours? Well my friends, everything you have, EVERYTHING, belongs to God.

We give to God not to get something back. We already got eternal life, what more could we want? We give to show gratitude for what we have. We give to grow the church. And even if you give a small amount of money, you may give in other ways. Working at the church, helping with events, buying food or supplies, praying, etc.

God wants us to give off the top, the first fruits. When I pay the bills every week, the church check is ALWAYS the first one I write. We are blessed and don't have to choose what bills to pay, but even when we did, we still tried to pay God first. And when there have been difficult times, if we listened to our hearts and did what we thought God wanted us to, He always blessed us in return with what we needed. God gives us what we NEED, not what we WANT. There is definitely a difference.

So as Pastor Jane said, God doesn't need our money. We need to give. Give to the Glory of God. Pray about your giving, pray about what the next year will bring, give your first fruits and God will bless you! Mary Hinds, Financial Secretary

Church Directory Pictures

If you haven't already gotten your picture taken for our church directory, another

chance will be November 12th. Contact Sue Pratt for scheduling a time. 278-4649



A Bit of Trivia

- Glass takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times!
- Gold is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years.
- Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.
- If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.
- Zero is the only number that cannot be represented by Roman numerals. Kites were used in the American Civil War to deliver letters and newspapers.
- The song, Auld Lang Syne is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year.
- Drinking water after eating reduces the acid in your mouth by 61 percent.
- Peanut oil is used for cooking in submarines because it doesn't smoke unless it's heated above 450F.
- The roar that we hear when we place a seashell next to our ear is not the ocean, but rather the sound of blood surging through the veins in the ear.
- Nine out of every 10 living things live in the ocean.
- The banana cannot reproduce itself. It can be propagated only by the hand of man.
- Airports at higher altitudes require a longer

- airstrip due to lower air density.
- The University of Alaska spans four time zones.
- The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.
- In ancient Greece, tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it meant she accepted.
- Warner Communications paid \$28 million for the copyright to the song
- Happy Birthday.
- Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
- A comet's tail always points away from the sun.
- The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.
- Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other pain killers; that is why it is found in some medicines.
- The military salute is a motion that evolved from medieval times, when knights in armor raised their visors to reveal their identity.
- If you get into the bottom of a well or a tall chimney and look up, you can see stars, even in the middle of the day.
- When a person dies, hearing is the last sense to go. The first sense lost is sight.
- In ancient times strangers shook hands to show that they were unarmed.
- Strawberries are the only fruits whose seeds grow on the outside.
- Avocados have the highest calories of any fruit at 167 calories per hundred grams.
- The moon moves about two inches away from the Earth each year.
- The Earth gets 100 tons heavier every day due to falling space dust.
- Due to earth's gravity it is impossible for mountains to be higher than 15,000 meters.
- Mickey Mouse is known as " Topolino " in Italy .
- Soldiers do not march in step when going across bridges because they could set up a vibration which could be sufficient to knock

the bridge down.

-Everything weighs one percent less at the equator.

-For every extra kilogram carried on a space flight, 530 kg of excess fuel are needed at lift-off.

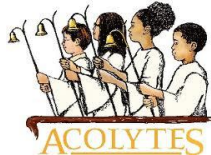
-The letter J does not appear anywhere on the periodic table of the elements...

Pastor Jane



In the church: Janet Small, Ryan & MacKenzie, Harry Snell, Aggie Holbert, Grace Harvey, Wink Frystak, Joyce & Don Blaisure, Nic Remington, Theresa Owen, Ben Owen, Craig Estelle, June Bishop, Marian Nye, Alice Porter, Belma Herrala, Doris Sebring, Doris Larnerd, Bob Dalrymple, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood

In our community: Carolyn Reese, Pa State Police Kat, Ebola breakout, Blenda Fink Family, Emergency service personnel, Kat, Isaac Hobbs, Ron, Parsons' family, Andy Mooney, Jane Perry, Kyle & Lindsay, Dennis Carey & the Bailey family, Joyce Millard, Mark & Leita Smith, David Snell, Jack Rookstool, James Walters, Stella Wallace, Joyce Smales, Kelly, Dorothy Wegman, Jan Krupinski, staff @ Children & Youth, Terry Cooke, Dottie Henry, Catalina, Pat Whitaker, Mickey Patrick, Sandy Lathrop, Justin & Jess, Those struggling with addictions, our teenagers in Susquehanna County, Debbie Bush, Sarah & Bill, Robert Atticks, Sr., Randy Ward, Mary Helen Booth, Keith Pratt, Helen Crotta, Lisa Steele, Brooke Arnold, Dee Pierson, Dick Millard, Duane Snell, Dennis Snell, Helen Petersen, Debbie Brewer, Terry 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.



Nov. 2nd - Cole Nov. 9th - Kayleen
Nov. 16th - Elizabeth Nov. 23rd - Clay
Nov. 30th - Kohen
Dec. 7th - Matthew Dec. 14th - Tanner
Dec. 21st - Korena Dec. 28th - Cole



Nursery

November 2nd - Angie Frystak
Nov. 9th - Denise Kraynak
Nov. 16th - Mary Hinds
Nov. 23rd - Chris Smith
November 30th - Brenda Frystak
December 7th - Kelly



Communion Preparation

November 2nd - Diane Myers
December 7th - Sharon Newhart
Christmas Eve - Paula Remington
January 4th - Sue Pratt & Elizabeth

Saving Grace Practice - 6pm on Sundays
Senior Choir practice - 7pm on Sundays

Church Website

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

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