

So. Montrose Community Church March, 15' Newsletter



Dear Resurrection People:

On March 29th, we will celebrate Palm Sunday. In Old Testament times, the palm tree was a symbol of the rulers of Israel. In Jesus' time palm branches were used as a sign of victory. The idea of placing palm branches on the path before a king or hero originally came from the Romans. Whenever the Romans were victorious in battle, the people would lay palm branches along the path of the returning heroes. This was the accepted custom of reception among the Jews during Jesus' life. The Jewish people expected the Messiah to be an earthly king who would free them from the Romans. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the people welcomed him by laying down cloaks and branches. They waved palm branches to show that Jesus was their hero. Imagine how excited the people were when Jesus came down the road! What if Jesus came down Route 29 in South Montrose this year? How would we welcome the King? Maybe a poster, a banner, a button, a balloon! What ever symbol you would use, the important thing is that you show your faith. Let us welcome Jesus with joy and praise as we celebrate on Palm Sunday, March 29th.

As Palm Sunday fades we begin our Holy Week journey. Jesus drives out dishonest money-changers who dishonor the worship of God. The disciples listen to Jesus teach, but they do not yet understand. The chief priests plot to kill Jesus. To them he is a troublemaker. At the Last Supper, Jesus commands the disciples to "do this in remembrance of me." Jesus then goes to the garden to pray. The disciples sleep rather than pray and the soldiers come and arrest Jesus. Next Jesus is tried, mocked, beaten, and hung on a cross. He pays the ultimate price for us. When we come to

Easter Sunday we realize that death cannot keep the Son of God. He lives!

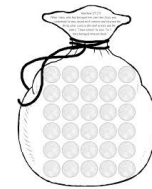
May you take every opportunity to experience the journey with our Lord in the days ahead. Making the journey from Palm Sunday, through Holy Week and ultimately to Easter Sunday will remind you why you are a Christian.

Holy Thursday worship and communion held this year at South Montrose at 6:30 p.m. in our Social Hall. We will begin with a covered dish supper, please bring your own place setting. Beverages will be provided. We will experience the Last Supper around the table together and get a glimpse into what the disciples were thinking. Come join us on Thursday, April 2nd.

Good Friday worship will be held at First UMC, New Milford this year at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 3rd. Come join us as we experience the drama of Good Friday.

Easter worship begins at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, April 5th. Come join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

Have a blessed and Holy Lent and Easter season.
Pastor Jane



Coins for Lent

by Mary-Jane Pierce Norton

During Lent, many of us are reminded once again to examine our lifestyles and ask, "What can we do for others?" Lent is a good time to commit to giving money to a project that helps those in need. One way to do so that involves the whole family is to collect coins during the season of Lent, then donate what has been collected after Easter.

If you decide to do this as a family or a congregation, first determine where you would like your money to go. Maybe you have a community food bank that could use funds to purchase food for the hungry. Maybe you would like to contribute to a larger project beyond your local community. Projects that particularly

target those in need include a Children's Fund or a Christian Mission. Information on the Children's Fund can be found at www.gbod.org/childrensfund.

This money benefits projects selected by the General Board of Global Ministries for the United Methodist Church. There are activities on the website developed by the General Board of Discipleship that will help you know more about each project.

Heifer International is another agency that addresses needs around the world. You can find info on that project at www.heifer.org

Once you have selected a project to which you want to give your money, decide what coin you want to use this Lent. You can make a container for your coins or use a vase or jar.

Our giving begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes with Holy Saturday. As with Lent, Sundays are for worship and praise to God.

Ash Wednesday, 2/18: A Coin for every lamp

2/19: A Coin for every light switch

2/20: A Coin for every candle

2/21: A Coin for every light bulb.

Sunday,

2/22: Pray today, thanking God for the gift of light and asking for prayers for those who live in darkness.

2/23: A Coin for every box of band-aids.

2/24: A Coin for every thermometer.

2/25: A Coin for every Primary Care Dr. who cares for you.

2/26: A Coin for every Dentist who cares for your teeth.

2/27: A Coin for every pet dr. visit

2/28: A Coin for every time you visited the drug store this week.

3/1: Pray today, thanking God for the ways you are able to be healthy and asking for prayers for those who are sick.

3/2: A Coin for every ball cap or hat.

3/3: A Coin for every pair of shoes

3/4: A Coin for every pair of jeans

3/5: A Coin for every coat.

3/6: A Coin for every T-Shirt.

3/7: A Coin for every scarf

3/8: Pray today, thanking God for the gift of being able to clothe your body and praying for those who have no clothing.

3/9: A Coin for every ball.

3/10: A Coin for every cell phone

3/11: A Coin for every electronic game

3/12: A Coin for every radio

3/13: A Coin for every television

3/14: A Coin for every computer

3/15: Pray today, thanking God for the ways you can enjoy entertainment in your home and praying for those who would be grateful for just one of these items.

3/16: A Coin for every box of cereal.

3/17: A Coin for every can of soup.

3/18: A Coin for every loaf of bread

3/19: A Coin for every jar of peanut butter

3/20: A Coin for every jar of jelly

3/21: A Coin for every bottle of salad dressing

3/22: Pray today, thanking God for the food you enjoy and praying for those who have no food this day.

3/23: A Coin for every room in your home.

3/24: A Coin for every electrical outlet in your home.

3/25: A Coin for every chair in your home.

3/26: A Coin for every desk in your home.

3/27: A Coin for every bathroom in your home.

3/28: A Coin for every bed in your home.

3/29: Pray today, thanking God for shelter and praying for those who have no place to sleep tonight.

3/30: A Coin for every Bible you have.

3/31: A Coin for every Cross in your home.

4/1: A Coin for every prayer you say today.

4/2: A Coin for every story of Jesus you can tell today.

4/3: A Coin for every book of hymns or sacred songs in your home.

4/4: A Coin for every time you worship this day.

4/5: Happy Easter to Everyone. Give thanks for your salvation and pray for those who do not yet know the Lord.



Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday Last Supper Experience:

Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at South Montrose Community Church. Bring

a dish to pass and your own place-setting. Beverages will be provided.

Good Friday Worship: Friday, April 3, 2015 at 7 p.m. at First UMC, New Milford.

Easter Worship: Sunday, April 5, 2015 @ 9:15 a.m. South Montrose Community Church and 11a.m. @ First UMC, New Milford



Kids J.O.Y Bowling

How hard would you think it is to pick a day to go bowling? That it isn't snowing? That all 16 people who want to go can go? At a bowling alley that is fairly close to SWEET FROG? The answer.....**extremely hard**. Our first bowling date got cancelled due to bad weather forecast. When we finally picked another date that everyone could come, Mary called Sunset Lanes & asked if we could basically just show up and bowl around noon on Saturday, February 21st. They told her that the place is basically empty at noon on Saturdays; **Not** the case, if that Saturday is also the day of a tournament. We were all there ready to bowl & got turned away. Every other bowling alley in Binghamton/Vestal area was busy. We ended up bowling at Maple Lanes right up the road from church. The bowling was fun, **BUT** it isn't close to SWEET FROG. I guess we'll have to make a separate trip for frozen yogurt in the spring. The kids had fun and that's what counts.

Chris Smith



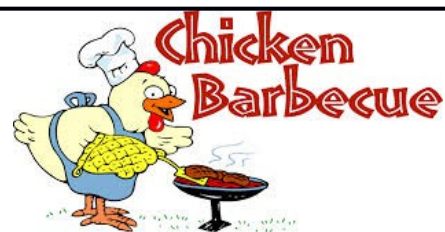
SOUP NIGHT

February's soup night was as challenging as bowling. Once again, for the 4th week in a row there was a snow storm on Sunday night. It was President's Day & the kids were supposed to be making up a snow day & yet once again, had a snow day! It was also freeeeeezzzing out! But as I said last month, "Snow can't stop soup night."

We served 37 brave guests who ventured out on the snowy roads. The really nice thing was that I had already planned to donate whatever amount was given this month to the food bank, because I have so much leftover from January's generous donations. I am happy to say I was able to donate \$138 to the food bank. Thanks so much everybody!

Next month's soup night will be on March 16. Kelly & Sue will be entertaining us, with some of their usual music plus some Irish tunes. I will have been home from Key West only 1 day & I will bring the sunshine with me! Since daylight savings time is March 8th, we will be able to arrive and depart soup night in day light! YAY! The soups will be BBQ bean stew & cheeseburger soup. I will also be making you some key lime desserts. (P.S. I am still waiting for 112 people.) See ya March 16th

Chris Smith



CHICKEN BBQ - MARCH 21, 2015

Plans for the SMCC Annual Chicken BBQ are well under way. Scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2015, it will be held at the Montrose Fire Hall from 11 A. M. until all are served.

Letters for work assignments will be mailed to you or given out at church in early March. And, calls will be made to solicit for food donations. If you are not contacted to provide food, donations to offset the cost of the cole slaw, coffee, butter, rolls and milk are welcome and may be directed to Mary Mead.

It is only with your cooperation that we

have been able to sustain this annual fund raiser for our church for many years and the committee members are extremely grateful for your helping hands. So, come and join us and enjoy the friendship and camaraderie of your friends and neighbors. It is always a fun time. We look forward to seeing you there!

Received the following email thank you



Reverend Pykus,

The Gracious Living Estates Family, and Jon Howell and I as co-owners, cannot adequately thank South Montrose Community Church for its wonderful support during our most trying period, as we recover from our Monday, January 23rd fire. Your Church personified the giving, holy spirit, by opening its doors to our people, in a time of highest need and most frayed nerves.

SMCC's short-term shelter, feeding capabilities, and general compassion, as our Residents were temporarily relocated was wonderful, simply wonderful. Additionally, should the unthinkable (evacuation) ever recur, we are so grateful to SMCC for your offer to give our Administrator (Tammy) the keypad code so that matters may be even smoother.

Indeed, our bad event, a malfunctioning heater leading to a fire, led us to so many who helped us so well and selflessly, whether our Team and our Friends, like SMCC, and even the media, who focused on the positive, supportive Team and Friends. It's been said that adversity reveals a lot, about one's self and one's friends.

By that measure, GLE is truly blessed with resilient Residents, a terrific Team, and fantastic Friends.

Thank you so much, you and your Church are fabulous.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Dean



Drop A Pebble In The Water

Submitted by Diane Myers

Drop a pebble in the water: just a splash, and it is gone; But there's a half-a-hundred ripples circling on and on and on, spreading, spreading from the center, flowing on out to the sea. And there is no way of telling where the end is going to be.

Drop a word of cheer and kindness: just a flash and it is gone; But there's half-a-hundred ripples circling on and on and on, bearing hope and joy and comfort on each splashing, dashing wave... til you wouldn't believe the volume of the one kind word you gave.

Drop a word of cheer and kindness: in a minute, you forget; But there's gladness still a-swelling, and there's joy a-circling yet. And you've rolled a wave of comfort whose sweet music can be

heard over miles and miles of water...just by dropping one kind word.

James W. Foley



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**Fellows of the Forest
March 13-15, 2015**

This new retreat for men over the age of 18 is sure to be a blast! Enjoy the fellowship of other Christian men as you participate in your choice of A Range of the Contemplative to Super-Active indoor and outdoor activities that will be offered.

We will begin with check in from 5-7 p.m. on Friday and depart Sunday afternoon

Location: Riley Lodge

Cost: Save \$25 when you register by February 20th. \$200 per person

**Rejuvenate: A Spring Ladies
of the Lake Experience
April 10-12, 2015**

You are cordially invited to come away and rest awhile at Sky Lake, free of the distractions of the outside world. Women over the age of 18 will enjoy the company of fellow Christian women as they take advantage of the various "mild and wild" activities that will be offered. We will begin with Check In from 5:30 p.m. till 7 p.m. on Friday and depart Sunday afternoon.

Save \$25 if you register by March 20th

Cost: Riley Lodge: \$200

Cost: Underwood Lodge: \$240

For more information on any of the above, go to www.skylakecenter.org



Birthdays!!

Doris Sebring - March 30th
c/o Shirley Sullivan
33 Waterview Rd.
West Chester, PA 19380

Doris Larnerd - April 10th
Gracious Living Estates
10543 SR 29
Montrose PA 18801

MacKenzie McCain - April 12th

Cathy McCain - April 17th



March 1st Kaylee March 8th Elizabeth
March 15th Clay March 22nd Kohen
March 29th - Matthew

April 5th - Tanner April 12th - Kohen
April 19th - Cole April 26th - Kayleen



Communion Preparation

March 1st - Phyllis Valentine

April 5th - Mary Torney

May 3rd - Mary Torney



March 1st & 2nd Weeks

Dick Allen

March 3rd & 4th Weeks

Alan & Peggy Jerauld

March 5th Sunday – Ben Owen

April

1st & 2nd Weeks – Sharon Newhart

3rd & 4th Weeks – Phyllis Valentine
& Maxine Fox

Lathrop, Patty Bloomer, Mark Bush, Vanessa West, Parsons' family, Jane Perry, Kyle & Lindsay, Joyce Millard, David Snell, James Walters, Dorothy Wegman, Staff at Children & Youth, Terry Cooke, Dottie Henry, Catalina, Pat Whitaker, Mickey Patrick, Sandra Lathrop, those struggling with addictions, our teenagers in Susquehanna County, 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 and 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.umchurches.org>

Rev. Jane M. Pykus, Pastor

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In Our Church: Allison & Kris Bunnell & family, Chuck Mead, Harry Snell, Aggie Holbert, Grace Harvey, Wink Frystak, Joyce & Don Blaisure, Nic Remington, Theresa Owen, Ben Owen, Craig Estelle, June Bishop, Marian Mye, Alice Porter, Doris Sebring, Doris Larnerd, Bob Dalrymple, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood

In our community: Charles & Normal, Bernie Boyer, Diane Sheldon, Amos Hollister, Vickie Wickizer, Carol Jones, Jim Ochse, Joyce