

***So. Montrose Community Church
October, 2016***



Message From Our Pastor . . .

Some give freely, yet grow all the richer; others withhold what is due, and only suffer want. A generous person will be enriched, and one who gives water will get water. Proverbs 11:24-25

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

Winston Churchill

During the month of October, my thoughts wonder to what it means to me to be generous with my money, my time, my gifts, my service and my witness. I also ponder why I give and the joy that comes from such an act of generosity.

I have been blessed throughout my life by generous folks who have given me their time and supported me in so many ways. As a child I remember sharing our garden produce with neighbors and friends. As a family when a need arose in the extended family or in the neighborhood, we attempted to do what we could to help out in the situation whether it meant physical labor, emotional support, or just a simple presence. I remember the “good feeling” of helping another person. That “feeling” encouraged me to do it again and again. When I started going to church I saw examples of generosity in others with whom I worshiped. At a young age, I realized that I was rich in so many ways compared to others around me. I realized our church was rich because by giving we made mission and ministry happen within our church family and beyond the local church.

I have found that everyone is God’s steward. We receive from God far more than what we give to God. As we grow in faith and trust in the God we love and serve, the Holy Spirit works in our lives, and we begin to think less of ourselves and more of others. The more generous we are, the more joy we discover because our focus is not on ourselves, it is on doing things for God and others and this is what Jesus meant by Acts 20:35, “It is more blessed to give than to receive”. Life is truly a gift and everything in life belongs to God.

As a congregation we give because together we can do what no one individual or congregation can do alone. What if it was up to us in South Montrose to address the causes and effects of hunger in our county? What if we alone had the mission of ending malaria throughout Africa? These efforts would be impossible for any single individual or congregation to accomplish alone. However, as we give to various offerings locally and through our connection in ministry shares, we share our resources to accomplish these otherwise impossible ministries and missions.

This month, I encourage you to think about why you give. What motivates you to give of your money, your talents, your gifts, your service and your witness? As Adam Hamilton writes in his book, “Enough”, many of us get the whole concept of generosity wrong. Some say they give because then God will give more back to them. That is not how it works. We don’t give so we can get something in return. The thing is, is that when we give to God and to others, the blessings seem to flow.

During these next few weeks, I would ask you to meditate on the Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition found on page 607 in the United Methodist Hymnal---“I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low by thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal....

As I pray this prayer, I can’t help but notice that my life is not my own. Because my life is in God, I can give more generously because my

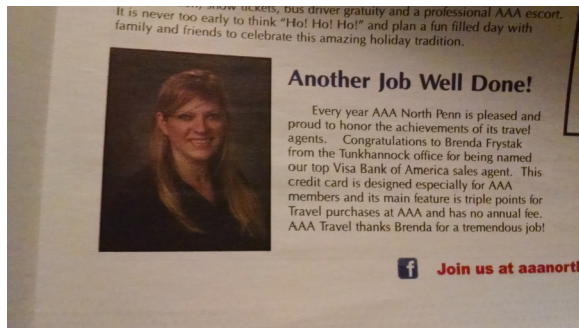
security isn't in my pay check or my pension plan, it is in God.

Blessings, Pastor Jane



Congratulations Brenda!!!

Our favorite travel agent, Brenda Frystak, has again won recognition for her hard work. She has been named AAA North Penn's top Visa Bank of America sales agent.



Person In The Spotlight

And a Welcome to:

Mary Larrabee



I was born and raised in Vestal N Y. I have 2 brothers and 2 sisters. I went to Vestal Central High School.

My first job was a waitress and then I went to work for IBM in Endicott, NY. Had a verity of

jobs there, worked in manufacturing and went of faculties as an administrative assistant. I transferred to Charlotte NC in 1996 because we moved there from Brackney Pa. We lived in Charlotte NC for 3 years. In 1999 we moved to Florida. I went to work for a communication company as an accounts receivable person. I retired from there in 2013,

I was married in Vestal NY. I have 2 daughters, 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

My husband passed away in 2004 and I moved back to Brackney in 2004 for 10month before I decided to move back to Florida until 2014. In November 2014 I moved back to Pa. to be closer to my family.

Favorite vacation spot: any place with my family.

I enjoy doing crafty things. I make all my cards and I have made the wedding invitations for two of my grandchildren. I also take care of my great grandson who is 2 a couple days a week.

My favorite room is the dining room this is where we learn about things that happened during the day. I have been coming to SMCC for about 3 months.

My faith helped me getting through the loss of my husband. My favorite verse is John 3:16.

Music at the Square

On August 31, SMCC sponsored a concert by Wayne Beddoe at Montrose Square Apartments. He is a great singer who loves the oldies, and sang some wonderful songs made famous by Frank Sinatra, Elvis, Pat Boone and more. About 25 residents and friends were there to enjoy. A nice touch was when Wayne went around the room and shook everyone's hand and asked them their name, before the concert started. There were nice refreshments that Bev and Lacey made for everyone afterwards. It was nice to see the ladies singing along, and remembering old times.



New Youth Group

We now have a Youth Group for grades 4th through 8th grade. We had a wonderful kick off event at the Hinds' in August. The youth helped with Soup Night in September. We are

gathering at church on Sunday at 4:30 p.m. to continue planning our activities. All youth in grades 4 through 8 are welcome. Come and participate and see where God leads you.



Youth group

SMCC Youth Group had a movie night on September 10th. We had a nice dinner at Cracker Barrel, and then went to see the movie, The Wild Life. It is a cartoon version of the Robinson Crusoe story. Very cute, and the kids enjoyed it. Next up, helping out at soup night on September 12th.



Soup Night

Chris Smith

Reminder: Soup night will now be the 2nd Monday of each month instead of the 3rd Monday.

Soup night kicked off to a good start last month in September 12. This marked our 8th season of soup night! They say, time flies when you're having fun. (Whoever they are got that right!)

We served 76 guests. The donation from the evening were \$172. I donated \$86 to the food bank. I kept the other \$86 to use toward next month's meal. We had great music by Kelly & Sue Pratt. The guests really seem to enjoy their music. They sing & dance along.

At September soup night we also had some extra helpers. Kids from our church came out to help me. We had Levi, Chloe, Matthew, Elizabeth & Sierra. Since Levi had to leave early

for hockey practice I put him to work right after school with setting up. The others helped clear tables & wash dishes. 2 guests even commented on how it was nice to see the kids helping.

This was my first soup night without my Gram in the crowd. Instead of feeling sad that day, I chose to feel happy that I knew she was in Heaven. I made it a point to think about lots of awesome memories I have of her. We decorated in blue & wore blue. We also had a beautiful bouquet of blue flowers on her table. And God, as always, is so good! Guess what He did? He sent a couple to soup night who had never been. After they got their salad they sat in "Grandpa & Gram's seat." I went over to introduce myself & thank them for coming. I asked them to come back again & they said they'd love to.

Our next soup night will be October 10th. I'll be making chili & cream of broccoli soup. Hope to see you there. Please tell people about soup night. Some people may need the meal. Some may need the company.



Country Partner Dancing

Tom and Sherry Weller are teaching Country Partner Dancing on Wednesday evenings @ 6pm – 7:30. All that is required is a small donation for the use of our church. Come have some fun and dance with us!

Exercise Class

Every Tuesday & Friday @ the church from 10am – 11am. Freewill offering to the church

For more information, call (570)278-1489.

Attention Everyone!

This is our tenth 75th Anniversary Event

Come out on Saturday, October 22nd at 5:30 p.m. and enjoy a free Pasta Bar, Potato Bar, and Dessert Bar. Then at 7 p.m. you are in for a real treat, Wendy Rozelle will be with us to share her gift of drawing. She is a Christian Chalk Artist from Tunkhannock. You will be inspired. All are welcome and please bring the kids.

Our 11th and final 75th Anniversary Event will be our Thanksgiving Day Dinner from Noon till 2 p.m. at our church. It is free and open to the public. Please pass the word along to those who may be alone this year. See announcement on page 4.



Once again, our church will be collecting dessert items for Trehab to give to needy families at Thanksgiving. We are donating cake mixes, canned frosting, canned pie filling, and pie crust mixes. Please buy them in pairs if possible. (Cake mix and frosting, or pie filling and crust.). Most years we have a lot of one and not enough of the other to go with it. Thanks so much for the generosity! We will be collecting until the end of October.



Thanksgiving At Our Church

Once again, on Thanksgiving, November 24th, Chris Smith will be hosting the 2nd Annual Free Thanksgiving dinner, or as Chloe phrased last year's event, "Thanksgiving party at our church." Chris will be advertising for the event. Sign up sheets will be forthcoming sometime in October or November.

Last year, 68 people enjoyed the meal. If you know you're coming, that may be helpful for Chris to know for planning portions



Annual Church Conference

Our Annual Church Conference with First UMC, New Milford will be held on Sunday, October 30th at 6:30 p.m. It is important that we have representation from South Montrose, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend. All our Susquehanna Conference forms have to be completed by October 15th in anticipation of our meeting on the 30th. We will have our own Church Conference Meeting on January 8th after worship as is our tradition. It is important that you mark this date on the calendar also and plan to stay after worship.



Our Prayers

In the church: Connie Hoppe, JoAnn Jerauld, Harry Snell, Aggie Holbert, Nic Remington, Theresa Owen, Ben Owen, Craig Estelle, Marian Nye, Alice Porter, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood, Wink Frystak, Gussie Fritz

In our community: Will, John Pykus, Sonny, Bill Lawyer, John Breen, Whitney & Rob Johnson, Courtney Sterling Shepherd, Raebelle Albeck, Bill Robinson, Monica Anderson, Janet Hinds, Rev. Leanne Campbell, Ted Lewis, Willie Jessie, Charles, Audrey Cady, TJ & Kelly, Kyle & Ashley, Gary Baker, Bill Copley, Lynn Barlow, Margie Green, Wildoner family, Alyce Frystak, Mike Kerr, Clara, Kaylee & family, Luella, Mrs. Pettyjohn, Sarah Stone, Patsy Gesford, Betty Allen, , Ken & Evie Walter, Tammy, Herm & Maxine Zappe & their children, Marie Benedict, Considine family, Elijah, Jim Taylor, Bernie Boyer, Carol Jones, Jim and June Ochse, Joyce Lathrop, Jane Perry, Joyce Millard, David Snell, James Walters, Dorothy Wegman, Staff @ Children & Youth, Dottie Henry, Catalina, Pat Whitaker, Sandra Lathrop, those struggling with addictions, our teenagers in Susquehanna County, Debbie Bush, Randy Ward, Keith & Pat Pratt, Helen Crotta, Lisa Steele, Dee Pierson, Dick Millard, Duane Snell, Dennis Snell, Helen Petersen, Jonathan and Daniel Snell, David Pierce, 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>

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