

***So. Montrose Community Church
April, 2017***



From Our Pastor

The Legend of the Dogwood
Retold by Kelly Riley in Celebrate Easter

“Many years ago, when Jesus was on earth, the dogwood was a tall, sturdy, rugged tree. Sometimes, when Jesus wanted to be alone, he would rest in the shade of the dogwood tree. The tree grew very fond of Jesus because she recognized him as a kind and gentle man who loved all living things. One day, a woodcutter and some Roman soldiers came into the glen where the dogwood tree grew. They stopped and looked carefully at the tall, straight tree. The dogwood tree felt very proud as she listened to the woodcutter tell the soldiers how strong her wood was. “Well, Woodcutter,” said one of the soldiers, “you have chosen wisely. We need strong wood for this cross.” “Yes,” replied another soldier in a cruel voice. “It won’t be long before we arrest Jesus of Nazareth, the so-called King of the Jews.” The dogwood tree was deeply distressed when she heard this. If trees could cry, she would have wept great tears, for her sorrow went as deep as her roots. When Jesus came to the glen a few days later, he gazed sadly at the drooping boughs of the once proud tree, and he understood the dogwood’s great sorrow. “Because of your pity for me, I promise you that a dogwood tree will never suffer such a fate again.” From that day on, the dogwood tree has grown slender and crooked. No longer does it produce sturdy, rugged wood, but it bears beautiful, delicate cross-shaped flowers. The center of each white blossom is marked with a crown of thorns, and on the tip of each petal are

red marks that look like nail prints. Since that time, the gentle dogwood tree has been a reminder to all who see it that Jesus died so that we could have new life.”

The legend is a wonderful Easter reminder to all of us of Jesus’ sacrificial love. The dogwood story is simply legend, but the fact is we do know Jesus was nailed to a sturdy tree and hung to die in a garbage dump outside Jerusalem. Our Lord paid the ultimate price for you and me. We have such great value in God’s eyes. Just knowing that I am worth the death of God’s Son stirs my heart. Jesus’ overwhelming expression of love melts my heart and transforms me as Christ’s disciple in the world. I am no longer self-centered but others-centered. I no longer think of how my faith can serve me, but how I can serve others in my community and in the world.

Let us be transformed to Christ, the one who loved us so much that he paid the ultimate price and hung on a tree and died to set us free to love and serve others.

Have a blessed Easter Season! Pastor Jane



Holy Week Worship

Sunday, April 9th: 9:15 a.m. Palm/Passion Sunday Worship

Thursday, April 13th: 6 p.m. Covered dish Last Supper experience at South Montrose. We

will begin with a covered dish supper downstairs in the social hall and then continue our worship around the table with readings, music, and Holy Communion.

Friday, April 14th: 7 p.m. Good Friday worship at New Milford.

Sunday, April 16th: 6 a.m. Sunrise Worship at Great Bend, breakfast to follow. 9:15am Easter Worship.



Marti Gra Fun At The Square!

In February some of us visited the residents of Montrose Square Apartments on Fat Tuesday. We ate donuts, Pastor Jane brought beads, masks, and good luck coins for everyone, and we made a cute little lavender and flax seed pillows. The residents seemed to enjoy everything, and we are going back on March 21st to make a spring craft. Thanks to Pastor Jane, Mary Jane Long and Martha Denkenberger for helping, and to Bev Way for hosting us.

Mary Hinds



Gospel Fest for 2017

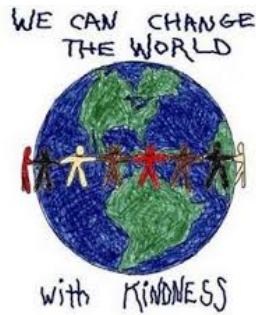
There will be no gospel festival this year. We are searching for ideas to revamp the program. If you have any ideas, please share them with Charmarie Bisel. Thank you.



Soup Night – April 10th, 2017

The next soup night will be the last one of the soup-night season. The choices will be taco soup and creamy baked potato. Aaron Costley will be providing the music. Hope to see you there!

Soup night is a free meal to anyone. It's a chance for folks who may not need a meal, but need the conversation & fellowship. It is also for people who may want to come & make a donation because they want to help the food bank. I love to look through the kitchen window and see people of all ages eating & laughing together.



Random Acts of Kindness

Mary Hinds

For our March “Random Acts of Kindness” activity at Montrose Square Apartments, we brought wreaths for the ladies to decorate. They did a fantastic job! They were all unique, very pretty, and the ladies had a great time doing it. Even the ones who thought at the beginning they would never be able to do it. I love seeing them laughing and chatting together, and they got to take home a pretty decoration for their doors. Thanks to Bev for hosting us, and to Pastor Jane, Mary Jane Long, Sue Vandermark, and Susan Pratt for helping out this month.



Country Partner Dancing

Tom and Sherry Weller are teaching Country Partner Dancing on Tuesday evenings @ 6pm – 7:30 in Fairdale at the Jessup Twp. Building. 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.



Flowers for the Altar

April – Diane Linaberry
May – Nancy Jerauld
June – Cathy McCain



Our Prayers

In the church: Grace Harvey, Harry & Harriet Snell, Aggie Holbert, Nic Remington, Theresa Owen, Ben Owen, Craig Estelle, Marion Nye, Alice Porter, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood, Wink Frystak, Gussie Fritz, Betsy Jones, Matt Hinds

In our community: Casey Allen, Gloria Birchard, Pat Amiondolia, Tony Susi, David, Bob, John Capoccia, Shelly Shepherd, Josh Roe, Will, Bill Lawyer, John Breen, Whitney & Rob Johnson, Courtney Sterling, RaeBelle Albeck, Bill Robinson, Monica Anderson, Ted Lewis, Charles, Audrey Cady, Kyle & Ashley, Ashley Kilmer, Gary Baker, Bill Copley, Marge Green, Wildoner family, Alyce Frystak, Clara, Kaylee & family, Mrs. Pettyjohn, Sarah Manzer, Patsy Gesford, Betty Allen, Hunsinger family, Tammy, Herm & Maxine Zappe, Considine family, Elijah, Jim Taylor, Bernie Boyer, Carol Jones, Jim & June Oche, Jane Perry, Joyce Millard, David Snell, James Walters, staff at Children & Youth, Dottie Henry, Catalina, Pat Whitaker, Sandra Lathrop, those struggling with addictions, our teenagers in Susquehanna County, Debbie Bush, Randy Ward, Pat Pratt, Helen Crotta, Lisa Steele, Dee Pierson, Duane Snell, Dennis Snell, Helen Petersen, Jonathan & Daniel Snell, teachers & 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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