

*So. Montrose Community Church  
August, 2017*



*Message from our Pastor*

Dear Friends:

August is a month filled with vacations, reunions, picnics, swimming, ice cream, soccer and football practice and many more family and community activities. It is also a month of transition from vacation mode to preparing to go back to school for your students and teachers. We, here, in the Montrose area really only have about 6 weeks of time to get in all our summer activities.

We're so busy that we don't get to worship on a regular basis in the summer. Thankfully God is never on a vacation. I take real comfort in that knowledge because whether I am home or on the beach, I can call upon my God and he will answer my prayers. I can be in conversation about anything upon my heart any time of day or night. It gives me peace of mind that my God never takes a vacation from us.

I came across a poem years ago entitled, "Vacation" written by Rev. Barry Minnick who at that time was pastor at Grace Church, Harrisburg. I want to share the poem with you because it was a reminder to me that God is with me wherever life takes me and that when I am on vacation I need to take some time with my Lord.

I dreamed once that God took a vacation. Just where the Lord went, no one seemed to know. He just packed-up His Spirit and left

one day. Didn't say where He could be reached or where He'd go.

Someone said maybe he was weary and tired from listening to prayers and the weakest plea; some time "off" was what he was needing--Away from people, the world and even me.

The day came when I was faced with a crisis, and my heart fell into deep despair; my neighbors, my friends, and my pastor--- were all away. No one was around to listen or to care.

How I longed for my God's special presence, I needed the touch of my Master's strong hand. I wanted to feel him close beside me. But he was off on vacation and could not understand.

Suddenly I woke-up and realized I was dreaming; I got right down on my knees and I cried. I thanked God for not being away on vacation, for I knew he was there by my side.

It is almost time now for my own vacation, and I can go by land, by sea, or by air; But if I am away on a Sunday, you can bet I'll find a church and worship God there!

Even if you can't get to a church to worship on a Sunday that you are on vacation, you can always pray, sing, read a devotional, read the scriptures, and behold the beauty of God's creation. The important thing to remember is that when we go on vacation that we don't leave God behind.

May all of you be blessed on your vacations this month.

Pastor Jane



**Food Bank**

Our local food bank is always in need of food. The summer is an especially hard time for

families, as the kids are not all getting breakfast and lunch at school. The food bank requests that you **check the expiration dates** on products. They cannot give out-of-date products.

Peanut butter	jelly
Crackers	baby foods & cereals
Canned tuna	baked macaroni & cheese
Soup	pasta & sauce
Beef stew	hash
Spam	canned vegetables & fruits

They can also now accept fresh fruits & vegetables.

**Non Foods**

Cleaning products	bath soaps
Shampoo	toilet paper
Shampoo	trash bags
Laundry detergent	toothpaste
Baby wipes	tooth brushes
Feminine hygiene products	dog & cat food



By: Kelly & Sue Pratt

**Thanks to the following people for their help with the float and donations**

Wink Frystak for the white truck,  
 John Vandermark for the wagon,  
 Brooke Arnold for the calf,  
 Elizabeth Stone for the ducks,  
 Mary Alice Hawley for the chickens,  
 Felix's (Dawn Arnold) for the living trees and plants,  
 Elizabeth's Dad, Will for the driving the truck  
 Sharon, Pastor Jane, Gigi, Brenda and Mary Jane for singing,  
 Mary Jane Long for helping to decorate the float.

It is sort of like the BBQ. It takes a lot of people!

We took 2nd place but we were the crowd favorite!

**Sign up for "special music" this summer while the choir is on break. Thank you!**

**Jake Myers will be the special music on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there! -**

**Dimock Campground – August 27<sup>th</sup>**

Pastor Jane will be delivering the message that evening, and Saving Graces is the special music. Service starts at 6:30. Hope to see you there!

**Thank You Marlene Estelle!**



**A heartfelt "thank you" for always creating and maintaining our flower beds in the front of the church. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated Marlene!**

**Rummage and Bake Sale**

Our (almost) annual rummage and bake sale was very successful. We did have to contend with some wind, which made it difficult to keep a handle on the tents and plastic bags, but it all worked out. The profit this year was around \$1000.00. Thank you to everyone who worked, donated, baked, set up or took down.



Summer exercise classes will be on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am – 11am



**Vacation Bible School**  
**New Milford Methodist**

Calling All Super Heroes!  
 Hero Central

Discover Your Strength in God!  
 God's Super Hero Academy Ready for Action

**Sunday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>:** VBS at New Milford from 6 till 8:15 p.m. Children Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grader power up through music, action Bible stories, crafts, snacks and much, much more. At Noon on Friday, August 11th, we are gathering at the New Milford Park for a hot dog roast and swimming.

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### **Mission Central Invites Us to Join their Prayer Vigil for August**

**Week 1:** August 3rd: Pray for funding for the daily operation costs of Mission Central, including the need to build a reserve as we move toward our own 501c3 designation.

**Week 2:** August 10th: Pray for the facilities, specifically the need for a new warehouse air handling system and much needed parking lot replacement.

**Week 3:** August 17th: Pray for the many missions of Mission Central--the people and places we currently serve and those whom we still need to reach; locally, nationally, and globally.

**Week 4:** August 24th: Pray for Mission Central's Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers, that we would all keep the vision of Mission Central at the forefront.

**Week 5:** August 31st: Join us at Mission Central for a prayer/vigil/walk in the warehouse at noon.

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### **Mission Opportunity in Mexico headed by Rev. Marian Hartman**

*Have you felt the need to fulfill a Mission Ministry?*

*Have you always wanted to know more about another culture but never felt you had the time or opportunity to do so?*

*Do you enjoy working with your hands or just trying new things?*

*Have you challenged yourself to work beyond your comfort zone this year?*

If the answer is "yes" to even one of these questions, there is a wonderful opportunity and

invitation waiting for you to become "AWARE" (Alternative Work/study Awareness Program) in Mexico, October 6-15, 2017. This trip is open to anyone age 18 or older who has a desire to work and learn in another culture. Working with staff of the Give Ye Them To Eat program ([www.gytte.org](http://www.gytte.org)), we will work alongside Mexicans on construction projects, repairs and upgrades in and around the Tree of Life Training Center in Tlancualpican. We will visit villages, participate in health programs, learn about agricultural & livestock development, participate in worship at local Methodist Churches as well as have some time to shop and do some touring. Cost for the trip is only \$2,000. Scholarship assistance of up to \$300 is available through team leader Rev. Marian Hartman. **Costs include all transportation, meals, lodging and admissions to tourist attractions.** Contact Rev. Marian Hartman, [mhartman@susumc.org](mailto:mhartman@susumc.org) or [814-441-0235](tel:814-441-0235) for more information or an application. Please note that this area of Mexico is NOT a high risk area for violence.

In addition, clergy can receive 3.3 CEU's for participation in the AWARE program. **Funds for continuing education can be used.** The Board of Ordained Ministry also has continuing formation grants for clergy. **Contact Rev. Ryan Krauss, [rkrauss@susumc.org](mailto:rkrauss@susumc.org)**

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### **Women's Resource Center 40th Anniversary**

A Letter from Carlon Preate, WRC Board President and Amanda Frieder, WRC Association President

"The Women's Resource Center is a dynamic force in our community, helping over 55,000 women and children in Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties rebuild their lives free of violence and fear since beginning operations four decades ago. Services are free and confidential, and extended to all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence and human trafficking. We are excited to include you in our future plans to keep our community safer.

WRC is fortunate to be able to share many success stories that our team has been a part of

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over the years. For example, Tara and Kevin started dating three years ago after meeting at a summer theater camp. They were 17 years old. They were happy teenagers until Kevin began excessively texting Tara when she was at work or out with her friends. At first, Tara perceived this behavior as irritating until she realized that Kevin was jealous of her friends and her family. One evening, after Tara failed to respond to Kevin's messages, Kevin showed up outside the ice cream shop where she worked and pulled her hair and slapped her in the face. The abuse escalated over time. Ready to graduate high school, the young woman felt she was able to contain the situation. Suspecting something was very wrong, Tara's father contacted the WRC to ask how he could help his daughter. WRC's advocate offered intervention strategies to help her, eventually empowering her to call the crisis hotline for help. Tara was provided with a safety plan, counseling, and help obtaining a protection order. One phone call put a young woman onto a safe road with a brighter future.

### **Little Sermons to Ponder**

(taken from the Worcester UMC Newsletter, August, 2017, authors are unknown)

Today, as my father, three brothers and two sisters stood around my mother's hospital bed, my mother uttered her last coherent words before she died. She simply said, "I feel so loved right now. We should have gotten together like this more often."

Today, I kissed my dad on the forehead as he passed away in a small hospital bed. About 5 seconds after he passed, I realized it was the first time I had given him a kiss since I was a little boy.

Today, in the cutest voice, my 8 year old daughter asked me to start recycling. I chuckled and asked, "Why?" She replied, "So you can help me save the planet." I chuckled again and asked, "And why do you want to save the planet?" Because that's where I keep all my stuff," she said.

Today, when I witnessed a 27 year old breast cancer patient laughing hysterically at her 2 year

old daughter's antics, I suddenly realized that I need to stop complaining about my life and start celebrating it again.

Today, I was feeling down because the results of a biopsy came back malignant. When I got home, I opened an email that said, "Thinking of you today. If you need me, I'm a phone call away." It was from a high school friend I hadn't seen in 10 years.

Today, I was traveling in Kenya and I met a refugee from Zimbabwe. He said he hadn't eaten anything in over 3 days and looked extremely skinny and unhealthy. Then my friend offered him the rest of the sandwich he was eating. The first thing the man said was, "We can share it."

### **The best sermons are lived, not preached.**

#### **Words of Wisdom**

from Frederick Buechner

#### **Our Own Story**

The Words Inscribed on the Statue of Liberty where it stands on Bedloe's Island in New York harbor are familiar to all of us:

"Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to be free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me;  
I lift my torch beside the golden door."

It is not great poetry, perhaps, and many a cynical word could be spoken about how the golden door that the goddess of liberty lights with her torch turned out for many to be the door to a wretchedness greater than any they had left behind on the teeming shores of their homelands. But nevertheless I think the old words have power in them still, if we let them, to move us, to touch us close to where we live. And the reason they have such power, I believe, is that one way or another they are words about us. Whether we're rich or poor, whether our forebears came to this country on the Mayflower or a New England slave ship or a nineteenth century clipper or a twentieth century jet, those huddled masses are part of who all of us are, both as individuals and as a people. They are

our fathers and mothers. They are our common past. Yet it goes farther and deeper than that. They are our past, and yet they are also ourselves. In countless ways, both hidden and not so hidden, it is you and I who are the homeless and tempest-tossed, waiting on our own Ellis Islands for the great promise to be kept of a new world, a new life, which we haven't yet found. We are the ones who yearn to breathe free. We stand not merely like them but in a sense with them beside the golden door. To read the story of our immigrant forebears as it is summarized on the base of the old statue is to read our own story, and maybe it is only when we see that in our own story that we can really understand either it or ourselves.

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A Room Called Remember

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**People who would love receiving a card**

**Harry Snell**

Fair Hill Personal Care Home  
272 Lamphere Road  
Montrose PA 18801

**Gussie Fritz**

Gracious Living Estates  
10543 State Route 29  
Montrose PA 18801

**Aggie Holbert**

Gracious Living Estates  
10543 State Route 29  
Montrose PA 18801

**Alice Porter**

Gracious Living Estates  
10543 State Route 29  
Montrose PA 18801

**Peggy Wood**

27 Reynolds Pond Rd.  
Montrose PA 18801

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August – Martha Denkenberger

September – Mary Torney

October – Peggy Jerauld & Diane Myers

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**Our Prayers**

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

**In our community:** Karen Cox, Will and Sarah, Mary Alice Hawley, Alissa Macazan, Katelyn Andre, David Calla Family, Misty Hitchcock, Dennis Carey, Leita & Mark, Jeanette Smith, Claudia, Patsy Brister, Vanessa West, Betty Pykus, Raymond Arnold, Pat Amendola, Tony Susi, John Capoccia, Shelly Shepherd, Josh Roe, Bill Lawyer, John Breen, Whitney & Rob Johnson, Courtney Sterling, RaeBelle Albeck, Bill Robinson, Monica Anderson, Ted Lewis, Audrey Cady, TJ & Kelly, Kyle & Ashley, Ashley Kilmer, Gary Baker, Bill Copley, Margie Green, Clara, Kaylee & Family, Mrs. Pettyjohn, Sarah Manzer, Betty Allen, Tammy, Jim Taylor, Bernie Boyer, Carol Jones, Jim & June Ochse, Jane Perry, Joyce Millard, James Walters, Staff @ Children & Youth, Dottie Henry, Catalina, 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 and Daniel Snell, 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.umcchurches.org>**

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