

# South Montrose Community Church

## March 2018 Newsletter

Pastor's  
Perspective



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. Have a blessed and Holy Lent and Easter season.

Pastor Jane

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### The Feast of Passover

*"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, as you are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us." I Corinthians 5:7*

*"These are the Lord's appointed festivals, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times." Leviticus 23:4*

### Jesus and Passover

In Luke 22, Jesus shared the Passover meal with his apostles saying, "I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God." Luke 22:15-16, NLT. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Passover. He is the Lamb of God, sacrificed to set us free from bondage to sin. (John 1:29, Psalm 22, Isaiah 53). His blood covers and protects us, and his body was broken to free us from eternal death (I Corinthians 5:7)

In the Jewish tradition a hymn of praise known as the Hallel is sung during the Passover Seder. In it is Psalm 118:22, speaking of the Messiah: "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone." Jesus said in Matthew 21:42, one week before his death, that he himself was the stone the builders rejected.

Dear Resurrection People: On March 25th 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, South Montrose, this year? How would we welcome the King? Maybe a poster, a banner, a button, a balloon! Whatever 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 25th. As Palm Sunday fades we begin our Holy Week journey. Jesus drives out dishonest moneychangers 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

As God commanded the Israelites to always commemorate his great deliverance through the Passover meal, we Christians were instructed by Christ as well, to continually remember his sacrifice through the Lord's Supper.

## Passover

Passover commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, as recorded in the book of Exodus. On Passover, Jews also celebrate the birth of the Jewish nation after being freed by God from captivity. Today, the Jewish people not only remember an historic event on Passover, but also celebrate in a broad sense, their freedom as Jews.

The Hebrew word, "Pesach" means "to pass over." During Passover Jews take part in a meal known as the Seder, which incorporates the retelling of the story of Exodus and God's deliverance from bondage in Egypt. Each participant of the Passover Seder experiences in a personal way, a national celebration of freedom through God's intervention and deliverance. Hag HaMatzah or the Feast of Unleavened Bread and Yom HaBikkurim or Firstfruits are both mentioned in Leviticus 23 as separate feasts, however, today Jews celebrate all three feasts as part of the eight-day Passover holiday.

Today, Passover begins on day 15 of the Hebrew month of Nissan (March or April) and continues for 8 days. Originally, Passover began at twilight on the fourteenth day of Nissan (Leviticus 23:5), and then the next day, day 15, the Feast of Unleavened Bread would begin and continue for seven days (Leviticus 23:6).

## Lenten Season Worship Times

Ecumenical Lenten Worship Sponsored by the Route 11 Ministerium. All services at 7:00 PM.

Third Wednesday in Lent: March 7th: Giving Up Superiority

Where: Hop Bottom UMC

Special Music: United Methodist Community Church, Great Bend

Children's Message: Rev. Jane Pykus

Refreshments following worship.

Fourth Wednesday in Lent: March 14th: Giving Up Enemies

Where: Brooklyn Universalist

Special Music: from Hop Bottom UMC

Preacher: Pastor Lynn Wilcox

Children's Message: Rev. Will Hagenbaugh

Refreshments following worship.

Lenten Season Worship (cont'd)

Fifth Wednesday in Lent: March 21st: Giving Up Our Lives

Where: South Gibson UMC

Special Music: First Presbyterian

Preacher: Rev. Lucas Taylor

Children's Message: Pastor Lynn Wilcox

Refreshments following worship.

Holy Thursday Covered Dish Last Supper

Experience at New Milford: March 29th at 6 p.m.

Bring a dish to pass and join us for worship and communion around the table in the social hall.

Tableware and beverages will be provided.

Good Friday Worship at South Montrose: March 30th at 7 p.m.

Come join us for worship as we remember and give thanks for the sacrificial life of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Easter Sunday: April 1st

South Montrose: 9:15 a.m.

New Milford: 11 a.m.

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**Lenten Meditations**

There will be Lenten Meditations held at the First Presbyterian Church in Montrose.

March 21 Jean Henssler, organist

March 28 with musicians Johanna Masters, Cathy Hammons, and Lee Roseboom, and Cheryl Coleman as Liturgist.

Both Meditations will be held at noon and will be followed by a luncheon of homemade soups and breads. All are welcome.

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**Jews For Christ Presents: Christ in the Passover**

First Presbyterian Church  
Thursday, March 22nd at 6:30 p.m.  
95 Pine Street  
Hallstead, PA 18822  
570-860-6043

Jesus' Last Supper was actually a Jewish Passover. Karl deSouza of Jews For Jesus will re-create the traditional Passover service and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called, "Christ in the Passover at the Presbyterian Church on March 22nd.

Karl will set a table with items traditionally used at the Passover meal and detail their spiritual significance. He will also explain the connection between the events of the first Passover in Egypt and the redemption that Jesus accomplished, as well as the deep bond between the ancient Passover feast and the Christian Communion celebration today.

**Miles for Missions**

1 Hour Walk/Run -A-Thon to Benefit The Bishop's Partners In Mission  
When: Saturday, May 12, 2018  
Where: Kirby Park, Wilkes Barre, PA Pavilion #1 and Track around the Football Field  
Registration/Check In: 8:30 a.m.  
Walk/Run: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.  
Entertainment/Refreshments: 9 a.m. till Noon  
Music Food Fun  
\*\*100% of donations go to Bishop's Partners in Mission to support:

Imagine No Malaria (INM)  
\*395,000 people die of malaria in Africa every year.  
\*Since the launch of INM, global mortality rates have fallen by 60%  
\*INM provides support for 300 Health Clinics in Africa

Mission Central (MC)  
\*MC connects God's resources with human need.  
\*MC is active in disaster response, mission outreach, and mission education.  
\*Typically, 65% of MC resources have remained within Pennsylvania.

For more information and downloadable resources, including a sponsorship form, visit [tinyurl.com/BishopsPIM](http://tinyurl.com/BishopsPIM) or contact Dorranceton United Methodist Church at 570-288-1477  
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## \UMCOR Sunday

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Sunday calls us to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Your gifts to UMCOR Sunday lay the foundation for UMCOR to share God's love with communities everywhere. The Special Offering on March 4th underwrites UMCOR's "cost of doing business." This helps keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR Project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.

This offering is crucial for UMCOR because this offering provides what is needed to keep the lights on at the administrative offices for an entire year.

You may remember:

When hurricanes Harvey, Maria and Irma slammed Texas, Louisiana, Florida, and Puerto Rico in 2017, UMCOR was there.

When wildfires ravaged thousands of homes in the West and Southeast, UMCOR was there.

When refugees and migrants around the world needed help, UMCOR was there.

When a mudslide in Sierra Leone killed more than 500 people and destroyed 2,000 homes, UMCOR was there.

They were there because of UMCOR Sunday.

This special Sunday covers the operating costs of UMCOR which allows the relief agency to be where it needs to be, when it needs to be there, for as long as it needs to be there. It allows UMCOR to funnel earmarked donations directly to the designated project.

Thank you in advance for your gifts to UMCOR.

You can make a check out to our church, South Montrose Community Church and place in the memo line: UMCOR or you can write the check out to UMCOR and we will send it on to UMCOR for you. Either way, you are making it possible for

UMCOR to do their job when disaster hits.

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## Compassion International

If you didn't know, we as a church support a child named Sayuri from Mexico through Compassion International. I believe she is 11 years old. She comes from a very poor family. Currently, Janet Small sends in the money to care for Sayuri. Sponsorship really matters. Our gifts are used for medical care, food and education. Our sponsorship is providing hope for tomorrow for Sayuri. Hopefully a bright future and ultimately, release from the poverty that she has been living all her life.

Here are some facts:

Education: Children like Sayuri are 27-40% more likely to complete secondary education. 50-80% are more likely to graduate from college. In school 1-1.5 years longer.

Leadership: Children like Sayuri are 40-70% more likely to become a church leader. 30-75% more likely to become a community leader.

Employment: Sayuri will be 14-18% more likely to attain salaried employment. 63% more likely to become a teacher. 35% more likely to have a white collar job.

All of these things add hope to Sayuri's life. If you would like to help support our Compassion International Child, Sayuri, please pass your donations to Janet and she will send it in. You can also get more information from Janet about this mission in the life of our church. Please keep Sayuri in your prayers and also pray for her family, her teachers, her friends and her country.

Blessings, Pastor Jane



### Cancer Patients Need Your Help to get to Their Treatments

The American Cancer Society needs volunteers to drive cancer patients in our community to and from their treatment appointments.

All You Need:

- A good record
- A current, valid driver's license
- Access to a safe and reliable vehicle
- Proof of adequate automobile insurance
- Complete an American Cancer Society Training Course
- Availability Monday through Saturday during the hours of 7 a.m. till 7 p.m.

To learn more about how you can get involved and help make a difference in someone's life, call the American Cancer Society at 800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org.

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### \*\*\*Ark Encounter Trip\*\*\*

The Brand New Ark Encounter plus The Creation Museum Bus Trip  
Sponsored by Brenda Frystak at AAA

The bus trip is to Cincinnati, Ohio  
When: April 16-19, 2018  
3 Nights and 4 Days  
Cost: \$715 per person (double occupancy)

See the full sized replica of Noah's Ark. The largest timber structure in the world includes hundreds of amazing displays and exhibits. Walk through history at the 70,000 sq. ft. Creation Museum and view its account of the beginning of all things. Discover the "Queen City" during this tour of Biblical Proportions! Includes 4 nights lodging, 3 Breakfasts, 3 Dinners including a River Boat Dinner Cruise and a German Dinner with entertainment. Guided tour of Cincinnati, and admissions to Ark Encounter and Creation Museum.

Please give Brenda Frystak at call at 570-836-5104 AAA

Tunkhannock Office for more information and to claim your seat for this great trip.



## Faith and Family Night



Hockey Night with the Devils  
The Binghamton Devils, that is!!!  
Friday, April 6 at 7:05 p.m.  
Kids just \$5  
Adults \$15

Free Post Game Photo after the Game  
Reserve your seats by calling 607-722-7367  
[www.bingdevils.com](http://www.bingdevils.com)

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### Annual Chicken Bar- b-que @

### United Fire Co. Fire hall

March 24, 2018 @ 11 a.m. – Sell out



**Menu:** ½ Chicken, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Cabbage Salad, Roll, Cupcake, Beverage

To all who helped in previous years – A BIG Thank You!

We can't do it without your help so please, everyone, volunteer again this year. Contact your committee head or contact Susan & Kelly Pratt via email / 570-278-4649 for assignments.



### Generous People are Grateful People

*“Gratitude fosters openhanded, bighearted generosity. That generosity in turn helps people through difficult times. And receiving that help creates more gratitude. Let’s make gratitude contagious and continue the cycle of giving.”*

The quote above was part of an advertisement in the Susquehanna LINK for September 2016. We can change the word “people” to “our church”. We have had some hard times, but are now financially thriving. Because of this, we are able to donate to the Interfaith Easter basket and shoe program, Feed a Friend baskets at Thanksgiving, and Christmas baskets. We are a grateful and generous church.

As individuals, we are even more generous. The list in our annual report is long! I would like to suggest that when you are grocery shopping, and feeling grateful that you can afford food, you add 1 item each week for the food bank. Both Ray’s and Price Chopper have weekly sales. Sometimes you will have to buy more than 1 item. I recently bought 12 cans of vegetables for \$2.48, peanut butter for \$1.00, and 8 cans of Progresso soup for \$7.04. Grateful people are generous people!  
Janet Small

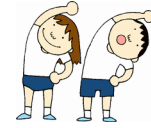
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### Soup Night!!!



Our head chef Chris would like to invite you to her monthly soup night on March 12, 2018. She and her crew will be serving hamburger vegetable and broccoli cheddar soups. Come join Chris and help her break her record. Serving 4:30-6:30. This is a free meal, but donations are accepted for the local food bank.

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### Exercise Class

Get fit with Sherry! Join Sherry Weller for some basic exercising on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:00!

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**There are large print hymnals and Faith we Sing books on the coat rack in the Narthex. There are also activity bags for the youth to keep them occupied if needed.**

### Who’s doing what??

#### Greeters:

- |               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| March 4 & 11  | Peggy and Alan Jerauld          |
| March 18 & 25 | Sharon Newhart and Gigi Salsman |
| April 1 & 8   | Maxine Fox and Phyllis Valenza  |
| April 15 & 22 | Mary Larrabee                   |
| April 29      | Ben Owen                        |
| May 6 & 13    | Betty Brunges                   |
| May 20 & 27   | Phyllis and Rob Myers           |

#### Altar Flowers:

- |       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| March | Paula Remington |
| April | Diane Linaberry |
| May   | Nancy Jerauld   |

#### Acolyte:

- |          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| March 4  | Matthew Hinds   |
| March 11 | Kohen Kraynak   |
| March 18 | Elizabeth Stone |
| March 25 | Chloe Smith     |
| April 1  | Matthew Hinds   |
| April 8  | Kohen Kraynak   |
| April 15 | Elizabeth Stone |
| April 22 | Chloe Smith     |
| April 29 | Matthew Hinds   |
| May 6    | Kohen Kraynak   |
| May 13   | Elizabeth Stone |
| May 20   | Chloe Smith     |
| May 27   | Matthew Hinds   |

**Snow Removal:**

March	Quentin Kraynak
	Mike Kerr
April	Mike Hinds
	Mike Kerr

**Friends who would love a friendly card:****Craig Estelle**

PO Box 181  
South Montrose, PA 18843

**Gussie Fritz**

Gracious Living Estates  
10543 SR 29  
Montrose, PA 18801

**Aggie Holbert**

Gracious Living Estates  
10543 SR 29  
Montrose, PA 18801

**Alice Porter**

Gracious Living Estates  
10543 SR 29  
Montrose, PA 18801

**Harry Snell**

Fair Hill Personal Care Home  
272 Lamphere Road  
Montrose, PA 18801

**Jean Weaver**

Fair Hill Personal Care Home  
272 Lamphere Road  
Montrose, PA 18801

**Peggy Wood**

27 Reynolds Pond Road  
Montrose, PA 18801

**If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email list, please let Mary Hinds know. These emails are for urgent prayers needed.**

**Please keep the following people in your prayers.**

**In the church:** Harriet Snell and family, Jean Weaver, Grace Harvey, Harry and Harriet Snell, Aggie Holbert, Nic Remington, Theresa Owen, Ben Owen, Craig Estelle, Marian Nye, Alice Porter, Gladys Barber, Peggy Wood, Wink Frystak, Gussie Fritz, Mike Hinds, Matthew Hinds

**In our community:** Family of Leta Smith, Family of Delbert Potts, Parkland Florida community, Michelle, Joan, Rachel, Amber, Mike Hornak, Nancy, Jack, Elijah Sabo, Jim Phillips, Justin Guys, National Relations, Ruth, Will and Sarah, Mary Alice Hawley, Misty Hitchcock, Dennis Carey, Jeanette Smith, Family of Patsy Brister, Vanesia West, Betty Pykus, Raymond Arnold, Pat Amiondolia, Tony Susi, John Capoccia, Shelly Shepherd, Josh Roe, Bill Lawyer, John Breen, Courtney Sterling, Raebelle Albeck, Bill Robinson, Monica Anderson, Audrey Cady, Kyle and Ashley, Ashley Kilmer, Gary Baker, Bill Copley, Margie Green, Clara, Betty Allen, Tammy, Jim Taylor, Bernie Boyer, Carol Jones, Jim and June Ochse, Ann Smith, Jane Perry, Joyce Millard, James Walters, Dottie Henry, Catalina, Sandra Lathrop, those struggling with addictions, our teenagers in Susquehanna County, Family of Randy Ward, Pat Pratt, Helen Crotta, Lisa Steele, Dee Pierson, Duane Snell, Dennis Snell, Helen Peterson, Jonathon 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 Information**

Reverend Jane M. Pykus, Pastor's  
PO Box 577  
New Milford, Pa. 18834

Church Address:  
PO Box 86  
South Montrose, Pa. 18843

Pastor Jane's phone: 570-465-2318  
cell : 570-396-5883  
Church Phone: 570-278-3109

[Jpykus65@gmail.com](mailto:Jpykus65@gmail.com)

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

Facebook Address:  
<https://www.facebook.com/South-Montrose-Community-Church-220670034624804/>