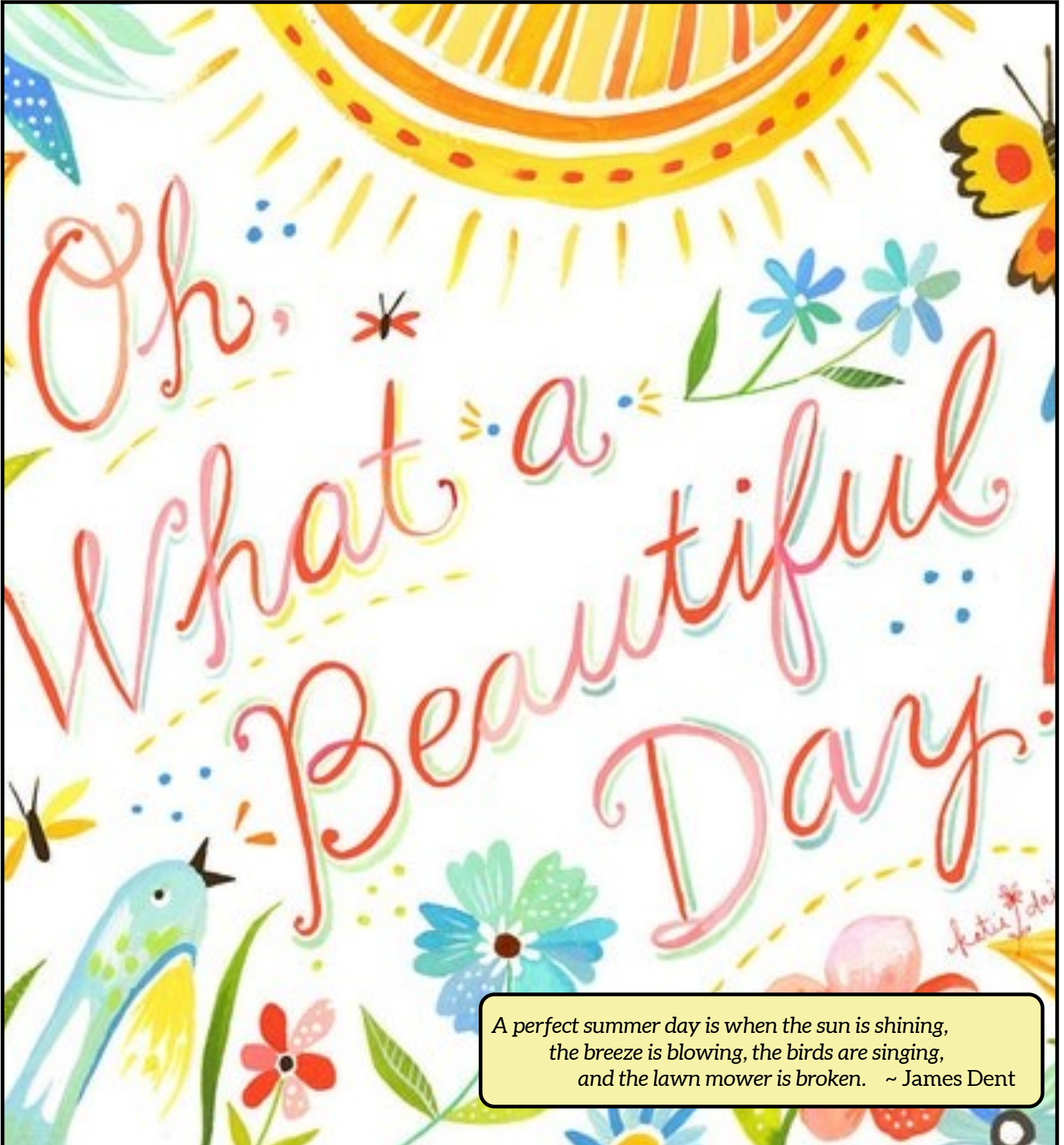


# Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2022 July Volume 7



A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining,  
the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing,  
and the lawn mower is broken. ~ James Dent



Yep! Believe it or not; it's construction season! As Minnesotans, we look forward to summer but absolutely despise the construction projects it brings. But as we're reminded in Ecclesiastes:

*There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens (Ecclesiastes 3:9)*

*Whatever has happened—that's what will happen again; whatever has occurred—that's what will occur again. (Ecclesiastes 1:9)*

As I was maneuvering through the streets of Montrose, I was reminded of the many ways in which we're all under construction. We all have parts of our lives where we're beat up, vulnerable, and in need of some maintenance. It can be frustrating at times when we don't know how long we'll stay this way; unfinished and in process. It can be overwhelmingly difficult with the number of detours our lives take; never quite taking us the way we expected to go.



The worst part of construction season is that it can take forever and there's no real end in sight. At least in Minnesota you have "construction season". In Oklahoma, there was construction 24/7! You could go for years with roads being completely shut down. I don't think anyone but the contractors understood the real reason why it took so long for construction to be completed.

Everyone goes through a time in their lives where they have to work on themselves to either repair what was broken or maybe change for the better. I'm reminded of the Methodist saying that we're all striving towards perfection. It's true! We're always learning how we can be better Christians. Even as a pastor, I'm expected to attend workshops, training, and meetings which will make me a better spiritual leader.

God works on all of us.

**GOD WORKS IN DIFFERENT WAYS, BUT IT IS THE SAME GOD WHO DOES THE WORK IN ALL OF US.**

God is right there with us through all of it. God is the one exposing our weaknesses, but giving us His strength. It's only when we can rely upon His direction that we'll start to see the end. As God smooths out the concrete and lets it set, then we can see some progress. We'll notice things are going better than before, and we develop loving and lasting relationships. It might not totally be perfect, but it'll be worth it!

So what part of construction season are you experiencing? Are you torn up and in the beginning stages of change? Maybe you're frustrated by the detours that makes your journey longer? Maybe you've been under construction so long you're tired of even thinking about it? Well this July we're gonna work on it together! After all, this is construction season.

Only God! The God who equips me with strength and makes my way perfect. Praise God!

Blessings!

Pastor Mark Schlasner  
Email: am.umc.pastor@gmail.com  
Phone/Text: (763) 656-3490



**July Worship Theme**

**Sunday, July 3, 2022**  
**Holy Communion Sunday**  
**(Intinction & Single Serve Cup)**

**Communion Steward**  
**Carol Prestidge**

*"Rough Road"*

Scripture: Genesis 12:10-20

**Sunday, July 10, 2022**

*"Road Closed"*

Scripture: Jonah 1:1-3

**Picnic After Worship Service**  
**in Lion's Park**  
**to Welcome Pastor Mark & Amy!**

**Sunday, July 17, 2022**

*"Detour"*

Scripture: Numbers 14:21-23

**Sunday, July 24, 2022**

*"Work Zone Speed Limit"*

Scripture: Matthew 14:25-31

**Sunday, July 31, 2022**

*"Road Work Ahead"*

Scripture: Luke 10:30-36

**Church Picnic and Meet & Greet!**

**Welcoming Picnic for**  
**Pastor Mark & Amy Schlasner!**

**Sunday, July 10th**  
**11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

**Lion's Park** (weather permitting)

**Grilled Hot Dogs & Brats with**  
**fixins', Chips, Beverages,**  
**S'mores and more!**

**A new Pastor, a new chapter at**  
**Montrose UMC!**



**PLEASE RSVP NUMBER IN YOUR FAMILY ATTENDING by JUNE 7th**



## PRAYER PAGE

### *Grieving with Families*

† **The Donnell Brychell Family.** Donnell's daughter and Debbie Baker's niece Meghan, age 42, passed away June 8th.




† **The Carter H. Glendenning Family.** Carter passed away June 27 at age 82. Survived by his wife, Carolyn Halstead Glendenning, she was a long time member and supporter of our church serving as Sunday school superintendent and other ways.

### *Our Friends At Home*

Living at Home -  
**Gloria Adickes**  
**John Hylland**



### *Lifting in Our Prayers*

 Continued prayers for Ukraine and other countries facing war and turmoil.



**Coworker of Christie Illies,** basement flooded - bright side is mold was discovered in sheetrock during repairs.

**Those impacted in northern MN by heavy flooding.** Pastor Paul on Direct Response Team inundated with calls.

**Don Danford,** having a Cardiac Ablation on June 7th.

**Keith Prestidge,** doctor appt. June 10th to see about prosthetic leg. *UPDATE:* doctors approved prosthetic leg. Prayers for Keith as he gets fitted and goes through rehabilitation.

**Craig Clausen,** husband of former Pastor Deb Clausen, hospitalized at North Memorial with a severe staph infection. Family is trying to have him transferred to Mayo Clinic. He is enduring terrible pain. You can get updates and donate on his Caring Bridge site. *UPDATE:* Craig is out of the ICU.

**Pastor Mark's grandfather Morey.** He had a fall and is hospitalized, still having oxygen issues.

**Terry Rux,** had surgery on his wrist June 24th.

**Allan Malerich,** now has a cane but forgetting to use it.

**P R A Y**  
*without ceasing*

### *Blessings and Celebrations*

Clayton Prestidge, sharing his musical talent with the congregation singing Elvis hymns on June 5th. What a Joy!



**Baptisms of Kinsley Rae Chaffins, Owen Michael Sage, and Brayden Gordon Sage on June 5th!**

**Pastor Paul & Debbie Baker,** enjoying the company of family, longtime friends, and the Montrose Community celebrating his retirement!

**Reverend Terri Harris,** with us on Sunday, June 19th and sharing her "miracle" story with us.

**Pam & Russ Johnson** celebrating their 57th wedding anniversary!

**Sherry & Tod Ovall** celebrating their 12th wedding anniversary!

**Another great turnout for FE+ED June 28th!** See FE+ED Update on page 5.



We said farewell to Pastor Paul & Debbie Baker on Sunday, June 12th celebrating both their Retirements!

If you missed saying goodbye and would like to send a card, here is **their new address:**  
4500 Perry Ave. No.  
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

*May the road rise to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.*



*We celebrate all the special Birthdays & Anniversaries in June!*

### **A note from Ricki Malerich ~**

Thank you to the Chancel Choir members and Jacque Vanderlinde for providing special music this year. It was difficult getting started in March after two whole years apart, and on hold again in May because of health issues, but they rallied in June to pay tribute to our ministers, and we are very grateful. They have earned their summer break! The plan is to begin choir rehearsals again in September.



**NEW CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED!**

### **A note from Tammy Prestidge and the WCCA Food Shelf ~**

The month of July is **OPEN YOUR HEART TO THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS.** The WCCA Food Shelf will be **collecting canned food items and monetary donations throughout the month of July.**

Canned goods can be placed in the plastic bin in the narthex, which will be taken to the food shelf in Waverly weekly.

**Thank you for your support!**



**OPEN YOUR HEART**  
TO THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS

## United Women in Faith ~ Hannah Circle



Meeting in-person on the third Mondays of the month at 7 pm!

**Our next meeting is Monday, July 18th at 7 pm in the library.**

We're planning to resume working on **THE PATRICIA PROJECT**, a sewing project Kathy Trombley was very passionate about, making cloth, reusable sanitary pads and sending them with Missionaries to Africa to be distributed to women and girls of menstruating age. Over 10,000 sanitary pad kits have been distributed to women and girls in Africa.

Hannah Circle is planning to put sanitary pad kits together that women in the congregation can cut-out and prep for the more experienced seamstresses to then sew together. If you would be interested in receiving a kit, or help sew, please come to our next meeting or let one of the Hannah Circle members know you are interested!

Please contact us at: [montrosemmumw@gmail.com](mailto:montrosemmumw@gmail.com) with any questions.

Betty Danford - President  
Jacque Vanderlinde - Vice President  
Jane Gessinger - Secretary

## Finance Update



Happy July! A quick finance update for everyone. The biggest thing we have going on right now is the repairs to our parking lot. The Church Council met on June 23rd to discuss drainage issues we have in our parking lot. I'm sure many of you have noticed the sinking drain in the SW corner of the lot. Since we have the city repairing the roads, it's a good time for us to fix this piece. We've voted to proceed with the repair. This is just under \$10,000. Luckily we have money in our Building Maintenance Fund, but this repair will basically wipe out our building savings to zero. The trustees are in the process of collecting bids to replace our parking lot. If you've been to the church lately, you will see this is a dire need. As you can imagine, the price will be quite substantial. It was suggested that we look into getting a bank loan. The concern being the cost is only going to go up and the replacement is needed.

I will be starting the talks over the next few days to see if this is even an option. More to come, but in the mean time we will need to raise funds to cover these repairs, so if you're able, any extra donations are appreciated to the Building Maintenance Fund.

I'm thankful we don't have to worry about a mortgage at the same time!!

Thank you for your continued support. As always, let me know if you have any questions.

Kelly Rux  
(952) 221-8659  
[kellyrux@hotmail.com](mailto:kellyrux@hotmail.com)



**Gift Cards To-Go for all your everyday shopping or gift giving needs!**

**Every rebate helps raise funds for the church and costs you nothing extra! Download the RaiseRight app today and take advantage or more savings!**

**See Angie Ferrell or Kelly Rux for gift cards!**



## News from Palabra Viva



Palabra Viva Church of the Nazarene came to Montrose 6 years ago, and continues to grow their church family and reach new people in our community. In March 2022 they started a new church in St. Paul, and are having success there as well. Services were on Friday evenings, and now moved to Saturday afternoons before their Montrose services. All their services are live-streamed on Facebook.

Pastor Alex and his wife Amparo are still on leave, now nine-months of a one-year commitment. They started a new foundation in Columbia, So. America called **Timoteo's Foundation** reaching many children and growing a Christian education center.

This message was from Pastor Alex in October 2021: "Thank God we had a good trip. Since our arrival, we have not stopped working at the foundation, and although the work has been a lot, it has been a beautiful experience. Although we know that the process of readaptation to life in Colombia will not be easy, we know that God will show his power in the course of the following weeks.

At the moment we are staying with Amparo's family, which is where the foundation currently operates, since for mobility reasons it is easier to be here to avoid long journeys in the morning hours, and also because it is in this community where most of our Timothy's families live. Currently we have organized into 3 teaching groups divided by age, in this way we can receive the largest number of children, we hope to have a total of 36 children by the end of October. Glory to God. We still have some pending improvements, such as preparing a bathroom for the children, more tables, installing a sound system, among others. I want to thank all of you for your support, donations and prayers in this new ministerial opportunity, which has been a challenge for my wife and me. I'll share more good news soon."

In His Mission Amparo & Alex

## Boy Scout's Burgers in the Park Event!

As most have heard by now, there will be **NO MONTROSE DAYS** this year! **The Montrose Boy Scout Troop #312 is asking you to SAVE THE DATE! Sat., August 20th 12 pm to 8 pm Veteran's Park (Across from Jacque B's)**

The following is a tentative overview of this event: We will need as many helpers as we can get to pull off this event.

### This event will have several purposes:

1. Community service information and membership drive for Montrose community organizations
2. Fun water based activities for the kids
3. An opportunity for Montrose residents to come together in fun and fellowship.
4. A fund raiser for the troop to earn funds for Scout activities, particularly for the Alaska trip in 2023.
5. Recruitment for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA (and other youth or service organizations if they want to set up an info booth).

### Activities and support roles we will need:

- Burger stand – cooking, taking and pushing orders.
- Youth Games – indoor soft tip archery range, rain gutter regatta or minnow races, super soaker target range, water relay games
- Bean Bag Free Play area
- Bounce Houses – monitoring, time limits, capacity limits, possibly cleaning in-between time slots. Troop will cover the rental costs.
- Gourmet Cup Cake walk – cake walkers and auctioneer.

## FE+ED Update



FE+ED moved the June food distribution location to the Montrose VFW due to road construction around Center Ave. So., 2nd Street So. and CR 12 being closed. We had canopies set up, extra signage placed on highway, and fliers with a map were made, posted and distributed so folks knew of the change. The drop went very well!

It was a hot day and the many volunteers were awesome working outside in the heat. We actually started distributing the food a little early and were done early with all the boxes gone!



This was Pastor Mark Schlasner's first food drop. He came early, stayed late and interacted with everyone. He was genuinely interested in learning about how all of us serve our community. Thanks Pastor Mark, it's great to have you and Pastor Cathy leading us spiritually in our work.



### Our community contributed a lot of extras:

- Chicken from Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC).
- 10 boxes of bread from the Waverly Food Shelf.
- Lots of meat from the Buffalo Food Shelf.
- Rescue food from other sources.

### June Statistics:

- 6,992 pounds of food from SHH
- Families served 108
- Individuals served 317
- New, first time families 11
- Veterans served 27
- Communities served 12

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Johnson, Secretary.

**The next food drop is  
Tuesday, July 26th!**

Pictured left-to-right:  
New Montrose UMC Pastor Mark Schlasner, Pastor Clinton Wallace, Pastor Cathy Jones (House of Grace, Grace Place).

## Trustees Update



**CHURCH IS OPEN!** Center Ave. So. is open, however all dirt, and there's heavy equipment moving around everywhere. BE CAUTIOUS! As of this publication, 2nd St. in front of the Montrose Fire Dept. is closed and every road around the church is now dirt!

The Trustees recently learned from Bolton-Menk, the company managing the Montrose Downtown Improvement Project, that a catch basin/storm sewer drain in the SW corner of the parking lot has issues. After a conversation with them about improvements, with an estimate of \$12K - \$18K and the likelihood of losing all 3 trees on the south lawn, Lee Reinhart called the project manager at Bolton-Menk and got more information. Lee met with contractors and discussed other options which saved the trees! A bid to make repairs/improvements was received for \$9,834, quite a savings from original estimate! **THANK YOU LEE REINHART!** The church council met Thursday, June 23rd and voted unanimously to accept the bid. Work will begin in a few months.

We have received four bids on having the parking lot replaced, and after a conversation with Lee Reinhart & Bolton-Menk, we are getting one more bid from the company doing the work for the Montrose Downtown Improvement Project, Knife River. Bids are coming in at \$82K - \$102K to redo the parking lot! Council discussed patch & repair versus redo, but eventually the lot needs to be redone, therefore we are looking at the possibility of a loan to complete this project. This isn't what we want to do, take on debt again, but we cannot deplete our savings and still have unknown assessment fees on all the street repairs to consider. Watch for updates in the next newsletter. We still have railings and concrete areas to replace too. The list of basic building upkeep goes on.



**Picture above:** parking lot showing it's wear.  
**Pictured right:** Stair railing in the front of the church rusted through.



The hole in the ceiling of the sanctuary will be fixed the week of July 10th, installing an access panel as recommend by the fire sprinkler company. Cost to repair \$150 - \$250.

How many of you have seen the Subway commercial, **"You've got to refresh to be fresh!"**



Well, looking at some areas of the church, we need a refresh! Small, inexpensive improvements can make a big difference on how people see our church ~ and we'd love to hear your ideas!



Kitchen, Lunchroom, Youth Room, Fellowship Hall, etc. One suggestion was received to paint the men's and women's bathrooms (neutral color) and fix the areas where the grout has come off.

It's that time of year again...**ANTS!** We need everyone to do their part to keep all areas clean, pick up any spills, make sure cups and pop cans are disposed of properly. Ant traps have been placed in the key areas we are seeing an ant problem.



The church has failed at it's Adopt-A-Park commitment at the playground in the Pheasant Hills development! A project taken on by the Youth Group 3-4 years ago hasn't been meeting that obligation since 2020! Nobody noticed during Covid - but this picture was posted on Facebook shaming the City of Montrose, when the sign clearly says "Adopted by Montrose Methodist Church". The city has since pulled the weeds and put down new mulch. **WE NEED A COUPLE OF VOLUNTEERS (YOUTH & CONFIRMANDS) TO TAKE TURNS PICKING UP LITTER, PULLING WEEDS, ETC. AND MEETING OUR COMMITMENT EACH MONTH.** Speak to Kim Wagner.



Sincerely,

Your Board of Trustees:  
Jason Chaffins - President  
Roger Vanderlinde - Vice President  
Kim Wagner - Secretary  
Bob Prestidge  
Mike Wagner

***The Board of Trustees would welcome and appreciate new board members! Let any one of us know if you are Interested!***



**FOOD DROP**

**TUESDAY, JULY 26th at 3 pm**

Drive-thru pick-up on a first come-first serve basis while quantities last.  
Montrose Community Center  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**Drive-Up  
Food  
Distribution**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Sunday, July 10th at 11:30 am</b>  <b>Picnic in Lion's Park!</b>            To welcome Pastor Mark &amp; Amy Schlasner to MUMC!            Grilled Hot Dogs &amp; Brats, Fixins', Chips, Beverage, S'mores and more!</p>					<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>3</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) &amp; Holy Communion</p> 	<p><b>4</b></p> 	<p><b>5</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (F)</p>	<p><b>6</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>7</b> 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>10</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) <b>11:30 am WELCOME PICNIC</b> (Lion's Park)</p>	<p><b>11 SCRIP DAY</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (Lion's Park) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>14</b> NO MEETING - 4H Club 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>17</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)</p>	<p><b>18</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (Lion's Park) 7 pm Hannah Circle (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>19</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (F)</p>	<p><b>20</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O) 7:15 pm Church Council (L)</p>	<p><b>21</b> 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>24</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) <u>10:30 am Worship Service (S)</u></p> <p><b>31</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)</p>	<p><b>25 SCRIP DAY</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (Lion's Park) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>26</b> 12:30 pm <b>FE+ED</b> Set-up (MCC) 3 pm <b>FE+ED</b> Distro (MCC)</p>	<p><b>27</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>28</b> 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>

**JULY BIRTHDAYS!**

4th-Carol Prestidge  
8th-Tod Ovall  
15th-Meri Ault  
15th-Galen Becker  
15th-Mike Smothers  
16th-Karlee Parks  
18th-Jacque Vanderlinde

19th-Dennis Yager  
19th-Vicki Severson  
21st-Makayla Mattheis  
22nd-Don Danford  
23rd-Steve Ashbaugh  
23rd-John (JD) Gessinger  
25th-Gini Gutknecht

**JULY ANNIVERSARIES!**

8th-Mike & Janelle Peart  
10th-Joe & Kelly Prestidge  
25th-Terry & Diane Rux



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 Office 763-675-3571      Pastor Paul's Cell 320.455.7314  
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[Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/MontroseUnitedMethodistChurch)



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Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church



## Montrose United Methodist Church



**FE+ED**  
**For Each and Every Day**  
**(4th Tuesday of the Month)**

**UPCOMING FREE**  
**FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS:**  
**Tuesday, July 26th**  
**Tuesday, August 23rd**

**Starting at 3:00 pm**  
This is a drive thru Event

**Montrose Community Center**

**Volunteers are needed & welcome starting at**  
**12:30 pm to pack food boxes!**

FE+ED offers a drive-thru free food distributions every 4th Tuesday of the month! Pre-packed boxes/bags of dairy, produce and food items will be distributed starting at 3 pm until gone.

Go to the FEED website for more information:

**[www.fe-ed.org](http://www.fe-ed.org)**

**WE INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE**  
**WITH US!**

**Welcoming Picnic**  
**for Pastor Mark & Amy Schlasner**



**Sunday, July 10th**  
**11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

**Lion's Park**

(Behind the Church)  
weather permitting

**Grilled Hot Dogs & Brats**  
**with Fixins', Chips, Beverage,**  
**S'mores and more!**

**Come and Join us on Sundays!**  
**Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am**  
**Worship Service 10:30 am**