


# Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2022 June Volume 6



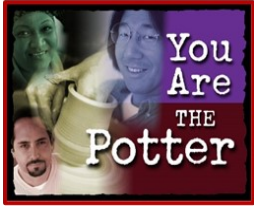
*"A life without love is like a  
year without summer."  
- Swedish Proverb*

## **IN THIS ISSUE**

- ◆ Pastor Paul's Column Pg. 2
- ◆ June Worship Theme Pg. 2
- ◆ Introducing Pastor Mark Schlasner & wife Amy Pg. 3
- ◆ Prayer Page Pg. 4
- ◆ UWF Hannah Circle Pg. 5
- ◆ RaiseRight (SCRIP) Pg. 5
- ◆ Announcements Pg. 6
- ◆ FE+ED Report Pg. 6
- ◆ Trustees Update Pg. 6
- ◆ June Calendar Pg. 7
- ◆ Food Drop Back Cover

## Pastor Paul's Column

Once again, let me say, I have always joked that my job as a minister is to work myself out of a job. What I mean by that, is best summed up by the following scripture.



*<sup>33</sup> No, this is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my Instructions*

*within them and engrave them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup> They will no longer need to teach each other to say, "Know the Lord!" because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord; for I will forgive their wrongdoing and never again remember their sins. (Jeremiah 31:33-34)*

But, it seems that I am reminded often that this time has not yet come. We still need to teach each other, and learn from each other. An example would be, that no matter how many times I ask people if they know the two greatest commandments that Jesus taught, there is always a bit of hesitation before people answer.

Now, it's not that people have forgotten them, or that they don't think that these commandments are important. I think it is more that we all get distracted by everything going on in the world, and sometimes Jesus and his teachings seem to be pushed temporarily to the side. And that's OK, as long as we come back. Let's come back to focus on the priorities that Jesus laid out for us, which were to love God, and to love our neighbor.



Jesus knows what is best for us, that is why he gave us these two commands.

Following Him is the way to go.



Now, I'm about to follow Jesus in a new direction. How did the years go by so fast? This is my last newsletter article as your pastor, and more than that, as a pastor appointed to any church. The way the UMC is structured, I will now be appointed to retirement. That is a strange way to think about it. Appointed to retirement.

I suppose thinking of it that way reminds me that we are still connected. And I want to stay connected to you, and the members and friends of every church I have served. You have helped me grow into the person I am, and the person I am becoming. Thank you.

So, it seems that because of the passage of time, I have worked myself out of a job after all. However, we will all continue to do the work. We will continue the work of Jeremiah 31 together, even if we are not physically together. We work to share Christ with each other, so that God's covenant will be written on the hearts of all people, in all creation.

Change my heart O God, make it ever true. Change my heart O God, make me be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

May God's Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven!

*Pastor Paul*

**Pastor Paul D. Baker**  
**(320) 455-7314**



## June Worship Theme

### **Celebration!** **(A Lectionary Series)**

**Sunday, June 5, 2022**

**Pentecost Sunday & Holy Communion Sunday**

*"Pentecost: Happy Birthday Church!"*

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21

**Music by Clayton "Elvis" Prestidge!**

**Sunday, June 12, 2022**

**Trinity Sunday**

**Pastor Paul Baker's last day at Montrose UMC**

*"Making Sense of the Bible!"*

Scripture: John 16:12-15 & Romans 5:1-5

**Sunday, June 19, 2022**

*Guest Speaker*

*To Be Announced*

**Sunday, June 26, 2022**

Welcome Pastor Mark Schlasner and his wife, Amy!

### **CUTE LITTLE STORY!**

On Sunday, May 22nd Pastor Paul shared the story of Jonah and The Whale during the Children's Message. He had a cute little blue whale puppet that eats Jonah, then vomits him out! Then the puppet transitions into Jonah! But it kind of scared the little girl!  
(WATCH IT ON FACEBOOK!)



## 2022 Appointment Annandale UMC and Montrose UMC

### We Welcome Pastor Mark Schlasner & His Wife Amy ~ Sunday, June 26th ~



#### Leadership Style

My leadership style is democratic and affiliative in nature. I believe it's important that everyone is involved with the direction of the church. I get personal with others and am very attentive to the emotional state of everyone involved. I do what I can to open up communication that allows me to connect with the team.

#### Passion for Ministry

My passion for ministry is centered in sharing the love of God with the lost and lonely in this world. That divine love that heals all wounds and unites all of humanity. I believe that through this love that unites us we also are responsible to fight injustices in the world. I see the answer to injustice in the good news of Jesus Christ. Deliberate and grace-filled ministry eats away at injustice creating a more loving and just world.

#### List your Spiritual Disciplines and Study

Spiritual discipline and study is essential to the success and health of every pastor. I'm very focused on improving myself spiritually and intellectually. That's why I read scripture daily and have time of prayer and reflection. I also keep myself intellectually focused through weekly study of social justice, pastoral care, racial relations, philosophy, theology, and fiction.

#### Contact Information

Email: [mschlasner001@luthersem.edu](mailto:mschlasner001@luthersem.edu)  
Phone: 763-656-3490

#### Family

Wife Amy Jo Schlasner married May 2, 2020. Parents Steve & Betsy Schlasner recently un-retired working remotely from Rochester as a Chemical Engineer for the Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) in Grand Forks, ND. Sister Jacqueline currently living in Rochester working as a Digital Intelligence and Personality Designer for Verizon. Grandparents Maury & Jean Schlasner, Uncle Mike & Aunt Roxanne currently living in Rochester. I also have extended families living in other states: Michigan, Ohio, and Idaho.



#### Education

Bachelor of Arts from Concordia College  
Master of Divinity from Luther Seminary

#### Ministry Experience

Youth Leader at Wesley United Methodist Church in Grand Forks, ND, 2014-2015.  
Campus Pastor at Inver Grove Heights campus of Crossroads UMC as well as pastoral intern at Crossroads UMC-Lakeville Campus (including children, youth and mission ministry work); 2016-2020  
Youth leader for middle school boys at Red Rock Camp; 2016, Young adult leader at Red Rock Camp; 2018.  
Pastor at West Concord UMC 2020-Present

#### Other Work Experience

IT trouble shooting/help desk with Luther Seminary.  
Logistics associate with Academy Sports and Outdoors.  
CSA III (Customer Service) with Amazon.  
Associate with Walmart.  
Dishwasher with Bartlesville Health and Rehab. Community

#### Call to Ministry

I feel that I have been called to ministry so that others may come to know Jesus Christ, be transformed, and participate in a community that grows and shares in faith. I find healing in God's love and grace and wish to share that sense of wholeness with everyone I encounter. This is all done thanks to the Triune God who loves everyone.

#### What is your vision of the Church?

The church's foremost task is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We make disciples through worship, study, and prayer. Transformation is a product of such discipleship and is evidenced through, but not limited to, evangelism and outreach. The gospel message is a message of love that heals and encourages all who listen. The church must share this message to a world that is full of broken people going through tough times so that everyone who's willing to listen may find joy through Christ the Lord, our savior.

#### Gifts for the Ministry

My gifts are preaching, teaching, and pastoral care. I have a passion for utilizing technology to create community and assist in creating an immersive worship experience.



David Bard, Interim Bishop  
Fred Vanderwerf, District Superintendent



## PRAYER PAGE

### Grieving with Families

† **The Suzanne “Suzy” Strege Family.** Suzy, very much loved by her family and the Buffalo community, passed away May 22nd at 54 years of age.



### Our Friends At Home

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



### Lifting in Our Prayers

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



**Roger Vanderlinde’s Mom**, for patience and understanding that decisions made are for her own good.

**Allan Malerich**, as he has more medical tests and awaits results.

**MUMC Congregation and family members having Covid**, 13 cases, 1 hospitalization.

**United Methodist Church split, including No. & So. Dakota**, weighs heavily on pastor Paul’s heart.

**Buffalo, NY community after a racially motivated mass shooting 5/14/22**, killing 10 and injuring 4.

**Laguna Woods, CA after a politically motivated mass shooting 5/15/22**, killing 1 and injuring 5. (200th mass shooting in the USA this year 2022.)

**Eli Hart.** Eli, age 6, was tragically killed and found in a trunk during a traffic stop. His mother arrested.

**Galen Becker’s Daughter-in-Law Eva’s father.** Eva is traveling to Czech Republic to visit her dad after he suffered a heart-attack and wasn’t doing well.

**Victims, their families and the Community of Uvalde, TX** after a mass shooting at the elementary school kills 19 children and 2 teachers.

**Roger Vanderlinde’s Mom**, needing healing after she took another fall.

**Donna Marquette**, needing healing after she suffered a fall.

**All those in MN impacted by severe storms, and tornadoes (4)** May 30th.

**On Memorial Day**, remembering all those that gave their lives defending our country and freedom.

**Heather Erickson**, formerly worked at Sonya’s MFC, needs healing after suffering severe burns at a bonfire accident.

### Blessings and Celebrations

**Raechel Sage & Skyler Chaffins**, It’s a Girl! Kinsley Rae, born Sunday, May 1st! Amy & Jason Chaffins new Grandparents, Carol & Keith Prestidge Great-Grandparents, and Bridget an Auntie!

**Chad Larson**, celebrating his 50th Birthday!

**Good weather for farmers to get in their fields and rain in needed areas.**

**Terry Vanderbeek**, starting a new job at the US Post Office St. Cloud.

**Pastor Paul & Debbie Baker**, making final transition from AUMC parsonage to their home in Robbinsdale.

**Dan Baker, Pastor Paul’s Dad**, celebrating his 90th Birthday May 14th!

**Skyler Chaffins & Brianna Dockter**, celebrating their 21st Birthdays!

**Celebrating our Youth May 22nd!**

### Sunday School Awards:

John Gessinger, Heather & Karlee Parks, Alyssa Prestidge, and Hunter & Evie Reinhart. (No photo)



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



**EFFECTIVE JULY 16, 2022**  
The Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
Has a **NEW 3-DIGIT NUMBER**  
to call for help.  
**988**

### Our Confirmands:

(L-R) Isabella Johnson, Connor Dostal, Macy Prestidge and Alyssa Prestidge.



Each Confirmand wrote their own Creeds and read them to the Congregation, all very well written! They are now **NEW** members of Montrose UMC.



### Our 2022 Graduates:

Jaimee Ashbaugh (not pictured), Bridget Chaffins and Cole Dostal!



## United Women in Faith ~ Hannah Circle



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

**Our next meeting is  
Monday, June 20th at 6 pm  
at the Red Lodge in Waverly**

(The May meeting was cancelled due to Covid cases within the congregation and the concern for everyone to stay healthy.)

**NOTE:** *The FREE JUNE COMMUNITY MEAL being sponsored by Hannah Circle has been postponed due to ongoing road construction. We will let you know when it gets rescheduled in the Fall.*

If you'd like to join us at our June 20th meeting, we're meeting at the Red Lodge restaurant in Waverly at 6 pm. We'll start with a short devotion then enjoy dinner and discuss our plans for the remainder of this year.

**Please RSVP to the email below by Sunday, June 19th.**

Please contact us at: [montrosemmnw@gmail.com](mailto:montrosemmnw@gmail.com) with any questions. We'd love for you to join us or provide comments/suggestions on what you'd like to see your United Women in Faith Hannah Circle group do!

If you'd like to learn more about the "new calling" of the UWF, you can find more information on their Facebook page or their new website <https://uwfaith.org>



- ◆ **Angie Ferrell** for a "fantastic" Sunday School year and your help teaching our Confirmation students! That "S" on your cape stands for SUPER PERSON, not SCRIP!
- ◆ **Herman Epple** for coordinating the work on the air leak repair (and follow-up with Schindler Elevator)! And also maintaining the Memorial Garden!
- ◆ **Mike Wagner** for various maintenance tasks throughout the church; replacing stained ceiling tiles, spray painting the men's bathroom stall, fixing the front door!
- ◆ **Terry Rux** for mowing the church grounds, through an obstacle course of flags!
- ◆ **Diane & Kelly Rux** for cleaning out all the church window wells, and pulling/spraying weeds! Also for the new floor mat at the front entrance!
- ◆ **Don Danford** for coordinating the sound system/live streaming upgrades/install and the training session on the new systems!
- ◆ **Sonya Tourville** for operating the sound booth each and every week, and learning the new livestreaming operations!
- ◆ **Don & Betty Danford** for the flowers on the alter!
- ◆ **Carol Hoppe** for planting the beautiful flowers around the marquee sign again this year!
- ◆ **Kelly Rux** for purchasing a gas grill for the church to be used for outdoor events!



Some highlights to the name switch SCRIP to RaiseRight! The RaiseRight Mobile App has permanently replaced the MyScripWallets, so if you are still using that feature on your mobile devices, you will want to download the RaiseRight Mobile App from the App Store for iPhone users or Google Play for Android users.

You get the same options and experience whether you're on the app or website. You get an earnings dashboard chart to see how much you've personally earned in rebates for the church! Why not set a goal for yourself each month?

- You also have the option of shipping the gift cards directly to your home!
- You have access to the program tool and alerts, so you can find out when those bonuses are happening
- You can save your favorites for easier and quicker shopping!

**Scrip order dates for June are Monday the 13th & 27th.**

It's that time of year for graduation gifts, wedding gifts, baby showers, furnishing that college dorm, and there's always someone having a birthday! Why not give that new driver in your household a gas card? There truly isn't an easier way to help support the church, no matter where you are, by using the RaiseRight app!

We all buy groceries and gas every week... why not use the RaiseRight app or purchase gift cards we have on-hand for

those purchases? It costs you nothing extra, and the rebates go to the church! Those rebates add up and make a huge difference. The church earns about \$135 per month in rebates with just 7-8 people participating. Imagine what we could earn each month if we had 15-20 people participating!

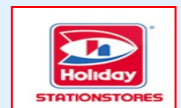
We'd love to help you get on board and in the habit of using RaiseRight! It's easier than you think!

**WHEN WE HEAR;** "I spent \$300 last week for groceries!" "It cost me \$60 to fill my gas tank yesterday!" "We spent over \$200 at Target on stuff for her dorm room!"

**WE THINK... WISH YOU WOULD HAVE BOUGHT OUR GIFT CARDS!** 😊

**Contact Angie Ferrell at (763) 442-4876 or Kelly Rux at (952) 221-8659.**

**GIFT CARDS ON-HAND for your shopping convenience!**



## Trustees Update



**CHURCH IS OPEN!** Major work on Center Ave. is underway between Hwy. 12 and 1st St. So., with utility work being completed through 2nd week of June, weather permitting.

The Trustees have received one bid on having the parking lot replaced, and are waiting on two more bids. This work would not begin until after the Downtown Project road construction is complete around the church

We started live-streaming our worship services on FACEBOOK Sunday, May 22nd! Remember, this is LIVE! **One word of caution** is during Joys & Concerns. Be sure any names/information shared during prayer requests does not violate a persons right to privacy. You should have permission/approval to request prayers, unless it's something already made public.

Yes, there's a hole in the ceiling of the sanctuary! That's where the sprinkler company had to search for the air leak - found and fixed! We need a licensed contractor to fix the hole, making an access panel in the ceiling that meets MN fire code. We are getting bids for this project too. Again, it's for these reasons that we need your continued support to the Building Maintenance Fund (formerly Building Mortgage Fund). The church has already spent over \$11,000 this year on repairs & upgrades. Paying off the mortgage has almost worked like a car warranty ~ the minute it expires your car breaks down and it's no longer under warranty!

The list of Bread Oven supplies the church is selling is being emailed to everyone this week. (The list includes a suggested donation.) Contact Kim or Mike Wagner if you are interested in purchasing any of the items. The list is also posted on the bulletin board by the water fountain. **NOTE:** Kelly Rux has purchased a gas grill for the church to host future outdoor events! The first event, most likely a welcome picnic in July for Pastor Mark Schlasner and his wife Amy! Let's hope Rally Sunday can be an outdoor event without any road construction!

Sincerely, Your Board of Trustees



## Miscellaneous Announcements



**The March Food Drive "PACK THE PEWS"**  
February 28th thru April 10th brought in 147 pounds of food to the Waverly Emergency Food Shelf! Thank you to everyone that brought in donations!



MUMC had 6 participants at the May 22nd **Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack** Event at Delano UMC, helping to pack 31 cases/1,116 packs of Manna Meals! That will feed 14 children for 1 year!

Thank you Angie Ferrell, Carol Hoppe, Alyssa Prestidge, Mike & Kim Wagner, and Sheila Amborn (friend of Kim's!) (Stay-tuned for info on our next visit to FMSC, possibly July!)



The Minnesota Twins will no longer host United Methodist Day, as the organizer of that event has retired. The MN Twins are hosting **"Faith Day"** at Target Field in collaboration with **PraiseLive** on Sunday, August 28, when the Twins play the San Francisco Giants. The event

will feature a postgame program featuring live worship music, and player testimonies. Shortly after the conclusion of the ballgame, the post-game program will take place in the lower level along the third base line in Sections 124-127. Your ticket to the game includes admission to the post-game program.



Due to the road construction around the church and an unknown completion date, MUMC's Church Council made the decision **NOT** to have VBS or host National Night Out in August.

## FE+ED Update



FE+ED will soon celebrate it's 6th year distributing food to Montrose and neighboring communities. We are blessed to be a partner with Second Harvest Heartland (SHH).

# 6

As stated on SHH's website, "it's hard to believe that in a country that wastes billions of pounds of food each year, it's almost shocking that anyone in America goes hungry. Yet every day, there are millions of children and adults who do not get the meals they need to thrive. SHH works to get nourishing food – from farmers, manufacturers, and retailers – to people in need." This is where FE+ED comes in to help, by purchasing food at a nominal charge to then distribute to the community for free. Even through the pandemic, we were able to partner with SHH and other area churches for emergency food relief.

Our May food distribution was another great success, despite the road construction. It was a warm and beautiful day! The new traffic flow using 1st Street to Center Ave. and using the north entrance to the Community Center/Fire Station to distribute the boxes worked out great. We began earlier than normal and were done quickly.

We don't know how the road construction will impact the June 28th food distribution, but we will post any updates on FACEBOOK.

*We cannot say it enough...*

*We Love*  
OUR VOLUNTEERS

### Our community contributed a lot of extras:

- 12 boxes of bread from the Waverly Food Shelf!
- Lots of meat from the Buffalo Food Shelf!
- 90 dozen eggs from the Rockford Food Shelf!

### April Statistics:

- 4,703 pounds of food from SHH
- Families served 125
- Individuals served 400
- New, first time families 11
- Veterans served 17
- Communities served 22

**The next food drop is Tuesday, June 28th!**

Report prepared by Pam Johnson, Secretary




**FOOD DROP**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28th at 3 pm**

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

**Drive-Up  
Food  
Distribution**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Sunday, June 5th ~ <b>WEAR RED for PENTECOST</b></i>  <i>Special music by Clayton Prestidge (ELVIS)</i>  <i>Sunday, June 12th ~ Pastor Paul's last day &amp; Retirement Party</i>  <i>Sunday, June 19th ~ Guest Speaker</i>  <i>Sunday, June 26th ~ We Welcome Pastor Mark Schlasner</i></p>			<p><b>1</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>2</b> 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>5 PENTECOST</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) &amp; Holy Communion 11:30 am PRIVATE BAPTISM (S)</p> 	<p><b>6</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (F)</p>	<p><b>8</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>9</b> 6:30 pm Trustees Mtg. (L) 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>12 Pastor Paul's Last Day!</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 11:30 am Retirement Party (S) For Pastor Paul Baker</p>	<p><b>13 SCRIP DAY</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O) 7:15 pm Church Council (L)</p>	<p><b>16</b> 6:30 pm 4H Club (Rebecca Park) 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>19</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)</p> 	<p><b>20</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm Hannah Circle (OFFSITE) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (F)</p>	<p><b>22</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>23</b> 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> 6-9 pm Palabra Viva (S/F) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)</p>
<p><b>26 Pastor Mark's First Day!</b> 9:30 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)</p>	<p><b>27 SCRIP DAY</b> 6:30 pm Boy &amp; Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p><b>28</b> 12:30 pm FE+ED Set-up (MCC) 3 pm FE+ED Distro (MCC)</p>	<p><b>29</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)</p>	<p><b>30</b> 8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)</p>	<p><i>Sunday, June 5th 1 pm - 5 pm <b>Graduation Party</b> for Bridget Chaffins at the Community Center</i></p>	

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS!**  
 1st-Nancy Oberlander  
 4th-Diane Mumford-Sohns  
 6th-Allen Spreeman  
 13th-Luke Prestidge  
 16th-Lindsey Dahl (Prestidge)  
 21st-Amy Mattheis  
 22nd-John Gessinger

23rd-Diane Rux  
 26th-Jim Trombley  
 29th-Pastor Paul Baker

**ANNIVERSARIES!**  
 7th-Linda & Bob Prestidge  
 12th-Cheryl & David Goode  
 18th-Pam & Russ Johnson  
 19th-Sherry & Tod Ovall  
 27th-Kelsey & Erik Marquette



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## Montrose United Methodist Church



**FE+ED**

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

**UPCOMING FREE  
FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS:  
Tuesday, June 28th  
Tuesday, July 26th**

**Starting at 3:00 pm**

**This is a drive thru event at the  
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 at the Community Center parking lot.

Go to the FEED website for more information:

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

**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US!  
Retirement Party for Pastor Paul Baker**

**Sunday, June 12th ~11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

This is Pastor Paul & Debbie Baker's last day at Montrose UMC. Join us for a potluck lunch, and the sharing of many special memories with Pastor Paul and Debbie (also newly retired)!

