

Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2026 June Volume 6



IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Pastor Mark's Column Pg. 2
- ◆ June Worship Theme Pg. 2
- ◆ May's Joys & Concerns Pg. 3
- ◆ Announcements, Community News & Committee Updates Pgs. 2-6
- ◆ June Calendar Pg. 7
- ◆ FE-ED Food Drop Back Cover

***"What we have received is not the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may
understand what God has freely given us."***

- 1 Corinthians 2:12

Pastor's Column

Forming a Family/ Preparing a People



This month, we will be focusing on Abraham and Sarah (aka Abram and Sarai) in their unique journey of faith. Their journey is unique because they were the first ones chosen, but they're not unique in the way that they really mess it up. There are times of great faith and there are times of pure fear. Yet even in their fear and failure, God never abandoned them. That's the quiet miracle running through each of the four lessons this month.



We'll see how God calls a wandering, childless couple and promises to make them a blessing to

the whole world—not because they're perfect, but because God is faithful. Then we'll hear how their doubt has turned into a laugh that names the impossible: a baby born to a ninety-year-old woman. Laughter, in this story, becomes the first language of hope. But faith doesn't always feel like laughter. Later we'll sit with Hagar and her son in the wilderness, listening for a voice that speaks when all other voices have gone silent.

Finally, we'll climb Mount Moriah with Abraham, where the question "Will God provide?" is answered not with an explanation, but with a ram caught in a thicket—and a deep trust that sometimes provision comes at the very last second. These are not neat stories. They are jagged, raw, and real.



As you read along this month, I invite you to notice where your own story overlaps with theirs. Where are you waiting for a promise that feels laughably late? Where are you afraid you've messed things up beyond repair? And where might you be hearing a quiet and persistent voice that says you are seen, you are held, and you are still part of the blessing? Abraham and Sarah remind us that God doesn't call the qualified; God qualifies the called. And that includes you.



Love and Blessings.
Pastor Mark Schlasner
Cell (763) 656-3490
Email: am.umc.pastor@gmail.com

NEW!



**Coffee & Games
Thursdays
June 11th & 25th
At 10:30 am
Fellowship Hall**

Come and unwind with a warm cup of coffee, good conversation, some laughs, and plenty of games. Whether you're here to play or just to chat, everyone's welcome!



Pastor Mark Cell: 763.656.3490
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June Worship Theme

"Forming a Family/Preparing a People"

Sunday, June 7, 2026

COMMUNION

Communion Steward: Christie Illies

Message: *"To Be A Blessing"*

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Message: *"A Miracle Called Laughter"*

Scripture: Genesis 18:1-15

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Father's Day

Donuts For Dads Fellowship

Message: *"Hearing the Voice"*

Scripture: Genesis 21:8-21

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Message: *"God Will Provide"*

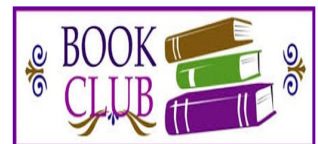
Scripture: Genesis 22:1-14

Outreach Committee Update



The Outreach Committee is meeting on **Tuesday, June 2nd at 9 am** to review their current mission working with Rivers of Hope, and determine what NEW outreach possibilities and needs there are in and around our communities. Look for an update next month!

Diane Folkestad, Meri Ault
and Pastor Mark



Stay-tuned for information on our next book and meeting!

Pastor Mark
Cell 763.656.3490
Email: am.umc.pastor@gmail.com



PRAYER REQUESTS LIFTED IN MAY

Grieving with Families

† **The Gordon Herrin Family.** Gordon, a dear friend of Tod & Sherry Oval's, passed away recently.

† **The Randy Mortenson Family.** Randy, a former MFD volunteer firefighter and well known in the Montrose community, passed away May 29th.



Living at Home...

Gloria Adickes
John Hylland



Lifting in Our Prayers

Those impacted by the wildfires in Brainerd Lakes area and along the North Shore-Two Harbors area.



Joys & Blessings

John Scheie, Sherry Oval's brother, celebrating his 40th Birthday!

Church cleaning helpers May 8th & 9th! Carol & Galen Becker, Angie Ferrell, Carol Prestidge, Kim & Mike Wagner, and 6 members from Palabra Viva Church!

Sandy Dmytryszyn is doing much better! *UPDATE:* Sandy attended church services May 24th & 31st and looks great!

Ricki and Allan Malerich, able to surprise their son David at his church on Mother's Day to see/hear him sing!

Carol Becker and Sonya Tourville, for donating and planting flowers in front of the church!

Pastor Mark Schlasner, able to enjoy vacation and time with the Boys, appreciated Ricki Malerich willing to step in as Worship Leader!
Sonya Tourville & Terry Gallus, Thank you for refreshing the mulch around the church building!

Alyssa Prestidge, performed her final BHS concert May 28th. She received a TRI-M Honor Society Outstanding Service Award!

Isabella "Belle" Johnson and Hunter Reinhart also performed at the BHS concert May 28th!

Shirley & Bill, friends of Ricki Malerich's from the Golden Aires, celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary 5/31!

Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates,
Alyssa Prestidge and Nash Mumford-Sohns!



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



**A Message From W.C.C.A.
Wright County Community Action
JUNE
"Open Your Heart Campaign"**

PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS:

Deodorant (for men & women)	Conditioner
Shampoo	Body lotion
Body wash	Hand Soap
Body soap	
Body/Hand Lotion	

NOTE: WCCA is currently looking for volunteer drivers for their food rescue and delivery routes. If interested, please contact Tammy at (320) 863-6500 ext. 231 for more information.

Tammy Prestidge, Food Shelf/Thrift Store Coordinator
Phone # (320) 963-6500 x231

FOOD SHELF & THRIFT STORE HOURS:

Mondays & Thursdays
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Tuesdays & Wednesdays
8:30 am - 6:00 pm

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday
CLOSED**

Waverly COFFEE CLUB

— Good Coffee. Great Company. Stronger Community. —



Every
WEDNESDAY



9 - 10:30 AM



WAVERLY CITY HALL
Chambers Room
Waverly, Minnesota



COME FOR THE COFFEE.
Stay for the community.

CONNECT. • CONVERSE. ♥ COMMUNITY.



**2026 Graduate of
Buffalo High School
Open House for
Alyssa Prestidge
Saturday, June 20th
2 pm - 5 pm
Montrose Community Center**



All are welcome to help celebrate Alyssa's accomplishments and the next chapter in her life!

**2026 Graduate of
Dassel-Cokato High School
Open House for
Nash Mumford-Sohns
Sunday, June 14th
11:57 am - 2:59 pm
Cokato Library Community
Room (175 - 4th St. SW)**



Please join us at the open house to celebrate Nash's graduation!



That's a Wrap from the Sunday School Class!

The Sunday School class had a very busy May and end to the Sunday School year!

On Saturday, May 9th Angie, Summer & Kenadee Bickmann baked muffins for the annual "Muffins for Moms" at Fellowship Hour on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th. Heather, Karlee, and Kyzer Parks served during fellowship hour.

(Pictured below: Summer & Kenadee Bickmann)



YOU ARE
AMAZING
YOU ARE
IMPORTANT
YOU ARE
SPECIAL
YOU ARE
UNIQUE
YOU ARE
KIND
YOU ARE
PRECIOUS
YOU ARE
LOVED



On Friday, May 15th Angie Ferrell, Heather & Karlie Parks, and Kim Wagner pulled weeds and cleaned up the Memorial Garden area, then they put down new mulch. What a difference! Top right picture is BEFORE: Bottom right picture is AFTER. Angie rewarded the girls, Heather and Karlie, with dinner at Carbone's Pizzeria in Delano afterwards!

Sunday, May 17th was Award Sunday! The Sunday School children were presented with a gift bag of goodies. It was a great year and we are already looking forward to Rally Sunday on September 13th!

Pictured left: left-to-right: Summer Bickmann, Angie Ferrell holding Kyzer Parks, Kenadee Bickmann, Karlee Parks and Heather Parks. A friend of Heather's, Aimee Workman, attended several times but was not there for Award Sunday.



Thank you Carol Becker & Sonya Tourville for planting flowers again this year in front of the church marquee and garden area! And thank you Sonya & Terry Gallus for refreshing the mulch around the church building. It looks great! The Lion's Bench and large pots will be put in front the first week of June. Coming soon... repairs to the bench next to the Little Library thanks to Angie Ferrell (& Ken Segler).





YOUTH GROUP UPDATE!

Due to the youth's busy summer schedules with parades, trips and their work hours... it was decided that the youth group will take a summer hiatus!

No meetings in June-July-August

Our next meeting will be Wed., September 16th - 5:30 pm at PEPPERMINT TWIST DRIVE-IN!

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER!

Your Youth Group Leaders,
Pastor Mark, Angie, and Kim



Apportionments can be seen as an ugly word, but I can testify that apportionments have helped our church. This is the third month I'm sharing how apportionments help support international, national, and local missions in the United Methodist Church.

As the Annual Conference approaches this June, I'm reminded of how the Minnesota Conference ensures the gathering is both inspiring and transformational. Thanks to apportionments, what could easily become a routine, stuffy, or boring business meeting is instead transformed into a Spirit-led worship and ministry experience. Apportionments help fund the planning and execution that make this kind of genuine renewal possible.

The only money collected for apportionments are those indicated as such. So we ask that you prayerfully consider giving whatever you can for apportionments so we can pass it on and bless other congregations.

With Love and Blessings,
Pastor Mark



United
Women
in Faith

Montrose UMC
United Women in Faith
Hannah Circle

We meet the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm!

Our next meeting is Monday, June 15th

6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Carol Becker will provide the program.

Ricki Malerich led the May meeting. There were 8 members who attended the meeting. We were blessed to have Joan Halderson attend our May meeting. Joan resides in rural Buffalo and grew up in the Methodist church. Our small group setting allows us to learn more about each one of our members. All women are welcome to join us on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. We meet in the fellowship hall and our meetings typically last one hour.

We have 14 people signed up to attend our July 25th - 2 pm *Church Basement Ladies* outing at the Plymouth Playhouse. There are still tickets available if others would like to purchase them on their own and attend. Carol Becker has ordered and received the 14 tickets and will distribute them in the next couple of weeks.



Our group will be serving a meal again this fall for Love INC's Fresh Start Program in Delano. Once the schedule is available, we will firm up a date. Our next meeting will be on June 15th at 6:30 pm. Carol Becker will be leading the program. Hope to see you then!

Have questions or suggestions for Hannah Circle? Please contact us at: montroseumw@gmail.com



It's that time year!

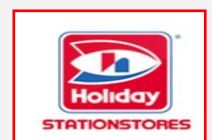
Father's Day, High School & College Graduations, Teacher "Thank You" gifts, Weddings, Family Reunions, planting those gardens, weekend trips and summer vacations, along with those home projects! Get everything you need for these things and more while helping the church out, and best of all, not taking any additional money from your pockets!

Attention RaiseRight lovers... THERE IS A 2026 CHALLENGE THAT FOR EVERY \$100 YOU EARN, YOUR NAME GOES IN A DRAWING FOR A \$1,000 GIFT CARD OF YOUR CHOICE!! And check out the RaiseRight website weekly for special bonus days -or- download the RaiseRight app to get notifications of these great deals! <https://raiseright.com>

Any questions, see me at church or just send me text/call (763) 442-4876. Happy Shopping! Angie

And REMEMBER we have Gift Cards on-hand today!

NEW!



FE-ED UPDATE



REPORT FOR THE MAY 26, 2026 FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**We had 33 volunteers giving
113.5 hours of work!**

**WE LOVE
OUR VOLUNTEERS**

Our May food distribution was quite puzzling! It was the day after Memorial Day and school was in session so we ordered food to make 175 boxes, which is what FE-ED has been packing for the past few months. Near the ending time of the distribution we had 65 boxes left! *Where were the people?* We reached out to our food partners and we were able to take 505 pounds of food to the Waverly food shelf. Our volunteers also delivered boxes to some people they thought could use them. Because of this we do not have accurate statistics for this month (see statistics below).

Our Phoenix Learning Center students were such a blessing since the truck arrived just an hour before the distribution was to start. We had so many items not pre-packaged that required being weighed/counted before being packed; carrots, potatoes, onions, apples, and more requiring extra work. Because these kids work so very hard, we were able to start on time at 2 pm! We may have some students return in July if they're in summer school, otherwise we are hoping to raise funds to help pay for the bus so they can join us in the fall. Each time the students come to help it costs \$350 for the bus and staff's time. Please consider making a donation to FE-ED to support bus transportation, noting "PHOENIX TRANSPORTATION" on that donation since they are so important to our food distributions and we love working with them. FE-ED sent a "Thank You" card and a cake back to the school since not every student comes every time. They are a fabulous group of young people (pictured to right)!

May Statistics:

- 8,404 lbs. of food from Second Harvest Heartland
- We received 130 pounds of Oatmeal (200 packets) of Oatmeal from Grace Place.
- Families served 145
- Individuals served 344
- New Visitors 5
- Veterans served 32
- Communities served 20

Respectfully submitted by Pam Johnson, FE-ED Secretary

**THE NEXT FE-ED
FREE FOOD
DISTRIBUTION
IS ON TUESDAY,
JUNE 23rd**

To Donate to FE-ED



Scan QR code above to
donate to FE-ED

(Donations are tax deductible)

FINANCE UPDATE



The Finance Team (Angie Ferrell and Carol Becker) have been meeting monthly with Pastor Mark. Trustees will be meeting with the Finance Team in June to discuss items of greatest concern that are in need of repair; mainly the parking lot and finalizing the expense for the repairs in the former youth room.

Thank you to everyone who has donated funds toward mowing and maintaining the church grounds. There is a young man from Waverly, Cade Nissen of All-Season Outdoor Services, that has started his own lawn care service and has been contracted to mow weekly at a rate of \$100. They mow, do the edging and weed whipping and clean-up the grass clippings, etc. Anyone who would like to contribute toward mowing can indicate so on the memo line of your check. To date there has been a total of \$650 designated for mowing. Cade goes to BHS and is a very responsible young man. Per Kim Wagner, it was one of those "God Moments" finding Cade and his company to manage the church grounds! Costly, yes, but none of us are spring chickens anymore and able to mow 90 minutes each week!



Thank you Kim Wagner for listing the weekly breakdown of the giving each Sunday. As of May 24th (with 1 more Sunday left in May) the weekly giving has exceeded our \$2500 (needed each week estimate) This number includes automatic deposits that are made in our general account through PayPal. This will definitely help as our quarterly insurance payment is due in May and our quarterly elevator maintenance bill will be due the first of June. Thank you for your continued support of our church.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Carol Becker, Finance Chair
Cell: (763) 913-9540
Email: choppe59@gmail.com





FE-ED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

TUESDAY, JUNE 23rd
2 pm until gone

Drive-thru pick-up on a first come,
first serve basis while quantities last.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C)	2 9 am Outreach Comm. Mtg. (F) 4 pm Trustees Walk-through & Mtg. (F)	3 NO ACTIVITIES	4 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Women's Bible Study (S)	5 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	6 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
7 COMMUNION 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace Worship (L) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	8 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C)	9 NO ACTIVITIES	10 NO ACTIVITIES	11 10:30 am COFFEE & GAMES (F) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Women's Bible Study (S)	12 12:30 pm Finance & Trustee Mtg. (F) 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	13 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
14 FLAG DAY  9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace Worship (L) 12-3 pm Grad. Open House Nash Mumford-Sohns (Cokato Library) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	15 6:30 pm Hannah Circle (F) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C)	16 12 pm FE-ED Planning Mtg. (C)	17 NO ACTIVITIES	18 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (C) 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Women's Bible Study (S)	19 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 4:30-6:30 FREE COMMUNITY MEAL (MCC) 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	20 2-5 pm Grad. Open House for Alyssa Prestidge (MCC) 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
21 FATHER'S DAY 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship "Donuts For Dads" (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace Worship (L) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	22 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C)	23 12 pm FE-ED Set-up/packing (MCC) 2 pm FE-ED Food Distribution (MCC)	24 NO ACTIVITIES	25 10:30 am COFFEE & GAMES (F)	26 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	27 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
28 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace Worship (L) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	29 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C)	30 NO ACTIVITIES	Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church June 16th, 17th, 18th River's Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud, MN			

JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

1st-Nancy Oberlander
4th-Diane Mumford-Sohns
7th-Brayden Sage
13th-Luke Prestidge
16th-Lindsey Dahl (Prestidge)

22nd-John Gessinger
23rd-Diane Rux
25th-Karlee Parks
29th-Paul Baker

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES!

7th-Linda & Bob Prestidge
12th-Cheryl & David Goode
18th-Pam & Russ Johnson
19th-Sherry & Tod Oval
27th-Kelsy & Erik Marquette



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Montrose United Methodist Church



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

THE NEXT FREE
FOOD DISTRIBUTION:
Tuesday, June 23rd

Drive-Thru event

Starting at 2 pm

Montrose Community Center

**Volunteers are needed & welcome starting at
12 pm to help sort food and pack food boxes!**

FE-ED offers a drive-thru food distributions every
4th Tuesday of the month giving out pre-packed boxes
of dairy, produce, bread and food items.

Open to everyone.

No requirements - No cost.

Go to the FEED website for more information:

www.fe-ed.org

Come Worship with Us
Sunday Mornings!



Rev. Mark Schlasner, Pastor

Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Communion is on
the 1st Sunday of the month

Watch Worship Service at 10:30 am
on **Facebook Live!**

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