Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2025 November

Volume 11



IN THIS ISSUE

- Pastor Paul's Column Pg. 2
- November's Worship Theme Pg. 2
- Prayer Requests Pg. 3
- UWF Hannah Circle Update Pg. 4
- Sunday School Update Pg. 4
- Youth Group Update- Pg. 4

- ◆ FE-ED & WCCA Update Pg. 5
- Finance Committee Update Pg. 6
- Community Outreach & Events Pgs. 7-8
- November Calendar Pg. 9
- November Food Drop Back Cover

Pastor Paul's Column

I want to thank Pastor Mark for asking me to fill in for him during his time of parental leave. His generosity of spirit to ask a former pastor to come and preach here again is amazing. I wish him and you all the best as you continue to share the ministry of Christ with and in this community.

I have enjoyed my time with you these past eight weeks. And I have tried to share my faith with you, I believe sharing of ourselves is a key part of following Jesus. I also believe that as we share, we can find the Holy Spirit at work in places we might not expect to find it.

My brother has recently reminded me of the wisdom and encouragement he has found in the songs of Bruce Springsteen. They speak to me as well. So, I want to share the lyrics from one of his songs with you here, as I believe these words will speak to you as well. These are the lyrics to "Letter to You."

'Neath a crowd of mongrel trees I pulled that bothersome thread Got down on my knees, grabbed my pen and bowed my head Tried to summon all that my heart finds true And send it in my letter to you, whoa!

Things I found out through hard times and good

I wrote 'em all out in ink and blood
Dug deep in my soul and signed my name
true

And sent it in my letter to you

[Chorus] In my letter to you I took all my fears and doubts

In my letter to you All the hard things I found out

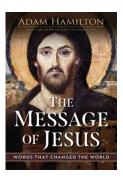
In my letter to you All that I found true And I sent it in My letter to you

[Verse 3] I took all the sunshine and rain All my happiness and all my pain The dark evening stars and the morning sky of blue

And I sent it in my letter to you And I sent it in my letter to you

May we continue to share our lives together, in the many ways that Christ is leading us to do so.

Pastor (retired) Paul D. Baker



Words that Changed the World – The Message of Jesus

More than 3 billion people claim to follow Jesus. But aside from a few verses, how many actually know what he taught? In this series we will explore some of the most important themes in Jesus's teachings, why they matter, and how they speak to us today. In the first two weeks of November. we continue to explore Jesus' message. His message is not only life-changing, but world-changing. We will conclude this series with a stand-alone message, on the importance of being guided by both our head and heart. This message is based in Philip's interaction with the Ethiopian eunuch.



Join us on Sunday,
November 23rd at 3 pm
for the Annual Thanksgiving
Ecumenical Worship Service,
hosted by Montrose UMC,
with speakers from area
churches.



We'll enjoy a Pie Social and Fellowship after the service.

Reverend Paul Baker, Retired Pastor, will be our Guest Speaker through Sunday, November 9th.

Pastor Mark returns on Sunday, November 16th.

November Worship Theme

"The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World" ~ Book by Adam Hamilton

Sunday, November 2 - 10:30 am COMMUNION SUNDAY

Communion Steward:
Carol Prestidge

Message: "The Resurrection and the Life"

Scripture: Matthew 22:29-33, Luke 16:19-31, John 14:1-3, Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday, November 9 - 10:30 am Message: "Head and Heart" Scripture: Mark 12:30-31, Acts 8:26-40

Sunday, November 16 - 10:30 am ~ Pastor Mark Returns ~

Message: To be Announced Scripture: To be Announced

Sunday, November 23 - 10:30 am

Message: To be Announced Scripture: To be Announced

Sunday, November 23 - 3 pm
** THANKSGIVING **
ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Message: To be Announced Scripture: To be Announced

Sunday, November 30 - 10:30 am FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT "HOPE"

Message: To be Announced Scripture: To be Announced



Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Mark will resume in 2026!



PRAYER PAGE

Grieving with Families

† The Don Danford Family. Don passed away Oct. 5th surrounded by his family. He was 84 years old.



† The Edwin "Ed" Vitovsky Family. Ed, Pam Johnson's former brother-in-law, previously married 24 years to Jacci Habstritt, passed away Oct. 13th at 71 years old.

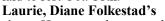
Our Friends at Home

Living at Home -Gloria Adickes John Hylland



Lifting in Our Prayers

The Don Berg Family, as he's laid to rest Oct. 11th.



sister. Her cancer has spread to her liver, so she'll be starting a new chemotherapy treatment.

Rosey, Tod & Sherry Ovall's neighbor, having a medical emergency Oct. 12th. The Philippines, hit hard by several earthquakes this month and flooding last month.

Diane & Terry Rux, safe travels as they "migrate" to AZ for the winter.

Mark Wagner, Mike Wagner's brother, trying to stay positive battling cancer and starting a new chemo treatment and immunotherapy.

Prayers for those facing major decisions in their lives.

Prayers for all those in the path of Hurricane Melissa.

Blessings and Celebrations

Brianna Dockter and Kollin Knutson got married Oct. 3rd! Belle, Pam & Russ Johnson,

the joy of hosting a French Foreign Exchange student Oct.8th-19th, and 27other French foreign exchange students hosted by other families!

Carol & Keith Prestidge, celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary Oct. 23rd! Ricki Malerich and the Golden Aires, singing at Parkview Care Center with Betty Danford in the audience singing along!

Bob Prestidge, celebrating his 85th birthday with Family & Friends!

Bufalo High School! Band Concert Oct. 27th and several boys & girls sports teams on their way to state!



Pastor Paul and Crosswinds UMC choir, along with two other Maple Grove churches and choir members from several other states totaling almost 250 singers, performed "AMAZING GRACE!" at A sold-out Orchestra Hall Oct. 19th! (Pastor Paul is back row—2nd from left)





We celebrate all the special Birthdays & Anniversaries from October!



Thank you Angie Ferrell and Kim Wagner for representing Montrose UMC at the Celebrate Montrose Trunk-or-Treat event with over 100 kids, and Kelly Rux at the Montrose Lion's Annual Candy Giveaway on Halloween with almost 100 kids!





SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE



The Sunday School class will continue with the curriculum "Two or More" through the end of the year. The lessons and activities have been working well with our age group.

The Sunday school class did a great job singing with the choir on October 12th, singing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."

We're already looking ahead to Christmas to see what we might be able to sing together! "Stay-tuned!"



Pictured back row L-R: Angie, Sherry, Ricki, and Bob. Front row L-R: Karlee, Summer, Kyzer, and Kenadee

Any questions on Sunday School can be directed to Angie Ferrell, our Christian Education Director, at (763) 442-4876.



We are once again collecting new and slightly used *BRAS through Nov. 16th* to send to women in Cuba. Last year we collected 102 bras! There is a tote in the Narthex to put donations in - all styles, all colors and all sizes. Meri Ault will cover shipping expenses again this year! Thank you!

The Outreach Committee seeks donations to **Rivers of Hope**, along with our friends at Grace Place and Hands & Hearts.

Personal care items are needed for women (shampoo, conditioner, soaps, razors, deodorants, toothbrush/toothpaste, etc.) and Baby items (diapers, wipes, etc.) Items can go in the donation tote in the Narthex. Thank you! Diane Folkestad & Meri Ault



24/7 crisis line: 763-295-3433

UWF HANNAH CIRCLE



Montrose UMC United Women in Faith Hannah Circle

Our next meeting is Monday, November 17th At 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Kim Wagner will be providing the November program!

Hannah Circle will be providing dinner for the Montrose Volunteer Fire Department prior to their weekly meeting on Tue., Nov. 4th at the fire barn as part of our continued focus community outreach missions. We'll be serving goulash, chicken hotdish, salad, fruit, green bean casserole, dinner rolls, apple pie, cake, pumpkin bars and milk!

The annual <u>Hanging of the Greens for Advent</u> will take place on <u>Friday</u>, <u>Nov. 28th at 10:00 am</u>. The more help we have the faster we can accomplish this task - making our church beautiful for the advent season!

For the Christmas holidays this year Hannah Circle made several inquiries for gift-giving needs, contacting the Buffalo Rotary, Love INC, and Montrose Elementary School. There is a great need for gifts in every community, however our goal is to meet the needs here in the Montrose community. Ricki Malerich called the Montrose Elementary School and was informed that the Montrose Lion's support them with Christmas packages just before their Christmas break. Carol Becker contacted Judi Salonek at the Montrose Lions to see if we couldn't partner with them to provide Grocery/Gas gift cards for the families (through RaiseRight of course) for local families, enclosing gift cards in a Christmas Card with a special Christmas message inside. All Hannah Circle members liked this idea—so we're waiting to hear if the Lion's approve this partnership. We will let the congregation know the answer, should anyone want to support this outreach. In the past we've done gifts for families through the Buffalo Rotary which everyone has been so generous at supporting!

Please contact us at: **montrosemnumw@gmail.com** with any questions.



The Youth Group Committee will meet once Pastor Mark returns and gets settled into his schedule to see how to move forward with Youth Group.

Pastor Mark's goal is to join with Delano UMC's Youth Group on Wednesday evenings for a larger group and the opportunity to connect with other youth

and participate in more missions and activities. Delano UMC Youth meet every Wednesday at 7:30 pm, enjoying pizza for dinner as they meet.

Unfortunately, Angie has choir rehearsal three Wednesdays per month and Kim's work schedule doesn't allow that late of a meeting time, leaving Pastor Mark to lead the group. Angie is available on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month. So - stay-tuned, we'll let you know as soon as a decision is made.

Youth Group Committee, Pastor Mark, Angie & Kim

FE-ED UPDATE



FE-ED Report & Statistics for October 28, 2025

Despite the rain, we had a very good food drop. The Second Harvest Heartland (SHH) semi was on time and we had 8 students and Shana from Phoenix Learning Center (PLC)

to help us! (Amazing considering the Buffalo High School Boys Soccer team was at the State Tournament!)

We had wonderful produce, even pumpkins for Halloween, and squash from the Waconia Food Shelf. Grace Place provided boneless Chicken Breasts for each box. Thank you to these great agencies who are also working to feed their neighbors.

We had 33 volunteers for a total of 113.25 hours of service!



OCTOBER'S FOOD STATISTICS

- 8,616 Lbs. of food from Second Harvest Heartland.
- 254.17 Lbs. of Boneless Chicken Breasts donated from Grace Place.
- 500 Lbs. of squash from Waconia Food Shelf.

OCTOBER'S DISTRIBUTION STATISTICS

- 160 Families served
- 439 Individuals served
- 13 First Time Visitors
- 32 Veterans served
- 33 Communities served



Respectfully submitted by Pam Johnson, Secretary

NEW FE-ED EMAIL ADDRESS: feed.montrose.mn@gmail.com

REMAINING 2025 FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

November 25 2:00 PM - GONE

December 23 2:00 PM - GONE





WCCA would like to thank you for your continued donations to the food shelf, especially with the needs increasing in our communities and the likelihood of SNAP Benefits ending November 1st.

Other news and programs at WCCA are as follows:

- EMERGENCY FOOD BOXES will be delivered to all community partners the second week of November.
- November's "Open Your Heart Campaign" items are listed below.
- WCCA is collecting items for our "Holiday Food Baskets" (see list below). Monetary donations can be mailed to: WCCA Food Shelf, 411 Elm Ave., Waverly, MN 55390.
- WCCA is also doing a Toy & Gift Card Drive for our clients at Christmas. We have a lot of toys but are looking for gift cards for the teens. (SEE ANGIE)

Holiday Fixings "Open Your Heart Campaign"

Cranberry Sauce
Boxed/Canned Potatoes
Turkey/Chicken Gravy (Packets or Jars)
Stuffing Mix
Spices & Seasonings
Canned Fruits

"Holiday Food Baskets"

Canned Corn/Peas/Green Beans
Canned Fruits
Mashed or Au Gratin Potatoes (Boxed)
Jell-O
Stuffing Mix
Cream of Mushroom Soup
French Fried Onions
Turkey/Chicken Gravy (Packets or Jars)

With sincere thanks for your continued support,
Tammy Prestidge
Food Shelf/Thrift Store Coordinator
Wright County Community Action
(320) 963-6500 Ext. 231

Montrose UMC is participating in a special collection drive for WCCA with Grace Place, Hands & Hearts, and House of Grace for much needed toothbrushes, soap/body wash, and toilet paper.

Donation tote in Narthex.



This Advent Season Montrose UMC will be holding our annual fundraiser, and again focusing on our Conference Apportionments and Building Repairs. Please return the below form to Kelly Rux at the church – or to PO Box 13, Montrose, MN 55363. Forms are in Fellowship Hall.



Building Maintenance Donations: (CIRCLE ONE)

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 other

Conference Apportionment Donations: (CIRCLE ONE)

\$25 \$50 \$150 \$250 other

l otal Donation: \$		

Donated By:	
-	

RaiseRight.

It's that time of year again already! Gift cards make great gifts for the holidays or any special occasions! And a great way to purchase your groceries for the upcoming family gatherings over the holidays while giving back to the church at the same time!



And once again, to make sure you are prepared for your shopping sprees, gift giving, and BLACK FRIDAY we will submit orders every Friday in November through December 12th (to ensure holiday delivery).

And remember... those \$25 gift cards are always on hand for those quick grab and go needs for Casey's, Cub, Holiday, KwikTrip, Target and Walmart!

Make sure you've downloaded the RaiseRight app to take advantage of all the special savings and rebates being offered now!

See Angie Ferrell or Kelly Rux for any questions, orders, gift card needs or help getting set-up to participate in the program via the app.

Those rebates add up quick and help the church more than you can imagine, over \$1,200 through August!

Angie Ferrell (763) 442-4876 Kelly Rux (952) 221-8659

Finance Update



Happy Fall everyone! Below are a few items from the Finance Committee.

As we prepare for the end of the year it's time for our annual fundraiser. We are sticking with the fundraiser going towards our annual apportionments and supplementing our building maintenance fund. Our apportion-

ments for 2025 are \$8,906, down considerably from previous years. Through October we've received \$4,344.34 towards our apportionments, which leaves \$4,561.66 left to collect to fulfill this balance.

- Why do we pay apportionments? Apportionments go towards administrative costs to cover the conference. The conference helps with things like covering the support we pay to cover Pastor Mark's paternity leave. The conference also donates to different groups n need. More details can be found on the conference website: www.minnesotaumc.org
- Our Building Maintenance fund it is helpful to have a "healthy" maintenance fund for unexpected emergencies, as well as general upkeep on our building. Remember two years ago when the furnaces needed replacing? Wasn't it nice to have the funds to cover this expense? Repairs and upgrades keep occurring, so please consider helping us replenish this fund to cover these projects.
- The 2026 Budget. We are working on the budget for 2026. As always, we run a lean budget and try to use the funds we receive from you as conservatively as possible. That being said, similar to your household budgets, the costs of many things are going up. This year, we are looking at \$9,200 per month to operate the church. This is only for payroll, utilities, maintenance agreements, and insurance. Your help in looking at your budget and increasing giving to the church where possible is most appreciated.

Finally, here is a summary of September giving and expenses. (October details are not available at time of newsletter.)

September Total Income \$7,934.76

Total General Fund (designated giving) \$7,015.29.

This includes Palabra Viva rent \$550.00, Apportionment Giving \$390.00; RaiseRight income \$102.65 and other giving.

Total Building Fund Giving Income \$919.47

This is designated giving and "Hospitality Treat" receipts.

September Total Expenses \$7,046.81

This includes salary items \$4,217.28 for pastor, secretary, janitor, pianist, and all benefit costs. Building expenses were \$2,839.63 which includes Trustees \$2,595.99 (utilities, maintenance agreements, and insurance) and \$243.54 in misc. expenses (CCLI license renewal and camp scholarship).

As always, please reach out to me with any questions.

Kelly Rux, Finance Chair (952) 221-8659 Email: kellyrux@hotmail.com



Simply use your camera on your phone, focus QR Code until the direct link pops up, click the link and PayPal will take you directly to our ac count! Easy as 1-2-3!





Montrose United Methodist Church is participating in the

4th ANNUAL DAY OF GIVING On Saturday, November 22nd at the Montrose Community Center 12 pm to 2 pm

Partnering with Grace Place, House of Grace, and Hands & Hearts to help our neighbors in need.

(See flyer on next page)

WE ARE COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS THROUGH THUR., NOV. 20th

- New or Gently used <u>Winter Clothing</u> in all sizes including: Coats - Gloves - Mittens -Boots - Scarves.
- New, unopened <u>Personal Care Items</u> for Men and Women: Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant, Shavers, Soap/Body Wash, Lotion, Feminine Hygiene items, etc.



LOOK FOR THE DESIGNATED AREA
IN THE UPSTAIRS LIBRARY FOR THE
"ANNUAL DAY OF GIVING"







Montrose United Methodist Church

is providing and serving the <u>free light lunch</u> for this event (planning for 175).

**MUMC is providing Hot Dog Buns, Condiments, Individual Bags of Chips, Cookies,
Water, Coffee & Lemonade.

**We are asking each church family to please donate an item(s) for this luncheon.

See the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or text/email Kim Wagner

with what you are able to donate. With Sincere Thanks!





FE-ED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25th 2 pm until gone

MONTROSE COMMUNITY CENTER

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

NO COST - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship Service Sunday, Nov. 23rd at 3 pm at Montrose United Methodist Church In collaboration with St. Mary's Catholic Church of Waverly, First Presbyterian HL, House of Grace, Living Waters, and Montrose UMC. Join Us for a Pie Social following the service!						
3 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	5:30 pm HC Out- reach at MFD 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	5 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	6 6-8 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	7 RAISE RIGHT ORDER DAY 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	8 10 am UMC Cluster Conference (Buffalo UMC) 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)	
10 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	11 VETERANS DAY 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	12 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	6:30 pm 4H Club Franklin Friends (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	14 RAISE RIGHT ORDER DAY 7-9pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	15 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)	
17 6:30 pm UWF Hannah Circle (L) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	18 12 pm FE-ED Meeting (MUMC)	19 YOUTH GROUP TBD	20 4:30-6:30 pm COMM. T'GIVING MEAL (MCC) 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (K) 6-8 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	21 RAISE RIGHT ORDER DAY 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	22 DAY OF GIVING (MCC) 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)	
24 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry ©	25 12 pm FE-ED Set-up (MCC) 3 pm FE-ED Food Drop (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	26 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	Happy Thanksgiving	28 RAISE RIGHT ORDER DAY 10 am DECORATE FOR ADVENT 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	29 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)	
	Annual Thanksg Inday, Nov. 23rd at 3 Ivith St. Mary's Catholic Vaters, and Montrose U 3 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 10 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 17 6:30 pm UWF Hannah Circle (L) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 24 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry ©	Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenicanday, Nov. 23rd at 3 pm at Montrose with St. Mary's Catholic Church of Waver/aters, and Montrose UMC. Join Us for a 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 10 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 11 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 12 13 14 15 15:30 pm HC Outreach at MFD 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 15 17 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 18 19 10 10 11 12 12 13 14 15 15 16:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 24 16:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry © 25 12 pm FE-ED Set-up (MCC) 3 pm FE-ED Food Drop (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship Sernday, Nov. 23rd at 3 pm at Montrose United Method vith St. Mary's Catholic Church of Waverly, First Presby Vaters, and Montrose UMC. Join Us for a Pie Social foll 3 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 10 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 11 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 12 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 13 14 15 15 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 14 16:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 15 17 6:30 pm UWF Hannah Circle (L) 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 24 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K) 7 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C) 25 12 pm FE-ED Meeting (MUMC) 3 pm FE-ED Food Drop (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship Service Inday, Nov. 23rd at 3 pm at Montrose United Methodist Church Invited Metho	Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship Service Inday, Nov. 23rd at 3 pm at Montrose United Methodist Church Invith St. Mary's Catholic Church of Waverly, First Presbyterian HL, House of Grace, Invited Methodist Church Inv	

BIRTHDAYS!

6th-Amy Chaffins 11th-Donna Marquette 13th-Betty Danford 15th-Alex Smothers 16th-Evelyn Reinhart 21st-Isabella Johnson 22nd-Angie Ferrell 27th-Herman Epple

ANNIVERSARIES!

26th-Tammy & Clayton Prestidge





Montrose UMC PO BOX 13 230 Center Avenue So. Montrose, Minnesota 55363

www.montroseumc.com
Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church

Montrose United Methodist Church



FE-ED

(For Each & Every Day) On the 4th Tuesday of Every Month!

THE NEXT FOOD DISTRIBUTION:

Tuesday, November 25th at 2 pm

Drive thru event is first-come, first-serve at the MONTROSE COMMUNITY CENTER.

NO COST - ALL ARE WELCOME!

FE-ED is offered through the partnership of Montrose United Methodist Church & Grace Place. Volunteers are always needed & welcome starting at 12 pm to pack food boxes!

Go to the FEED website for more information: **www.fe-ed.org**



Join Us Here on Sunday, November 23rd at 3 pm

For an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service with Area Churches, followed by a Pie Social.

All Are Welcome!

