

Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church October 2025 Volume 10



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Reminder...

The Purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Pastor Paul's Column

They say you can't go home again. While that may be true, it seems that our United Methodist system seems to reinforce that idea for it's pastors and congregations. That is not necessarily a bad thing. It gives the next pastor a chance to get her/his feet on the ground, without any interference.

So, this is the second time that we have been going against the grain of that philosophy. It does feel a little weird for me, and probably for you as well. But I'm thankful that Pastor Mark is comfortable enough with everything to ask me to fill in for him while he is on parental leave. I pray that he enjoys his time with the new baby, It is an honor for me to be asked to help out in this way.

The primary gift of Jesus came through his crucifixion and resurrection. Our futures are intricately wrapped together with that gift of eternal life. But, Jesus also spent 3 years in ministry and preaching leading up to the resurrection! What did he want us to know?

While I'm with you we will be exploring the main messages that Jesus taught us during that time. First and foremost, he spoke of the reign of God, the kingdom of God. First and foremost, God is the authority of our lives, and yet we continually find ways to rebel against that authority. That is the human condition.

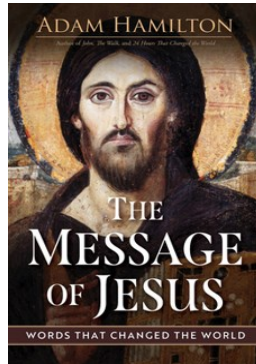
And we are grateful for the chances extended to us to come back into the fold, no matter if we have strayed away for a couple minutes, or for decades. Grace is Amazing. And it is yours. Thank God!

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind and may the blessing of God be with you.

== Pastor (retired) Paul Baker

"Life has successes and tragedies"

A song to you ~ The Boss



The Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World

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 September we explored Jesus's preaching on the Kingdom of God. In October we will look at the Sermon on the Mount, the parables, the "I am" sayings in John, and more! Jesus' 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.

It's a Boy!

Brody Joseph Schlasner, born September 19th! The family is doing great and Ian has been the best big brother. Thank you to everyone for your thoughts and prayers!



**Reverend Paul Baker,
Retired Pastor, will be our Guest
Speaker during Pastor Mark's
Paternity Leave.**

October Worship Theme

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

October 5, 2025

**COMMUNION SUNDAY
Communion Steward:**

Chrisie Illies

Message: *"The World's Most
Important Sermon"*

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-16,
Matthew 7:21-23

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Message: *"He Spoke to Them
in Parables"*

Scripture: Matthew 25:21-40,
Luke 10:29-37, Luke 15:11-13,
17-20, 28-32

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Message: *"Who Do You Say
That I Am?"*

Scripture: John 6:35, John 8:12,
John 10:7, 11-15, John 11:25-26,
John 14:6-7, John 15:1

Sunday, October 26, 2025

Message: *"Final Words"*

Scripture: John 13:34-35,
Luke 22:24-27, I Corinthians 11:23-26,
John 19:26-30, Luke 23:33-34a,
39-43, 46

Sunday, November 2, 2025

**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, 2025

Message: *"Head and Heart"*

Scripture: Mark 12:30-31,
Acts 8:26-40



PRAYER REQUESTS LIFTED IN SEPTEMBER

Grieving with Families

† **The Don Berg Family.** Don, a friend and classmate of Carol Prestidge's, passed away 9/23 after battling cancer.



Living at Home...

Gloria Adickes
John Hylland



Lifting in Our Prayers

Montrose UMC and for people to come back to church, we need God right now!

People giving hospice care.

Don Danford, put on hospice. Moved to Care Center at Parkview after a fall on 9/30. *UPDATE:* Pastor Paul & Debbie visited Don & Betty 10/3 and both are doing well. Visits by our church family are encouraged!

Mark Wagner, Mike Wagner's brother, diagnosed with stage 4, aggressive form of throat cancer. Starts chemo Oct. 7th.

Those working in and traveling through all the construction zones—be safe.

All the countries and communities that continue to be impacted by war, violence, shootings, hate, etc. WE NEED PEACE!
Steve, a friend, going to Mayo Clinic to have a kidney removed due to cancer.

Laurie, Diane Folkestad's sister, trying a new treatment for her cancer.

Angelica and Steve, both new acquaintances of Ricki Malerich's, both suffer from normal pressure hydrocephalus like Allan, and both having problems getting all the tests done.

The Charlie Kirk Family. Charlie Kirk was assassinated on 9/10 while speaking at Utah Valley University, leaving behind his wife and two children.

Victims of the Evergreen, CO school shooting on 9/10.

Prayers for several co-workers losing their jobs.

The families and community of North Codorus, PA after 3 police offices were killed and 2 injured serving a warrant 9/17.

Ricki Malerich, having blood pressure and balancing issues. Had a scare 9/20 and called 911 thinking she was having a stroke. It was her blood pressure. (We are glad she's okay.)

Ben Hampstead, Roger & Jacque Vanderlinde's son-in-law, having some heart issues.

Jane Gessinger's niece Kayleigh, feeling sore and suffering with anxiety after a car accident 9/27.

The families and the community of Grand Blanc Township in MI, after another church shooting on 9/28 at the Church of the Latter Day Saints. 4 killed, 8 injured. The church engulfed in flames from the fire deliberately set by gunman.

Joys & Blessings

The Brings Family, having a celebration of life for Gordy "Bucky" Brings 9/11!

Cora Marquette, celebrating her 1st birthday 9/6!

Hunter Reinhart, celebrating his 17th birthday 9/7!

The JOY of coming together to worship (outdoor service 9/7)!

Sandy Dmytryszyn, thankful for prayers and cards. Healing well after knee surgery!



A Message From W.C.C.A. Wright County Community Action

WCCA thanks you for your continued support and donations to the food shelf.

DONATED ITEMS CAN BE PLACED IN TOTE MARKED "WCCA" IN THE NARTHEX.

CONTINUING PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPLIES

"Open Your Heart Campaign"

Shampoo/Conditioner

Body Bar Soap

Dish soap

Toothbrushes

Deodorant

Laundry soap

WCCA IS REQUESTING A NEED FOR PAPER TOWELS & TOILET PAPER

Thank you for your donations!

Tammy Prestidge, Food Shelf/Thrift Store Coordinator
NEW PHONE NUMBER (320) 963-6500 Ext. 231

FOOD SHELF HOURS:

Monday & Thursday

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Tuesday & Wednesday

8:30 am - 6:00 pm

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

CLOSED

Joys & Blessings—continued

Jess Tousignant, recent cancer scans at Mayo Clinic came back 100% clear!

Marilyn Tompkins, celebrating her 88th birthday 9/18!

Pastor Mark & wife Amy welcoming their new baby boy, Brody Joseph Schlasner born 9/19!

Isabella Johnson, going to France as an Exchange Student in March 2026! (A fundraiser to be organized.)

The Pizza Ranch Fundraiser for Special Olympics on 9/8 raised almost \$700! NOTE: Roger Vanderlinde is selling raffle tickets for Buffalo Stampede Special Olympics - sending their baseball team to Nationals!

Keith Prestidge, celebrating his 80th Birthday 10/1 and still farming!



**We celebrate all the special
Birthdays & Anniversaries
September!**



24/7 crisis line:
763-295-3433

Thank you Diane Folkestad for inviting Mel Harmon from the non-profit *Rivers of Hope*, a domestic violence center serving Wright and Sherburne Counties, to speak to the congregation about the importance of their work in these communities to help women, youth and children.

If you'd like to support this non-profit or donate go to website: www.riversofhope.org
Monetary donations, gift cards for Gas, Target, Cub, Walmart, etc. are much needed too.

PO Box 511, Monticello, MN 55362

UWF Hannah Circle Update



United
Women
in Faith

Montrose UMC United Women in Faith Hannah Circle

Our next meeting is Monday, October 20th at 6:30 pm in the lower-level classroom area.

Hannah Circle members Carol Becker (and honorary member Galen), Ricki Malerich, Diane Rux, and Kim Wagner served dinner Mon., Sept. 8th at Westpointe Church in Delano for the Fresh Start Program, offered by Love INC. The folks enjoyed the chili & fixings, cornbread, fresh fruit, Jello, beverages and desserts. Thank you Jacque Vanderlinde and Sherry Ovall for also donating food items.



As mentioned in the August newsletter, Hannah Circle made the decision not to have the Candy, Cookie & Craft Sale this year. We are contemplating hosting a breakfast or luncheon fundraiser instead. Stay tuned for more details to come!

****Our next outreach is Tuesday, November 4th for the Montrose Fire department, serving a meal before their weekly meeting. If you are interested in donating a food item or serving, let one of us know.**

Our next meeting is Monday, October 20th at 6:30 pm. Sherry Ovall will be providing the program. We share a devotion, a story, laughs, real-life experiences, and more! Please consider joining us!

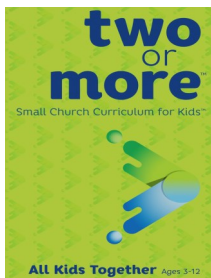
Have questions or suggestions for Hannah Circle? Please contact us at: montrosemnumw@gmail.com.

Sunday School Update

Sunday School starts at 9:30 am and ends at 10:20 am

We are enjoying our new curriculum called **"TWO OR MORE"**, and it seems to be working well with our various age groups! We've covered 4 chapters so far: *Creation, Adam & Eve, Noah's Ark and God's Promise to Abram*. The kids enjoy the games, crafts and snacks... and we're hoping they will be comfortable singing with the choir on October 12th! We are rehearsing and crossing our fingers, but may try bribery too!

Kids currently attending are Heather, Karlee & Kyzer Parks, Kenadee and Summer Bickmann.



NOTE: There will be NO Sunday School on Sunday, October 19th due to it being MEA Weekend.

God Bless,
Angie Ferrell
Christian Education Director
(763) 442-4876



The MUMC Youth Group is currently on **PAUSE** while Pastor Mark is on paternity leave due to schedules.

Since the 3rd Wednesday in October is during MEA, there will be no youth group meeting that day.

Angie sent out a text inviting youth to participate in the Celebrate Montrose's TRUNK-OR-TREAT event on Saturday, Oct. 25th from 4 pm to 5 pm at the Montrose Community Center. We'll go to Jacque B.'s for apps & pizza afterwards!

So far, Alyssa Prestidge, Belle Johnson, Ava Garcia, Kim Wagner, and Angie Ferrell are planning to participate. If anyone else is interested please let Angie or Kim know by October 8th.

Angie & Kim, Youth Co-Leaders



Camp Minnesota

Minnesota
Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church
Camping & Retreats Ministries

Angie Ferrell attended one of the retreats offered through Camp Minnesota mid-September and wanted to share her experience.

“Camp was a blast & I encourage anyone who wants some time away from the busy-ness of life nowadays to think about signing up for one of the adult camps next year, or as a side note, perhaps a church retreat ourselves - I know they rent out the facilities for different groups, like this past week there was a quilters group that was there.

I attended the Northern Pines camp, 48 acres with beautiful tall pine trees set on Fish Hook Lake in North Central Minnesota. Itasca State Park, the Headwaters of the Mississippi River, Park Rapids and Detroit Lakes are just a short drive away. Below is a photo of me with one of the Trolls we saw in an outing to Detroit Lakes. I can't wait for next year (praying it works with my schedule) and hoping others will attend!”

Angie



BLOCK PARTY!

What a great day we had for our joint outdoor Worship Service with House of Grace and our Community Block Party afterwards on September 7th! While we had a “glitch” with the schedule of Lion’s Park (double reserved) we still held outdoor service on our south lawn and enjoyed lunch in the Fellowship Hall. We had close to 40 people attend worship service and lunch. We think the schedule mix-up might have been a “God Decision” since the bees were horrible!

We enjoyed pulled pork sandwiches, chips, various salads, fresh fruit and an assortment of dessert bars. Thank you to everyone that contributed food for the luncheon and gave your time to serve and clean-up. We look forward to next year’s event and hope more will join in planning and supporting this annual event!



Pastor Cathy of House of Grace and First Presbyterian Church of Howard Lake and Pastor Mark of Montrose UMC lead us in worship and song! Not pictured, Jacque Vanderlinde on keyboard.

Pastor Cathy and Pastor Mark giving Communion.



FE-ED UPDATE



FE-ED Report & Statistics For September 23, 2025

Do you ever have a day where you keep wondering "what next?" That's how the day began, checking the Second Harvest Heartland site and discovering the delivery semi was scheduled for 1:30-2:00 pm instead of noon!

We begin distribution at 2:00 pm and the Phoenix Learning Center (PLC) students arrived about 1:00 pm to assist us at this first drop of the school year. Monticello Help Center called with excess food that needed to be distributed ASAP, so we switch-ed our car for our truck with Belle at the high school and went to Monticello to pick up the excess food items.

We were short some key volunteers. The school bus with PLC students arrived and we had nothing for them to do, but it gave us time to exchange names and chat with them. 2:00 pm and still no truck so they left, their bus driver said he would buy them a scoop of ice cream at Culvers. We got notice that the semi had broken down with no idea of when it would arrive.

When the truck finally did come we had a lot of food, including meat from Grace Place, and the largest cabbage heads I have ever seen!! We lost some customers who had to leave but most stayed for the entire event which ended about 4:30 pm. We distributed 160 boxes.

We had an extra box, so Russ and I took it to drop it off to a neighbor in Buffalo. When we arrived we found him on the floor in the garage and we could not get him up. We got another neighbor to assist us. Thus ending an unusual drop from start to finish! Everyone came together to make sure we provided food to 424 people who needed it.

NOTE: The small freezer and large freezer in the church kitchen will be stocked with meat from Grace Place for our FE-ED food drops. There will be signs showing progress toward reaching the number of items we need. Please thank Grace Place for their generous donation. House of Grace has been our partner since we began. We are now helping Waverly Food Shelf and the Phoenix Learning Center on a consistent basis. The PLC school voted FE-ED as their favorite service activity last year.

We had 20 volunteers giving 94 hours to make this drop happen.



SEPTEMBER FOOD DROP STATISTICS

- 7,060 Lbs. of food from Second Harvest Heartland
- 636 Lbs. of meat donated from Grace Place
- 735 lbs. from the Monticello Help Center
- 160 Families served
- 424 Individuals served
- -0- First Time Visitors
- 42 Veterans served
- 25 Communities served

Respectfully submitted by Pam Johnson

Finance Update



Can you believe it's Fall already? There's nothing exciting happening with the Finance Team right now. Below is a summary of the August Income and Expenses. September totals weren't available at time of print.

August Total Income **\$9,315.93**

Total General Fund (designated giving) **\$7,525.93.**

This includes Palabra Viva rent \$550.00, Apportionment Giving \$350.03; Sunday school giving \$100; RaiseRight income \$109.71 and other giving.

Total Building Fund Giving Income **\$1,790.00**

August Total Expenses **\$9,326.36**

This includes salary items \$4,838.82 for pastor, secretary, janitor, pianist, and all benefit costs. Trustees \$3,974.16 which includes utilities, maintenance agreements, and insurance. Other expenses of \$513.38 for office supplies and Apportionments paid to conference.

As always, if you have any questions please reach out to me.

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



If you haven't downloaded the **RaiseRight App** yet and you are tech savvy, I encourage you to do so today! If you need help, see Angie or Kelly.

You can now earn more rebates with local dining, hotel stays, car rentals, etc. Going away for MEA? Out running errands? Time for lunch? Check the **RaiseRight app** for your favorite hotels or lunch spots and support the church at the same time!

Right now is **BONUS FEST** through October 27th that earns extra rebates! Picking up costumes and candy at Walmart for Halloween? Load-up your Walmart gift card! Starting your Christmas shopping? Download those Ecards and get those gift cards.

Through August, RaiseRight has earned the church over \$1,100 in rebates with an average of 6 participants per month. Imagine what we could be earning if we double the participants!

IT'S SO EASY... PLEASE GIVE IT A TRY!

BONUS FEST

October 4-27





Celebrating
10 Years
2015 - 2025

FE-ED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

(Brought to you by Montrose UMC & House of Grace)

Tuesday, October 28th
2 pm until gone

Drive-thru pick-up on a first come,
first serve basis while quantities last.
NEVER A COST - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN EVENTS  Sat., Oct. 26th 4 pm - 5 pm at Montrose Comm. Ctr. Celebrate Montrose Trunk-or-Treat, followed by Annual Halloween Party & Dance! Fri., Oct. 31st 5 pm at Montrose Comm. Ctr. Annual Montrose Lion's Candy Giveaway			1 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	2 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	3 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	4 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
5 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) <u>10:30 am Worship Service (LP)</u> 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	6 <u>6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K)</u> 7-9 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	7 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	8 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	9 6:30 pm 4H Club <u>Franklin Friends (C)</u> 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	10 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	11 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
12 9:30 am Sunday School © 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) <u>10:30 am Worship Service (S)</u> 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	13 <u>6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K)</u> 7-9 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	14 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	15 MEA NO YOUTH GROUP	16 MEA 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (K) 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	17 MEA RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	18 MEA 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
19 MEA **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) <u>10:30 am Worship Service (S)</u> 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	20 6:30 pm Hannah Circle (Lib) <u>6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K)</u> 7-9 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	21 12 pm FE-ED Planning Mtg. (GP)	22 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	23 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	24 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	25 4 pm-5 pm TRUNK-OR-TREAT (MCC) 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva
26 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) <u>11:30 am Church Council (C)</u> 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	27 <u>6:30 pm Boy Scouts (K)</u> 7-9 pm Palabra Viva School of Ministry (C)	28 12 pm FE-ED Set-up (MCC) 2 pm FE-ED Food Distribution (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	29 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	30 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	31  5 pm Lion's Candy Giveaway (MCC) 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Music Practice (S)	**We are collecting BRAS For BABES again this year to send to women in Cuba. Tote in Narthex

BIRTHDAYS!

1st-Keith Prestidge
3rd-Raechel Chaffins
4th-Taylen Zitzloff
8th-Jessica Reinhart
15th-Kyzer Parks

16th-Kenadee Bickmann
17th-Kodie Ashbaugh
23rd-Connor Dostal
23rd-Ian Schlasner
25th-Bob Prestidge
31st-Kim Wagner

ANNIVERSARIES!

4th-Mildred & Don Klarstrom
11th-Jane & John Gessinger
11th-Jeannie & Dennis Yager
23rd-Carol & Keith Prestidge



MONTROSE UMC, PO Box 13, 230 Center Avenue So., Montrose, MN 55363

Church Office 763-675-3571 Pastor Paul's Cell (320) 455-7314

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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:
Tue., October 28th

Drive-Thru event

Starting at 2 pm

Montrose Community Center

Volunteers are needed & welcome starting at 12:30 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.

One box per car - Open to everyone.

No requirements - No cost.

Go to the FEED website for more information:

www.fe-ed.org



C H R C H
The only thing
missing is "U"!

Join us on Sunday Mornings

Sunday School	9:30 am
Coffee & Fellowship	9:30 am
Worship Service	10:30 am

Guest Speaker
in October
Rev. Paul Baker,
Retired Pastor
(Pastor mark is on
Paternity leave.)

