

Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

September 2026

Volume 9



IN THIS ISSUE

- ♦ Pastor Mark's Column - Pg. 2
- ♦ September Worship Theme - Pg. 2
- ♦ Joys & Concerns lifted in August - Pg. 3
- ♦ Committee Updates - Pg. 4
- ♦ FE-ED Update - Pg. 5
- ♦ Celebrate Montrose Hometown Days - Pg. 6
- ♦ September Calendar - Pg. 7
- ♦ FE-ED Food Drop Back Cover

*"As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest,
cold and heat, summer and winter,
day and night will never cease."*

-Genesis 8:22

Pastor Mark's Column



As the leaves begin to turn and the familiar crispness returns to the air, the rhythm of our church life shifts into high gear. It is a season of new beginnings and vibrant activity, a testament to the living, breathing body of Christ at work. Yet, amidst the flurry of sign-up sheets and the hustle of back-to-back meetings, it is easy to let the busyness overshadow the blessing. We can find ourselves running on empty, navigating the logistics of programs rather than experiencing the profound joy of serving the One who calls us.

It is in these moments of holy exhaustion that the ancient words of St. Paul to the Philippians arrive as a timely and much-needed balm. Writing from a prison cell, Paul was no stranger to adversity or the weight of his calling. Yet, his letter is not one of complaint, but of resounding joy and deep, abiding fellowship. He understood that the life of the church is not merely about the execution of tasks, but about the shared participation in the Gospel. Paul's encouragement serves as a gentle reminder that our unity and mutual support in Christ are the very fuel that sustains us through the frantic seasons. We are not merely volunteers on a schedule; we are partners in a divine mission, sharing in grace and striving together for the faith.



This perspective allows us to reframe the chaotic energy of fall not as a burden to be endured, but as an opportunity to "press on." Paul implores us to forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead, "pressing on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). This pressing on is not a frantic scramble, but a steady, purposeful march. It is the commitment to show up, not just physically, but with our hearts engaged, knowing that every nursery duty, every lesson taught, and every meal shared is a step toward that ultimate prize—a deeper communion with God and with one another. It transforms our effort from mere work into an act of worship.

So, as the pace quickens and the to-do lists grow, let us take a moment to breathe and realign our focus. Let us find our strength in the fellowship we share and our joy in the Gospel we proclaim. The road ahead is busy, but we do not walk it alone. We press on together, buoyed by the hope that our labor is not in vain. We invite you to embrace this season not as a gauntlet to be survived, but as a pilgrimage to be savored. Join us, as a church family, in "Pressing On."



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

NOTE: Pastor Mark will be on vacation Mon., Sept. 14th through Sun., Sept. 20th.

September Worship Theme *"Pressing On"*

September 6, 2026
COMMUNION SUNDAY
Communion Steward:

Christie Illies

Message: "Conflict"

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-14

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Message: "Grace"

Scripture: Exodus 14:19-31

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Message: "Striving Side by Side"

Scripture: Philippians 1:21-30

Guest Speaker: Sherry Ovall

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Message: "In Full Accord"

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-13



Everyone's Invited...
Family, Friends & Neighbors!

Rally Sunday Potluck Lunch
Following 10:30 am Outdoor
Worship Service
(On South Lawn)

Sunday, September 13th
11:45 am – 1:30 pm
(In the Fellowship Hall)

Serving Sloppy Joes, Hot Dogs,
Chips, Salads, Fruit, Desserts
and Beverage.



PRAYER REQUESTS LIFTED IN AUGUST

Grieving with Families...

† **The Harvey Krohn Sr. Family.** Harvey Sr., Kim Wagner's co-worker's father-in-law, passed away August 4th at 87 years old.

† **The Brad Langerman Family.** Brad, Kim Wagner's former brother-in-law, passed away August 15th at 78 years old after a two-year battle with lung cancer.



Living at Home...

Gloria Adickes (Now residing at Parkview Care Center in Buffalo - Room 209.)
John Hylland



Lifting in Our Prayers

Aubrey Vanderlinde, Jacque and Roger's granddaughter, suffering her 2nd concussion during cheerleading at Univ. of St. Thomas.

Paul Yaeger, friend of Diane Folkestad's, hospitalized with a brain bleed that doctors cannot where from. Paul has already suffered 3 strokes.

Allan Malerich, undergoing a procedure to adjust his brain to improve balance and memory. *UPDATE:* Shunt implanted for headaches - so far so good.

Travelers and attendees at WEFEST!

All those impacted by extreme weather; storms, floods, drought, and hurricanes.

Donna Cobb, Diane Rux's sister in Idaho, losing dozens of cattle, and having to relocate almost 100 after losing 36 sq. miles of grazing land from the wildfires. It will take years to recover losses. Blessing their home is safe so far.



Lifting in Our Prayers - continued

Russ Johnson, having an MRI August 18th.

Tony Vanderlinde, Roger Vanderlinde's brother, starting chemotherapy for his cancer.

Aidyn, Belle Johnson's boyfriend, hospitalized. Doctors discovered a blockage in his heart. He's waiting to see a cardiologist.

Those with unspoken prayers.

Terry Rux's mother, diagnosed with dementia and must move to assisted living facility. Little space available locally. *UPDATE:* A place has been found for her in New Hope.

Marilyn Tompkins, taken to the doctor out of concern by her daughter Vicky. Doctors diagnosed need for a pacemaker.

Those in domestic abuse situations facing violence.

Joan Halderson's brother Gene, hospitalized again.

Hunter Reinhart, cut his finger at work and needed stitches. He's worried about being able to play saxophone for BHS band.

All those lost, missing and impacted by the flood disaster in Nepal/Tibet.

Teachers, Students, Bus Drivers, and school staff as students return to school.

The need for rain!

Joys & Blessings

Ricki and Allan Malerich, traveling to Michigan to visit family and celebrating his 82nd birthday on August 2nd!

Donations to our Outreach Mission's Gift Card drive for Rivers of Hope - 13 cards received!



We celebrate all the special Birthdays & Anniversaries from August!

A Blast From the PAST!



This photograph of a 1965 Montrose UMC Sunday School Class was posted on Facebook August 29th with many FB folks filling in the blanks of who's who!

DO YOU KNOW WHO IS WHO?

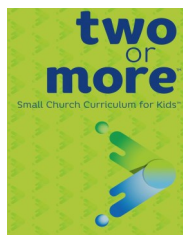
RECOGNIZE ANYONE FROM 60 YEARS AGO?

(Angie, let's remember to take a picture of our class on Rally Sunday or when they are all there!)

Sunday School Update



Mark your calendar for the first day of Sunday School
Sunday, September 13th at 9:30 am!



The Sunday School class will continue to use the curriculum **"TWO OR MORE"**, specifically designed for smaller churches and ages 3 –12. The lesson plans include weekly Bible versus and stories, hands-on discovery, games, crafts, activities, and singing together! Sometimes we join the Chancel Choir and sing special music!

We invite our Sunday School families to stay and join us on Rally Sunday for an outdoor Worship Service at 10:30 am, followed by fellowship and a potluck lunch at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Please reach out if you want to enroll your child or have any questions!

Angie Ferrell - Christian Education Director
(763) 442-4876



The MUMC Chancel Choir resumed rehearsals on August 26th! Interested in joining?

The choir is open to everyone age 14 and older!

We'd love to have more folks join the choir, lift your voices, and sing praises to the Lord. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. (No rehearsals on the third Wednesday of the month.)

If you are interested in joining the Chancel Choir, see or contact Jewell "Ricki" Malerich, Choir Director.
Home (763) 682-1780 or Cell (612) 644-9901



The MUMC Handbell Choir will resume their fall rehearsal schedule, meeting Tuesdays at 7:15 pm in the Sanctuary. (No rehearsals on the third Tuesday of the month.)

If you are interested in joining the Handbell Choir, see or contact Jacque Vanderlinde, Music Director.
Home (763) 675-3423 or Cell (404) 668-5596.

UWF Hannah Circle Update



United
Women
in Faith

Montrose UMC
United Women in Faith
Hannah Circle

Our next meeting is Monday, September 16th
at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
Sherry Ovall will lead the program.

Hannah Circle, as part of our Community Outreach, will once again provide the meal at Love INC's Fresh Start program on Monday, October 12th!

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

January - July Finance Update

Income	Actual	2026 Budget
Pledged/Loose giving	\$39,476	\$ 75,600
Apportionments	\$ 3,838	\$ 8,431
Rental Income	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,600
RaiseRight Income	\$ 737	\$ 1,750
Building Fund	\$ 7,404	-
Savings transfers, AUMC's	\$24,311	\$ 28,000
1/2 Pastor, etc.		
Total Income	\$82,066	\$113,781
Expenses		
Pastoral Support	\$41,656	\$ 50,575
Other Salaries	\$ 5,020	\$ 10,700
Mission/Outreach	\$ 4,259	\$ 8,431
BOT (Utility/Maint., Insure.)	\$17,926	\$ 37,150
Office, Committee exp., etc.	\$13,175	\$ 3,080
Total Expense	\$46,677	\$109,936



Our sincere thanks to those that donated gift cards to support our mission of helping *Rivers of Hope* in Monticello. We delivered 13 gifts cards (7-Cub, 4-KwikTrip, 2-Holiday) plus baby wipes and school supplies!

Our next meeting is Wed., Sept. 2 at 9 am

Sincerely, Your Outreach Committee Members:
Pastor Mark, Diane Folkestad, Betty Danford & Meri Ault



The Montrose Youth Group will resume meeting on the third Wednesday of the month starting again in September!

Mark your calendars for Wed., September 16th at 5:30 pm and Text Angie your location vote:

Starbucks, Chipotle, Culver's, or ??? in Buffalo!

We look forward to reconnecting again then!

Your Youth Group Leaders:
Pastor Mark, Angie Ferrell and Kim Wagner



HOMETOWN Days

★ SEPTEMBER 26-27, 2026 ★

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 26



9:00 AM - CLOSE

Beer Garden



10:00 AM - CLOSE

Food Available



10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Bounce House & Knochball



10:00 AM

Montrose Waverly Chamber Bean Bag Tournament



12:00 - 4:00 PM

Kids Games



10:00 AM - CLOSE

Food Available



11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Craft and Vendor Market



11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

DJ



11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Car Show Registration



12:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Car Show



12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Bingo by the Wright County VFW



12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Pedal Pull



3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

NTE Events DJ
Bubble Party & Talent Show



6:30 PM

Car Show Awards

7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Hollywood Blvd

On MUMC
Parking Lot

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 27



9:00 AM -
4:30 PM

Beer Garden



10:00 AM - CLOSE

Food Available



11:00 AM -
2:00 PM

Parade
Start time is 1pm



2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Ambassador
Activities

MUMC is
Hosting
Royalty
Coronation



2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Community Kickball
at Carver Field



*Not a city-sponsored event.
Contact celebratemontrorsemn@gmail.com with questions.



★ EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE ★

FE-ED UPDATE FOR JULY & AUGUST



REPORT FOR THE JULY 25, 2026 FREE FOOD DROP

We had over 9,000 POUNDS of food given out at the July food drop! This was our 11th Anniversary and we had much to celebrate. Six of our long standing volunteers

were on vacation. There was a lot of learning that took place preparing for their absence. We had 19 students from Phoenix Learning Center and even the bus driver helped. Thank you to the Boy Scouts for providing some literally "heavy lifting". Our usual volunteers and several new ones joined our work crew. We came out with exactly enough boxes prepared and ended on time. Linda Marquette made some delicious peanut butter cookies which was a great and much needed energy booster!

In July, we had 40 volunteers giving 119.25 hours of service the day of the food drop, and a handful the day before to do some early set-up and planning.



At the July FE-ED Planning Meeting, Dr. Sonya Tourville, presented FE-ED with a donation of \$2,350 on behalf of Montrose Family Chiropractic's 35th Anniversary Fundraiser. We cannot thank Dr. Sonya enough for this very generous gift and all the help this will provide to our community. This donation will provide the financial means to sponsor many future food drops.

Our Community Contributions:

- We received 530 pounds of meat, bread & sweet treats from Grace Place.

July Statistics:

- 8,713 pounds of food from Second Harvest Heartland
- 120 Families served
- 399 Individuals served
- 19 New Visitors
- 30 Veterans served
- 21 Communities served

FE-ED gave 122 pounds of dairy to Grace Place and about 80 pounds of produce to Waverly Food Shelf.

We all work together on sourcing food and sharing the excess to give to those in and around our communities.

YOUR NEXT FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION Tuesday, September 22nd

Respectfully submitted by Pam Johnson,
FE-ED Secretary

REPORT FOR THE AUGUST 25, 2026 FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The August free food drop went very well. The weather was a little warm but it is the end of summer. We did not have our Phoenix Learning Center student volunteers this month, but we had enough volunteers. We even had one, Paul, on his birthday! Treats were served to honor him. During the drop, we learned that Dolly Parton had passed away. We remembered her and her many generous contributions to make the world a better place.

This food drop was sponsored by Montrose Family Chiropractic, celebrating 35 years of service to the community. FE-ED is so grateful to Montrose Family Chiropractic and Dr. Sonya Tourville for the donation of \$2,350 to FE-ED last month.

At the August food drop we had 36 volunteers giving 110.5 hours of service!

Our Community Contributions:

- We received 394 pounds of Bread from Grace Place.
- Monticello Help Center gave FE-ED 607 pounds of bananas, produce, and sweets. They also gave us 2 fantastic scales to help us determine how much we should pack in each box.

August Statistics:

- 4,281 pounds of food from Second Harvest Heartland
- 122 Families served
- 321 Individuals served
- 8 New Visitors
- 31 Veterans served
- 22 Communities served

AUGUST BOX FULL OF GOODIES!





FE-ED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

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

Tuesday, September 22nd
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
Pastor Mark will be on vacation Mon., Sept. 14th through Sun., Sept. 20th. Pastor Sarah Bunge of House of Grace will be the Emergency Contact in his absence.		1 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	2 9 am Outreach Committee Mtg. (F)	3 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Women's Bible Study (S)	4 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	5 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
6 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace (C) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	7 NO ACTIVITIES 	8 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	9 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	10 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Women's Bible Study (S) 6:30 pm 4H Clu Franklin Friends (C) 7:30 pm SPRC Meeting (L)	11 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	12 9:30 am ZOOM Church Council 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
13 RALLY SUNDAY & POTLUCK LUNCH 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:30 am Outdoor Service (S) 11:30 am - 1 pm Luncheon (F) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	14 NO ACTIVITIES	15 12-6 pm PARKING LOT WORK 12 pm FE-ED Board & Planning Meeting (C)	16 5:30 - 7 pm YOUTH GROUP (OFF)	17 4:30-6 pm FREE COMMUNITY MEAL (MCC) 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Women's	18 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	19 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
20 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace (C) 11:30 am Church Council (F) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	21 6:30 pm Hannah Circle Meeting (C)	22 12 pm FE-ED Set-up (MCC) 2 pm FE-ED Food Distribution (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	23 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	24 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Women's Bible Study (S)	25 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 7-9 pm Palabra Viva Men's Bible Study (C)	26 4-9:30 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S/F)
27 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 10:30 am House of Grace (C) 11:30 am Finance Committee Meeting (F) 3-5 pm MUMC hosts ROYALTY CORONATION (S) 6 pm AA Meeting (C)	28 NO ACTIVITIES	29 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	30 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	 2026 Celebrate Montrose Home Town Days Sat., 26th & Sun., 27th! Parade Sunday at 1 pm (Line-up at 11:30 am)		

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

2nd-Macy Prestidge
2nd-Roger Vanderlinde
7th-Hunter Reinhart
15th-Jason Chaffins

16th-Judy Mumford-Torres
16th-Kaija Tourville
18th-Marilyn Tompkins
22nd-Sonya Tourville
23rd-Glen Ross
27th-Amanda Folkestad

28th-Jaimee Ashbaugh
30th-Kalley Illies

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES!

5th-Jacque & Roger Vanderlinde
28th-Amy & Jason Chaffins



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

Church Office 763-675-3571 Pastor Mark's Cell (763) 656-3490

Email: montroseumc@hotmail.com Website: www.montroseumc.com

Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church



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

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



Montrose United Methodist Church



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

THE NEXT FREE
FOOD DISTRIBUTION:
Tue., September 22nd

Drive-Thru event Starting at 2 pm
at the 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 each
month giving out pre-packed boxes of dairy, produce,
bread and other food items.

One box per car - Open to everyone.
No requirements - No cost.

FE-ED is brought to you in partnership by Montrose
United Methodist Church and House of Grace.
Go to the FEED website for more information:

www.fe-ed.org

Rally Sunday &
Potluck Luncheon
Sunday,
September 13th

Everyone
is Welcome...
Family, Friends & Neighbors!



9:30 am Sunday School Begins
9:30 am Coffee Hour
10:30 am Outdoor Worship Service
 (on South Lawn weather permitting)
11:45 am - 1 pm Luncheon & Fellowship

Serving Sloppy Joes, Hot Dogs, Chips,
Assorted Salads, Fruit, Desserts & Beverage