

# Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2023 September

Volume 9

*“Flowers appear on the earth;  
the season of singing has come,  
the cooing of doves is heard in our land.”*  
- Song of Solomon 2:12

## In This Issue

- ◆ Pastor Mark's Column Pg. 2
- ◆ August Worship Theme Pg. 2
- ◆ Prayer Page Pg. 3
- ◆ Hannah Circle Pg. 3
- ◆ MUMC Announcements Pg. 4
- ◆ Finance Update Pg. 5
- ◆ FE-ED Update Pg. 5
- ◆ RAISERIGHT Program Pg. 6
- ◆ Trustees Update Pg. 6
- ◆ August Calendar Pg. 7
- ◆ Food Drop - Back cover


## Pastor Mark's Column

"What did I do wrong this time?" David replied. "It was just a question!"

-1 Samuel 17:29

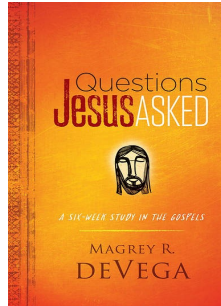
I've always been fascinated by asking questions. Although I'm not very skilled at it, there's something unique about individuals who can pinpoint that crucial question—the one that gets to the heart of an issue or brings revelation to the person being addressed. This fascination is likely why I became interested in philosophy, as it is filled with people who can ask those questions that I can't even conceive. Questions hold more significance than we may realize.

Magrey deVega, the author of our sermon series "Questions Jesus Asked," highlights different types of questions: factual, interpretive, and evaluative. Factual questions seek information, interpretive questions delve into deeper meanings or insights, and evaluative questions encourage reflection and personal introspection.

 Interestingly, the origin of the question mark remains uncertain. Some believe the Romans created it by shortening the Latin word "quaestio" to "qo," indicating an interrogative inquiry. They would later place the "q" above the "o," forming the question mark. Others suggest that the Egyptians based the punctuation on the inquisitive shape a cat's tail makes when curious. Another theory proposes that Alcuin of York created the punctuation to represent the verbal intonation one would use at the end of a question. Regardless, asking questions holds more complexity than we may realize, and Jesus was adept at utilizing them in his ministry.

Jesus excelled at asking questions, much like David when inquiring about Goliath to the soldiers. Jesus would pose evaluative questions that compelled people to reflect on their principles and preconceptions. Throughout this sermon series, we will explore and answer these questions ourselves. We will discover that these questions remain relevant and influential in our society and culture today. We all grapple with such questions. Each of us has experienced pivotal questions that arise and transform our lives.

We all confront inquiries like "What are my values?" "What is my life's purpose?" and "Whom do I trust?" In one way or another, we respond to these questions, aiding our growth into the individuals God intended us to be. Together, we will face these questions in our sermon series "Questions Jesus Asked," commencing this September and continuing until mid-October. Please join us as we collectively wrestle with the questions essential to our faith!



Blessings!

Pastor Mark Schlasner

Email: am.umc.pastor@gmail.com

Phone/Text: (763) 656-3490

### Celebrating Baby Schlasner Sun., Sept. 17th!

Join us after church on Sunday, Sept. 17th to celebrate the upcoming arrival of Pastor Mark and Amy's baby boy! Light refreshments will be served.

We will have the picture book "I Wish for You" available at the gathering for people to sign and write a wish for the baby.

- If you are unable to attend the event and still would like to have a wish placed in the book, to Baby Schlasner from you;

## September Worship Theme "QUESTIONS JESUS ASKED"

**Sunday, September 3, 2023**

**Communion Sunday**

Communion Steward:  
Carol Prestidge

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

**Scripture:** Luke 9:18-27

**Sunday, September 10, 2023**

**\*\*\*RALLY SUNDAY\*\*\***

**Message:** "Why Are You Afraid?"

**Scripture:** Matthew 8:23-27

**Sunday, September 17, 2023**

**Message:** "Why Are You Anxious?"

**Scripture:** Luke 12:25-31

**Saturday, September 23, 2023**

**6:00 pm - 8 pm**

**Joint Worship Service and Fellowship with Iglesia Palabra Viva**

**Sunday, September 24, 2023**

**NO WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY**



please email your wish to the Church (no later than Wed, Sept 13th) and we will make sure your wish is included in the book (montroseumc@hotmail.com). Gifts are completely optional.





## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE



**Rotation Stations**  
**Courageous Queen**

Rally Sunday will be Sunday, September 10th with class starting at 9:30 am!

Aaahh, it's fall, at least in my book and that means back to school. We will be beginning our year with a unit on Queen Esther, a woman with remarkable faith and courage to take action against injustice.

We're going back to a rotation model so the story will be reinforced each week through activities such as art, cooking, games, missions, science, spiritual practices & storytelling.

If you have neighbors with kids feel free to invite them to join us and if you would like to join us as a volunteer, we would love to have you as part of the program.



Any questions can be directed to me at 763-442-4876. Thanks, Angie

## Join Us for



**Sunday, September 10th!**

9:30 am Sunday School Begins

9:30 Coffee & Fellowship

10:30 am Worship Service

### Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir rehearsals started a week early this year, August 30th, to be ready for Rally Sunday! Going forward, the choir will continue to rehearse on Wednesdays at 7 pm, except the 3rd Wednesday of the month which is Church Council. The choir will provide vocal music at two or three services each month.



New members are always welcome, including those without prior choir experience.

Any questions may be directed to Jewell "Ricki" Malerich at (763) 682-1780.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION



Join Pastor Mark  
On Thursday mornings  
at 9 am  
for Coffee & Conversation  
At Montrose UMC  
In the Fellowship Hall!

(Serving Keurig Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, etc.)

### Hand Bell Choir

Rehearsal for the Hand Bell Choir starts on Tuesday, September 5th at 7 pm, and will be every Tuesday after that at 7 pm.



**The Hand Bell Choir will perform on Rally Sunday!**

If you are interested in joining the Hand Bell Choir, no experience is necessary!

Any questions may be directed to Jacque Vanderlinde at (763) 675-3423

## FE-ED UPDATE

### August 22, 2023 FE-ED Food Drop Report



FE-ED

## SCORCHING HOT!



The August food drop was held during record setting heat. Having the canopies, refrigerator blankets, and a trailer to keep the food cooler helped. Having rotations, neck scarves, water, and plenty of fabulous volunteers made it a success!

We actually had the number of boxes we prepared (200) go to people during this extreme heat. This will be a drop we will not forget!

We had 35 volunteers that worked a total of 182.5! Great job everyone!

THANK YOU TO  
OUR AMAZING  
VOLUNTEERS!

### Our community contributed a lot of extras:

- 2,020 Lbs. of fresh produce from Untiedt's.
- 1,080 Lbs. from the Buffalo Food Shelf.
- 400 Lbs. of bread products from Waverly Food Shelf.

### August Statistics:

- 10,394 pounds of food from SHH
- 197 Families served
- 573 Individuals served
- 20 New, first time families
- 37 Veterans served
- 19 Communities served

Respectfully submitted by  
Pam Johnson, Secretary

## Finance Update



Happy end of Summer!! A quick update on some expenditure items coming up and the past few months (not to compete with the Trustee's update).

- The elevator repair is now complete. We received \$5,000 from our insurance company to cover damages, but the total cost was \$ 29,096. We've paid the first half, and now the final payment is due.
- The elevator repairs required some additional electric work. We're not sure of the cost, but have that amount due too.
- The sprinkler system continues to cause problems - old pipes that continue to leak and deteriorate. best solution is to have new pipes installed. the most cost efficient solution had a quote of over 60k. (yes, very jaw dropping). Unfortunately if we don't do something, new leaks will continue to pop up. Council and trustees still discussing options
- If you haven't noticed, the front steps are in desperate need of repair. The concrete has huge holes and cracks, and the railings are loose and rusted. We are getting quotes on the railing piece, and the concrete work is scheduled to start in September.

Thank goodness we no longer have a mortgage payment, but as you can see from the above, we've had a lot of building maintenance expenses with more to come. Anything extra you are able to donate would be very much appreciated.

Also, a reminder on apportionment giving. Apportionments tend to run approximately \$150 per member of the church each year. Your giving toward this is also appreciated.

If you're not able to make it to Sunday service you can mail a check to the church (at PO Box 13) or we do have our PayPal account, which makes it easy for safe, online giving.



Please reach out to me with any questions.

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

# FREE

The next "Thankful Thursday"  
Community Meal is on September 21st!  
5 pm to 6:30 pm at the Community Center!

**\*\*NOTE: MUMC IS SPONSORING THE  
OCTOBER COMMUNITY MEAL.**

If you would like to contribute towards the sponsorship of this meal please place your donation in the offering plate noted "Community Meal", or give to Kelly Rux or Kim Wagner. Thank you!



Thanks  
for Your  
Support!



Yikes, we have had some major repairs done & have more coming down the tailpipe. What can each of us do to help support the church with these necessary repairs? You can feed your family, buy new clothes, put gas in your car, take in a movie, go out to eat, do a home project, take a little get-away, or pamper yourself with a massage all while using the RaiseRight Program!

The first 1/2 of the year, participants using the program raised over \$1,000.00 for the church just by doing those things. This program is super easy to use and I am all about making my dollars stretch farther! There are over 700 national retailers that participate. You get the full dollar amount of the gift card & the church gets a % given back to it in the form of a rebate. You can order using the app on your smartphone, your computer or just by letting me know what you need.

We even have gift cards from 6 area retailers in denominations of \$25 on-hand to purchase anytime (*Walmart, Cub, Holiday, KwikTrip, Target, & Casey's*). You can pay by check (to the church), credit card or link a checking/savings account to your RaiseRight account. There are no fees unless you pay by electronic transfer or credit card.

Orders placed in the app for e-gift cards or reloadable cards are available within minutes, and orders for physical cards are delivered by me (usually at church but have delivered them to people's homes as well). Orders will be placed on Sept 1st (Friday due to the holiday) & 18th this month.

I'm happy to answer any questions or to help in any way getting you signed up and using the program, so what's stopping you from trying it out for yourself? I've said it a million times that I love this program & you might just get as hooked on it as I am.



Any questions can be directed to me at (763) 442-4876. Thanks! Angie



## Montrose United Methodist Church Mission Statement

*“Our mission is to be a community where faith, family, and friends come together, neighbor helping neighbor, to grow in Christ’s love.”*



## Board of Trustees Update



Everyone has their “To Do” list at home of never-ending projects, in addition to the everyday tasks that need to be accomplished! Well, so does the church! The Board of Trustees start each year with a list of what must be done/fix, a list of what we hope to fix/spruce-up, and a wish list of fixes/updates when we hit the lottery!

The church’s “to do” list continues to grow as we put projects on hold, as things happen (such as a flooded elevator pit and thunderstorms), and as the age of the building requires maintenance.

The biggest project **NOW** is the sprinkler system. We fixed a leak last year; fixed a leak in July, and now have another leak... we fix one just to find another (costing @ \$2,800 each time). The air leaks are causing our air compressor (new in 2021) to run every couple of minutes, which is causing more wear. The pipes installed when the new sanctuary was built are now old and deteriorating. We got a quote for \$63,000 to replace the old pipes (just in the new sanctuary) and go to a wet system to prevent more and more leaks, and that doesn't include any carpentry work to fix ceiling or wall repairs. We cannot deplete our savings to do this, so are forced to fix the leaks again.

### COMPLETED PROJECTS:

- Elevator repair. We received \$5,000 from our insurance company for damages, but the total cost was \$29,096. We paid the first half, with the balance due.
- The elevator repair required additional electric work before the elevator inspector would pass inspection for use. We are waiting for that invoice, estimate around \$2,000.
- Leaks in men’s and women’s restrooms. These don’t appear to be plumbing issues, rather leaking from the roof. The ceilings have been repaired and new ceiling tiles put in. (Roof to be inspected.)
- Temporary parking lines in parking lot. Due to the sprinkler system issue the parking lot repairs are on hold.

### UPCOMING PROJECTS:

- Concrete replacement. The front steps on Center Ave., along with several areas of the handicap ramp and back entrance are scheduled to be replaced mid-to-late September, cost is \$12,000. (The exit stairs on north side of building are not in this price. They will be replaced by a wooden or composite wood steps.)
- We are looking to replace the black railings on the right side as you enter the church, these are the ones rusted and unsafe. We are getting quotes on materials and labor, and hope to have railing replaced before winter.
- The roof will be inspected for possible hail damage, actually from several storms, and where the leak is coming from above women’s restroom.




**A HUGE THANK YOU TO TERRY RUX FOR MOWING THE CHURCH GROUNDS EACH WEEK.**

The Board of Trustees and Church Council continue to discuss projects and options, keeping our finances and budget in mind with every decision. If you have questions or comments, or would like to contribute towards any of these projects please see Pastor Mark, Kelly Rux, or Kim Wagner .



**NEXT FOOD DROP**  
**Tue., September 26th at 3 pm**  
 Drive-thru pick-up on a first-come, first-serve basis while quantities last.  
**Montrose Community Center**  
 EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY	<b>2</b> 5 - 9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)
<b>3</b> <b>Communion Sunday</b> 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 	<b>4</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> 	<b>5</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>6</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 5 - 9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)
<b>10 RALLY SUNDAY!</b> 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 6:30 pm CONFIRMATION CLASS (C)	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S) 7:30 pm ZOOM Bible Study	<b>12</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>13</b> 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>14</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S) 7 pm SPRC	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5 - 9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)
<b>17</b> 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) <b>11:30 am BABY SCHLASNER CELEBRATION!</b> 6:30 pm CONFIRMATION CLASS (C)	<b>18</b> <b>RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S) 7:30 pm ZOOM Bible Study	<b>19</b> 12 pm FE-ED Meeting (MUMC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>20</b> 7:15 pm Church Council (L)	<b>21</b> 5-6:30 pm <b>FREE</b> Comm. Dinner (MCC) 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S) 7 pm UWF Hannah Circle (L)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>6 pm - 8 pm JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE &amp; FELLOWSHIP with PALABRA VIVA (LOT)</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30 am Sunday School (C) <b>**NO WORSHIP SERVICE</b> 6:30 pm CONFIRMATION CLASS (C)	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S) 7:30 pm ZOOM Bible Study	<b>26</b> 12 pm <b>FE-ED</b> Set-up (MCC) 3 pm <b>FE-ED</b> Food Drop (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>27</b> 5:30 pm - 7 pm YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF (C) 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>29</b> 7 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)	<b>29</b>	<b>30 1 pm - 7 pm Montrose Fall Festival (LP &amp; MCC)</b> 5 - 9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)

**BIRTHDAYS!**  
 2nd-Macy Prestidge  
 2nd-Roger Vanderlinde  
 7th-Hunter Reinhart  
 14th-Barry Burdick  
 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

**ANNIVERSARIES!**  
 5th-Jacque & Roger Vanderlinde  
 24th-Ann & Barry Burdick  
 28th-Amy & Jason Chaffins



**MONTROSE UMC, PO Box 13, 230 Center Avenue So., Montrose, MN 55363**  
**Church Office 763-675-3571**  
**Email: [montroseumc@hotmail.com](mailto:montroseumc@hotmail.com)**  
**Pastor Mark's Cell (763) 656-3490**  
**Website: [www.montroseumc.com](http://www.montroseumc.com)**  
**Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church**

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 and Every Day**  
**(4th Tuesday of the Month)**

**NEXT FREE FOOD**  
**DISTRIBUTION:**  
**Tuesday, September 26th**

**Starting at 3:00 pm**

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

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

# RALLY SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH

**Rev. Mark Schlasner, Pastor**

- ◆ Sunday School 9:30 am
- ◆ Coffee & Fellowship Hour 9:30 am  
*(Serving Keurig Coffees, Teas, Hot Chocolate,  
etc., & pastries.)*
- ◆ Worship Service 10:30 am

With music by our Hand Bell  
& Chancel Choirs!

Unable to attend in-person?

Watch the service on **Facebook Live!**  
Search Montrose United Methodist Church  
(Montrose, MN).