

Montgomery United Methodist Church
117 Sunset Road, Belle Mead, NJ 08502 - 908-874-3273
www.WelcomeChurch.net - The Rev. Dr. Anthony J. Godlefski, Senior Pastor
The Weekly Reminder – June 24th, 2018

Greetings from the Pastor

Dear Friend in Christ,

As I write this note to you, we are at the very center of the first day of summer. Countless leaves in shades of green and deep cranberry brown are outside my window. The sky is a brilliant blue and the winds are balmy and warm. It is the year's longest day! The richness of God's blessings are all around.

It seems not long ago at all that we were dealing with winter winds, cold rain, and long dark nights. It seemed that summer would never come again. But here we are - in the midst of summer blessings.

Let us remember that, if God bring us to it, He'll bring us through it. Not long ago we could only imagine the time when the roses would bloom again. But our faith in God is a tree well planted. Even in the midst of storms we can lean on our God, who will bring us through to the time when the roses bloom again.

God bless you, my friend. I look forward to seeing you in Church.

Your friend in Christ, *Pastor Tony*

2. Mr. Rogers Movie - "Won't You Be My Neighbor"

I wonder if there is a special place in your heart, as there is in mine, for Mr. Fred Rogers. Mr. Rogers was an ordained Presbyterian minister who had a specialized ministry with children - and the child in all of us.

I am very happy to tell you that a new movie about his life just came out. It's playing in local theaters right now. I look forward to seeing it, and I encourage you to see it as well.

It is good to have something *positive* to feed our minds with these days, wouldn't you agree? "Won't You Be My Neighbor" is playing at the Montgomery Cinema at 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, and 9:25 PM on Friday, June 22nd; Saturday, June 23rd; Sunday, June 24th; Monday, June 25th; Tuesday, June 26th; and at 2:25 only on Wednesday, June 27th.

3. We Honor our Graduates

On July 8th, 2018, we will honor those who are graduating and "moving up" in our congregation. All who are taking a step upward or completing an educational milestone are eligible. Here is our list so far. Please check it over and send any corrections, spelling corrections, or omissions to PastorTony@MontgomeryUMC.org, or tell Deb Ploe on Sunday or send her an email at debploe@gmail.com.

1. David Johnson

2. Jeff Musante - from Cornell University with an MBA

In Finance. He will be working for Citibank in NYC, as an Investment Banker.

3. Alex Duncan - from Carnegie Mellon with a Masters in Mechanical Engineering. He will be working in Robotics and Machine Learning for GE Global Research.

4. Emily Grace Bougher (Arlene's granddaughter) - graduating 8th grade.

5. Shawn Carter - from Montgomery High School and VoTech. Shawn was a recent recipient of Montgomery HS Senior Hugh Davis scholarship award. He will also be receiving a Senior Award from Somerset County Vocational Technical Institute (where he completed 4 years of auto body). He graduated from both schools on Thursday, June 21st, 2018.

6. Jessica O'Dell - High School graduate

7. Kaila Carter - will be starting the 6th grade this fall at the Montgomery Lower Middle School.

8. Bailey Margaret Ploe (Deb Ploe's niece) - is stepping up from Pre-School to Kindergarten.

9. Macany Johnson - graduating from Kindergarten.

10. Heidi Johnson - is moving up.

11. Noah, Joshua, and Ethan Daniels - are moving up.

4. Will You Be a Church Lawn Care Sponsor?

Lawn care is part of our Church's statement to the community. A neatly cut lawn says, "We care about our Church!" One cutting of our entire Church campus lawn can be done for just \$80.00. Won't you join the circle of families who sponsor one of our bi-weekly lawn cuttings? May's Lawn Care was sponsored by the DeHeus family, who also thought up this plan! Thank you, Gail and John! The sponsors will be mentioned in this newsletter. Sign up on the "Count Me In" paper if you'd like to help out. Thank you so much!

Many, many thanks to those who have already contributed or pledged to help with our lawn care this summer. We give thanks to our lawn care partners for the summer of 2018: **Sue Wilder, Diane Ruddock, Steve Heckel, John & Gail DeHeus, David & Joan Musante, Nicole & Riley Krubski, Lee & George Krubski, and Hedly Bottitta.**

5. Healing Prayers

The Pastor is available for a time of private prayer for healing - for you or someone you know - after the service each Sunday. He will be available after greeting the people at the conclusion of the services. Please let him know and wait for a few moments in the Sanctuary. He will be glad to offer prayers on your behalf at that time.

6. Our Special Offering

Your gift toward our Special Offering today will help our Church with its mission responsibilities. Thank you so much for your generosity. You may now make your contribution to our Church online (see below)! Thank you, and God bless you.

7. Online Giving is Now Available!

You may now make your contribution to our Church **online!** Simply go to our website <Welcome Church.net> and click on "Donate". Thank you and Happy Spring.

8. Happy Birthday to You!

June 2 - Deanna Miller; 3 - Steven Fantozzi; 3 - Kurt & Kyra Fleischer; 5 - Margaret Daggett; 5 - Diane Lefebvre; 6 - Richard Cunningham; 6 - Ramon Rodriquez; 9 - Rudolph Kircher; 11 - Cindy Bartlett; 13 - Sherree Pecci; 15 - Steve Scott; 16 - Tracy Ann Lee; 18 - Cynthia Cooper; 20 - Diane Ruddock; 20 - Lynne Faille; 21 - Courtney Eldridge; **22 - Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Mandy Holanda (wedding anniversary); 23 - Mrs. Judith Scheide; 24 - Sydney Sapienza; 28 - Christina Benito; 30 - Judith Bowen**

9. The Prayer List: Names may be added by writing a note or email to Nancy Hranek at nancyhranek@gmail.com.

Let us surround our loved ones and friends with the blessed power of prayer: • Let pray for the family of **Josephine Marsch**, mother of Denise Marsch-Ruppert (Betty Ruppert's daughter-in-law), who passed away on Friday, May 25th; • For the **grandchildren-to-be** of Karen and David Lawrence - for good health for all concerned; • Let us pray for **John Dismukes** who is recovering from a stroke. He is in Robert Wood Johnson Hospital; • Let us be in prayer for Barbara Ewick and Dylan Boger in the passing of Barbara's sister-in-law, **Joanne Ewick**, who recently went to be with the Lord; • For the family and friends of **Gary Nuckols**, who passed away on Thursday, April 5th, 2018. Gary and his wife, Alice, are beloved lifelong friends of Daryl and Bill Potter; (4/5/2018) • For several **young men and women** struggling with spiritual and emotional challenges; (4/5/2018) • For **Beth**, sister-in-law of Sue Wilder for blessings and recovery from health challenges; (3/29/2018) • Please pray for the family of **Mr. Amadu N'doeka, Sr.**, who passed away recently after battling a difficult illness. His funeral will be in Sri Leone, Africa on April 6th, 2018; • Please keep a member of Deb's family in your prayers, **Margaret Clugston (Nanny)**; • Prayers of comfort for **Linda Bellavia** and her family in the passing of her mother; (3/13/2018) • For **Dr. Tracey Lee** and her family - for healing blessings for Dr. Tracey's mom, who was in a car accident in Florida; • Please pray for the families and all loved ones of the victims of gun-related tragedies; • Please keep **Kaye Foster** in your prayers in the passing of her father, **Dalwin Foster**; • Let us pray for the **Rev. Tom Roberts** for comfort in the passing of his father; • Let us be in prayer for **Frank Picone and Kim** and their family for comfort from grief. Kim's mother, Carol Wolfe, passed away on December 8th, 2017; (12/8/2017) • Prayers of blessings for **Jean Ammirata**, for increasingly good health; • For Deb Ploe's brother, **Patrick**...continued prayers for a quick and full recovery, along with prayers for Vilma and her continued spiritual support and encouragement; • For **Alexa**, Dr. Robert and Candida Marques-Harman's daughter, for a full recovery; • For **Josephine Marsch**, mother of Denise Ruppert, who has ongoing medical issues and is now in rehab; (10/26/2017) • For the people of **Puerto Rico**, that he recovery of their island may be swift and complete; • For **Laura Lynn Boger**, Dylan's mother and Barb Ewick's daughter, who underwent successful liver transplant surgery recently; (9/13/2017) • For **Janet's children**, for blessings and with love; • For **Christine**, a friend of Kathy Johnson-Brown, for good health; • Prayers of God's grace, protection, and courage for **Jennifer Barnett**; • **Anonymous request** for healing prayers; • For Barbra LaPilusa's niece, **Megan Elizabeth Helsel**, for complete healing; • For **Alexa Vasquez**, recovering from a serious thrombosis in her leg (Alexa is Candida and Dr. Robert Harman's daughter); (6/28/2017) • For the **Cruz Family**, for blessings of family members in Puerto Rico; • For **Vy Willson**, dealing with the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease; (5/12/2017) • For **Mike Behn**, for healing, for wisdom for his doctors and comfort for his wife and son; (4/21/2017) • Kathy Johnson-Brown asks that we pray for her daughter, **Stef**, who is moving to Kansas; (4/16/2017) • Continued prayers for **Lawrence Cardinal**, for good health; • Pray that **Barbra and Nicole LaPilusa** have true peace, health, happiness and continue to grow with God's love always; • Hedy Bottitta asks that we pray for her **husband**; (4/16/2017) • **Joan Dismukes** asks that we continue to pray for the alleviation of her pain; (4/16/2017) • For blessings of recovery, please pray for **Anthony Bottitta**; • For **Connie Grey**, for healing and freedom from pain; (2/2/2017) • For **Andy Schechter**, for increasingly good health; (12/25/2016) • Let us pray for **Makenzie Bracaloni**, infant daughter of Ashley and Robert Bracaloni (Ashley is Bob and Sandi Bjornsen's granddaughter; Makenzie is their great granddaughter) for good health; • For **Karen Fleischer's mother**, who is home recovering from a health challenge; (6/19/2016) • For **Bob and Sandi Bjornsen**, for good health; (4/24/2016) • For **Lisa Drift**, for continued healing; (9/27/2015).