

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 – February 23rd, 2020

Service of Worship at 9:30 AM
Greetings from the Pastor

Dear Friend in Christ,

We had a great time in church last week as we welcomed and blessed the members of our confirmation class, and encouraged them in their journey of faith. Our confirmands include Jessica Benito, Kaila Carter, Joey Cincotta, Victoria Fantozzi, Christian Mayer, Colleen Mayer, Sophia Sapienza and Sydney Sapienza. Our class will be taught by me with the valued assistance of Deb Ploe.

Our congregation will also have the chance to take part in the Confirmation adventure. On the Sundays when a confirmation class will take place, the sermon will be the opening lecture for the class. This will give everyone a chance to rethink some of the basics of our faith, and be in touch with what our young folks are studying.

Last week, we discussed that single sentence that has become the foundation of my personal faith. Our assignment for this Sunday is to bring in an object, or a picture of an object, that speaks to you of the amazing creativity of our God. Members of the congregation are invited to participate along with the confirmands. We will discuss the examples at the Object Lesson time. You are welcome to participate!

The spiritual aspect of our lives is an exciting and enjoyable adventure. Let us renew our faith together with our students!

I look forward to greeting you in church, my Friend!

Warm regards and blessings, *Pastor Tony*

2. Looking for a Church Home?

If you have no church home in this area, we warmly invite you to become part of the "Welcome Church" family. Please see the Pastor for more details.

3. Today's Schedule

- 9:30 AM service of worship.
- Coffee and fellowship – Banquet Hall.
- 11:00 AM - Discovery Bible Study- Room 103-104 – Everyone is welcome. No prior Bible experience needed!
- 11:00 AM - Confirmation Class - Rooms 104-105
- 11:30 AM - Chancel Choir

4. Game Night is Coming - 4 PM Sunday, February 23rd, 2020

Come join us for a relaxed evening of singing, food, and games for all ages! Our evening will include board games, a rousing hymn sing and sing-along around the piano for those who like to sing, a covered dish supper, and group games like Pictionary and the inevitable group game called "Corks!" (or, "Slam Pan" as it is known in some areas). Bring a favorite game if you like, food to share, and plan to be there! No one keeps score. It will be fun for everyone!

5. Meet the Scheide Pipe Organ - 4:00 PM Sunday, March 1st, 2020

Our church has been given a wonderful treasure. We have recently celebrated the gift of a new pipe organ – the organ that was in the residence of a great humanitarian, philanthropist, and scholar of JS Bach – Dr. William H. Scheide. Thanks to the generosity of his widow, Mrs. Judith Scheide, the organ has been completely renovated and installed in the West Gallery of our Church.

Join us for a fun musical afternoon on March 1, 2020 at 4:00 PM as Dr. Bell and Pastor Tony present an informal introduction to our wonderful new musical instrument. The afternoon will include: – an explanation of the remarkable artistic design of the organ; - an overview of how it came to us; – what makes this organ unique; – a mini-recital by Dr. Bell and Pastor Tony; – everyone singing hymns with the new organ.

There will be three seating areas available: the **A section** will be in the loft, directly behind the organist. The section is limited to eight seats. **B section** will be in the loft as well, but on the side opposite the organist. The section is limited to 10 seats. **There will also be open seating in the sanctuary floor area.** Those seated here will be able to hear everything (and not need to climb the stairs!)

Due to the limited seating, those wishing to sit in the loft for this event should sign up on the paper on the bulletin board in the Sunday Café fellowship hallway as soon as possible. The event will start at 4:00 PM, and be about an hour in length.

6. Can You Help Us Feed The Hungry?

On Saturday, March 21, 2020, starting with a carpool from the church at 8 AM and ending at 12 noon, we can join with Methodists from all over our area to help prepare nonperishable food kits to feed the hungry. Our Confirmation Class will participate, and we invite the rest of the congregation to join them as well.

In conjunction with an organization called "Rise Against Hunger", we will carpool from the church at 8 AM and travel to the new Dover United Methodist Church in Edison, New Jersey. We will help pack nonperishable food items for distribution to the hungry, particularly in South America and Africa. Persons from five years of age and up are invited to help. We are each invited to bring an offering to help defray the cost of the food itself – (but this is not a requirement). Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Sunday Café if you can be with us.

7. Raritan Valley Chorus Spring Concert

The Raritan Valley Chorus will perform their Spring Concert, "This is Brought to You by the Letter B", at Mary Mother of God Church in Hillsborough on Sunday, May 17th at 3:00pm. Choral music from the Baroque to the Beatles, Blues, Broadway to Big Band will be featured. Come out and support members of our MUMC choir who sing in the Chorus: Karen, Daryl and Maddy.

8. The Church Rummage Sale

Our UMW has decided that our Church will have one Rummage Sale this year, and that will take place on October 9th and 10th, 2020. (Please note date update). There will be no spring rummage sale this year.

9. St. Patrick's Festival at the Welcome Church – Sunday, March 15th, 2020

Our annual St. Patrick's Festival will be held on Sunday evening, March 15th, 2020. Please save the date! It will feature a pot-luck supper and talent show. (*Dress rehearsal for the Talent Show participants a must! 7:00 PM Friday, March 13, 2020*)

10. Ash Wednesday – February 26th, 2020 Soup Supper: 6:15 PM; Service: 7:30 PM

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the holy season of Lent – a time of spiritual deepening and personal growing. Let's begin the season together with the soup supper at the church at 6:15 PM. Bring a pot of your favorite soup, or bread, or salad, a light dessert, or anything you'd like to share. We will give thanks to the Lord at 6:15 PM in the Banquet Hall with a prayer of grace. There will be a service called the "casting of the ashes" at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary.

11. Chapel of Peace

A live image of our altar area and quiet music will be available Friday evening through Sunday morning. If you'd like to have a quiet time of prayer at your computer screen, tune into www.WelcomeChurch.net and click on "Live Broadcast". Please enjoy the peace of our sanctuary during the weekend.

12. Happy Birthday to You!

February - 2 - Kyle Maloney; 2 - Emma Thomas; 4 - Steve Heckel; 8 - Kelly Ye; 11 - Joy Carter; 11 - Cynthia Conshue; 12 - Denise Roth; 16 - Frank Picone; 17 - George Ladyman; 17 - Carlos Benito; 19 - Bryan Lawrence; 20 - David Musante; 20 - Jen Tonkin; 21 - Kaitlin Reiman; 22 - Matt Twomey; 23 - Millie Baker; 24 - John Pecci; 27 - Jill Frezza; 28 - George Bartlett; 29 - Karen Lawrence

13. The Prayer List

Let us surround our loved ones and friends with the blessed power of prayer: • For Deb Ploe's brother-in-law, **David Kidd**, as he was hospitalized on Monday and for her sister **Lori**; (1/23/2019) • Let us pray for **Don Culbertson**, for recovery from surgery; (1/16/2020) • Let us pray for **Patrick Paulis**, for strength and healing; (1/1/2020) • Let us pray for **Len Wood**, a long time member of our church, recovering from a health challenge; (1/1/2020) • Let us pray for a **young lady** in our church who is recovering from surgery; (12/29/2019) • Let us pray for **Robert Powers**, brother of Carol Wood, recovering from surgery; (12/28/2019) • Let us pray for a **couple** Pastor Tony met in the hospital recently. The **wife** is dealing with a difficult illness; (12/28/2019) • Let us pray for **Marc Brodeur**, Pat Stern's son-in-law, who is undergoing a heart procedure; (12/1/2019) • Let us keep **Latoya Thomas' family** in our prayers - her **Aunt** passed away after an illness; (11/24/2019) • Prayers for Rob Cheek in the passing of his beloved mother, **Eileen Cheek**; (11/17/2019) • Let us pray for Joe Librizzi's sister, **Marion**, and brother, **Roy** for increasingly good health; • Prayers for **Nina Hunter**, Savannah Hunter's mother, who is recovering from a right hip replacement, as well as thanksgiving for being 16 years cancer free; • For a **family** dealing with the passing of their beloved son; (11/5/2019) • Prayers for **Patrick Ploe**, Deb Ploe's brother, for a full and complete healing from retina surgery on Thursday October 31, 2019; 10/30/2019 • For **Sam Sapienza III**, father of Sam Sapienza IV, undergoing cancer treatment; 10/30/2019 • For **Paul Ammirata**, Jean's son, for healing after surgery; • For **Barbara Elisa Patricia Foster**, beloved mother of Kaye Foster, who passed away on August 11th, 2019. Please uphold Kaye and her family in your prayers; (8/16/2019) • Please pray for Cathy Johnson-Brown's brother **Bill Johnson**, for healing; (6/25/2019) • For **Ashley Snyder and her children**, for healing (6/13/2019); • For **Barbara, a friend of Sue Wilder**, for recovery from surgery; (5/16/2019) • For **Bill Potter**, for relief from back issues and pinched nerves; (5/14/2019) • For **Anthony Bottitta**, Hedy's husband, for good health. Please also remember **Hedy Bottitta** in your prayers as she recovers from a torn rotator cuff; (1/10/2019) • For **Karen Fleischer's Mother**, for strength and good health; (11/21/2018) • For the **sister of Steve Cooper**, for comfort and healing; (10/11/2018) • For **Bob and Sandi Bjornsen**, for increasingly good health for themselves and family members; (10/11/2018)

*"Hold me in your prayers, Friend, hold me in your prayers;
half the power of praying is knowing someone cares." (Marcus Bach)*