

Montesano Presbyterian Church

201 McBryde Ave. East, Montesano, WA 98563

360.249.3845 ~ montepres.org

Sunday Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.

1883 - 2024

April 2024

From the roll top desk of Pastor Patrick

Things Jesus didn't say, "Go therefore and make *converts* of as many people as you can." Yet he did say, "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*"

When I was a young man in my early twenties, I thought I had the world by the tail. I thought everything and everyone was on my side. I would soon find out I was wrong, very wrong. I hit a wall and I was reminded of another experience in a horse arena of the same feelings of disillusionment and failure

It was late, very late, 10PM or later. I was preparing for a show with Dallas, a 4 year old Sorrel Quarter Horse who would not do what I needed him to do. I tried everything, I rode till I was sore and blistered on hands and bum! Still no success. So, I got angry, and I threw a temper tantrum. I thought I was all alone. I wept. I was frustrated. Then Bobby Kubeka stepped out of the shadow and in

his Texan German voice told me a hard truth. "Patrick, you will never be the rider you want to be. You are not capable. You can't force him to do your will."

Despite my profound desire for evangelism, I seem to fail, and it feels as though I am not capable. This realization came to me early in ministry. Yet, I also discovered that there are many people whom Christ has called and whom He has gifted by His Spirit to be particularly effective in evangelism. To this day, I'm surprised if anybody attributes their conversion in some part to my influence. In one respect, I'm glad that the Great Commission is not a commission principally to evangelism. But wait, there are a few, who call me up and share their life in Christ. And say, "Thank you Patrick."

The words that preceded Jesus' commission were these: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." He then went on to say, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." When Jesus gave this commission to the church, He was speaking authoritatively. He gave a mandate to the church of all ages not simply to evangelize

but to make disciples. That leads us to two significant questions: What is the church? And What is a disciple?

We are the church, and the simplest definition of a *disciple* is one who seeks understanding. So, we might say that a disciple is a student.

Jesus was the greatest disciple-maker in history. Wherever He walked, His students followed. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, He chose particular individuals to be His disciples. He taught, they listened, they shared what they learned. What's more, people didn't file an application to get into the Jesus club. Just - "Follow Me," the command was literal—He called them to drop their present duties. They had to leave their work, their families, and their friends and follow Jesus.

When we're involved in discipleship, we do not graduate until we get to heaven. Discipleship is a lifelong experience of learning the mind of Christ and following the will of Christ, submitting ourselves in complete obedience to His Lordship. Thus, when Jesus tells us to go to all nations, we are to go into all the world with His agenda, not our own. We can't force faith, only the Holy Spirit does the work. When we find we hit a wall, it's time to climb a little and look to see what is on the other side. Capability has nothing to do with discipleship. On the other hand, willingness to follow does.

In Christ, <><
P.Cobb

Congregational Life

Thank you to all who contributed to Pi (Pie) Sunday. It was a delicious event.

Please consider signing up to host Fellowship Hour. This is a wonderful way to meet church family and to provide an opportunity for fellowship. The sign up sheet is located on the serving tables at the front of the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please talk with Pam.

The CDC has released updated recommendations for how people can protect themselves and their communities from respiratory viruses. The new guidance brings a unified approach to addressing risks from a range of common respiratory viral illnesses, such as COVID-19, flu, and RSV, which can cause significant health problems and strain on hospitals and health care workers. The CDC is making updates to the recommendations now because the United States is seeing far fewer hospitalizations and deaths associated with COVID-19 (greater than 98% of U.S. population now has some protective immunity against COVID-19 from vaccination, prior infection, or both.) and because there are more interventions than ever to combat flu, COVID, and RSV.

"Today's announcement reflects the progress we have made in protecting against severe illness from COVID-19," said CDC Director Dr. Mandy Cohen. "However, we still must use the commonsense solutions we know work to protect ourselves and others from serious illness from respiratory viruses—this includes vaccination, treatment, and staying home when we get sick."

As part of the guidance, the CDC provides active recommendations on core prevention steps and strategies:

- Staying up to date with vaccinations to protect people against serious illness, hospitalization, and death. This includes flu, COVID-19, and RSV if eligible.

- Practicing good hygiene by covering coughs and sneezes, washing or sanitizing hands often, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces (don't forget light switches, door handles and faucets).

- Taking steps for cleaner air, such as bringing in more fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors.

When people get sick with a respiratory virus, the updated guidance recommends that they stay home and away from others. For people with COVID-19 and influenza, treatment is available and can lessen symptoms and lower the risk of severe illness. The recommendations suggest returning to normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, symptoms are improving overall, and if a fever was present, it has been gone without use of a fever-reducing medication.

Bottom line, if you have a fever or do not feel well, please do not attend worship or participate in other church activities. In order to return to normal activities, a negative COVID-19 test is not necessary if you have no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol, aspirin or ibuprofen, your symptoms (fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea) are gone, and you feel better.

Thank You, Pam

Game Day

Come and join us for Game Day if you enjoy playing games! We laugh a lot, and eat snacks that we bring to share!

We meet at church on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, at 1:00 p.m.

The April Games Days are April 11 & 25

If you have any questions contact Randi Toyra or Diana Hill.

Mission / Outreach

Uganda... Don and I have returned from our mission to Uganda. As always, it was a pleasure to worship at many bush churches with Brothers and Sisters who take great joy in their faith, though they have little in the way of worldly goods. We gave local-language bibles (donated by a couple in our church) and identified needs - medical, food, and crusades - which we can help with using Auction and other funds. We plan to share our experiences with the congregation in the near future in the Sunday service. Jim

Praying Church

We are a praying church and we want to pray for your families and friends who are in need. Prayer chains tend to break down in the middle - our 'chain' is actually a long list of prayer warriors who are notified by email when someone needs our prayers. If you would like to be a prayer warrior, or are in need of prayer, contact either Peggy Gillespie or Edie Johnson

April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy birthday to:

Mel Broughton ~ April 21

Butch Jobst ~ April 25

Juanita Howell ~ April 30

Happy Anniversary to:

Art & Joan Tanner ~ April 3

Coming April Events

Grief Group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. here at the church. This group is led by Angela Carter

April Birthday Lunch Each month we celebrate those having a birthday with a lunch held at Gepettos Italian restaurant. This month, the lunch will be held on Monday, April 1, at 11:30 a.m. Come and help us celebrate!

Men's Breakfast Ministry is open to all men of the church. They meet for breakfast at Thursday mornings at 7:00a.m.

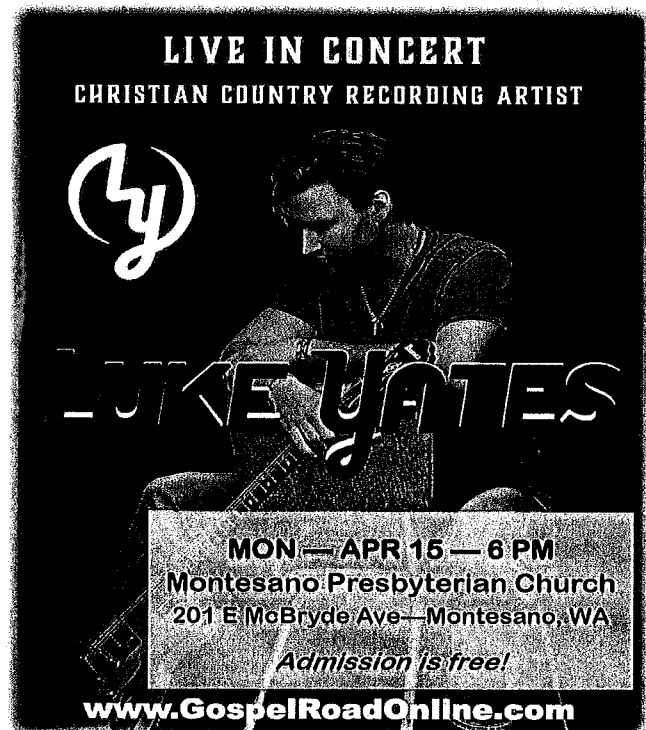
The **Women's Ministry** is open to all women of the church. Bible study meets every Friday at noon.

Red Cross Blood Drive will be at the Church of God, Tuesday, April 30, 1:30 - 7:00 p.m. Please call 1.800.733.2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule your appointment.

The New Legacy Project

The past two years, we have hosted The New Legacy Project, a Christian Gospel group, based in Nashville Tennessee. Since their visit last year, family obligations have forced the group to go their separate ways.

Luke Yates however, has decided to continue on as a solo artist, performing around the country one week each month. We will be hosting Luke on Monday, April 15 at 6:00 p.m. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to what promises to be a great concert. Admission is Free.



LIVE IN CONCERT
CHRISTIAN COUNTRY RECORDING ARTIST

LUKE YATES

MON — APR 15 — 6 PM
Montesano Presbyterian Church
201 E. McBryde Ave — Montesano, WA

Admission is free!

www.GospelRoadOnline.com

The poster features a black and white photograph of Luke Yates playing an acoustic guitar. To the left of the photo is a circular logo containing a stylized 'LY' monogram. The text is arranged in a clear, bold, sans-serif font, with the artist's name 'LUKE YATES' being the largest and most prominent.

Olive Crest Carnival

Montesano Presbyterian Church in partnership with Olive Crest and Foster the Harbor, will be hosting a Foster Family Spring Fun Carnival for foster children and their families on Saturday, April 20th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The deacons are looking for volunteers to help run the 15 to 20 booths we hope to have. Your participation and help is vital for the respite of the families who attend. Please RSVP to Melani Cobb if you would like to participate in this event.

Who's Doing What....

Reader of God's Word

April 07 ~ Pam Hildreth

April 14 ~ David Mandt

April 21 ~ Garrett Dalan

April 28 ~ Emily Meier

May 05 ~ Tom Robins

May 12 ~ Randi Toyra

May 19 ~ Melani Cobb

May 26 ~ Peggy Gillespie

Pulpit Fill Sunday

If you are unable to read during your assigned Sunday, please let Peggy know.

Greeters

March 31 & April 07 ~ Pam Hildreth

April 14 & 21 ~ Peggy Gillespie &

Sue McCombs

April 28 & May 5 ~ Debby Hammer

& Randi Toyra

Union Gospel Mission Meal

Another month, another mission meal.

Main Course:

Brooke Carroll

Emily Meier

Jan Morrill

Dessert:

Tamra Robins

Salad *We need someone to deliver and someone to donate salad.*



OLIVE CREST
Foster Family Spring Fun
CARNIVAL



Saturday, April 20th
11:00 am to 2:00 pm
at Montesano Presbyterian Church
201 McBryde Ave,
Montesano, WA 98563



Contact Teresa Snow
360-612-3098
if you have questions

