

Monocacy Church of the Brethren

Monthly Newsletter

March 2025 – Issue 3

301-271-7425 or 240-405-5967 – <http://www.monocacychurchofthebrethren.org>



Who was Saint Patrick?



Saint Patrick was actually British

Although he's one of Ireland's most celebrated figures, Patrick was born around the year 390 in what is now England, Scotland or Wales. [As the story goes](#), he was kidnapped and enslaved at age 16 and brought over to Ireland. He then escaped to a monastery in Gaul (around present-day France), where he converted to Christianity. That's where he became a priest and then eventually a bishop. He returned to Ireland in 432 as a missionary, where he played a major role in converting the Irish to Christianity. After his death, he was named Ireland's patron saint.

His real name was Maewyn Succat

Yes, you read that correctly. Maewyn Succat was his name until he changed it to Patrick when he became a bishop.

March 17 is *not* Saint Patrick's birthday

St. Patrick's Day observers who might have thought they were celebrating the saint's birthday will be surprised to learn that March 17, 461 AD is actually the day he died.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade happened in America, not Ireland

The [first parade took place in New York City in 1762](#). With an increase of Irish immigrants entering the United States, St. Patrick's Day quickly became a widespread holiday. [According to Metro NY](#), approximately 150,000 people generally participate in the New York City parade each year and around 2 million people come out to watch.

St. Patrick had no snakes to banish

Legend says that St. Patrick drove Ireland's snakes into the sea, purging the land of all "evil." However, research contradicts this tale, indicating that snakes never inhabited the Emerald Isle — as the [entire island was once covered in ice](#), and there [is no fossil evidence](#) of snakes in the region.

It used to be a dry holiday

St. Patrick's Day was considered a religious holiday in Ireland for most of the 20th century, so [all pubs would close on March 17](#). Once it became a national holiday in 1970, everything changed and pubs became a go-to spot for many to celebrate.

Everyone should be wearing blue, not green

Blue was actually the color that was most associated with Patrick and [green was considered unlucky](#). Blue is still considered symbolic of Ireland — so how did green become the go-to hue for those who don't want to get pinched? Historically, green has been the color that's been linked to [a series of Irish rebellions](#) that took place in order to gain independence from the English crown. The color stuck once waves of Irish immigrants made their home in America and began wearing green and carrying the Irish flag to show their pride for their home country.

The shamrock was NOT originally used as a teaching tool

Many believe that St. Patrick used the three-leaf clover to teach others about the Christian Holy Trinity (the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit), but [that hasn't been proven to be true](#).

However, the number three was a sacred number in Irish mythology, so it does make sense for the shamrock to hold that connection to the Holy Trinity — just likely not in an instructive way.

There are no female leprechauns

Ever wonder why you've never seen a lady leprechaun? The answer is: They don't exist! There has been no record of female leprechauns and what's even more interesting is that leprechauns are considered to be [part of the fairy family](#). Some have even said that leprechauns are the rejected fairies who have been ousted by the fairy community, which explains why they're usually described as grouchy creatures prone to mischief.

Corned beef and cabbage is an American invention

Yes, it's true! The classic St. Patrick's Day dish — made with chopped meat, potatoes and fried onions — didn't originate in Ireland at all. While ham and cabbage were traditional Irish fare, corned beef became a more affordable alternative for Irish Americans, [per History.com](#). And here's a fun fact: Despite its name, there's no corn in corned beef. The term "corned" actually refers to the sizable grains of salt historically used to cure meats, known as "corns."

By [Diane J. Cho](#), People.com

The Bulletin Board



The Church Cleaning Schedule is posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up if you can help with church cleaning.



New pew cushions have been ordered. If anyone has a bench and could use any of the old cushions, please see Karen Elsey by April 1.

LET YOUR GENTLENESS BE KNOWN Philippians 4:5

National Junior High Conference
June 20-22, 2025
Juniata College • Huntingdon, PA

Gentleness, commanded in scripture and named as a "fruit of the Spirit," is not valued by the culture around us. How would our relationships with each other and with God change if gentleness guided us? What does it mean to "Let your gentleness be known?" Come explore these questions with us next summer!

www.brethren.org/yqa/njhc

For Junior High Youth (those who have completed grades 6 - 8) and their advisors.
Early bird registration fee: \$250 (January only!)
Regular registration fee: \$275 (February - April)
Scholarships (intercultural and travel) are available.

Church of the Brethren



Happy St. Patrick's Day and Welcome Spring! This month reminds us of what God can do and how a person of faith can change a whole country! Below are Irish blessings for you and your family, as well as for our church family. Please join us for worship and don't forget to wear you green!

Traditional Irish Blessing -

May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face, And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

Old Irish Blessing -

May God give you for every storm, a rainbow, for every tear, a smile,
for every care, a promise and a blessing in each trial. For every problem life sends,
a faithful friend to share. For every sign, a sweet song and an answer for every
prayer.

ADVICE From a GLACIER -

- Carve your own path
- Go slow
- Channel your strengths
- Smooth the way for others
- Keep moving forward
- Avoid meltdowns
- Be cool!

BEATITUDES For The AGING -

Blessed are they who understand My faltering steps and palsied hand;
Bless them for they know my ears today Must strain to catch the words they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know My eyes are dim, and my wits are slow;
Blessed are they who look away When coffee spilled on the table today.
Blessed are they with a cheery smile Who stop to chat for a little while;
Blessed are they who never say “You’ve told that story twice today.”
Blessed are they who know the ways To bring back memories of yesterdays;
Blessed are they who make it known That I am loved, respected, and not alone.
Bless them who know I’m at a loss To find the strength to carry my cross;
Blessed are they who ease the days On my journey Home in loving ways.

- Author Unknown

Pastor’s Memory Verse - Psalm 145:4

“What You have done will be praised from one generation to the next;
they will proclaim Your mighty acts.”

Pastor Tracy



Every Sunday from 9:30 – 10:30 am

Children's Sunday School Schedule

March 9th and March 23rd

Adult Sunday School

Video Series: Is This the End?

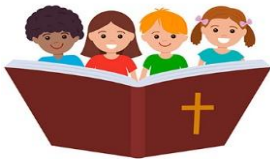
Benny Ferguson, Calvary Assembly of God – Walkersville, Md

March 2 - The Mark of the Beast

March 9 - Time of Tribulation

March 16 - What's the Verdict

March 23 - New Heaven and New Earth



Bible Study

First and third Wednesdays – 10:30 am

March 5 and March 19

Come join us and bring a friend.

Pastor Schedule for March

March 2 – Pastor Tracy Wiser

March 9 – Pastor Sam Martz

March 16 – Pastor Tracy Wiser

March 23 – Pastor Sam Martz

March 30 – Pastor Tracy Wiser

Survivor Guide

B I B L E

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Upset	John 14
Weak	Psalms 18:1-29
Lonely	Psalms 23
Sinned	Psalms 51
Worried	Matthew 8:19-31
Anxious	Philippians 4:4-9
Unhappy	Colossians 3:12-17
In danger	Psalms 91
Depressed	Psalms 27
Lack of Faith	Exodus 14
Need Courage	Joshua 1
Need Direction	Psalms 73:21-26
Seeking peace	Matthew 11:25-30
Leaving on a trip	Psalms 121
Struggling with loss	Luke 15
Struggling Financially	Psalms 37
Discouraged with work	Psalms 126

**AVAILABLE 24/7 | PHONE SERVICE NOT REQUIRED
DIRECT PETITIONS HEAVENWARD**

MARCH

Birthdays

Curtis Hartman 3rd
Jake Lutz 7th
Tyler Sumner 8th
Faye Wolfe 16th
Carol Simpson 20th
Lisa Reed 26th
Justin Peters 30th

BJ Troxell 4th
Joyce Seiss 7th
Josh Gomer 13th
Ronnie Anders 17th
Caleb Mason 23rd
Travis Stambaugh 27th

Eric Kilcoyne 5th
Cheyenne Simpson 7th
Daniel Peters 14th
Joey Lutz 18th
Chelsea Smith 26th
Caleb Peters 30th

Anniversaries

Kayla and Kyle Petrosky 14th

Rebecca and Aaron Shorb 17th



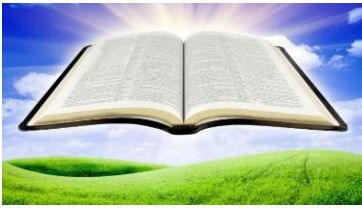
Remember Our Servicemen

Elijah Moser – Air Force

Thank You for your service.

Contact Information

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SUGGESTED DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS MARCH

1 1 John 3:2	2 John 3:9	3 1 John 5:11-12
4 1 John 5:14-15	5 1 John 5:18	6 1 Peter 1:3-5
7 1 Peter 2:2-5	8 1 Peter 2:9	9 1 Peter 3:11-12
10 1 Peter 3:12	11 1 Peter 5:10	12 1 Peter 5:4
13 1 Samuel 17:47	14 1 Samuel 2:8-9	15 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14
16 1 Thessalonians 4:3	17 1 Thessalonians 3:3	18 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
19 2 Chronicles 7:14	20 2 Corinthians 3:18	21 2 Corinthians 4:14
22 2 Corinthians 5:21	23 2 Corinthians 6:18	24 2 Corinthians 9:10-11
25 2 Corinthians 1:10	26 2 Corinthians 1:3-4	27 2 Corinthians 9:8
28 2 Corinthians 12:9	29 2 Peter 1:3	30 2 Samuel 14:14
31 2 Samuel 22:4		



Bible Word Search

Apostles / Disciples



Word list:

PETER
ANDREW
JAMES
JOHN
PHILIP
BARTHOLOMEW

THOMAS
MATTHEW
JAMES
THADDAEUS
SIMON
JUDAS

