

# THE CHURCH CANDLE

## JUNE - JULY 2018

A Newsletter of the Sayre Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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### GRADUATE SUNDAY- JUNE 3

This Sunday we will celebrate and honor the members of our church family who have graduated from high school this year.

- **Shawn Shaw** from Athens Area High School
- **MaryKate Leed** from Sayre High School

Members of our church family like to share the good news of their graduates which we are always happy to report. Allan and Janet Frisk reported that their granddaughters, **Abigail Warren** and **Elizabeth Frisk**, have graduated from a Home School group. If you would like to share your graduation news with your church family, please contact Wendy in the Church Office, 570-888-2683 or sayrechristianchurch@gmail.com. We will share the news in our August newsletter. May God bless all those who begin a new journey in their life.

### FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY JUNE 3 and JULY 1

On the first Sunday of the month, our church observes Food Pantry Sunday. Each family is encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item which will be donated to the food pantry, "Feed My Sheep" located at the United Methodist Church in Athens. Thank you to Laura Stephenson who delivers the food each month to the food pantry. The Athens United Methodist Church Family sent a thank you after our donation of 44 items in May. Dear Sayre Christian Church, What a wonderful blessing you are to our "Feed My Sheep" Food Pantry! Thank you for your recent donation of food items. We are so thankful for your faithfulness. *The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor. Proverbs 22:9*

### NEW BEGINNINGS PROGRAM SCHEDULE OF HOUSE MEETINGS #2 AND #3

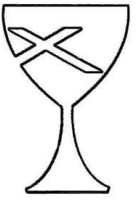
All are encouraged to attend these House Meetings.

Please try to stay with the same facilitator you met with on May 20, 2018.

But, if this is a conflict with your schedule, choose one that you are able to attend.

- Bring you New Beginnings Assessment Report with you to the meeting.
- These meetings are your opportunity to have input on the future of our church.

FACILITATOR	PLACE OF MEETING	HOUSE MEETING #2 Date/Time	HOUSE MEETING #3 Date/Time	HOUSE MEETING #4 Date/Time
Karen Sykas	508 Powell St., Sayre	Sunday, June 3 6:30 pm	Sunday, June 17 6:30 pm	Sunday, July 8 6:30 pm
Julie Allis	1744 Pennsylvania Ave #5, Sayre Home of Marge Orlowski	Monday, June 4 6:00 pm	Monday, June 18 6:00 pm	Monday, July 9 6:00 pm
Rick & Kathy Rava	Sayre Christian Church	Wednesday, June 6 10:00 am	Wednesday, June 20 10:00 am	Wednesday, July 11 10:00 am
Oliver & Wendy McKeithan	Sayre Christian Church	Thursday, June 7 6:00 pm	Thursday, June 21 6:00 pm	Thursday, July 19 6:00 pm



One of the required courses I am taking for my Masters' Degree is Disciples History and Polity. I wasn't completely sure of our history and am not sure you are aware of what we believe as members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). So, I thought it would be a good idea if over the next several months I provided some information from the book *Freedom in Covenant: Reflections on the Distinctive Values and Practices of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)* by Robert D. Cornwall, WIPF & Stock Publishers, Eugene, Oregon. 2015.

It was interesting for me to note that although our 'movement' has spread across the globe, we are an American denomination. We are a denomination that sprang up from an anti-denominational sentiment interestingly enough. Both Stone and Campbell felt a deep desire for Christian unity and abhorred the splits occurring among Protestant churches during colonial and pre-Civil War times. Their goal was for unity within Christianity.

Disciples are "Set Free" through several freedoms that define the Disciples identity. These freedoms are:

*You have the freedom to respond to the gospel* – God has not determined our fate, we have the freedom to choose our own life path (7).

*You are free from Creedalism* – Disciples do not have an officially sanctioned creed or statement of faith that one must affirm as a requirement for membership in the community (8).

*You are free from Ignorance and Superstition* – we embrace a reasonable or rational reading of the Scriptures and are a community of believers who are sufficiently grounded in Scripture that we can read it, understand it, and follow its teachings in life (9).

*We are free from the law of Sin and Death* – If you live your life in relationship to the God revealed in Jesus Christ, then there is no need to fear death. Your past does not determine your future.

"There is an old saying that was once popular in Disciples circles: 'We're not the only Christians, just Christians only.' As a community of faith living within the greater body of Christ, we have a special gift to bring to the world. We may not be a credal people, but we do have a strong set of core values that help define our identity as a people. These values include a commitment to Christian unity and that is rooted in an embrace of the spiritual freedom of every person" (10).

I have learned in my study of Disciples History that we have had several disagreements within our history and we have had two deep dividing schisms, but we have remained a "movement" with unity as our polar star. That is something I would like to hold onto as we go through this current process of determining our future direction. Remember our Polar Star and remember the 'hope and heritage' of the Disciples who have brought us to where we are today.

Blessings from Pastor Paula

**CHICKEN BBQ—Sunday, June 10  
FUNDRAISER FOR EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT**

Begins at 11:30 am until gone

at the Sayre Christian Church Parking Lot

Chicken Half—\$6.00

BBQ Chicken with Dinner—\$8.00

(includes baked potato and coleslaw)

This fundraiser is coordinated by Mason Hughey, a Life Scout, who is raising funds for an outdoor electric sign for our church. Mason will be here on Sunday, June 3 to give you an update about the progress of the sign and to sell tickets to the Chicken BBQ. For those who won't be here for the update, the total in the sign fund as of May 31, 2018 is \$4,419.50. Mason is also collecting bottles and cans for deposit. You can help him by bringing these items to the church and placing them in Room #5 downstairs.

SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR June 2018

ELDER/DEACON: Marlene Enlow/Wendy McKeithan
DEACONS: Bethanne Chernosky, Nancy Cain, Karen Sykas, Nick Rava
JUNIOR DEACONS: Sierra Garrison, Shawn Shaw
STEWARDS: Dolores Smith



SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR July 2018

ELDER/DEACON: Julie Allis/Laurel Mareck
DEACONS: Sarah Rava, Melanie Setzer, Howard Sinsabaugh, David Padilla
JUNIOR DEACONS: Monica Fiske, Zachary Anderson
STEWARDS: To Be Announced

GIVING REPORT FOR APRIL 2018

The following monies were received through the Sunday offering and the groups that use the building on a regular weekly basis.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Current Expenses (\$9,951.95), Local Outreach (6.00), World Outreach (156.00), and Building Fund (\$2,556.94).

CHANGE IN CHURCH STAFFING

Bethanne Chernosky who has served as our custodian for twelve years has resigned from this position as of May 31, 2018. We would like to thank Bethanne for her dedicated service to our church. As of June 1, 2018, J's Clean Sweep, LLC will be cleaning the church on a weekly basis. This decision was approved by the Church Board at the May meeting.

TRUSTEES REPORT

- Dave Mareck lined the parking lot as well as cleared the stones and weeds.
• David Padilla will once again be taking care of the lawn mowing this season.
• Mark Allis has replaced six of the fluorescent lights in the Board Room with LED lights in an effort to conserve electricity.

Thank you for taking care of our church building and grounds.

SEED FAITH CIRCLE

The women of the Seed Faith Circle will gather for dinner on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at Mangialardo's at 6 pm. All women of the church are welcome to join us. Contact Wendy McKeithan if you plan to attend. This will be the last gathering until September.

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

An Opportunity to Serve Our Community

Each week a free community dinner is held at a church in the Valley to help those who have a low income or anyone in need of fellowship. Once a year our Outreach Team Sponsors this event. A monetary donation comes from the Local Outreach Fund in order to pay for the food. This year we will sponsor the meal to be served on Thursday, June 28, 2018 at the Church of Redeemer on S. Wilbur Avenue. The meal is served from 4:00 pm—6:00 pm. We are also asked to provide desserts as well as volunteers to help serve and clean up. Attendance at these meals varies, but we usually plan to serve 70-80. Cookies, brownies, or cake are good choices to serve. If you would like to help with the service of this meal or provide desserts, contact Wendy in the Church Office. 570-888-2683. Volunteers who would like to serve should be at the Church of Redeemer by 3:45 pm. Enter the church at the back door to the Fellowship Area.

CONDOLENCES

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of:

- Christopher Campbell who died on May 17, 2018. He was the husband of Nichole Ryck Campbell.

If you would like to send a card to Nichole and her family, the address is: 1264 Deer Lane, Paradise CA 95969-2612

- June Glose, a long time member of our church, passed away peacefully at home on May 28, 2018. She was 96 years old.

May God provide comfort and strength to those who mourn Christopher and June.

Heaven is a promise of peace, love, and eternal life for each one who believes.

"To day shalt thou be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR SUMMER WORSHIP

The Senior Choir is "on vacation" during the summer months. This is the opportunity for others to share their individual musical talents with the congregation. If you would like to sing a song or play an instrument for our summer worship, contact our pianist, Janet Frisk.

## A NOTE FROM AN ELDER

“From Above, He Listens”

*I waited patiently for the Lord: and He inclined to me and heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and also established my steps. Psalm 40:1-2*

As we begin our journey on the New Beginnings Program for our church, we must remember that one of the greatest traits we can acquire over time is patience. God’s timing is not the same as our timing, and we sometimes feel as though He is ignoring us or has forgotten us completely. In truth, there are many things happening on an unseen level. It can sometime feel as though life is at a stand still, especially during hard times and challenges that we must now face with our church. But there might be some movement, just outside our view, that will bring us the support we need. Only God knows. Waiting on God’s timing means having things happen as they should, not as we think or want them to. As a strong church with love for God and all His people He will lead us at His pace. Let us all take part as this is our church. We will need much prayer and listening to God’s plans for us as God’s plans never fail.

Marlene Enlow, Elder



## THE NEEDHAMS in CONCERT

THURSDAY, JULY 5 at 7:00 pm

at the Sayre Christian Church

The Needhams are comprised of Dave Needham, his sister Diane, and her husband, Steve Mummert. The story begins a generation earlier with Dave and Diane’s parents, David and Eileen Needham. Patriarch David Needham spent his early music career in New England playing with the likes of Lefty Frizzell and Marty Robbins before marrying his wife Eileen and moving to Genesee County in New York. The

couple was part of a local country group, The Genesee Sweethearts. God called them to Christian music, and once their children Dave and Diane were able to stand in front of a microphone and learned their instruments, the family began touring throughout the Northeast. David and Eileen moved to Tennessee in 1994, rejoining Dave as a trio in 1997. Today, David and Eileen reside in Tennessee and continue to work behind the scenes for the Needhams.

**Son, Dave**, joined the Dixie Melody Boys as a vocalist and bassist in 1993. When touring with them, Dave was nominated for the Singing News Horizon Individual Award, and received respect for his songwriting. His return to family harmony roots marks the beginning of The Needhams as they are today. Dave owns and manages the group, playing bass guitar, singing and acting as emcee, and continuing as a writer and producer for The Needhams as well as other artists in Nashville.

**Daughter Diane** was introduced to audiences at the age of 2 in LeRoy, NY theater. Harmony was natural for the siblings, and adding Diane as drummer to Dave’s bass guitar rounded out the band with David and Eileen playing guitars. Diane attended Roberts Wesleyan University in North Chili, New York, and met drummer, Steve Mummert, in Pennsylvania, where they moved after they wed. Diane honed her songwriting skills and played guitar with Steve’s group until the couple joined The Needhams. A prolific writer, Diane pens songs for The Needhams and other artists, and adds her mandolin and vocal to the pristine family harmony.

**Steve Mummert** is a Pennsylvania native who began drumming for his family’s group at the age of 12. His parents asked him to add his voice to their group when he turned 18, and their band toured the Mid-Atlantic region extensively. He met Diane at a music conference in 1992 and their whirlwind romance found her added to his family by the middle of 1993. In 1999, Steve approached Dave about joining The Needhams, and now Steve is the road manager for the band as well as drummer and vocalist.

A rich history of family harmony and their personal faith in Jesus Christ have brought The Needhams to where they are today. Ultimately, it is their goal to glorify God, encourage fellow believers, and share the gospel. The Needhams have shared their talents with our community and church many times. Their performance is always fresh, entertaining, and inspirational. Admission is free. A love offering will be received for The Needhams. Visit [theneedhams.com](http://theneedhams.com) for more information.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 6—Jerry Bradley  
Bonnie Milochik  
8—Donald Johnson  
13—Suzanne Kaiden  
17—Beth Mattison  
Amy Hayton  
22—Garrett Franks  
Reed Hurd  
24—Toni Shaw  
29—Laurence Kingsley

## ANNIVERSARIES

June 13—Matthew & Melanie Adams  
June 29—Allan & Janet Frisk

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 8—Karen Bennett  
14—Jerry Cain  
Denise Hurd  
15—Donna Johnson  
Corey Hurd  
16—Rachel Rava  
Bill Flottesmesch  
Gary Taubar  
18—Janet Frisk  
19—Zachary Anderson  
20—Norman Fairbanks  
23—Susan Hurd  
25—Linda Case  
30—Pam Hayton

## ANNIVERSARIES

July 6—Charles & Linda Case  
16—David & Charlene Roberts  
23—Albert & Gilberta Corneby  
26—Francis III & Gloria Lincoln



## CELEBRATION SUNDAY!

- Celebration Sunday! will happen on **June 24, 2018** to honor all those who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in June. Light refreshments will be served after worship in Matthew's Place (side vestry.) Contact Wendy in the Church Office if you would like to provide the beverage or snack.
- In July, Celebration Sunday will be held on the **fifth Sunday, July 29, 2018**. We will share a potluck dinner after worship in Matthew's place. Tableware and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

- **Barb and Jon Lincoln** renewed their wedding vows on their 56th wedding anniversary, May 19, 2018, at their home. They were joined by family and friends.
- **Robin Grabb** retired from the First Citizens Bank in May. She had worked 43 years in banking.
- **Shawn Shaw** who graduated this year played spring soccer and will be a life guard at the Towanda YMCA this summer. He will also be swimming for Waverly Area Aquatic Club and plans to go to the Junior Olympics in Iowa.

## FREE COMMUNITY BOOK EXCHANGE

Last year an effort was made to downsize our church library through a book sale. There are still a lot of books! In an effort to share these books with others, a Free Community Book Exchange has been set up on shelves located in the Fellowship Area. All are welcome to utilize the book exchange. There are a variety of selections, fiction, Amish Christian books, and some non-fiction. Anyone is able to take a book home. There is no need to bring the book back. It is our hope that others will feel free to bring a book for others to read as they take a book home.



## The mission of the Sayre Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

- is honor God,
- share the love of Christ,
- and change lives ministering grace and peace.



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## THE “CHURCH CANDLE” JUNE/JULY 2018

### UPCOMING DATES FOR JUNE 2018

- JUNE 2 Blessing of the Bikes at 11 am
- 3 Food Pantry Sunday  
Graduate Sunday
- 3-7 House Meetings #2  
See schedule on page 1
- 10 Chicken BBQ begins at 11:30 am
- 12 Church Board Meeting at 6 pm
- 17 Happy Father’s Day!
- 17-21 House Meetings #3  
See schedule on page 1
- 19 Seed Faith Circle at 6 pm  
Mangialardo’s

### UPCOMING DATES FOR JULY 2018

- JULY 1 Food Pantry Sunday
- 5 The Needhams in Concert  
at the Sayre Christian Church
- 8-11 House Meetings #4  
See Schedule on page 1
- 10 Church Board Meeting at 6 pm

**SAVE THE DATE!  
SUMMERFEST  
August 18, 2018  
1:00—7:00 pm**

