



THE CHURCH CANDLE NOVEMBER - 2021

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

ALL SAINTS DAY observed on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021

All Saints Day is usually observed on the first day of November or on the closest Sunday to November 1.

All Saints Day is the day when the Christian Church celebrates all those who have died and ascended into heaven. Most churches observe All Saints Day to commemorate those who have passed from the congregation in the previous year. In loving memory, we remember . . .

Donald Belcher—November 25, 2020

Jon Lincoln—January 7, 2021

Barbara Lincoln—November 27, 2020

Helen Minard—May 13, 2021

Jay Sinsabaugh—December 16, 2020

Floyd Ammerman—April 4, 2021

Llewellyn “Pete” Wilkinson—December 18, 2020

Albert Potenzone—August 1, 2021

On Sunday, October 31, 2021, members of our church family were invited to light a candle of remembrance for their loved one. The ritual of lighting a candle to pay tribute to a life ‘passed’ has long been a part of our culture. Keeping a light burning in remembrance signifies that the memory still lives on and burns bright. It is a ritual that promotes reflection and significance. It can be traced back to ancient pagan rites and the beginning of Christianity, as we know it. Light is considered pure, it dispels darkness, it nourishes life and illuminates everything. As such, light became a befitting symbol for God, the ‘*Blessed Savior*’, as referred to in the Bible as “*the light of the world*” [John 8:12.] In addition, wax has its own symbolic meaning, the wax being spotless, is supposed to represent Christ’s spotless body, with the wick within it representing his soul and the glowing flame representing the Divine Nature united with the human in one Divine Person.

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

On the first Sunday of the month, Food Pantry Sunday is observed. Each family is asked to bring a non-perishable food item which will be donated to the “Feed My Sheep” Food Pantry located at Athens United Methodist Church on S. Main Street. The Athens United Methodist church family is grateful for the 70 food items donated last month.

Thank you for your recent donation of food items for our “Feed My Sheep” Food Pantry.

As grocery prices continue to rise, we anticipate a greater need in the coming months.

*Let each man give accordingly as he has determined in his heart, not grudgingly,
or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:2*

FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2021

The annual Fall Congregational Meeting will be held after the worship service on November 14, 2021. All members are encouraged to remain after the service. The 2022 Church Budget will be discussed and approved. In addition, changes to the SCC Congregational Covenant will be reviewed.

PAULA'S PAGE . . .

Dear Church,

WOW! November already, time sure flies! I am excited for some of the things these next couple months will bring. We will have our congregational meeting on Sunday, November 14 to approve our budget and review a couple of changes that were made to our covenant. I will also ask your blessings on my journey toward ordination.

We will be preparing for ADVENT season, kicking it off with a concert on Saturday, November 27 with the GloryWay Quartet. I have introduced them to you with one of their video praise songs during our Sunday worship time and you will find other opportunities this month to hear their music. This is a concert you should consider attending and supporting your church. It is not a fund raiser for this church, but it will be an opportunity to fellowship with members of our community. I hope to see you there.

We are finishing up our Tuesday Bible Study of A.J. Levine's "The Difficult Words of Jesus" in November and will be choosing something to carry us through Advent. This Tuesday morning group is open to anyone. So, if you can carve an hour out of your Tuesday mornings from 10 to 11, we would love to have you join us to read, study, and discuss God's word.

Finally, I want to thank you for the cards and notes of appreciation received during this month of Pastor appreciation. I want you to know that I have found no greater joy in my life than serving this church. I carry you in my prayers and I appreciate you more than you will know.

God Bless, Pastor Paula



GLORYWAY QUARTET in concert SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2021 at 6 pm SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

GloryWay was founded in Mansfield, Ohio by lead singer, Justin Crank. Raised on good old-fashioned gospel music, Justin developed a love for four-part harmony. What began as four friends singing around town was blessed by God and has blossomed into a powerful full-time ministry. GloryWay travels over 60,000 miles annually, all across the United States. The group has participated in numerous showcases at the National Quartet Convention. In 2017 and 2018, they were nominated for 'Sunrise Quartet of the Year' for SGN Scoops Diamond Awards, taking home the honor in 2018. GloryWay has also been named Southern Gospel Artist of the Year by Southern Gospel New York. They were honored guests on the nationally syndicated radio program "Paul Heil and the Gospel Greats" and have been able to perform at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge TN many times over the years. They look forward to each and every opportunity to share their ministry. Each performance is sure to delight and encourage all to listen. All are encouraged to invite their friends and family. Admission is free. A Love Offering will be received to support their music ministry.



ELDER: To Be Announced

STEWARD: To Be Announced

**EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT
MEN'S DINNER MEETING**

TUESDAY, November 16, 2021

6:30 pm

First Church of Christ (Disciples of Christ)
in Williamsport PA

All men, young men, and junior and senior high boys are welcome to attend this dinner meeting in Williamsport PA. The meal will feature roast beef and the fixings. The program will be presented by Shepherd of the Streets. Cost for the evening is \$10.00. Usually, the men who attend this quarterly event meet and carpool to the host church. Reservations are needed by Sunday, November 14. Contact the Church Office, Mark Allis, or Oliver McKeithan if you would like to attend.

New Look!!! in the Fellowship Area

By the time you read this article in the newsletter, the Fellowship area downstairs will have a new floor installed. The new flooring is vinyl which will resist tearing and fraying. Anything spilled on the floor can now be cleaned up with no stains left behind. Thanks to Mark Allis for spearheading this project and thanks to the crew who did the work. The cost for the job was \$6/square foot. Total cost is \$12,000. We did have enough money in the Building Fund to pay for the floor. However, we have the Liability Insurance payment coming in June which will probably cost us between \$5,000 to \$6,000. This payment will seriously reduce the amount of money remaining in the Building Fund.

I realize that with inflation the way it is and supply chain issues our family budgets are stretched. But I would ask if you can, to include the Building Fund in some of your offerings. Thank you, Oliver McKeithan, Treasurer



Veterans Day

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

Thank you to all who **have served** our country!

Thank you to all who **are serving** our country!

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

This offering will be received on **Sunday, November 14 and November 21, 2021**. Envelopes will be available in the pews and at the table by the front sanctuary door. From the very beginnings of the movement, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning, encouraging students in their intellectual pursuits. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. In the midst of national and global challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, our higher education institutions are facing unprecedented challenges and need our support now more than ever. Even as they work diligently to ensure safe and healthy learning environments, the financial realities faced by many of our schools is adding additional stress to students, faculty, and staff. This November, please give generously to this year's Thanksgiving offering. Your gifts make a world of difference as Disciples continue our legacy of supporting education and institutions of higher learning.



1. Where was/is Corinth?
2. How did Paul describe the human body?
3. Who was Ezra?
4. What is a seraph?

Answers on page 5.

SEED FAITH CIRCLE

The women of the Seed Faith Circle will gather for dinner on **Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 pm** at **Yanuzzi's Restaurant** on Desmond Street in Sayre. All women of the church are welcome to join us. If you plan to attend, see Wendy McKeithan or call 570-888-2683.

GIVING REPORT FOR AUGUST and SEPTEMBER 2021

The following monies are received from the Sunday offering and the groups that use the church building during the week.

	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>
Income for Current Expenses	\$7,884.00	\$4,821.00
Income for Designated Expenses813.00361.00
World Outreach	104.00	104.00
Local Outreach	134.00	104.00
Building Fund	\$1,669.00	\$1,084.00

In September, a special offering for the Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was received. Our congregation collected \$295.00 for this ministry. Thank you for your generosity.

THE ANNUAL SLEEPOUT of THE BRIDGE Friday, November 26, 2021 (3 pm) thru Saturday, November 27, 2021 (3 pm)

Bridge board members will be joined by business, church, or individual sponsors to spend an hour or more weathering the cold in an unheated, open room at the Guthrie Desmond Street Practice (formerly Newberry's.) Funds raised will be used to assist those in need in our community. The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches provides emergency vouchers, food, clothing, and furniture to families who find themselves facing the loss of utilities, homelessness, and other needs. The Bridge serves those residing within the Athens, Sayre, or Waverly school districts.

How can you participate in the Sleepout?

- ⇒ **Pray for the Sleepout** and the various Bridge ministries to bring awareness of those in need in the cold winter months ahead.
- ⇒ **Sleepout** with friends or your family for one-hour block of time at the makeshift home on Desmond Street. If you would like to Sleepout, sponsor sheets are available from the Church Office. Call/text Kim Paul 570-867-2628 or visit sleepout@thevalleybridge.org to schedule your time.
- ⇒ Or, **sponsor someone** who will be sleeping out. Wendy and Oliver McKeithan, our church Bridge representatives, will be sleeping out for a time. See one of them at church or call 570-596-4008 if you would like to sponsor them.
- ⇒ Stop by the Guthrie Desmond Street location during the event to **make a donation** or mail your tax-deductible donation to: The Bridge, P.O. Box 202, Sayre PA 18840

“ANGEL TREE”



Once again, our church is reaching out to the children who attend the Bradford-Tioga County Head Start program at the Athens Lynch–Bustin Elementary School. Angels will be available in the sanctuary by November 28, 2021. Each angel has information about the child such as gender, age, favorite colors and characters, and specific needs. It is hoped church members will choose a child to provide gifts for them this Christmas. Gifts need to be wrapped and returned to the church by

December 19, 2021. Please keep the angel if you can and use it as a name tag for your gift. Or, place the number of your angel on the gift tag. Share your Christmas spirit by giving to a child of our community. The families always appreciate your generosity!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION TIME is Monday, November 15, through Monday, November 22, 2021. Return your box to the church by November 14 or drop it off at the Athens Wesleyan Church on Wilawanna Road between Nov 15-Nov 22. A list of the drop-off times is available in Matthew’s Place or call the Church Office. Thank you to all who participated in this program.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

November 1—Nicole Boockoff
2—Lucille Northrup
3—Sheila Donovan
6—Amy Smith Franks
10—Nick Rava
Peter Schultz
11—Laura Stephenson
Hazel Bradley
14—Christopher Bennett
16—Nancy Swartwood
Linda Coe
18—Jerry Cron
19—Cathy Greeno
Howard Sinsabaugh
22—Joe Kraus
24—Don Valentine
27—Eric Northrup
30—Nancy Cain

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

November 17—Jeffrey & Kathy Robert
20—Don & Donna Johnson
22—Rick & Kathy Rava
24—Peter & Brenda Schultz
Mike & Janice Brady

CELEBRATION SUNDAY! will be held on November 28, 2021 after the worship service. Bring your favorite dessert or snack to share during our fellowship time.

ADVENT BEGINS—NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Advent Devotions available from

Society of Saint Andrew

Once again, our church will have devotions for Advent prepared by the Society of St. Andrew. The Society of St. Andrew is a non-profit, grassroots, interfaith ministry, that has been working toward a world without hunger since 1979. Hunger relief ministries of this organization include a Gleaning Network, Potato & Produce Project, Seed Potato Project, and Harvest of Hope. The devotion booklet *“Signs of the Sacred”* offers scripture readings, reflections, and prayers for each day of Advent. A jar will be available for donations which will be given to the Society of St. Andrew. Visit <https://endhunger.org/> if you would like to receive the devotion on-line.

NEW MEMBERS

During our worship service on October 10, 2021, **Jerry Cain** and **Candy Carlson** were received into the membership of the Sayre Christian Church. Praise God for their desire to commit to our church family in this way. Please extend the right hand of fellowship to each of them if you have not done so.

WEDDING NEWS

Congratulations to **Daniel Mills** and **Joanna Fiske** who were married in our sanctuary on Saturday, October 16, 2021. Joanna is the niece of Benjamin Clark Fiske. May God bless this couple with good health and many years of happiness.

THE DIVERSE GIFTS OF GOD

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

1 Corinthians 12: 4-6

What is it that you do better than most people you know? What are your gifts, your talents, your quirks and characteristics? There is no limit under heaven to what you can do and how many people you can touch by just being yourself. When you understand who you are, you reach out in the Spirit of love and service. What you have to give may be something that no one else can provide. Not letting that light shine will deprive so many people of the positive influence of your presence in their lives. As long as you operate from the Spirit, all you are and all you have is a blessing to the world.

Submitted by Marlene Enlow

Answers to Bible Trivia

1. Corinth was and is in Greece.
2. Paul described the human body as a part of the body of Jesus Christ and as a temple of the Holy Spirit.
3. Ezra was a descendant of Aaron, Moses' brother.
4. A seraph is an angel.

Thank you to Marlene Enlow for providing the questions and answers for the Bible Trivia in the

Sayre Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
427 S. Keystone Avenue
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Paula Kraus, Pastor
570-888-2683



THE "CHURCH CANDLE"

November 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2021

November 7 Food Pantry Sunday

9 Church Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

14 Special Congregational Meeting after worship

14/21 Special Thanksgiving Offering received

16 Seed Faith Circle at 6 pm
at Yanuzzi's in Sayre

16 ECD Men's Dinner Meeting at 6:30 pm
at Williamsport

25 *Happy Thanksgiving!*

27 GloryWay Quartet at 6 pm
in our sanctuary

28 First Sunday of Advent
Celebration Sunday!



Thursday, November 25, 2021

www.sayrechristianchurch.org
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www.facebook.com/SayreChristian