

# THE CHURCH CANDLE

## MARCH 2024



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

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**Palm Sunday**  
**MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup> ...**  
 Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

**Easter Son-Rise Service**  
**MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> ...**  
 at 7:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

**Maundy Thursday**  
**MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> ...**  
 Service at 7:00 p.m.  
 in the Sanctuary



**Easter Sunday / MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> ...**  
**Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.**

**Good Friday ... MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>**

The Sanctuary will be open for Prayer and Meditation from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



### LENTEN DEVOTION ...

A Lenten Devotion, **Hope Springs Eternal**, will be provided by the Society of St. Andrew. This ministry serves to feed the hungry. With everything going on in the world today, we need reminders and reflections of God's hope around us. The writers of the devotionals read and prayed about Lamentations 3:25. *"The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him."* The devotional will be available on the table by the front door of the sanctuary. A jar is there to accept any donation you would like to give to the Society of St. Andrew for the booklet.

The Society of St. Andrew will receive any collection of coins that are donated to the "Coins for a Cause" program during February, March and April.

### A LITTLE

Complete the beatitude:  
 "Blessed are they that mourn . . ."

(See answer later in the Newsletter)





**PAULA'S PAGE**



Dear Church,

The Lenten Season is upon us! (That was fast) March is a busy month for this church. Palm Sunday is March 24<sup>th</sup> and Easter Sunday is March 31<sup>st</sup> – about a week earlier than last year. We do plan a Maundy Thursday Service on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. I planned for our usual service of Tenebrae to recall Jesus' betrayal, arrest, and his suffering. Good Friday is a time for us to do some quiet meditation. I plan stations for meditation and prayer set up in Matthew's Place. Use the Lincoln Street entrance if you would like to come in for some quiet reflection on the meaning of that day. The times for that are 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – in case someone wants to come in for prayer on their lunch break. It is right for us to devote some prayer time and some time for quiet reflection before we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. To make Easter real for us we must recall the betrayal, extreme suffering, death, and burial. The Season of Lent is a time for us to reflect on those truths, on our lives, and also a time to look at our world and contemplate our role in defeating the "evil" forces that create violence and oppression today.

The Wednesday Bible Study group began a video study for Lent. "The Good Gospel" is based on the truth that the Gospel of Jesus Christ changes everything for us. We will journey through scripture and discover why that is true. If you are unable to join us in person, you can find this video series through the link to *RightNow Media*® which is on our webpage – sayrechristianchurch.org. Click the "On The Web" link and find RightNow Media's link, when you click that link it will bring up the site. If you haven't already subscribed [it's free to you] you will be prompted to do so, then from the home page click the Sayre Christian Church logo at the top right of that page. That takes you to our page and you will find links to our church services as well as Pastor's Picks, find the Bible Study under Pastor's Picks.

I wish you all a very special Lenten Season. May God richly bless you.

Pastor Paula

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**Answer to Trivia (from previous page) ...**

". . . for they shall be comforted" Matthew 5:4

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**Many Thanks to Pastor Paula and Pastor Jim** for their support, prayers, and understanding. You made a beautiful service for my sister, Joanie.

Many thanks to my church family for prayers, cards, messages and phone calls. It all made our loss more bearable. I could feel God's presence. Thank you doesn't seem like enough words, but please know that you are in our hearts and we love you. God Bless. *"Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged."*



Love, Bobbe Besecker, Justin Hazelton and Nancy Swartwood.

## GIVING REPORT FOR

### February 2024:

The following income for our church came from the weekly offering on Sunday and payments from the groups who use our building weekly:

February — 2024	
For Current Expenses	\$3,062.50
Designated	\$579.00
World Outreach	\$150.00
Local Outreach	\$150.00
Building Fund	\$887.50



- 1 ~ Gilberta Corneby
- 2 ~ Austin Robert
- 2 ~ Sean Garrison
- 4 ~ Darin Yale
- 5 ~ Brenda Schultz
- 5 ~ Allan Frisk
- 5 ~ David Roberts
- 8 ~ Kathy Robert
- 8 ~ Jim Donahoe
- 8 ~ Jean Stella
- 14 ~ Carol Rosh
- 14 ~ Kevin Arensman
- 17 ~ Eva Kretsch
- 17 ~ Sharon Ardrey
- 22 ~ Julie Allis
- 22 ~ Shannon Arensman
- 26 ~ Brenda Yale
- 29 ~ Nicole Featherson



### Celebration Sunday

will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> following the Worship Service. Everyone who is observing a birthday in March will be honored.

Please bring a snack, to be shared with others.

## ***DON'T FORGET!***

Daylight Savings Time  
begins on  
**Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>**



## **FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup> ...**

“Food Pantry Sunday” is observed on the first Sunday of the month. Each family is asked to bring a non-perishable food item to be delivered to the Athens United Methodist Church on South Main Street. There were 76 items of food collected in February and delivered. They responded: *“Thank you for your recent donation of food items to our Feed My Sheep Food Pantry. As the price of groceries continues to increase, donations like your are so very appreciated.”* Most of all, let love guide your life. (Colossians 3:14)

## **LET US PRAY ...**

- Ric Rava
- Don and Donna Johnson
- Brett Lattimer
- Jane Hibbard
- Michael Spencer



***SEED FAITH CIRCLE ...*** Will gather on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Tomasso’s Restaurant. All women of the church are invited to share an evening of fellowship. Each person orders from the menu and pays for their own meal. Please contact Wendy McKeithan if you plan to attend at 570-596-4008.

## **EASTER OFFERING ...**

*“CHRIST IS RISEN, INDEED, ALLELUIA”*

Five words. Our united and active response to Easter. The Easter Offering of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be received on Sundays, March 24<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>. Inserts and envelopes will be available in the pews. “Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia!”, this is an affirmation of faith. It is our faithful response to the power of resurrection at work in our congregations, communities, and ministries around the world. Because Jesus is risen, we are set free, indeed, to share the limitless love of God, set free from the grip of sin and death, set free to rise together in shared ministry, language, and service. The Easter Offering supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your financial gifts support college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and much more. Thank you for whatever gift you are able to give to the Easter Offering.



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## **DISCOVERING THE HISTORY OF SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ...**

There are historical documents and records which need to be reviewed and organized for better safe keeping. A Disciples of Christ Historical Society is available which may accept these materials. If you would like to be part of the team to work through this project, contact Wendy McKeithan at 570-596-4008.

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## **THE BRIDGE of the PENN-YORK VALLEY CHURCHES**

thanks you for your support in 2023! We are grateful for your financial contributions, special collections for our ministries, assistance with fundraisers, volunteer hours, and your prayers. With your help, this organization was able to:

- Provide \$84,000 in vouchers for basic needs including electricity, fuel, rent, security deposits, water/sewer, and other emergencies.
- Assist 94 households through our Helping Hands ministry with furniture and appliances.
- Serve a total of 1,784 students through our Kids at Risk Program in the school districts of Athens, Sayre, and Waverly with clothing, hygiene items, school supplies, and other needs anonymously by partnering with school personnel.
- Provide 1,877 households with emergency food through the Valley Food Pantry.
- Provide food to 2,740 households through the monthly drive-thru Mobile Food Pantry.
- Provide needed items to 438 seniors in long-term care facilities/an adult care program through Eldercare.



# A GAME FOR YOU FOR MARCH — TO BEAT THE WINTER BLUES ...

1. Brave: ( ) \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ E O U \_
2. A dark profile: \_ \_ \_ ( ) O U E \_ \_ \_
3. Circular: ( ) O U \_ \_
4. Running away: \_ \_ \_ E E ( ) \_ \_
5. Savage, fierce: \_ \_ \_ I O U ( )
6. Strange, odd: \_ U A I \_ ( )
7. A person from the 50<sup>th</sup> state: \_ \_ \_ A ( ) I A \_
8. Compress, push together: ( ) \_ \_ U E E \_ \_
9. A large tree in California: ( ) \_ \_ \_ U \_ \_ I A
10. Paddling in a small, narrow boat: \_ ( ) \_ \_ O E I \_ \_
11. Upright, moral and righteous: ( ) \_ \_ \_ U O U \_
12. Lining up in a row: \_ \_ U E U ( ) \_ \_
13. Gorgeous: \_ \_ E A U \_ \_ E ( ) U \_
14. Precipitation: ( ) A I \_

**Secret Message:**  
Write here in the  
space provided.

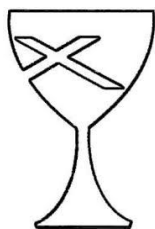
\_\_\_\_\_  
 1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10      11      12      13      14

### VOW TO FIND A VOWEL!

**Directions:** We'll not only give you a vowel, but we'll give you a lot of them. The words in this brain-cruncher have vowels in unusual arrangements. See if you can guess the words from the clues provided. Find the secret message by transferring the letters in parentheses to the appropriate spaces. Remember that the letters in the parentheses may be a vowel.

(See answers on Page 4)





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**sayrechristianchurch@gmail.com**  
**www.sayrechristianchurch.org**

***MARCH 2024***

**UPCOMING DATES FOR MARCH ...**

- 3 - Food Pantry Sunday
  - 5 - Elders/Deacons Meeting at 3:00 p.m.
  - 5 - Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
  - 6 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
  - 10 - Daylight Savings Begins
  - 13 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
  - 20 - Seed Faith Circle Dinner-Out at 6:00 p.m.
  - 20 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
  - 24 - Palm Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.
  - 24 - Celebration Sunday / bring a snack to share with everyone who celebrates their birthdays in March
  - 27 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
  - 28 - Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m.
  - 29 - Good Friday / the Sanctuary is open for meditation and prayer from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
  - 31 - Son-Rise Easter Service at 7:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
  - 31 - Easter Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.
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**SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**(Disciples of Christ)**  
**sayrechristianchurch.org**