

THE CHURCH CANDLE

APRIL 2024

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



FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – April 7th ...

“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. For the March donations they responded: “Thank you for your recent donation of 78 food items for our Feed My Sheep food pantry. Last month was busy as we held two food pantries so this donation was especially appreciated. Thank you again for your faithful support of this mission”. *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*

New Floor ...

By now most of you are aware that the vinyl flooring which was installed in the Fellowship area in 2022 was rendered unusable by flooding caused by a crushed sewer connection in the street on January 26th of this year.

Several of us spent much time cleaning up water and tearing up the flooring. We contacted Brotherhood Mutual, our church insurance company, and an adjuster was sent to give an estimate for replacement to the insurance company.

At this point we decided to replace the vinyl flooring with a coated type of flooring. One that was scratch and flood resistant. We contacted two different companies that were in the business for this type of floor. Only one responded and gave us an original estimate of \$15,300.00. We brought this estimate to the board along with a description of the new type of floor. The board gave approval to proceed.

The company, Floor Coating of New York, began the work on March 11th but discovered that several layers of tile had to be scraped up and removed so an additional \$3,500.00 was added to bring the total to \$18,842.00. The floor was finished on Friday, March 15th. We also had the old valve in the fellowship area replaced which should lessen the danger of any flooding. The floor company ground the concrete floor level, repaired cracks and put down an industrial glue. On top of the glue, they spread recycled vinyl chips and when this mixture had set, they sanded and then applied a polyurethane top coat.

Brotherhood Mutual reimbursed the church a total of \$21,519.11. Because we supplied work hours and various other materials we will break even. I would suggest if you have not had a chance to see the new floor as yet please go down to the fellowship area and take a look. If you have any other questions, please ask either Mark Allis or myself.

Oliver McKeithan, Board Chair/Treasurer

SEED FAITH CIRCLE ...

Will gather for dinner-out on Tuesday, April 16th at 6:00 p.m. at Mooney’s Restaurant on South Elmira Street in Athens. 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.



PAULA'S PAGE

Dear Church,



Already it is April, our Easter Season has begun. I suppose you thought Easter would be one day, and that day has passed, but in the Church year the Easter Season continues until the Day of Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday is May 19th. During these weeks we will take a closer look at who Jesus is and what his mission and resurrection means for us individually and as members of a community of faith. Even in the Easter Season, however, the life of this congregation continues to move along. As I write this the work on the floors of our fellowship area is wrapping up – this floor will endure the wear and tear of everyday use.

Thinking of Easter and the transformation of Resurrection, I want to start a new tradition of getting to know each other better, it will begin with re-introducing the attendance registers and asking the congregation to print their names and contact information in those registers. I cannot remember what we used to call those red folders, but they are an effective way to learn who sits next to you in church if you do not already know their names. In addition, I want to start a tradition of asking people to share their "God-Sightings" with the community. My thanks to Sandra Campbell who mentioned this in a Wednesday Bible Study class, and I like the idea. I am requesting that you write down where you see God working in your life and in the life of others and either place them in the offering plates on Sunday Morning or email that information to the church – we will share them in our monthly newsletter. The Gospel of Matthew tells us "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8). I am convinced that if you look for God even in your everydayness you will have those sightings that can help your faith grow.

God Bless, Pastor Paula

A LITTLE

Question:

Who wrote, "The Kingdom of God is not in word, but in power"?

(See answer later in Newsletter)



A LEARN 'N SERVE EVENT ...

Hosted by The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches, will be held on Saturday, April 13th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Epiphany Church Hall at 304 South Elmer Avenue in Sayre. Attendees will participate in a team jeopardy-like game with topics related to The Bridge. It is a fun way to learn about this organization. There will be prizes!

After the game, attendees will package Hygiene Kits (25 for male students and 25 for female students), which will be used for The Bridge Ministry "Kids at Risk." Refreshments will be served. Churches are asked to donate items for the Hygiene Kits. Our church will be providing women's deodorants. Donations are needed by April 10th. See Wendy McKeithan if you would like to attend and participate in the Jeopardy-like game and service project.



WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD THIS MONTH?

GIVING REPORT FOR March 2024:

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

March — 2024	
For Current Expenses	\$5,461.00
Designated	\$1,569.00
World Outreach	\$144.00
Local Outreach	\$169.00
Building Fund	\$1,499.00

The Week of Compassion of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was received in February. The amount collected for this ministry was \$366, which serves around the world. Thank you for your generosity.



Celebration Sunday will be held on April 28th following the Worship Service. Everyone who is observing a birthday or an anniversary in April will be honored. Please

bring a snack, to be shared with others.



- 3 ~ LuAnn Raupers
- 5 ~ Valerie Mensch
- 10 ~ Susie Kasson
- 12 ~ David C. Harris
- 13 ~ Beverly Anderson
- 17 ~ Donna Park



- 11 ~ Oliver and Wendy McKeithan
- 20 ~ Bill and Pat Sjostrom
- 20 ~ Irving and Nancy Edmunds

LET US PRAY ...

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

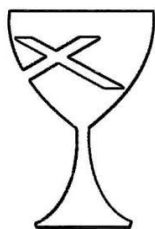


GIDEONCARD BIBLE PROGRAM ...

Send a Card. Donate God's Word. Our church does participate in the GIDEONCARD BIBLE PROGRAM. Cards are available on the table located at the front entrance of the church. GideonCards are a personal and practical Christian outreach. Each card has two recipients: the person who receives the card and the second person – somewhere in the world ~ who will ultimately encounter the Gospel because the funds provided through GideonCards support Scripture distribution. Cards available are "In Recognition," "In Memory," "In Sympathy," and "Thinking of You." You may also go to SendtheWord.org to choose a card and make a donation dedicating Bibles in honor or memory of someone.

SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ... will be Sunday, May 5th after our worship service. Members will vote on officers and Amendment to Covenant.

Answer to Trivia Question:
Paul - 1 Corinthians 4:20



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APRIL 2024

UPCOMING DATES FOR APRIL ...

- 3 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 - 7 - Food Pantry Sunday
 - 8 - Paula out of town (office closed)
 - 9 - Paula out of town
 - 9 - Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
 - 10 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 - 16 - Seed Faith Circle Dinner Out at 6:00 p.m.
(Mooney's Restaurant in Athens)
 - 17 - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
 - 24 - **NO** Bible Study
 - 28 - Celebration Sunday / bring a snack to share with everyone who celebrates their birthdays and anniversaries in April.
 - 28 - Worship Service at the Athens Healthcare & Rehab Center at 1:00 p.m.
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SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
sayrechristianchurch.org