

THE CHURCH CANDLE

JANUARY 2025



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

A LITTLE



Question: What were the weather forecasts Jesus told the Pharisees and Sadducees?

(Please find the Answer on another page in Newsletter)

THANK YOU from Catholic Charities ...

“Dear Sayre Christian Church, On behalf of the thousands of people who turn to Catholic Charities for assistance each year, I want to thank you for your generous donation of \$150. Winter can be a tough time of year for the households we serve, so your contribution is especially appreciated at this moment. Thank you, Happy Holidays, Seph (Seph Murtagh, Development Director)”

THANK YOU from Chow for Children ...

“Your donation to Pennsylvania Chow for Children is deeply appreciated and adds to the legacy of generosity that has supported this program since 2005. Your gift will help serve at least 40 families with preschoolers from the communities of South Waverly, Athens, and Sayre for the entire school year.”

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me. Matthew 25-40

Rev. Daniel A. Toomey and Rev. Sharan Knoell

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD THIS MONTH?

- * I saw God in the help I received when my car battery died in my friend's driveway. Her neighbor was a true "neighbor" to me.
 - * I saw God in a beautiful sunrise.
-



SUNDAY, January 5th is Food Pantry Sunday ...

It is observed on the first Sunday of the month. There were a total of 34 food items collected in December. Thank you to all those who contributed to this outreach.



A Thank You from the Athens United Methodist Church ...

“Dear Sayre Christian Church, Thank you for your recent donation of \$100 from your Outreach Fund to our Feed My Sheep food pantry. What a blessing to get these extra funds for this busy time of the year! Thank you again. Merry Christmas!”

I thank God, whom I serve, as I remember you in my prayers. 2 Timothy 1:3

PAULA'S PAGE



Dear Church,

It's the beginning of a new year, can you believe this is the beginning of my eighth year as your pastor? Five of those years we were students together learning how to be a church in transition – I think we did well. That is behind us, and I am now your fully ordained minister – it has been a wonderful partnership, you all have helped me so very much!

My prayer is that we continue to grow together and that the new year brings no surprises. I informed the board in November that I will be stepping back a little bit from my "in the office" time and doing work from home, with that said I will always be available to you in the event of an emergency. Because I am also on the regional church board, I might be spending more time out of town in meetings of the board or in various assemblies. I am part of the Youth and Camp Commission in PA so that will also take some of my time travelling to meetings or summer camp events at Laurelview. I guess what I am trying to tell you is that while you may not find me in the church building, I am working for this church and for the region as God calls.

Finally, I want to say thank you for all the support you give me, thank you for the words of encouragement, and for your prayers. We have a great relationship, and I hope that continues into a long and prosperous future. To those of you I don't get to regularly see my prayer for you is that you have a blessed new year and when you have the chance visit your friends and church family at our Sunday 10 a.m. services, bring a friend too!

Blessings, Pastor Paula Kraus

ANGEL TREE: Gifts for the Children of Bradford-Tioga Head Start Program ...

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "Angel Tree" program. We received fifteen children's names from the Bradford-Tioga Head Start at the Lynch-Bustin Elementary School. All of the children received gifts from our church. The families do appreciate your generosity!



To the women who decorated the sanctuary for Christmas this year ... Nancy Cain, Anita Kasson, Susie Kasson, Eva Kretsch, Jean Stella, Dolores Smith, Melanie Setzer, Sue Hurd, Wendy McKeithan, and Pastor Paula.

SEED FAITH CIRCLE DINNER-OUT ...

We will gather on Tuesday, January 21st at 6:00 p.m. at Mooney's Restaurant in Athens. All women of the church and friends are welcome to join us for dinner and fellowship. Please contact Wendy McKeithan at 570-596-4008 or mckeithanwendy@gmail.com if you plan to attend.



GIVING REPORT FOR

November 2024:

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

November — 2024	
For Current Expenses	\$6,040.50
Designated	\$1,173.00
World Outreach	\$200.00
Local Outreach	\$162.00
Building Fund	\$1,187.50

Our church was able to send \$160 to the Christian Church (DOC) for the 2024 Special Thanksgiving Offering. This gift will support the general ministry of Higher Education and Leadership Ministries of the Christian Church (DOC).

Celebration Sunday ... will be held on January 26th, following the Worship Service.



Everyone who is observing a birthday or an anniversary in January will be honored.

Please bring a snack to share.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND BAD WEATHER ...

"In the case of bad weather on Sunday, please do not attempt to come to the church if it is not safe for you to do so. I will be in the church, there will be a service regardless of attendance - if no one can come I will record a message for YouTube and post it myself. The church will remain open for anyone who wants to worship on any Sunday."

Answer to Trivia Question ... Evening sky - red - fair weather! morning sky red - stormy weather - Matthew 16:1-3



JANUARY 2025

- 07 - Zachary Yale
- 08 - Holly Kline
- 09 - Juanita Cron
- 13 - Calvin Preiser
- 15 - Rick Rava
- 15 - Darci Baird
- 16 - Mark Allis
- 16 - Kathi Hunsinger
- 20 - Jeff Robert
- 20 - Art Johnston
- 23 - Candace Carlson
- 24 - Lorie Anderson
- 27 - Jessey Lacko
- 28 - Laurel Mareck



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- 15 - Darin and Brenda Yale

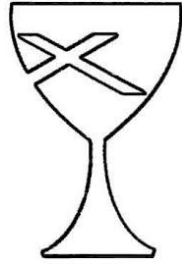
LET US PRAY ...

- Ric Rava
- Bonnie Beley
- Mike Spencer
- Brett Lattimer
- Adeleigh Parrish
- Churches in Japan



Coins for a Cause" ...

Will continue to go to the Society of St. Andrew. All are encouraged to bring your loose change for the jar in the sanctuary. The Society of St. Andrew was founded in 1983 and works with farmers to harvest unmarketable fruits and vegetables, and organizes volunteers to pick, pack, and transport healthy produce to local food banks, free church pantries, shelters, and other nonprofits.



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UPCOMING DATES FOR JANUARY 2025...

Sunday, January 5th - Epiphany Sunday / 2nd
Sunday of Christmas
Sunday School **every week** at 9:15 a.m.
Food Pantry Sunday
Tuesday, January 7th - Elder's/Deacons' Meeting
at 3:00 p.m.
Wednesdays - January 15th and 22nd and 29th /
Bible Study Group at 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, January 11th - PA Regional Board in
Lemoyne, PA
Sunday, January 12th - 1st Sunday after Epiphany
Tuesday, January 14th - Board Meeting at 6 p.m.
Sunday, January 19th - Gideons' Sunday/2nd
Sunday after Epiphany
Tuesday, January 21st - Seed Faith Circle Dinner-
Out at 6:00 p.m. at Mooney's Restaurant
Sunday, January 26th - Celebration Sunday /
3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Worship Service at the Athens Healthcare
and Rehab Center at 1:00 p.m.

SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
sayrechristianchurch.org

