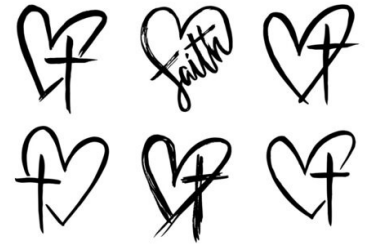


THE CHURCH CANDLE

FEBRUARY 2025

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



FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – February 2nd ...

“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 46 items of food collected in January. Thank you from the United Methodist Church.

THE DISCIPLES CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP DINNER MEETING — Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30 p.m. ...



is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30 p.m., here at the Sayre Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Fellowship Hall. The menu includes: Ziti and Meatballs (gluten free and vegetarian options), Salad, Desserts and Drinks. The cost is \$12 plus offering. Program to follow “Fall Prevention in the Home” resented by the Guthrie Physical Therapy Department.

Please RSVP to Pastor Paula or Wendy McKeithan by Sunday, February 16th. Pastor Paula and Wendy will be coordinating and preparing the dinner.

SEED FAITH CIRCLE ... This month the women of the church are encouraged to attend the Disciples Christian Fellowship Dinner Meeting to be held at our church on Tuesday, February 18th. (See information above) It is a great way to meet other disciples who worship in churches of the East Central District of the Christian Church (DOC) in PA. Our church is responsible to prepare, serve, and clean-up after the meal. Volunteers will be needed.

WEEK OF COMPASSION Heard and Seen: Hope In A New Home Town ...

The special offering for the Week of Compassion of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be received February 16th thru February 23rd. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee, and sustainable development mission fund of the Christian Church (DOC) in the United States and Canada. Inserts with information and envelopes for your gift will be available in the pews. Week of Compassion makes an impact around the world, ensuring that the stories, needs, and celebrations of vulnerable communities and **heard and seen** — and that we respond as people of faith. This ministry of the Christian Church (DOC) invites us to be part of hopeful outcomes, where giving is a heartfelt response as we follow a compassionate Christ. Thank you for whatever you can give as an offering to this ministry. (Wendy McKeithan, Outreach Coordinator)



PAULA'S PAGE

Dear Church,

February – the month of groundhogs, valentines, and president's days. Hopefully, we will notice the days getting longer and we will begin to see a change toward renewal in our environment. Hopefully, we will begin to see renewal in our church as well, with those who have stayed in hibernation for the month of January coming out of their dens.



We do have a couple events planned for February, Sunday the 9th the children of Scout Pack and Scout Troop 4018 will lead our service. It is refreshing to see these children, young men and women participating in our service in a meaningful way, I hope you will come out to encourage them. In addition, we have scheduled the East Central District Fellowship dinner for Tuesday, February 18th in our fellowship hall. We join the churches of Alba, Canoe Camp, Covington, North Union, and Williamsport for dinner and a brief program. This month the dinner will be Ziti and meatballs, with salad and dessert – members of the Physical Therapy department of Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital will present a program regarding Fall Prevention. You are all invited to join us – there will be no Seed Faith Dinner in February. If interested, please contact the church office so we can get a head count for the food preparers.

Lent is coming to us a couple of weeks later than last year; the Sunday School class will stray from our lectionary studies to dive into a study for Lent which will begin the first Sunday in March. Ash Wednesday is March 5th, and I will be available in the office on that day for prayer and ashes. We will also provide a Lenten devotional through the Society of St. Andrew for general use – that will be available late in February.

Blessings to all of you – stay warm during these mid-winter days and know that spring is bringing renewal to our world and to our souls.

In Christ, Pastor Paula Kraus



WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD? ...

God at work in Nature. The Sun glistening on the snow gave the appearance of diamonds.

A LITTLE TRIVIA ...

Question - "Jesus had how many brothers and sisters?"

(See answer on a later page in the Newsletter)



ANIMAL CARE SANCTUARY ...

Thank you for your generous donation of blankets, dog and cat food, leashes, collars and treats in November 2024. We are grateful for your investment to turn compassion into action for dogs and cats by adopting health animals into loving homes. This includes spaying and neutering for all animals.

Terri McKendry, Executive Director

GIDEON CARDBIBLE 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 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.

GIVING REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2024:

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

December — 2024	
For Current Expenses	\$6,933.50
Designated	\$1,755.50
World Outreach	\$128.00
Local Outreach	\$263.00
Building Fund	\$1,420.50

Celebration Sunday will be held on **February 23rd** following the Worship Service. Everyone who is observing a birthday or anniversary in February will be honored.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS ...

- 6 ~ Casey Rava
- 6 ~ Barry Ardrey
- 9 ~ Kelly Seeley
- 12 ~ Harold Ammerman
- 12 ~ Tyler Rava
- 19 ~ Monica Fiske
- 24 ~ Nancy Bradley
- 27 ~ Braxton Ray Fiske
- 28 ~ Francis Lincoln III
- 28 ~ Megan Bennett
- 28 ~ Mary Flottesch



-
- 14 ~ Tom and Shelia Donovan

LET US PRAY ...

- Ric Rava
- Mike Spencer
- Brett Lattimer
- Adleigh Parrish
- Sue and Dale Wilson



REPORT FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM ...

A Local Outreach Fund is available from which donations are given to local organizations. These funds come through the Sunday offerings and the "Coins from A Cause" program. For the year 2024, January thru December, \$4,341.41 was donated from this fund. Thanks from a few of the recipients are listed below: A complete report of the donations is available in the January Board Report.

In addition, members of our church family participated in the following activities:

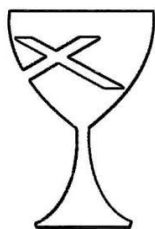
Two community dinners at the Church of the Redeemer; Operation Christmas Child; The Angel Tree Project for the Bradford-Tioga County Head Start Program; and our church family provided donations for The Bridge's Food Give-A-Way at Easter.

If you have any questions or would like to be part of the Outreach Team, please contact Wendy McKeithan or Laura Stephenson. Thank you to our church family, who give so generously!

THANK YOU'S FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

Adelphoi ... Thanks so much for your support; **The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches ...** Warmest wishes for a blessed holiday season and the happiest of New Years; **Penn-York Opportunities ...** We couldn't do it without you!; **The Salvation Army ...** Heartfelt gratitude for your generous gift during this special time of year; and **Endless Mountains Mission Center ...** Your gift is helping families in need.

Answer to Triva Question - Four brothers and at least two sisters - Mark 6:3



Sayre Christian Church
427 South Keystone Avenue
Sayre, PA 18840-1527
Rev. Paula Kraus, Pastor
Church / 570-888-2683
sayrechristianchurch@gmail.com
www.sayrechristianchurch.org

FEBRUARY 2025

UPCOMING DATES FOR FEBRUARY ...

Saturday / 1st - Elder's Retreat in New Albany, PA
Sunday / 2nd - Food Pantry Sunday
Wednesday / 5th - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday / 9th - Scout Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday / 11th - Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday / 12th - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.
Friday / 14th - Valentine's Day Celebrated
Tuesday / 18th - Disciples Christian Fellowship
Dinner - 6:30 p.m. in Sayre
Wednesday / 19th - NO Bible Study
Sunday / 23rd - Celebration Sunday - bring a snack
to share
Sunday / 23rd - Worship Service at Athens Healthcare
& Rehab at 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday / 26th - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.



SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
sayrechristianchurch.org