

# THE CHURCH CANDLE

## MARCH 2025

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



### FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY – March 2<sup>nd</sup> ...

“Food Pantry Sunday” is observed on the first Sunday of the month. Each family is asked to bring a non-perishable food item. Forty-six (46) food items and five (5) non food items were collected and delivered. “Thank you for your recent generous donation of food to our Feed My Sheep Food Pantry. With the support of others like yourselves we served a total of 2,102 families with 4,837 people in 2024. We so appreciate your faithful donations.

In His Service, Athens United Methodist Church.”  
*May the Lord Reward you for your kindness. Ruth 1:8*

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**SEED FAITH CIRCLE ...** The women of the Seed Faith Circle will gather on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Look for details about the restaurant in the March bulletins. 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 570-496-4008.

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### **INFORMATION FROM THE BRIDGE ...**

**Learn ‘N Serve** Event planned by The Bridge of the Penn-York Valley Churches will be held on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Valley United Presbyterian Church at 459 Park Avenue, Waverly, NY. More info is posted on our Bulletin Board in Matthew’s Place. If you would like to attend the Learn ‘n Serve event, please contact Wendy McKeithan at 570-596-4008.

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### **CURRENT NEEDS OF THE BRIDGE ...**

- The Clothes Closet is in need of towels, sheets, children’s winter clothing (infant through teens), and men’s casual clothing. The Clothes Closet is located behind the North Waverly Chapel at 40 State Route 34, Waverly, NY.
- Eldercare is in need of deodorant (men’s and women’s), body wash, shampoo and conditioner. You may place these donations in the baskets available at each entrance.
- The Helping Hands Furniture Ministry is in need of mattresses and box springs (queen, full, and twin), lift chairs, recliners, and appliances (stoves, washers, dryers and refrigerators).

If you have any questions about these donations for The Bridge of the Penn York Valley Churches, please see Wendy or Oliver McKeithan.

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## PAULA'S PAGE



Dear Church,

March already – one hopes Spring will appear soon as well.

March is the beginning of our Lenten Season – Lenten was a historical word for the season of spring when the days lengthen. It fits that the season of Lent is in the spring which marks awakening and a renewal of nature. Most Christians consider Lent a time of spiritual renewal and reflection in preparation for Holy Week [the time between Palm Sunday and Easter]. This church will do special

Bible Studies during Lent – our Sunday School will study a book titled “Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms” by Elizabeth F. Caldwell. I encourage you to purchase the book and join us on Sunday Mornings. The Wednesday Bible Study Group will do a video Bible Study Program titled “Easter” a five-part series based on the story in Matthew. You can join us on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. or follow along on your own through the Right Now Media link that is available on our Webpage through the “On the Web” link at [sayrechristianchurch.org](http://sayrechristianchurch.org). I am excited about these two Bible Studies and hope you can join us.

On a more personal note, I know you are aware that I had a medical issue in February. It really is a long-standing issue with an arrhythmia of my heart that had been under control for years and the hope is that this time was an isolated event. In addition, I am having cataract surgery in March, but the hope is I won't be out of commission for long. I ask for grace during this time and know that there will be times during the month of March when I won't be able to respond immediately to your call. Your church elders stand ready to pick up in the case of any emergency when I cannot be available – remember you are never alone.

Blessings,

Pastor Paula

### A LITTLE



Question - “How much money did brothers of Joseph make when they sold him into slavery?”

(See answer on a later page in the Newsletter)

**ON THURSDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>,  
SAY ...**



### LENTEN DEVOTION ...

As Lent begins, a Lenten Devotion, **A New Day Dawns**, provided by the Society of St. Andrew will help you set out on a solemn 47-day journey to Easter. The writers of these devotions focused on the Scripture, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.

The Devotional will be available on the table by the front door of the Sanctuary. The Society of St. Andrew will receive any collection of coins that are donated to the “Coins for Cause” program during March and April. These monetary donations will help provide nourishing food for people in greatest need, right here in the United States.

**GIVING REPORT FOR  
JANUARY 2025:**

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

January — 2025	
For Current Expenses	\$5,280.00
Designated	\$2,235.00
World Outreach	-----
Local Outreach	\$175.00
Building Fund	\$765.00

**Celebration Sunday** will be held on **March 30<sup>th</sup>** following the Worship Service. Everyone who is observing a birthday in March will be honored. Please bring a dish-to-pass to share.



**Jamari Xavier** was born on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:57 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and is 19" long. Jamari's mom is

Holly; Jamari's Grandparents are Toni and Les Shaw; and Great Grandparents are Jean and Anthony Stella. **CONGRATULATIONS.**

**FROM THE GENERAL CHURCH ...**

**Application is now open for Leadership Fellows**

HELM's Leadership Fellows is a four-year program for college students and seeks to cultivate and strengthen participants' potential for leadership. LFP includes a scholarship, annual retreat, and an international cross-cultural experience. It is a comprehensive leadership development program where cohorts of students connect, learn, grow, and explore together.

Those preparing to enter college can submit their application online at: <https://helmdisciples.org/leadership-programs/leadership-fellows-program/>.

**MARCH ...**

- 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 Donahoo
- 8 ~ Jean Stella
- 14 ~ Carol Rosh
- 14 ~ Kevin Arensman
- 17 ~ Eva Kretsch
- 22 ~ Julie Allis
- 22 ~ Shannon Arensman
- 26 ~ Brenda Yale
- 29 ~ Nicole Featherson



**LET US PRAY ...**

- Bonnie Beley
- Ric Rava
- Mike Spencer
- Brett Lattimer

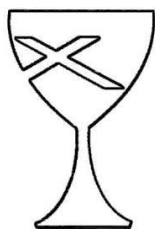


***DON'T FORGET ...***



Time to Spring Ahead

**SUNDAY, March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Daylight Savings  
Time Begins



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

***MARCH 2025***

**UPCOMING DATES FOR MARCH ...**

Sunday / 2<sup>nd</sup> - Transfiguration Sunday  
Food Pantry Sunday  
Tuesday / 4<sup>th</sup> - Elders/Deacons Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday / 5<sup>th</sup> - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.  
Ash Wednesday (Office open to give Ashes from  
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.)  
Sunday / 9<sup>th</sup> - First Sunday in Lent  
Daylight Savings Time Begins  
Tuesday / 11<sup>th</sup> - Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday / 12<sup>th</sup> - NO Bible Study  
Sunday / 16<sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday in Lent  
Monday / 17<sup>th</sup> - Office Closed  
Tuesday / 18<sup>th</sup> - Seed Faith Circle Dinner-Out  
Wednesday / 19<sup>th</sup> - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.  
Thursday / 20<sup>th</sup> - First Day of Spring  
Sunday / 23<sup>rd</sup> - Third Sunday in Lent  
Wednesday / 26<sup>th</sup> - Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday / 30<sup>th</sup> - Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Celebration Sunday, bring a dish-to-pass to share  
Service at the Athens Healthcare Center at 1 p.m.

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**SAYRE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**(Disciples of Christ)**  
**sayrechristianchurch.org**