

## DON'T FALL FOR IT!

By Joe Slater

Sometimes I don't know whether to laugh or cry. So many "friends" on social media keep falling for the same hoaxes that were debunked years ago. "Oh no! Facebook is going to start charging us for having an account!" Um, no, they aren't. They couldn't even if they wanted to, because you haven't given them your credit card number or your bank information. Somebody started the hoax, it went viral, and gullible people keep passing it on. (sigh)

The same thing happens in spiritual matters. Jesus warned that false christs would arise. "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it" (Matthew 24:23-24). His words came true in the first century AD and many were led astray. It still happens today, though less frequently.

John cautioned us to "test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). Just because someone says something with an air of authority doesn't make it true! Remember the noble Bereans who "received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

It has been accurately stated that a lie, repeated often enough, becomes accepted as truth. Countless falsehoods are routinely treated as true today. For instance:

"Peter was the first Pope."

"The Catholic Church gave us the Bible."

"All you need to do to be saved is believe in Jesus."

"The denominations are branches on Jesus, the vine."

"We're all going to the same place but taking different roads."

Don't fall for it! Search the Scriptures! Know the truth!



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

February 11, 2024

**All the Churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

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### WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m. on Zoom

**Today's Sermon: Does the Church Matter?**

**Scripture Reading: John 12:37-43**

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

Notes for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes are available on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**

Find us on Facebook:

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](https://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** 6:30pm February 14, on Zoom, 1 Thessalonians.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class** –Tuesday, February 13. The prophet Zechariah.
- ❖ **Community Coffee House-** Saturday, March 9, 1-3pm.
- ❖ **Next Potluck & Bring-a-Friend Sunday** – February 18.
- ❖ **Next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing-** March 24 at Horseheads.
- ❖ **Soul-winning workshop** at Horseheads. April 13.



- **Our first Community Coffee House and open mic took place yesterday. Those of us who attended were treated to a serendipity of performances. What talent God has bestowed on some of our friends and family!**



Lana



Darlene



Debbie

- **The ladies are planning our second annual Ladies' Prayer Brunch on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for more information!**

## PRAYERS

- **Dawn Cowles** is waiting for an appointment to begin chemo treatments. We praise God for the negative result for cancer in the lymph nodes and pray that Dawn will have little discomfort and no side effects from the chemo.
- **Pray for Richard**, who spent a few nights in the hospital after being taken by ambulance to the ER last Sunday. He collapsed on his floor in the night and spent several hours there before being able to dial 911. He is being treated for dizzy spells.
- **Pray for the success of our outreach effort with the coffee house and an open mic program for the community.**
- **Pray for Arthur** as he is teaching classes for the Pakistani Bible Institute in Lahore, which trains preachers for the Lord's church.
- **Pray for success of our preacher search.**
- **Pray for impact from our MAGI boxes as we prepare to fill 80 more for 2024.**

### Continue to pray for these people:

- **Bonnie's brother Greg** upcoming hernia surgery
  - **Pat Guthrie**-he has lung cancer, stage 4, and his wife Robin.
  - **Paulette**- Pain coming from her spine and affecting her hip and leg.
- **Mike Walls**, frontal lobe dementia. Pray also for Carrie who was unable to handle the stress. Mike's health care is now being overseen by his sister.
  - **Sue Barry**- stage 4 breast cancer. (currently in remission)
  - **Steve's brother Brian**- prostate cancer
  - **Steve's sister Deb**- leukemia, and breast cancer
  - **Monique (Miki's friend)**- managing back pain meds.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.