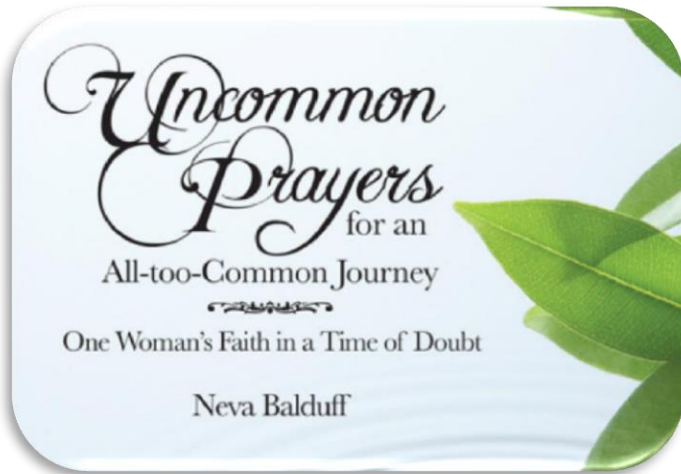


# Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
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Seeking, Serving, Sharing  
February 25, 2024



## PATIENCE

Patience, Lord, I need patience now!  
I've got to find it somewhere, somehow.  
I'm caring for a man who sometimes  
seems a child.

Give me patience, Lord,  
before he drives me wild!  
It's not that I don't love him—  
you know that I do,  
but it takes my every minute  
sometimes to subdue his harsh,  
demanding, condemning tongue.  
Oh Lord, how I wish we were young!  
You tell me just to lean on you,  
and that's really what I try to do.  
Sometimes I see a glimmer  
of the man I knew before,  
and the longing grows even stronger  
to have him here once more.  
But I know that it can never ever  
be the same,  
and I need patience, Lord,  
to play this waiting game.  
Please forgive my endless whining;  
it seems that's all I do,  
and give me patience, Lord,  
which can only come from you!

~Neva Balduff

## LENT 2024: GROWING INTO AN EASTER MORNING

### Words for these Days

As you prepare for Lent and Easter this year let me offer a word, a word for each of these weeks. Place the word for the week before you. Keep it in your thoughts. I have offered some of my thoughts related to the word of the week. Write down your thoughts. Return to it as you sit resting, or waiting, or involved in an activity. Let this word become a companion. Repeat the blessing as a guide for your day. Allow these words to grow into a new meaning. And as they grow, may you grow into an Easter Morning that is fresh and new.

Terry Ewing, *Vice President of Advancement*



February 25–March 2

**Darkness:** These things draw me into the corners of each day: terrorism, the anger epidemic, unbridled racism, increasing poverty, the everyday face of the homeless, aging, loss of friends and family, the twins of fear and anger aimed at anyone different, the demise of respect, and where all this ends. These

things hang upon my day. These things wait in the back frightening and real. What is faith in a place so dark? Where can it be found? When will Good News be revealed? My faith calls upon me to search and in the searching my faith steps forward. My faith says Love will find a way. My faith lights the candle one more time that burns, without fear, in my world and in my life.

**Most Loving God, may the darkness fade, may my heartbeat with new hope and may Love walk among us again.**

### Giving in Review

As of January 31, 2024

Income Received YTD	\$38,810.25
Actual Expenses YTD	\$25,492.15
Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$25,839.61

[Devotionals - Phillips Theological Seminary \(ptstulsa.edu\)](http://ptstulsa.edu)