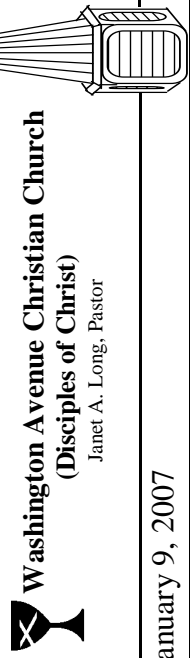


THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Janet A. Long, Pastor

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January 9, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 2

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Sometimes, life is just plain hard. That's true on a number of different levels. Fans of the Ohio State Buckeyes are experiencing a rough time over the team's miserable loss to Florida last night in the national championship game. The dark, cold days of winter contribute to diminished spirits and energy. Personal problems—with finances or family, at work or school—can get the best of us. The post-holiday season has its own set of dynamics: routines may seem boring; the lack of socializing may leave us feeling lonely.

More seriously and substantially, life is hard when a loved one dies or when a relationship is broken. For all of us, the headlines of war casualties and world issues can be overwhelming. Take, for instance, the situation in the Sudan – in Darfur, in particular.

Some 500 people are dying of starvation each day. That kind of information is so mind-numbing that a normal reaction is to stop listening. But our congregation's Joanna Circle has decided to stop and listen—and to act. Church World Service (best known as the CROP Walk organization) can feed a person in Darfur for 16¢ per day. 16¢! The members of Joanna Circle decided that they will each deposit 16¢ a day into a collection jar or piggy bank and offer a prayer for the person whose life will be spared by doing so.

Like all grassroots movements, the invitation is being extended beyond the small group making the original commitment. As a result, everyone in our congregation is being encouraged to offer 16¢ and a prayer every day during 2007. We can save lives!

Blessings on your new year. May it be filled with faithfulness in caring and sharing...

Love,

Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Elyria, OH 44035-5124
Janet A. Long, Pastor
Phone: (440) 323-4213

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

Nonprofit Org.
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Elyria, OH
Permit No. 332

January 14, 2007

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Common Grounds followed by Church School
10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
12:00 noon Sprouts gathering (Grades 3-5)
2:30 p.m. Bible 101 (Grades 4-5)
2:45 p.m. Chi Rho gathering (Grades 6-8)
OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas
GREETERS: The Kersey Family
ACOLYTES: Jillian Kazmierczak and Sarah Turner
WORSHIP LEADER: Joy Bond

PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Jane Hutson and Brenda Keenan
ELDER (8:30): Rosalie Gainer
ELDER (10:45): **HOME COMMUNION:** Gerald Western
Joan Wilhelm

DIACONATE: Team II
8:30 - Mike Crocker and Robin Crocker
10:45 - Peggy Haywood, John Henry, Jean Kennedy, Cindy Knapp, Debby Lance, Jack Price, Jim Stephenson, Jordan Stephenson, Sue Stephenson, and Ben Willits

YOUTH NEWS
Thank You: Our thanks to the following for their help with the Christmas Eve luminaries: *Al Knapp; Mark and Susan Mathes; Amanda Osborn and friend Katie Brown; David, Nick and Caitlyn Osborn; Jordan, Derrick and Tyler Stephenson; and, Wayne, Debbie, Romeo, and Nautica Walker.*
This Sunday, January 14: Sprouts will meet in the youth rooms, noon-2:30 p.m. Bible 101 will follow for those in grades 4-5. Chi Rho members will meet in the youth rooms at 2:45 p.m.
Sunday, January 21: Bible 101 (Grades 4-5) will start at noon. There are no other youth activities scheduled that day.
Friday, February 2: "Youth Night for Christ" with the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Charlotte Bobcats. Tickets are \$26 or \$36 each. More information is posted on the bulletin board outside my office.
REMINDER: Camp/Conference scholarships will depend upon your participation in Worship, Church School and youth group activities.
Love, *Glenna* (324-6891) youth@waccelyria.org

Youth Super Bowl Pizza Fundraiser

The WACC youth groups are selling homemade 12" pizzas to help support their activities and outreach projects in 2007. Completed order blanks and payment (check payable to WACC Youth) may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday, directed to the church office, or left in Glenna Knapp's church mail slot. Payment must accompany orders.

Order deadline is **January 25**. Pizzas may be picked up on Sunday, **February 4**, following both Worship Services and Church School. Those not picked up will be delivered that afternoon.

\$7.50 each; 2 for \$14

Topping choices*:

- P**—pepperoni
- G**—green pepper
- S**—sausage
- M**—mushrooms
- X**—extra cheese
- O**—onions
- B**—black olives

*Pizzas with only one or two toppings will receive a double dose.

Qty.	Toppings Desired
Qty.	Toppings Desired
Qty.	Toppings Desired
Qty.	Toppings Desired
Qty.	Toppings Desired
Qty.	Toppings Desired

Total: \$ _____

Name _____

Have you remembered the church in your will?

THANK YOU!

Our thanks to all who participated in, and joined us for, the children's presentation, "Through the Eyes of a Child" on December 24. We also appreciate your donations toward the breakfast; \$41.10 has been added to the "Children's Change Changing Lives" jar for the Cleveland Christian Home.

- *The Christian Education Committee*

"Thank you" to this year's Advent families, all who provided special music, the Christmas carolers, those who hosted fellowship events, those who provided poinsettias, those who decorated the church, and all who shared in the special services and events of the season.

- *The Worship Committee*

Letters of appreciation for WACC's Christmas and year-end gifts are posted on our main bulletin board from:

- Christian Theological Seminary
- Lexington Theological Seminary
- Families served by the Neighborhood House Association*
- Pension Fund of the Christian Church

*The mother of one of the NHA children who received gifts from WACC further expressed her thanks in a letter to The Chronicle-Telegram. The NHA's Christmas party included over 400 client-family members. Thank you for participating in our Christmas Giving Tree program!

- Thu., 1/11: - Organ Committee meeting in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Fri., 1/12: - Graveside services for Marge Clark at Brookdale cemetery, 11:30 a.m.
- Sun., 1/14: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Mon. 1/15: - Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (church office closed).
- Tue., 1/16: - Outreach Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Wed., 1/17: - Webelos (Pack 131) gathering in their upstairs classrooms, 6:30 p.m.
- Thu., 1/18: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Sat., 1/20: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.
- Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 3 (Barbara Terrell, captain).

Elyria Hospitality Center

Please remember to bring in the following suggested donations for the Elyria Hospitality Center:

- 1/14 - Canned vegetables
- 1/21 - Canned soups, pastas and stews
- 1/28 - Infant needs

Sarah Circle

will meet on Thursday, January 18, at 10:45 a.m. in the youth rooms. Glenna Knapp will present the program, "Realizing Your Potential" as the group continues its theme, "Searching for God's Direction."

Those attending are asked to bring a sandwich; beverages will be provided.

Linda Dull will furnish the dessert.

Hard-to-Get Cavs Tickets Available

Check out the info. on the youth bulletin board for the Cleveland Cavaliers' February 2 "Youth Night for Christ" which will include a Christian comedy show. This event is open to everyone.

January 14 Lectionary

- Isaiah 62:1-5
- 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
- Psalms 36:5-10
- John 2:1-11*

*Sermon focus

CALENDAR



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

WELCOME!

Diane McCall united with our congregation by transfer of membership on Sunday at the 8:30 Service. Blessings!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Katie Majewski and Mike Contreras were united in marriage in our sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Pastor Janet Long officiated. Bill & Glenda Clark welcomed their 10th great-grandchild on New Year's Day! Best wishes and blessings to all.

WHOOOPS!

The Eichenlaub anniversary reported in last week's *Spire* was Chris and Lynn's 21st...and-a-half, they were married June 7, 1985. We apologize for the mix-up.

SEEKERS CLASS STUDY CHANGE

Beginning January 21, Pete Majewski will lead the Seekers Class in, "The Upside of Death." The class will use the resource, *What Happens When We Die?*

Campbellites Class members who studied this book last year are asked to return their copies so that the Seekers Class may use them.

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for the people of Darfur.

SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers surround... Bob Clark and family in Marge's death yesterday (Monday). Services will be held Friday morning at Brookdale cemetery with Pastor Janet Long officiating.

...the Holtz family in the death of Brian's brother, Mike, in a military incident near London. Arrangements are pending.

May God's peace support and sustain all who mourn.

HOSPITALIZED

At Good Samaritan: Myra Ball
At Home: Addie Buczek