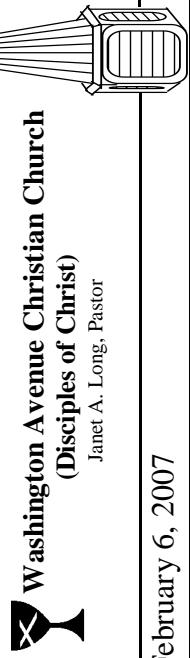


THE SPIRE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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February 6, 2007

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Glenna's Gleanings

Dear Folks,

What is a "WANEW"? What about "PORTAHOGA"? We all know who "WACC" is—but are we sure about "WoC"? What's in a name or, as in these cases, an acronym/nickname?

"WANEW" is familiar to many of us, especially the youth and others who read the Youth News on the back page of the *The Spire*. It is a name coined several years ago to represent the combined youth group gatherings of Washington Avenue, North Eaton and Westlake Christian Churches. The young people from these congregations have a special connection and closeness with each other and the name "WANEW" is representative of that.

Now we have "PORTAHOGA." This nickname is the brainchild of Jill Smith, the youth leader of First Christian Church, Alliance. She has invited all of the Chi Rhos from Camp PORTAGE, a few from Camp HOCKING, and those from Camp Cuyahoga to a just-for-fun PORTAHOGA Toga Party overnight at her church February 16-17. This event will give our junior high youth a chance to meet those from Camp Portage. (Camps Portage and Cuyahoga form Hiram Conference at the high school level.) Several of our Chi Rho youth are planning to attend. (But, Jill warns, "Those who wear togas must be fully clothed underneath!")

Of course, we all know who "WACC" is: We are! Just saying that nickname makes me smile and gives me a good feeling inside as I immediately start seeing the familiar faces of my beloved family of faith.

Finally, "WoC"—which stands for "Week of Compassion"—brings smiles and more to those who are helped all around the world, all around the year. This outreaching arm of our denomination, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), will be highlighted this Sunday and next, culminating with a special offering on Sunday, February 25. (Please note: You may give to WoC *anytime* throughout the year, as many times as you wish.)

Come to Worship on February 11 and 18 and learn about those who have been helped by "WoC", and be reconnected with the beautiful, familiar folks who comprise this community of faith we call "WACC".

Shalom,
Glenna ☺

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February 11, 2007—Compassion Sunday

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Common Grounds followed by Church School
9:30 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
10:45 a.m. Steve Woosley **CLOSER:** Al Knapp
GREETERS: Sean, Michelle, Rachel, and Paul Kersey

ACOLYTES: Bradley Thimke and Michelle Thimke
TELLERS: Mark Mathes and Ken Oblak
ELDER (8:30): Jane Hutson
PIANIST (8:30): Rosalie Gainer

ELDERS (10:45): Gerald Western and Chris Baumgartner
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 Willets

YOUTH NEWS

Sprouts (Gr. 3-5); Chi Rho (Gr. 6-8); CYF (Gr. 9-12)

Participation in Worship, Church School AND youth group is required to receive Camp/Conference scholarships.

February 9-11: *(The WANEW Retreat this weekend has been POSTPONED. Watch for the rescheduled dates...and get your reservations in early once announced.)*

Completed permission slips for the PORTAHOGA Toga Party overnight—and your \$5 registration fee—are due in to me THIS SUNDAY, February 11.

February 16-17: Chi Rho PORTAHOGA Toga Party overnight at First Christian Church, Alliance. We'll leave the WACC parking lot at 4:30 p.m. Bring \$\$ for a Friday night fast-food meal, your bedding and personal care items. (NOTE: If you plan to wear a toga, you MUST be fully clothed beneath it!)

Planned activities include a Christian comedy show, volleyball, basketball, Foosball, X-Box and Play Station games, billiards, a midnight Communion Service, movies, and board games. Sleeping is optional! We'll end with breakfast on Saturday morning and return to WACC by 11 a.m.

Love, Glenna (324-6891) youth@waccelyria.org

Lent Begins February 21

Free Lenten Devotional Available

Be sure to pick up a copy of the Lenten devotional booklet, *Fellowship of Prayer*, from the rack near the stairs to the sanctuary. Each year, new daily readings are used throughout Lent to help Christians prepare themselves for the celebration of the risen Christ. This year's meditations are provided by well-known author Tom Bandy as he reflects on, "Where have we come from?", "Where are we going?" and, "Where is Christ in the midst of it all?"

The booklet is provided free of charge by WACC's Christian Education Committee.

Area Disciples' Ash Wednesday Service

On February 21, Washington Avenue Christian Church will host the congregations of Christian Temple (Lorain), North Eaton Christian Church, and Lakewood Christian Church for a 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service in our sanctuary. The Reverend Houston Bowers will preach and the choirs from the attending congregations will combine to present the evening's anthem. (Choirs will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for rehearsal.)

WACC's Worship Committee will host a time of fellowship following the Service.

Lenten Supper and Study Series—and Wednesday Vespers Services—to Begin

On Sunday, February 25, following our noon Potato Party (see related article in this issue's, "News of Our Family" column), we'll also get a taste of our this year's Lenten study. The Supper and Study Series will take place on Monday evenings (supper at 5:55 p.m., study at 6:45 p.m.), March 5-April 2.

Wednesday evening Vespers Services will begin on February 28, 6:15-7 p.m., and continue through April 4.

FEBRUARY 11 LECTIONARY CORNER

Deuteronomy 15:7-8, 10-11 * Romans 13:8-10
Psalm 101:1-2, 6 Luke 10:25-37*

**Sermon foci*

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Thank You

My thanks to all who sent cards, said prayers or offered kind words in person following Marge's death. Special thanks to Pastor Janet for the beautiful Service.

- Bob Clark

••••••••••
Thank you for supporting our Souper Bowl of Caring collection last Sunday! Despite the cold (which kept half our usual crowd at home), the Elyria Hospitality Center received 167 cans of soup, three bags of assorted groceries and \$167.35 in monetary donations! Our thanks also to the Elders and everyone who helped with the soup luncheon.

••••••••••
A letter of appreciation from Christian Theological Seminary for our 2006 year-end gift is posted on our main bulletin board.

••••••••••
On Sunday, February 18, we will give special recognition to the dedicated individuals who staff our classrooms each Sunday morning, with a coffee hour following the 10:45 Service. (Our thanks to the Hospitality Committee for hosting this gathering.)

As part of this tribute, valentines for your signature will be available in the new building hallway this Sunday and next; please sign these for WACC's Church School teachers, nursery helpers, attendance-takers, etc.

Reservations Due This Sunday

Those wanting to attend the February 26 Elders' Retreat at Lake House must have their reservation (and \$15) in to Don Hange, Jr. by this Sunday, February 11.



Musical Notes

from the *Worship Committee*

Tuesday, February 20—Sing-for-Your-Supper, 5:55 p.m. Join us for this annual lasagna dinner and hymn sing. It's always good and it's always fun!

Sunday, March 18—Quartifit Concert at 3 p.m. Just like last year's smash hit, it'll be full of music and fun. Don't miss it!

Sunday, April 15—Organ Dedication Concert at 3 p.m. Guest organist for this long-awaited event is Todd Wilson. Stay tuned for more information!

Computer-Literate,

"Eye-for-Design" Types Needed

The Church Life & Growth Committee is looking for volunteers to assist in the creation of the 2007 church directory. We would like to create a tribute focusing on WACC's 125th anniversary. Those with artistic skill and computer savvy are needed! Please contact the church office (323-4213) to work with our Committee on this project.

- David & Nicole Eby
CL&G Co-Chairs

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Steve & Karen McCall are celebrating their 6th anniversary (2/3).

Potato Party is February 25

Our annual Potato Party, hosted this year by the Christian Education Committee, will take place on Sunday, February 25 in Fellowship Hall, following the 10:45 a.m. Service. Delicious, hot baked potatoes and a delicious array of toppings will be available. A freewill offering will help offset the cost of the meal.

Following the luncheon, Pastor Janet will present a preview of this year's Lenten study. The Supper and Study Series will take place on Monday evenings beginning March 5 and continuing through April 2.

Aloha!

Dear Friends,

We are enjoying wonderful weather, beautiful scenery, incredible whale activity, and the aloha spirit here on Kauai.

You are in our hearts and prayers.

Love,

Janet & Dan

Janet and Dan's postcard is on display on our main bulletin board.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for the people you love most.

Hospitalized

At EMH: George ("Bob") McNulty

At Lutheran Medical Center:

Barbara Boehler

At Home: Kristen Henry

CALENDAR

Thu., 2/8: - Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 4 p.m.

Sun., 2/11: - Compassion Sunday (see back page for the day's schedule).

Mon., 2/12: - Church Life & Growth Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 5 p.m.

- Northwood Service Unit Girl Scout Leaders' gathering in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tue., 2/13: - Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room, 5:30 p.m.

- Webelos (Pack 131) gathering in their upstairs classrooms, 6:30 p.m.

- General Board meeting in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.

- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

Wed., 2/14: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Thu., 2/15: - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.

- Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.

Fri., 2/16: - Chi Rho "PORTAHOGA Toga Party" overnight begins at First Christian Church, Alliance (depart WACC at 4:30 p.m.; return 2/17, 11 a.m.).

Sat., 2/17: - Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 6 (Wayne & Debbie Walker, captains).

