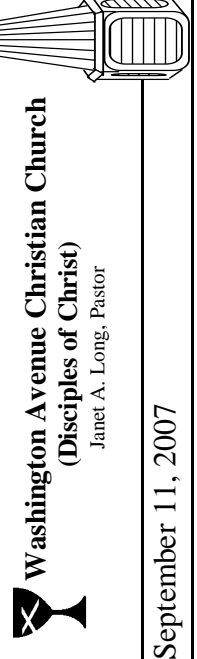


THE SPREE



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

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September 11, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 35

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Today marks the sixth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the U.S. Flags are being flown at half-mast; moments of silence are being observed. The searing images of that morning are indelibly etched into our consciousness as a country. Like other watershed events—Pearl Harbor, the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the Challenger explosion—if we were alive and aware of our surroundings, we know where we were and what we were doing when we got the news.

We stood united as a country on September 11, 2001. We had the support and sympathy of the world on that fateful day. We had allies in the pursuit of Osama bin Laden. But we were diverted into Iraq and a seemingly unrelated and unjustified war; we lost our sense of unity and purpose – and the global good will that was offered. Most Americans do not feel more secure or safe. In fact, quite the opposite: we are continually being alerted to the possibility of another terrorist attack.

With such a dark cloud hovering, how can we recover the sense that life is good? In the weeks following 9/11, church attendance spiked. People turned to the Holy and returned to the practice of faith to try to make sense of the senseless. We sought ultimate meaning as we considered the constantly close, though not always acknowledged, distance between life and death. Everything can change in an instant. Life is fragile. Eternity is always a whisper away.

We haven't forgotten that. But we haven't always remembered it either. The one need we have above all else is the assurance that this life is not all there is. That's why being part of the body of Christ—learning, growing, seeking, praying, communing, giving, relating, sharing, worshiping, witnessing, loving, repenting, forgiving, struggling, celebrating, caring, and welcoming—is a gift in every time and season. It is a blessing available to every generation, no matter its challenges. Thank God!

See you Sunday...

Love, Janet

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September 16, 2007

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
 9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by
 9:30 a.m. Church School
 10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
 12:00 noon Coffee Hour hosted by Hospitality followed
 by Church Life & Growth directory meeting
 by Church Life & Growth directory meeting
OPENER: Pete Majewski **CLOSER:** Don Hange, Sr.
GREETERS: To be announced
ACOLYTES: Daniel March and Romeo Walker
WORSHIP LEADER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long
PREACHER: The Reverend Amy Gopp
TELLERS: Jane Hutson and Brenda Keenan

ELDER (8:30): Barbara Terrell
PIANIST (8:30): Rosalie Gainer
HOME COMMUNION: Betty McIntyre
 Jean Kennedy
DIACONATE: Team III

8:30 - Linda Adkins and Jason Higgins
10:45 - Jenny Bliss, Cheryl Grapes, Gary Knapp,
Carol Mosher, Lynn Obechi, Bob Rieth, Sandy Rieth,
Janet Stevens-Brown, Wayne Walker, and Joan
Wilhelm

YOUTH NEWS

Grades 3-12, have you returned your survey?
 Your responses will help shape this year's youth program. Don't delay! (Didn't get a survey? Call the church office for yours today!)

Chi Rho / CYF Art Needed!

What does Camp Christian mean to you? If you're in grades 6-12, your drawings could net you \$50 off next year's Disciples camp registration and also be used in promotional materials for 2008! Send in 8" x 10" drawings which represent Camp Christian and its programs to:

The Christian Church in Ohio
 355 East Campus View Blvd., Ste. 110
 Columbus, OH 43235

Artwork must be received by September 28.

Wider-Church Events

What Does An Elder Do?

A workshop for Elders—and those who want to know about the work of an Elder—will be held Saturday, September 29 at Central Christian Church, Wooster. Registration is \$25; forms are available on our main bulletin board.

Invitation to a Service of Installation

Our Regional Associate Ministers, Stephen Bentley and LaTaunya Bynum, and Regional Program Minister Brenda Webster will be installed on Sunday, October 7, at 4 p.m., at Northwest Christian Church, Columbus. You are invited to attend this celebratory event.

Transformational Leadership Workshop

Disciples pastors and lay leaders are invited to “Unbinding the Gospel,” a one-day workshop hosted by the Congregational Transformation Team of the Christian Church in Ohio. The event will be held on Saturday, October 13 at Gender Road Christian Church, Canal Winchester. Resource groups will be offered on worship, leadership development, mission, coaching, and more. Registration is \$25; forms are available on our main bulletin board.

Ohio Regional Work Day

The Ohio Disciples Outreach Committee invites you to a work day at the Cleveland Christian Home (11401 Lorain Ave., Cleveland) on Saturday, October 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided. R.S.V.P. to the Development Office (216-476-0333).

Contact the WACC office (323-4213) for more information on any of the above events.

September 16 Lectionary Corner

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Psalm 14
Luke 15:1-10

Sermon focus: Luke 7:11-17

Hearing Bells?

You will this Sunday, September 16, when WACC's Whitechapel Ringers begin their weekly rehearsals. The group meets at 9:30 a.m. in the room off the sanctuary and you are invited to join them! Contact Sandy Woosley (365-5912) with any questions you may have.



Sarah Circle Will Meet

“The Boston Women”

at a September 20, 10:45 a.m.

gathering in the youth rooms. In a videotaped presentation, three transplanted Disciples women will speak of their experiences in Boston, Massachusetts, after leaving comfortably Midwestern, “Disciples-rich” existences. The women share an important message about finding spiritual community wherever one may find oneself.

Their taped remarks were from the 2007 General Assembly held earlier this summer in Fort Worth, Texas. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Please bring a sandwich; beverages and dessert will be provided.

Save These Dates!

1. Elyria High School will hold its 35th Annual Parade of Bands on Saturday, September 22, at 7 p.m. at Ely Stadium. Visit our main bulletin board for complete information.
2. WACC's next “Fifth Sunday Church Family Fun Night” will be September 30. There will be food, games and fun for all, 5:30-8 p.m.
3. A Fair Trade Bazaar will be held on Sunday, October 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Jude's Carrabine Hall (Poplar Street). Stop by our main bulletin board for complete information.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

WoC at WACC

Amy Gopp, Associate Director for Week of Compassion, will share in WACC's Worship Services this Sunday. A native of Kent and a former resident of Croatia and Bosnia, Amy is a graduate of American University, Antioch University and Union Theological Seminary. She has a wonderful story to tell—and a special gift for us!

Welcome Back!

This week marks the return of classes for the Washington Avenue Preschool, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-noon.

We also welcome back Brownie Troop 524 which will meet in our youth rooms every other Thursday, 6-7:30 p.m., beginning September 20.

CALENDAR



- Fri., 9/14: - Ohio Women's Ministries Fall Retreat at Camp Christian begins (ends 9/16).
- Sat., 9/15: - “Bloom Where You Are Planted” event in Fellowship Hall, 8:30 a.m.
- Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 4 (Mark & Susan Mathes, captains).
- Sun., 9/16: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Tue., 9/18: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) spaghetti dinner/meeting in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Church Life & Growth Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Wed., 9/19: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 9/20: - Brownie Troop #524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Erica Diedrick and Aaron Hales were married on Saturday, September 8. Best wishes and blessings to the newlyweds!

Ava Rose Wahn was born August 20 to Ben and Ashley Wahn. Ava weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz. and was 20½ in. long. Other family members include big brother Xavier, grandparents Lennard & Linda Wahn, and Aunt Sarah (Wahn) & Uncle Danny Williams and cousin Alexander.

Continued best wishes to the following anniversary couples: Lennard & Linda Wahn (9/3, #30); David & Pam Terrell and John & Amy Prussak (9/10, #13 and #2, respectively); and, Mark & Shelley Novak and Larry & Danielle Kramer (9/11, #14 and #8, respectively).

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for those affected by hurricanes, floods and earthquakes.

SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers surround Linda Wahn and family in the death of her mother, Donna Kline, on September 2 in Ravenna.

Linda writes that her family has appreciated WACC's thoughts and prayers during Donna's short illness and passing.

HOSPITALIZED

At Life Care Elyria: Marilyn Landes
George (“Bob”) McNulty
Marion Wiles

At Fairview Hospital: Robert Valentine

At Wesleyan Village: George Baker

At Home: Bill Boggs

Karen Davis (in-and-out)

Rosalie Gainer (in-and-out)

Kay Mundorf