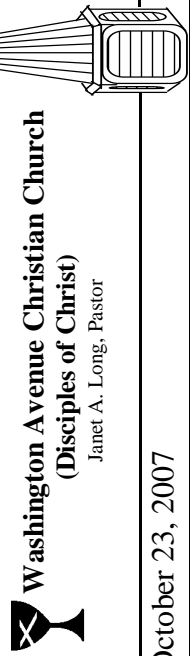


THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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October 23, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 41

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

It's the morning after—Monday morning after Game 7 of the American League Championship Series. Even though the Cleveland Indians lost to the Boston Red Sox, the sun came up this morning. Maybe rain would have been more fitting.

Minutes before last night's game, a friend called from the West Coast to cheer on the Tribe. The first words spoken to me this morning were, "All I can say is, I'm sorry." But Cleveland fans are used to this—the "almost but not quite" outcome.

With a few hours and a fitful night between then and now, I'm already turning philosophical about baseball. It is, after all, a game that carries many analogies, parallels and resemblances to life. We'll reissue our annual mantra: "There's always next year."

The first followers of Jesus believed that their Lord would return any minute. The early church looked to "that final day" with assurance that it would take place soon. The years, decades, centuries, and millennia have accumulated—and we're still waiting.

Even those who write volumes about the end times tie up their wealth from book deals in long-term investments. There is a vague awareness that a Second Coming is somewhere in the offing. It seems about as likely as the Indians being World Champions.

It may seem a long shot, but we must be ready. We must live as those who have hope and confidence. We must live as those who love and serve. We must live as those who rely on a power and peace not of their own making. We must live faithfully.

In the church, we don't have to say, "There's always next year." When it comes to opportunities to worship, learn and fellowship, "There's always this week." When it comes to opportunities to witness and love, "There's always this moment." Thank God!

Love,

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October 28, 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
- 5:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee meeting
- 6:30 p.m. "Trunk or Treat" in our parking lot
- OPENER:** Steve Woosley **CLOSER:** Gary McIntyre
- GREETERS:** Gary & Cindy Knapp
- ACOLYTES:** Cody Schneider and Bradley Thimke
- WORSHIP LEADER:** Tim Widman
- PREACHER:** The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
- TELLERS:** Jane Hutson and Brenda Keenan
- ELDER (8:30):** Ken Mundorf
- PIANIST (8:30):** Becky Thompson
- ELDERS (10:45):** Gerald Western
- HOME COMMUNION:** Bob Rieth
- DIACONATE:** Team IV
- 8:30 -** Marilyn Bauer and Roger Bauer
- 10:45 -** Amy Anderson, David Eby, Nicole Eby, Gary McIntyre, Sharon Siffert, Brenda Turner, Todd Turner, Kathy Wainwright, Lauren Wainwright, and Mark Wainwright

YOUTH NEWS

"Trunk or Treat" — THIS Sunday!

Join us for "Trunk or Treat" at WACC this Sunday, October 28. Grab a costume (or "come as you are") for trick-or-treating in our church parking lot, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Save These Dates!

The CYF (grades 9-12) Hiram Conference Mid-Winter Retreat is scheduled for February 8-10, 2008.

Also, the Washington Avenue, North Eaton, Westlake (W.A.N.E.W.) Christian Churches' winter retreat at Camp Christian for Chi Rho (grades 6-8) and CYF is tentatively scheduled for January 25-27, 2008.

Mark these dates NOW on your calendar, and watch for upcoming confirmation and registration information.



“Trunk or Treat” THIS Sunday!

Join us in the WACC parking lot this Sunday, October 28, 7:30 p.m. for “Trunk or Treat.”

Participants are asked to dress in costume (or “come as you are”) and distribute—or collect—treats from the trunks of decorated cars in the WACC parking lot.

Questions may be directed to Dave & Nicole Eby or any member of the Church Life & Growth Committee.

Election Day Baked Goods Needed

WACC’s Election Day bake sale will be here before we know it! Home-baked goods may be brought to the Elders’ conference room on Monday, November 5 for the following day’s sale. Voters have enjoyed WACC’s hospitality in the past; let’s make sure we have plenty of tasty pastries (breads, cookies, cakes, etc.) to accompany the free coffee and water we distribute. Proceeds from the sale are slated for a changeable event sign for the church lawn.

Thanks, in advance, for your generous participation!

How Are We Doing?

That’s the question the Division of Homeland Ministries is asking congregational leaders. Please take time, before November 16, to complete a brief survey on their web site: www.homelandministries.org

Call the church office (323-4213) if you’d like to participate but don’t have internet access.

October 28 Lectionary Corner

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14*

**Sermon focus*

Have you remembered the church in your will?

World Community Day Observance

Elyria Area Church Women United will observe World Community Day on Friday, November 2, at 10 a.m. at Bethany Baptist Church, 334 17th Street. Church Women United is an organization of women from many different denominations, working together for Christian fellowship and social service. All women of the church are invited to attend their gatherings.

Plan Now to Attend

Why not make the Elyria Community Thanksgiving Service a holiday tradition with your family? This year’s Service will take place on Tuesday, November 20, 7 p.m. at Wesleyan Village.

The Reverend Gwen Gilmore, Pastor of Elyria’s Full Gospel Faith Fellowship Church, will preach. A choir comprised of members of area church choral groups will provide special music. (Rehearsals will be held on Thursday, November 8, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, and on November 20, 6 p.m. at the Village. Choir members should bring their robes to the Service that evening.)

This annual event is sponsored by the Elyria Ministerial Association and the Elyria Ministerial Alliance.

Windows to Display a Harvest Theme

Please consider sharing your decorating talents to provide a harvest display in our sanctuary windows or another area of the church. Decorations need to be in place by Sunday, November 4. They will remain through the 10:45 Service on November 25 but will need to be removed before December 1. Please contact Sharon Siffert (365-0870) to offer your services.

Joanna Circle Gathering

Joanna Circle will meet on Thursday, November 1, at 7 p.m., at the home of Sue McKain, 3 Canterbury Circle, Oberlin. Pastor Janet will present a program on living thankfully.



Book Club to Meet November 8

The Book Club will meet in the youth rooms (note room change) on Thursday, November 8, at 7 p.m.

This month’s selection is Khaled Hosseini’s, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.

CALENDAR



- Sun., 10/28: - See back page for the day’s schedule.
- Tue., 10/30: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 10/31: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 11/1: - Brownie Troop #524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.
- Fri., 11/2: - Joanna Circle gathering at the home of Sue McKain, 3 Canterbury Cir., Oberlin, 7 p.m.
- Fri., 11/2: - Elyria Area Church Women United’s World Community Day observance at Bethany Baptist Church, 334 17th St., 10 a.m.
- Sat., 11/3: - Daylight Saving Time ends (set clocks one hour behind before retiring).

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Liz & Chris Tobin welcomed Benjamin Christopher on Friday, October 12. He weighed in at 7 lbs., 1½ oz. and measures 18 inches long. Proud grandparents are Richard and Janet Stevens-Brown. Best wishes and blessings!

Harold Rickel will celebrate his 100th birthday this Saturday, October 27! He is being honored at a party at the Abbewood on his special day. You are invited to stop by between 2 and 4 p.m. to greet Harold and add your good wishes.

Anniversary couples this week include Brad & Heidi Thimke (10/21, #18) and Mike & Tina Bakos (10/24, #3). Many happy returns!

Prayer Focus

Please pray for the family members, friends, neighbors, classmates, and congregation affected by the shootings in the Petrick home near Wellington on Saturday.

Hospitalized

At EMH: Barbara Boehler
At Regency Hospital: Maxine Roberts
At Cleveland Clinic: David Worcester
At Center Ridge Nursing Home:

Helen Krugman
At Life Care Elyria:

Mildred Biltz
Esther (“Addie”) Buczek
Jim Collier

At Wesleyan Village: George Baker
At Home: Bob McNulty