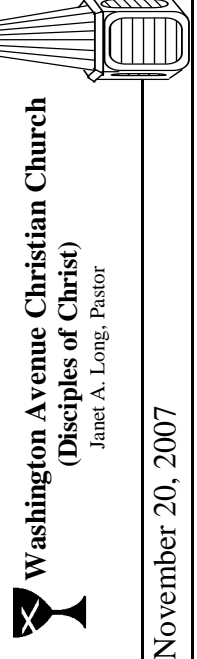


THE SPREE



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

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November 20, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 45

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

This past Sunday—Consecration Day—was wonderful! Inspiring music and message lifted us beyond ourselves. Thanks to Rosalie, Alan and the Chancel Choir – and to Arnold Nelson, Jr. for allowing themselves to be used as instruments of God's Spirit. The All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner was delicious and delightful, thanks to the efforts of Sheila Smith and the Hospitality Committee (and their various recruits ☺).

This coming Sunday, we will venture into a slightly different style of worship at the 10:45 Service. The youth will have prominent roles, and some of the music will be projected (as well as being available in the hymnal). We will focus on the theme of *thanksgiving*. The following Sunday, December 2, is the first Sunday of Advent (and the first Sunday of the liturgical year). An Advent calendar is enclosed for your planning.

As we pause to give thanks to God, I invite you to join me in offering this prayer shared by Disciples Home Missions with congregations throughout North America:

Creator God, you have been exceedingly generous with all of your gifts and blessings. We give you thanks for joy and health, for friends and family, and for all of your bounty. As we approach this Thanksgiving Season, we take time to acknowledge all of your gifts and graces—and to give you thanks, especially for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, who teaches us to love you fully and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

For your Spirit woven into the fabric of creation, for the eternal overlapping with the temporal and for the life of earth interlaced with heaven's vitality, we give you thanks, O God. For your untamed creativity, your boundless mystery and your passionate yearnings planted deep in the soul of every human being, we give you thanks, this day and always. Amen.

Love, *Janet*

(Parts of this Thanksgiving Prayer include words from *Celtic Benedictions, Morning and Night Prayer*, by Philip Newell.)

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DATED MATERIAL
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Nonprofit Org.
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November 25, 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. Blended Worship Service
 12:00 noon Harvest displays to be removed

OPENER: Steve Woosley **CLOSER:** Gary McIntyre
GREETERS: Youth group members
ACOLYTES: Deanna Forbush and Britney March
WORSHIP LEADER: Jordan Stephenson
PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Mark Mathes and Ken Oblak

ELDER (8:30):
 Mark Mathes
ELDERS (10:45):
 Dan Clark
 Tim Widman
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; and, Jillian Kazmierczak and Jacob Kuzela

YOUTH NEWS

December Acolytes
 2 Skye Stephenson and Nautica Walker
 9 Cody Schneider and Tyler Schneider
 16 Deanna Forbush and Sarah Turner
 23 Katie Kostohryz and Sammie Kostohryz
 30 Halley Novak and Taylor Novak

Christmas Pageant Set
 This year's Christmas Pageant will involve children, youth and The Whitechapel Ringers presenting *The Donkey's First Christmas*, based on the story by Kimberley Barr. Contact Debbie Walker ASAP if you'd like to be involved in the pageant.

"Read the Book • Be the Movie"
 The International Christian Youth Fellowship retreat will take place July 24-27 (with Prequel, a hands-on mission event, occurring July 21-24), at Chapman University, Orange, California. Registration deadline is April 1; students in grades 9-12 will want to get this event on their calendars and start saving money now towards their airfare.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Honor or remember a loved one with a poinsettia in our sanctuary this Christmas.

M 6" (5-8 blooms) \$ 5.20 (add .50 for glitter)
L 7½" (10+ blooms) \$ 9.75 (add \$1 for glitter)
XL 8½" (15+ blooms) \$14.50 (add \$2 for glitter)
(If ordering for shut-ins, please consider that the 6" plant fits best in their rooms.)

Orders and payment must be in to the Church Office by **Sunday, December 2**.
(Orders placed in the offering plate must be in a sealed envelope marked, "Poinsettias".) Checks may be made payable to: Washington Avenue Christian Church.

WITHOUT Glitter		WITH Glitter			GRAND TOTAL	\$
SIZE	# Red	# White	# Red	# White		
M						
L						
XL						
(R&W = red & white mix)						

Please specify in Honor or Memory of:

(Name) _____

From: _____

(Name) _____

Distribution: _____ / _____

(Number/color/size to be picked up)

(Number/color of 6" plants for shut-in delivery)

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Holiday Collections Now-December 9

The Outreach Committee is seeking your help with two holiday charity drives, running now through December 9.

The children of the **Cleveland Christian Home** will benefit from the following: *hand-held electronic games (sports, trivia, etc.), batteries (size D, C, AA, AAA, and 9V), board and card games (ages 8+), snap-together models, toy cars, hooded sweatshirts, sport socks, boxer shorts, duffel bags, backpacks (teen), young reader books (i.e., C.S. Lewis, Rowling, Shickett, Stine, etc.), and store gift certificates.*

Gifts should be unwrapped and placed in the designated area in the narthex.

Our annual Neighborhood House

Association Giving Tree is once again up in the WACC office. Paper ornaments containing the names (and gender, age and size) of 50 children, ranging in age from 1 month to 17½ years, decorate the tree. You are asked to remove one or more of those ornaments from the tree and shop for new clothing for the child/ren selected. The ornament tag/s should then be affixed to the wrapped present/s and placed under the Giving Tree (by December 9).

Questions about these collections may be directed to Keith Western or Glenna Knapp.

S.A. Bell Ringing December 15

Watch the narthex for the appearance of a sign-up sheet for our annual day ringing the collection bell on behalf of the Salvation Army. This year, we will again be at the Midway Mall Giant Eagle, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Thu., 11/22: - Happy Thanksgiving! (Church office closed Thursday and Friday.)
 Sun., 11/25: - See back page for the day's schedule.

Tue., 11/27: - Church Life & Growth Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.

Wed., 11/28: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

Thu., 11/29: - Worship Committee Hanging of the Greens preparation work day, 9 a.m.

Sat., 12/1: - Chancel Choir rehearsals in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Thu., 11/29: - Brownie Troop #524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.

Sat., 12/1: - Women's Advent Retreat at Camp Christian, Magnetic Springs, Ohio, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

December Birthdays

1	David Russell	17	Bud Anderson
	Jeremy Smith		Jenny Bliss
	Jim Stephenson		Ralph Wittenbrook
	Debbie Walker	19	Amy Anderson
2	Sammie Kostohryz		Taylor Hurst-Anderson
	Sue McKain		Sydney Bakos
	Arianna McNeal	21	Glenna Knapp
	Libby Nasipak		Alec McNeal
3	Daniel March		Chris Anderson
	Brianna Payne	22	Rick Kennedy
7	Darlene Henes		Adam Shields
	Bill Johnson		Xavier Wahn
8	Lisa Adkins	23	Rachel Allen
	Steve Bond		Jacob McNeal
	Carolyn Long	24	Sean Kersey
	Dolores Zechman		Melinda Schaffer
9	Amanda Hood		Jim Borthwick
	Bob Maxwell	25	Polly Maier
10	Linda Fridenstine		Sarah Thompson
	Gail Haywood	26	Dale Chavalia
	Oleg Yaremko		Phil Hastings
11	Calvin Shields		Grace Stock
12	Ron Gardner		Frank Huber
	Diana Tyler	27	Juliana Grindle
13	Chris Thomas	28	Carrie Chariton
14	Brett Benson	30	Dan Walker
	Emily Cosentino		Doug Hayes
	Laura Draper	31	Lorrie Osborn
	Alison McMahan		Emily Siffert
15	Mark Wainwright		
16	Tanya Diedrick		
	Paul Kersey		
	Todd Osborn		



Did you know that old cell phones can be recycled to benefit the American Cancer Society? Contact Barbara Terrell to donate yours.



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NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

James & Amy Filbert are celebrating their 4th wedding anniversary (11/21).

THANK YOU

My sincere thanks to Pastor Janet, Brenda and the entire WACC family for their cards, calls and visits during my recent hospitalization and recovery. Your loving care makes such a difference!
 - *Jim Collier*

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for those separated from loved ones this Thanksgiving.

SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers surround...the Bauer family in the death of Roger's father, Walter Bauer, on Saturday. Services will be held Wednesday in Lorain.
 ...loved ones of Thelma Strong, long-time member of WACC who lived in the Cincinnati area, who died a week ago Saturday. Private family services will be held Friday, with Pastor Janet Long officiating.
 ...Sue Van Dyke and family in the death of her father, Paul Shook, on Thursday. Services were held locally on Monday.
 May God's presence and peace be known.

HOSPITALIZED

At EMH Amherst: Bruce Siffert
At Cleveland Clinic: David Worcester
At Center Ridge Nursing Home:

Helen Krugman

At Wesleyan Village: George Baker

In rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright

At Home: Jim Borthwick

Addie Buczek

Jim Gainer

Betty McIntyre (in-and-out)