

December 2, 2007—The First Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by
9:30 a.m. Church School

12:00 noon Luncheon and Hanging of the Greens

OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas

GREETERS: Gary & Cindy Knapp

ACOLYTES: Skye Stephenson and Nautica Walker

WORSHIP LEADER: Nancy Huller

PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long

TELLERS: Lauri Warfield and John McKenna

ELDER (8:30): **PIANIST (8:30):**

Lauri Warfield Carolyn Long

ELDERS (10:45): **HOME COMMUNION:**

Nancy Huller Becky Thompson

Mark Mathes Wayne Walker

DIACONATE: Team I

8:30 - Bud and Polly Simmons

10:45 - Liz Everhard, Pam Henry, Karen McCall,

Megan McCall, Steve McCall, Stephanie Thimke,

Chris Thomas, Dan Walker, Nancy Walker, and

Keith Western

YOUTH NEWS

Sprouts, Chi Rho and CYF to Meet

Youth in grades 3-12 will meet on Sunday, December 9, 12 noon-2:30 p.m. for lunch and luminary preparation. Be sure to dress for being outside (don't forget gloves and hat).

Also, plan now to be part of our 5 p.m. luminary set-up on Christmas Eve. We'll have a nice supper and then get to work. Once again, please dress for the weather!

- Jim Stephenson

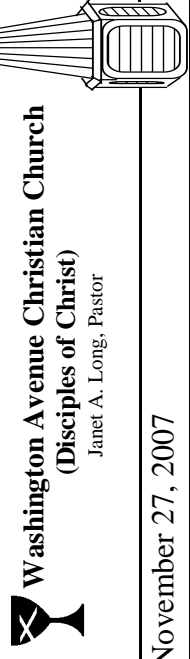
453-6521

jstephenson9@oh.rr.com

Christmas Pageant Needs YOU

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.

THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

301 Washington Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035-5124

Phone: 440-323-4213 Fax: 440-323-4214

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

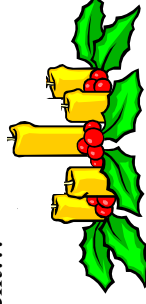
I'm sitting at an airport gate just after 6:30 a.m., waiting to fly home from a church meeting and watching a man dance around the terminal. He has on a headset, which evidently is pumping invigorating music into his ears and inspiring an aerobic routine. In all my travels, I've never seen anything quite like it!

Stepping from behind her podium, the airline gate agent obstructed my view of the exerciser to show some passengers a picture on her cell phone of her upside-down Christmas tree. Her kids wanted to suspend it from the ceiling and decorate it point-down. That's what they did. I've never seen anything quite like it!

As we embark on our journey through Advent, I hope we'll be having that same reaction – *I've never seen anything quite like it!* – around Washington Avenue Christian Church, because we'll be dancing to the unusual lyrics that giving is better than getting; because we'll be looking at a picture of the world turned upside-down by the coming of Christ—and our world turned upside-down by his being Lord of our lives.

Here's to a different—and deeply meaningful—Advent...

Love,



Dan & I look forward to welcoming you at our annual holiday open house on Sunday, December 9.

Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)



301 Washington Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035-5124
Janet A. Long, Pastor
Phone: (440) 323-4213

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

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

LAST CALL FOR 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 **this 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?

Collections Deadline is December 9

Please remember the children of the **Cleveland Christian Home** as you shop between now and December 9. Suggested donations include: *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, Snicket, Stine, etc.), and store gift cards.* Gifts should be unwrapped and placed in the designated area in the narthex.

The **Neighborhood House Association** Giving Tree in the church office still bears the names of over 30 children (down from 50), ages 1 month-17½ years old, needing presents this Christmas.

We are asking you to remove one or more ornaments bearing a child's name, age and sizes, and shop for new clothing (and perhaps a toy) 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).

Can't visit our tree? Call Diana at 323-4213 (feel free to leave a message); she'll be happy to contact you with a name which matches your shopping preferences!

WACC Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 16, 9:30 a.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.
- Sun., 12/2: - First Sunday of Advent (see back page for the day's schedule).
- Mon., 12/3: - Worship Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Tue., 12/4: - Outreach Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Wed., 12/5: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Thu., 12/6: - Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., 12/7: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Joanna Circle holiday dinner at the home of Carolyn Long, 420 Park Ave., 6:30 p.m.
- Church office closed (vacation day).

Bells of Hope Need Your Hands

Sign up with a friend for an hour of staffing the Salvation Army collection kettle at the Midway Mall Giant Eagle on December 15. The sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.

Joanna Circle

will meet on Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. for dinner at the home of Carolyn Long, 420 Park Avenue. **R.S.V.P. by December 3 to 323-4213.** Please bring non-perishable food for the Elyria Hospitality Center and a fun white elephant gift (wrapped) for the group's annual laugh-a-lot gift exchange.

Thank You

Dear Janet and Church Family, Thank you for all your calls, visits, food, and words of comfort you expressed at the time of our mother and grandmother's passing. A special, "Thank you" to Janet and to the women who prepared and served the luncheon following the funeral service.

God blessings,
 The Family of Maxine Roberts (John, Karen, Danielle, and Nicole Davis)

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dick & Arlene Burch became great-grandparents with the November 21 arrival of James Mason Marist, son of Samantha Hafer and Jimmy Marist. Weighing in at 7 lb., 2 oz., he measures 22 inches long. Grandparents Sandi & Dean Forbush and Aunt Deanna are also on the baby's welcoming committee. Best wishes and blessings to all!

Celebrating recent anniversaries are Jack & Debbie Siffert (11/28, #15); Mike & Debby Willets and John & Helen Farrar (11/29, #32 and #21, respectively); and, Benny & Kathy Greer (11/30, #44). Continued happiness to all!

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for the hungry and homeless of our world.

SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers surround... the family and friends of Helen Krugman who died Saturday. Services will be held Wednesday morning in the sanctuary with Pastor Janet Long officiating.

...the Turner family in the death of Brenda's mother, Theresa Wolfe, on Friday. Services will be held Wednesday morning in Parma.

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

HOSPITALIZED

- At EMH: Jim Borthwick
 Anne Prentice
- At LifeCare Elyria: Bruce Siffert
- At Wesleyan Village: George Baker
- In rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright
- At Home: Betty McIntyre (in-and-out)
 David Worcester

CALENDAR