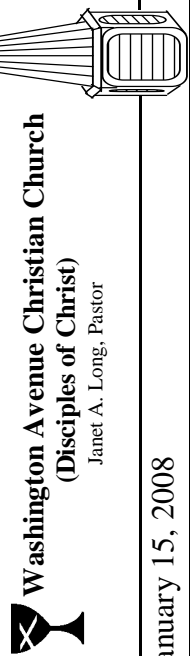




THE SPREE



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
Web Site: www.waccelyria.org
E-mail: office@waccelyria.org

January 15, 2008

Vol. 08, No. 03

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

We made it! Dan's stint as Acting Interim President of Disciples Home Missions ended Friday. By the time you read this, we will be on vacation together!

We appreciate the support and prayers of our church family during this challenging time. The twenty weeks Dan spent in Indianapolis were filled with many opportunities to serve this church we love. His leadership has helped move this unit of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) forward in its mission and ministry.

With a focus on strategic planning, Dan evaluated DHM and its role in the church. He offered a vision of "building up the body of Christ by facilitating congregations for their mission and ministry." He encouraged responses from across the life of the church, seeking to gather wisdom regarding DHM's work and witness.

The result is a document titled, "Interim Insights: Reflections on Disciples Home Missions." The contents of its ten pages provide some historical perspective, observations gleaned from the input of many respondents, suggestions for possible changes, and ideas for strengthening DHM in relation to the whole church.

Dan has made a copy of his "Interim Insights" available to our congregation. It has been placed in the church library. He welcomes your comments and questions and would be happy to talk about his experiences at Disciples Center, the hub of our denomination's collective life, at 130 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis.

From Washington Street in Indianapolis to Washington Avenue in Elyria, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) needs all of our best efforts.

Love,

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.
POSTAGE
PAID
Elyria, OH
Permit No. 332

January 20, 2008—Laity Sunday

- 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 Celebration luncheon in honor of Pauline Wallace's 85th birthday
- OPENER:** Pete Majewski **CLOSER:** Don Hange, Sr.
ACOLYTES: Briney March and Skye Stephenson
SPEAKERS: Bill Clark, Lauren Wainwright and Debby Willets

- TELLERS:** Jane Hutson and Brenda Keenan
PIANIST (8:30): Lauri Warfield
ELDER (8:30): Mark Mathes
ELDERS (10:45): Ken Mundorf and Lauri Warfield
DIACONATE: Team II

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

YOUHHE NEWS

"WANEW St." Winter Retreat: The Washington Avenue, North Eaton, Westlake, and Akron High St. (W.A.N.E.W. St.) Christian Church winter retreat at Camp Christian will be January 25-27. Those attending (Chi Rho and CYF) will take "The Next Top Model Christian" challenge. Registration is \$20 per person. Call 323-4213 for more information.
Hiram Conference Mid-Winter Retreat: The CYF (grades 9-12) Hiram Conference Mid-Winter Retreat will be held February 8-10 at First Christian Church, Wadsworth. This year's theme will be, "Here I Am, Lord...Send Aaron!" Registration information is posted on our main bulletin board.

YOUNG ADULT NEWS

Advance Conference Spring Retreat: Post-high school adults ages 19-29 are invited to Camp Christian April 18-20 for a retreat on human sexuality and religion. Keynote speaker is Melissa Lopez, Sacred Movement Director at First Congregational UCC, Elyria; Bible study will be led by the Rev. Margot Connor. Scholarship funds may be available. Register at www.ccinoh.org or call the church office for more information.

“The Dream Is Alive”

There is an abundance of activities planned as we remember and honor Dr. King's commitment to establishing equal civil rights for all. Please consider attending one or more of the following:

- ◆ Chaperoned youth dance at Lorain County Community College, for ages 13-18, 7 p.m.-midnight; \$3 admission; student I.D. required.
- ◆ **Saturday, January 19**
Festival at Elyria-Lorain Holiday Inn, 11 a.m.; call the First Community Interfaith Institute of Ohio (366-3244) for tickets.
- ◆ **Sunday, January 20**
Musical tribute at First Congregational UCC, 6 p.m.
- ◆ NAACP program at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Lorain, 3:30 p.m.
- ◆ Celebration at Lorain Palace Civic Center, Lorain, 7 p.m.
- ◆ **Monday, January 21**
Ely Square Walk, 10:30 a.m.; celebration at Elyria High School, 11 a.m.; information fair following, 12:30-2 p.m.
- ◆ Soul food buffet dinner at Marcel Hall, noon-5 p.m.; \$9 adults, \$6 age 11 and younger.
- ◆ Celebration at Lorain Public Library (South branch) with the Northern Gospel Lights singing group, 6 p.m.
- ◆ Celebration at Lorain Public Library (Main branch) with storyteller Barbara Eady, 7 p.m.; registration required (244-1192).
- ◆ Celebration at Peace Community Church, Oberlin, 6:30 p.m.; sponsored by the Oberlin Black Alliance for Progress.

Tuesday, January 22

- ◆ Elyria Public Library (West River Road branch) showing of the movie, “With All Deliberate Speed: Brown vs. Board of Education,” 6 p.m.

Wednesday, January 23

- ◆ Workshop at Elyria-Lorain Holiday Inn, 7 p.m.; sponsored by the First Community Interfaith Institute of Ohio.

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

Laity Sunday (January 20) Scriptures

Isaiah 55:1-3b
Matthew 25:35-40*

*Sermon focus

Have you remembered the church in your will?

This Sunday is Laity Sunday

This Sunday, January 20, we celebrate the Christian ministry carried out by all church members. Please be with us as our friends in the pews lead us in Worship.

Only a Few Hours,

Just Two Saturdays a Year...

...is all it takes to be part of WACC's efforts to feed the needy in our community.

In cooperation with the Elyria Salvation Army, WACC utilizes six teams of volunteers to prepare and serve a Hot Meal the third Saturday of each month.

Will you help? We are currently in need of a few more volunteers, including one individual to captain a team. Please contact the church office or one of our Outreach Committee Co-Chairs (Keith Western and Mark Mathes) to begin making a difference here in our own community.

Ohio New Church Offering January 20

Help us reach our goal of 1,000 new Disciples congregations by the year 2020—give to this Sunday's Ohio New Church special offering. To offer your gift, please use the enclosed envelope, the designated one from your personalized packet of offering envelopes, or a specially-marked one from the pew rack this Sunday. Thank you for giving generously!



Thu., 1/17: - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.

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

- Book Club gathering in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.

Sat., 1/19: - Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 4 (Mark & Susan Mathes, captains).

Sun., 1/20: - Laity Sunday (see back page for the day's schedule).

Mon., 1/21: - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed (church office closed).

Tue., 1/22: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

Wed., 1/23: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.

Thu., 1/24: - Brownie Troop #524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.

Fri., 1/25: - W.A.N.E.W. St. Chi Rho and CYF Retreat at Camp Christian Church (ends 1/27).

Sat., 1/26: - Outreach Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 2 p.m.

Early Bird Registration Ends Feb. 2

Planning to attend the March 7-9 “Children Worship & Wonder” training at WACC? Register by February 2 to save \$20!

The event, held in cooperation with Disciples Home Missions, will verse participants in this Montessori-based approach to teaching faith issues to children.

CW&W recognizes children as spiritual beings who already have a relationship with God. Through CW&W, children learn about God as they experience God. They hear Bible stories in a way that allows them to enter into the stories and form responses out of their own life experiences. CW&W can be used with children ages 3-13, with a wide range of ages grouped together in one class. This teaching model often works wonders with children who have attention deficit problems.

Registration for the 3-day workshop is \$120 (\$140 if received after February 2).

Sessions will run Friday, 6-9 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; and, Sunday, 2-5 p.m. The Reverend Kaye W. Edwards, Disciples' Director of Family & Children's Ministries, will conduct the training. Call 888-346-2631 or email kedwards@dhm.disciples.org for complete information or to register.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Lenten Devotional Booklets Available

A Lenten devotional booklet, *Fellowship of Prayer*, is being offered free of charge as a gift from WACC's Christian Education Committee. Ash Wednesday is February 6*, so you'll want to pick up a copy before then. The books are available from the rack near the stairs to the sanctuary.

*Please plan to attend the *Disciples' District 2A Ash Wednesday Worship Service which will be hosted this year at Lakewood Christian Church. The Service will begin at 7:30 p.m.*

Thank You

Sincere thanks to you all for the many gifts, flowers and visits during Christmas. I also enjoyed the carolers! - *Harold Rickel*

Many thanks to my church family for all the prayers and cards before and after my surgery. Special thanks to Pastor Janet Long for spending so much time with my family that day. - *Joan Wilhelm*

It's a Party!

Please remember this Sunday's birthday luncheon in honor of Pauline Wallace (whose 85th birthday is this weekend). The celebration, hosted by her family, will be held in Fellowship Hall following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for the ministry of all baptized Christians, lifted up through our observance of Laity Sunday.

Hospitalized

At EMH: Jim Borthwick

At Life Care Elyria: Helen Farrar

Marilyn Hadaway

At Wesleyan Village: Anne Prentice

In rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright

At Home: Joan Wilhelm

CALENDAR

