

March 23, 2008—Easter

- 8:30 a.m. Celebration Worship Service with youth participation
- 9:00 a.m. Breakfast, served by the Disciples Men
- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:45 a.m. Festival Service of the Resurrection
- OPENER:** Steve Woosley **CLOSER:** Gary McIntyre
- GREETERS:** Dave & Nicole Eby
- ACOLYTES:** Cody Schneider and Tyler Schneider
- WORSHIP LEADER:** Steve Bond
- PREACHER:** The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
- TELLERS:** Larry McIntyre and Dan Walker
- ELDER (8:30):** Steve Bond
- PIANIST (8:30):** Rosalie Gainer
- ELDERS (10:45):** Mark Mathes and Dan Clark
- 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

Youth to Help Lead 8:30 a.m. Easter Service

Youth in grades 3-12 are invited to help lead the 8:30 a.m. Worship Service on Easter Sunday, March 23.

Greeters, communion servers and readers are needed. If you would like to participate, please call me at the church (323-4213) by Friday noon.

We'll meet in the Elders' conference room at 8 a.m. on Easter morning to finalize the details.

Love,
 Pastor Janet

Hiram Conference Benefit Skate

Hiram Conference Chi Rho and CYF members—and future members—and their friends are invited to the second annual roller skating benefit on Sunday, April 13, 4-6 p.m. at Springfield Roller Rink (1220 S. Main St., Lakemore, OH). Proceeds will pay for the rink rental, with surplus funds benefiting Hiram Conference's annual D.I.G. (Dividends in Growth) offering for outreach efforts in the Ohio Region and beyond. Admission is \$5; skate rental is \$2. Directions are posted on the youth bulletin board. Please arrange your own transportation.

**Washington Avenue Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)**



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

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THE SPREE



**Washington Avenue Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)**

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

If I came to church only once during the year, it would be on Palm Sunday. My favorite music is "The Palms". I just love it! Now I've had my fix for the year.

Those sentiments were expressed by folks leaving Worship this past Sunday—the first after the early Service, the second after the later one. Palm Sunday sets up the undeniable juxtaposition of the Christian faith: We recognize our own fickle, fair-weather following of Jesus in the crowd of people who welcomed him so warmly one day and turned on him so quickly later in the week. But, for that one day, we join in the abandon of adulation and adoration. No matter what anyone else says or does, we will wave our palm branches. We will shout our "Hosannas!" We will show our love.

As we sang, "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus", I remembered a Palm Sunday of long ago—40 years ago, to be exact. The congregation was singing that very same hymn. My best friend and I walked forward to make our confessions of faith. I think we were a week ahead of the pastor's class schedule, but I didn't want to wait until Easter to be baptized. I wanted my first communion as a baptized believer to be on Maundy Thursday. Every Palm Sunday, I relive the memory and rejoice in the meaning of that day's events. At the ripe old age of not-quite-12, I felt ready to make a life commitment.

The reality was—and is—that my only hope for honoring that life commitment is the power of the Holy Spirit found in the community of faith known as Christ's Church. I felt ready to declare with the hymn writer, "one of his heralds, yes, I would sing loudest hosannas, 'Jesus is King!'" But no one is cut out for a lifetime of solo work. We need other voices to keep us in tune – and on the right sheet of music. If not for others, we would be in danger of singing only one line—and thinking it was the extent of the song. The divine melody is strongest when it comes from a community seeking harmony.

This week, that community gathers with strength to celebrate the highest holy day on the Christian calendar, Easter. May our voices be united in unbridled joy and praise!

Love,

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Thank You

Dear WACC Family,

Thank you so much for your generosity in donating money to purchase a furnace for a friend and co-worker of mine. Special thanks to Pastor Janet who used her influence to get a great price, generous billing terms and timely installation (right before Thanksgiving). Thanks to Sunday school members, bell choir members and those I approached individually who gave so generously. Also, thanks to the Outreach Committee who approved a "From Our Doorsteps..." \$100 grant towards the purchase.

Sincerely,
Nancy Huller

(A note from the recipient family, sent at Thanksgiving, appears below)

Dear Disciples of Christ,

How can I say, "Thank you"?

At a time when I didn't know how I was

going to make it, God placed me on someone

else's heart to bless me and my family. They knew

what I needed and supplied the need. For this, I

truly thank all of you. It is amazing how God works!

The words in this letter are a small expression

compared to the feeling I have in my heart. GOD is

AWESOME! My faith has been—and always will

be—in the Lord, but your actions have shown me

that when you completely trust and be still, God will deliver.

This Thanksgiving, I have something truly to be thankful for. God knew I was cold and he placed a warm feeling on your hearts to bring warm comfort to my home.

Please know that Washington Avenue Christian Church is forever in my prayers.

Truly thankful and blessed,
Angela Lee and Family

March 23 Lectionary Corner

Jeremiah 31:1-6

Colossians 3:1-4

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

Matthew 28:1-10*

*Sermon focus

Maudy Thursday Service of Communion and Tenebrae

Join us for this annual remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. This solemn Service, which utilizes the gradual extinguishing of light to symbolize Jesus' journey towards death, starts at 7:30 p.m.

Community Good Friday Service

The Elyria Ministerial Association invites the entire community to attend this annual Good Friday observance. The Service starts at 12 noon, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 300 Third Street.

Easter Morning Schedule

8:30 a.m. Celebration Worship Service, with youth participation and Pastor Janet Long preaching the sermon, "Look Alive!"

9-10 a.m. Easter Breakfast served by our Disciples Men Church School

9:30 a.m. Festival Service of the Resurrection with special music and Pastor Janet Long preaching the sermon, "Not Left Behind"

Easter Offering

The Easter Special Day

Offering will benefit a variety

of Disciples ministries at home

and abroad, including human services, leadership development, higher education, and so much more.

To offer your gift, please use the enclosed

envelope, the designated one from your

personalized packet of offering envelopes, or a

specialty-marked one from the pew rack this

Sunday.

April Birthdays

1	Jacob Anderson	18	Stacy Collins
	Jordan Anderson		Megan Sparks
	Arlene Burch		Alison Wheeler
	Doris Dodrill		Andrea Wheeler
	Paul Fridenstine	19	Chuck Necker
	Claudia Heginbotham		Heather Schult
	Jeff Lauffer	20	Gordon Higgins
	Debi Knowlton		Debi Knowlton
2	Sandy Woosley	22	Nancy Huller
3	Jane Hutson		Jack Ryan
	Scott Knapp		Todd Sedar
5	Ashley Dieringer		Paula Wilson
	Eleanor Stevenson	23	Jason Crist
	Reni Wilcox	24	Kevin Matheson
6	Gary Knapp		Erin Sweeten
	Debby Lance		Carol Vondruska
7	Audrey Price		Lydia Ward
	Jessica Wyatt	25	Bev Lehman
8	Jeff Anderson		Becky Thompson
	Lynn Eichenlaub		Kathy Wainwright
10	Missy Vitullo	26	Benny Greer
11	Jason Ward		Betty McIntyre
12	Ken Oblak		Amy McMillan
13	Amy Fitzgerald		Linda Shafer
15	Jason Higgins		Tony Sweeten
	Alan Petersen		Marisa Ward
16	Stephanie Thimke		Bethany Willets
17	Addie Buczek	27	Pat Murphy
	Wayne Collins		Larry McIntyre

April Acolytes

- 6 Aaron Kuzela and Jacob Kuzela
- 13 Halley Novak and Taylor Novak
- 20 Sarah Turner and Nautica Walker
- 27 Katie Kostohryz and Sammie Kostohryz

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Oryanna Nataliya was born to Jennifer & Chad Hale on Saturday, March 15. She weighed in at 8 lbs., 7 oz. and measures 19½ inches long. Proud great-grandparents are Don & Carol Mosher. Best wishes and blessings to all!

Continued best wishes and blessings to Jack & Maggie Ryan upon their 57th wedding anniversary (3/17)!

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

The family of Shirley Shubert will host an 80th birthday party in her honor following the 10:45 a.m. Service on March 30.

Joanna Circle and the Elders will host a farewell reception for Jim & Lil Collier following the 10:45 a.m. Service on April 6. The Colliers will be moving to Wooster on April 8. Jotting down a memory will be the best gift you can offer. That way, they can take us with them to their new home!

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for the world which God so loves.

SYMPATHY

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost family members recently...

...Judy Jackson and family in the death of her uncle, Warren.

...the Wainwright family in the death of Kathy's aunt, Agnes.

May God's peace bless those who mourn.

HOSPITALIZED

At EMH: Samantha Hafer

At Life Care Elyria: Jim Borthwick

Marion Wiles

At Wesleyan Village: Anne Prentice

In rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright

At Home: Jen Hale and Oryanna

Debby Lance

CALENDAR

Thu., 3/20: - Committal Service for Eileen Brandal at Brookdale Cemetery, 10 a.m.

- Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.

- Brownie Troop 524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.

- Maudy Thursday Service of Communion and Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., 3/21: - Community Good Friday Service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 300 Third St., 12 noon.

Sat., 3/22: - Worship Committee work session, 9 a.m.

Sun., 3/23: - Easter (see back page for the day's schedule).

Tue., 3/25: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

