

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

April 1, 2008

Vol. 08, No. 14

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

It is officially Spring – and has been for nearly two weeks now. Though we aren't seeing much proof of it yet, the calendar tells us that it's true. The occurrence of Easter is a reminder of Spring, since one of the requirements of its observance is that the date be set after the vernal equinox.

Today's weather seems like an April Fool's joke on the part of Mother Nature. Sixty degrees early in the day to tease us into thinking Spring is here; a cold front coming to drop those temperatures significantly. Baseball season is underway and there is no snow in the forecast, so it will start feeling like Spring soon.

Spring and April Fool's Day remind me of two great truths: 1 – God is dependable; and, 2 – A sense of humor is important. It is true that God's creative plan ensures that Spring always follows winter, with renewal and new life coming from dormancy and death. It is an Easter lesson fulfilled in the annual rebirth of nature.

A sense of humor—on April Fool's Day and on all days—is a gift. It allows us to smile, to laugh, to view life on a lighter note. A sense of humor is a natural result of Easter: We can laugh at the notion that the ways of the world are more powerful than the ways of God and that death has the final word.

The two great truths I mentioned are inherently connected: God created us to marvel at the deep dependability of God's creative nature and presence *and* God created us to muse on the funny foibles of human life. A sense of humor allows us to take ourselves less seriously while taking God and others more seriously.

May this Spring be a season of life, love...and laughter! And, may we be fools for Christ...

Love,
Janet

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

April 6, 2008
 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
OPENER: Bruce Siffert **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas
GREETER: Brenda Keenan and Marilyn Landes
ACOLYTES: Aaron Kuzela and Jacob Kuzela
WORSHIP LEADER: Pete Majewski
PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: John McKenna and Lauri Warfield
ELDER (8:30):
 Dan Clark
ELDER (10:45):
 Betty McIntyre
 Lauri Warfield
DIACONATE: Team I
8:30 - Bud and Polly Simmons
10:45 - Liz Everhard, Jim Gainer, Pam Henry, Judy Jackson, Steve McCall, Sue McKain, Chris Thomas, Dan Walker, Nancy Walker, and Keith Western

Referrals for Adults and Youth

CAMP FORMS ARE IN!
 Camp and Conference fun is just weeks away! Whether you're in elementary school, junior high or high school—or a graduate or adult of any age—be sure to pick up the registration information for YOUR special event from the bulletin boards in the hall above the church office.
 Some of the opportunities being offered in the near future include:
Adult Conference (Age 18-??)
Advance Conference (Post high school-age 29)
Bereavement Camp (Gr. K-12)
Canoe Camp (Gr. 9-??)
Chi Rho Camp (Gr. 6-8)
CYF Conference (Gr. 9-12)
Family Camp (All ages)
Grandparent and Me Camp (Gr. 1-2 and a "significant adult")
Partnership Camp (Gr. 3-5)
 * * * *Check the dates and deadlines TODAY!* * * *
Hiram Conference Benefit Skate
 Remember the D.I.G. benefit skate for youth in grades 6-12 on Sunday, April 13, 4-6 p.m., at Springfield Roller Rink (1220 S. Main St., Lakemore, OH). Admission is \$5; skate rental is \$2.



La-La-La + Lasagna

Be sure to join us on Monday, April 7 for our annual Sing-for-Your-Supper Lasagna Dinner and Hymn Sing, hosted by our Worship Committee. Dinner will be served at 5:55 p.m. Post-meal entertainment will include a fun hymn sing with old favorites and a new tune or two.

A freewill offering will cover meal costs, with extra proceeds benefiting Week of Compassion.



Youth Tour at WACC April 13

***** Host Homes Still Needed *****
The youth of Jefferson United Methodist Church will visit WACC April 12-13 to lead our Sunday Worship Services with music and drama.

Our thanks to those of you who have agreed to serve as overnight hosts. **We still need accommodations for 21 youth.** Responsibilities are few: pick up "your" kids at WACC at 7:15 p.m. on Saturday, offer them a bedtime snack, give them a place to sleep and shower, feed them a light breakfast, and bring them back to the church at the appointed time on Sunday morning. Please contact the church office to help.

It's Not Too Late!

Did you forget to register for this Saturday's Walk/Run for the Kids of the Cleveland Christian Home? Walk-up participants are welcome! Registration is 7:30-9 a.m. at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

April 6 Lectionary Corner

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Peter 1:17-23
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 Luke 24:13-35*

*Sermon focus

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Inquirers Class Begins

The Inquirers Class, for children in grades 6 and above who are interested in baptism or confirmation and church membership, will begin Wednesday, April 2. If you fall within the above description and did not get a letter of invitation, please contact the church office TODAY to become a part of this year's class.

Inquirers will meet on Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 30, and May 7. A time with a Study Buddy will also be scheduled. The Inquirers will also take two field trips (Saturday, April 19 and Thursday, May 8) to Bethany, West Virginia and Camp Christian. Those being baptized or confirmed will share in Worship on May 11 (Pentecost), and will be recognized at a luncheon that day in their honor.

Please note: *Inquirers are expected to take part in all of the above events.*



Coming up FAST

WeekEnd of Compassion: April 11-13 in Nashville, TN. Participants will share outreach ministry ideas and program information.

Advance Conference Retreat: April 18-20 at Camp Christian. Participants (post high school through age 29) will discuss the spirituality of human sexuality.

Ohio Women's Ministries Convocation: Saturday, April 19 at Gender Road Christian Church (near Columbus). Registration is \$50 if received by April 11; \$60 if received later.

CROP Walk: Saturday, April 19 at the Lorain County Metroparks' Bur Oak Picnic Area. Proceeds fight hunger locally and globally. Contact Keith Western for walker or sponsor information.

Advance Conference Fundraising Concert: Friday, April 25 at Tylersville Road Christian Church. Featured will be Disciples musicians from the Ohio Region. Proceeds will help provide scholarships for Advance Conference events.

Complete information about the above events is available on our main bulletin board.

CALENDAR

- Thu., 4/3:
 - Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 4 p.m.
 - Brownie Troop 524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.
 - Joanna Circle gathering at the home of Debbie Walker, 236 Sumner St., Oberlin.
- Fri., 4/4:
 - Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary, 5 p.m.
- Sat., 4/5:
 - Cleveland Christian Home Walk/Run for the Kids at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, 8:45 a.m.
 - Allie Aviles and Wayne Knapp wedding in the sanctuary, 3 p.m.
 - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Sun., 4/6:
 - Sing-for-Your-Supper Lasagna Dinner and Hymn Sing in Fellowship Hall, 5:55 p.m.
- Mon., 4/7:
 - Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room, 5:30 p.m.
- Tue., 4/8:
 - General Board meeting in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.
 - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 4/9:
 - Inquirers Class gathering in the Elders' conference room, 3:30 p.m.
 - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 4/10:
 - Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., 4/11:
 - WeekEnd of Compassion begins in Nashville, TN (ends 4/13).
- Sat., 4/12:
 - Ohio Region Work Day at the Cleveland Christian Home, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

John & Jocelyn Bond are celebrating anniversary #3 (4/2).

Correction: The Gallagher (Haywood) baby born March 18 is named Grady, not Brady.

Thank You

Words cannot express my gratitude for all the wonderful people at the party for my 80th birthday. It was wonderful to see all of you there. Thank YOU for making it a day I shall always remember.

- Shirley Shubert

New Home

Jim & Lil Collier will reside at the following address as of April 8:
4136 Gray Dr., Wooster, OH 44691
(Phone: 330-345-8971)

Please make this change in your church directory.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for missionaries serving in our behalf around the globe.

Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers surround Linda & Tom Dull in the recent death of Linda's sister-in-law, Judy Sutter.

May God's peace offer comfort to all who mourn.

Hospitalized

At Autumn Aegis: Robert Wenzel

At Life Care Elyria: Jim Borthwick

Marilyn Hadaway

Marion Wiles

At Wesleyan Village: Anne Prentice

In Rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright

At Home: Diane McCall (in/out)