

THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

The song lyrics refer to "the merry, merry month of May." Such wording seems apropos when describing the beautiful month with its myriad flowers, newly-leaved trees, lush grass, warm temperatures, gentle breezes, and abundant sunshine. May offers us many reasons to be merry—and May in the life of our church will add to the merriment!

May, here at Washington Avenue Christian Church, will be a month of mothers, members, memories, and miracles. Our celebration of mothers—and of the family relationship shared by all daughters of God and sisters in Christ—begins at the annual All-Daughters Dinner on May 1. It culminates with the Mother's Day breakfast prepared and served by our Disciples Men on that special day, celebrated this year on May 11.

Our emphasis on members will be most evident as we welcome this year's Inquirers Class by confession of faith and baptism on the day of Pentecost, May 11. You are encouraged to wear a touch (or a lot!) of red that day and to come to Worship expecting the very breath of God's Holy Spirit to inspire you. An all-church dinner will follow the 10:45 Service in honor of our Inquirers and other recent new members.

Memories will be our focus on Memorial Day Sunday, May 25. We will remember those who gave their lives for country and for faith. We will remember our loved ones who are now part of the great cloud of witnesses. We will remember the call of God on our lives and our commitment to be disciples of Christ. We will remember our Lord by sharing in his holy feast. We will re-member his body by coming together.

Miracles will be abundant during May: the miracle of God's love and grace; the miracle of relationships with opportunities to share life and faith; the miracle of what God will do with our gifts of commitment when we seek to share freely and faithfully with glad and generous hearts. We will **Covenant for a Miracle** – and surely will be blessed!

Love, *Janet*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

May 4, 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
ACOLYTES: Daniel March and Romeo Walker
WORSHIP LEADER: Carolyn Long
PREACHER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Larry McIntyre and Dan Walker

ELDER (8:30):

Dan Clark
Carolyn Long

ELDERS (10:45):

Barbara Terrell
Steve Bond
Karen Schneider

DIACONATE: Team 1

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

Camp Close-Up

Congratulations to our Early Birds! The following have already sent in their Camp and Conference registrations (and benefitted from a reduced registration rate):

CYF Conference—*Briquette March, Katie Mizen and Jordan Stephenson*

Chi Rho Camp—*Deanna Forbush, Jacob Kuzela and Britney March*

Partnership Camp—*Aaron Kuzela and Cheyenne Remley*

It's not too late to sign up! Partial scholarships are still being offered by the church. Contact the church office or Pastor Janet for details. Registration forms are available from the bench beneath the youth bulletin board.

"Grandparent and Me" Camp

is for young children entering grades 1 and 2, and their special adult friend (grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc.). Two dates are offered this year: June 6-7 and October 3-4. Contact the church office for more information.

For MEN Only

Disciples men are invited to the annual Spring Retreat at Camp Christian May 16-18. "Operation Camp Christian: Ohio Disciples Men's Mission to Our Youth" is an opportunity to connect with Disciples men of all ages while reading Camp Christian for another season of ministry. Come prepared to paint, mow, rake, weed-whack, sweep, etc. But there still will be plenty of opportunities for worship, Bible study and fun, including a performance by "His Embrace", a musical group from Gender Road Christian Church. Registration rates are \$25.50-\$75 depending upon participation level, scholarship opportunities, etc.

For WOMEN Only

Disciples women are invited to attend the Ohio Women's Ministries Spring Gathering May 17 at High Street Christian Church, Akron. The event theme is, "Listening to God's Voice, Listening with God's Word." Disciples women of Districts 2, 3, 4, 7, and 15 will be in attendance. Registration is \$10 per person and includes lunch. **R.S.V.P. by Sunday, May 11** to Donna Van Boxel, 440-255-7926 or donna5119@yahoo.com. The church is located at 131 South High Street in Akron.

For EVERYBODY

Disciples Fellowship Retreat ("Family Camp") will be held May 23-25 at Camp Christian. Participants of all ages are invited to investigate "God's Vision for You." Registration ranges from \$31 per adult-\$165 maximum per household, depending upon participation level and number in household.

Complete information on the above events may be obtained through the church office (323-4213), our main bulletin board or on-line at www.ccinohio.org.

Have you remembered the church in your will?



Dear Janet and Friends at WACC,

I was overwhelmed by the number of cards and good wishes I received! I continue to be active in church and the activities of the Home. I help on Monday morning in the Food Pantry of the Episcopal Church, filling shopping bags with groceries for the needy of Wheeling. I walk every day, up to half a mile along Wheeling Creek. We both miss you and the varied program of WACC.

Thanks for your many good wishes!

With love to all,

Jack Ryan

Dear Friends,

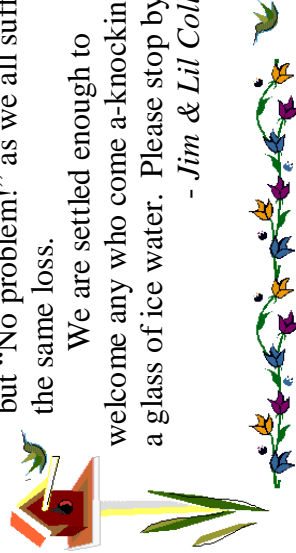
Thank you so very much for all your blessings for our new home and good wishes for our anniversary. Reading the names brought many good memories of special friends—even the one who "misses exchanging insults". ☺

We've been here for two weeks and, although the house is smaller, as we move from room to room, we find ourselves stopping and asking, "What is it I want...and where will I find it?" (Similar to a faith journey?)

We've been welcomed by many of our neighbors. Names have been forgotten but "No problem!" as we all suffer the same loss.

We are settled enough to welcome any who come a-knockin' a glass of ice water. Please stop by.

- *Jim & Lil Collier*



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Steve Weinhardt will graduate with honors from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona this Saturday. He will work as a commercial airline pilot. Godspeed, Steve!

Our end-of-April anniversary couples include John & Pam Henry (4/28, #29), Lee & Narelle Peden (4/29, #58) and Ken & Kathy Oblak (4/30, #14).

Best wishes and blessings to all!

Prayer Focus

Please pray for a miracle...

Sympathy

Our love and prayers surround...

...Fauna Griffiths and family (including her mom, Pauline Wallace) in the death of her husband, Rick, on Sunday. Services will be held this summer at Fort Benning, Georgia.

...Diane Borthwick and Brenda Keenan in the death of their cousin, Joan Smith, on Sunday. Services will be held Saturday here in Elyria.

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

Hospitalized

At EMH: Marilyn Hadaway

Carol McIntyre

At Oak Ridge Nursing Home: Jim Borthwick

At Wesleyan Village: Myra Ball

Anne Prentice

In Rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright

At Home: Sarah Bond

David Bruce

Virginia Pegler

Marlene Walker

Robert Wenzel

CALENDAR

Thu., 5/1: - Brownie Troop 524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.

- All-Daughters Dinner in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Fri., 5/2: - Church office closed for attendance at "Gigabytes for the Gospel" conference.

- Elyria Area Church Women United's Friendship Day Breakfast, First United Methodist Church, 312 Third St., 10 a.m.

- WANEW Overnight at Westlake Christian Church, 7 p.m. (ends 5/3, 9 a.m.)

- Camp Christian Reunion and Open House begins, Magnetic Springs, OH (ends 5/4).

- See back page for the day's schedule.

Tue., 5/6: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

Wed., 5/7: - Inquirers Class gathering in the Elders' conference room, 3:30 p.m.

- Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.

- Inquirers Class trip to Camp Christian, 3:30 p.m.

Thu., 5/8: - Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 4 p.m.

