

THE SPIRIT



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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May 6, 2008

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Today is the 45th day of Easter. The 50th day—which will be celebrated this coming Sunday—is known as Pentecost. What a special occasion it will be as we witness the confessions of faith and baptisms of this year's Inquirers!

The Holy Spirit was poured out on the Church on the first Pentecost. Because we have never been without this Advocate and Comforter, we sometimes fail to recognize the power, light and strength offered through the gift of the Spirit.

These words from *Chalice Worship* remind us...

Jesus stays with us in the Spirit, who renews our hearts, moves us to faith, leads us in the truth, stands by us in our need, and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant.

The Spirit thrusts God's people into worldwide mission, impelling young and old, men and women, to go next door and far away

into science and art, media and marketplace with the good news of God's grace.

The Spirit goes before them and with them, convincing the world of sin and pleading the cause of Christ.

The Spirit's gifts are here to stay in rich variety, fitting responses to timely needs.

We thankfully see each other as gifted members of the fellowship that delights in the creative Spirit's work.

More than enough the Spirit gives to each believer for God's praise and our neighbor's welfare.

Thanks be to God! See you in church...

Love,

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May 11, 2008—Pentecost

- 8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Mother's Day Breakfast served by our Disciples Men
9:30 a.m. Church School
10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship
12:15 p.m. Pentecost Luncheon in honor of our Inquirers and new members
OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas
GREETERS: Steve & Joy Bond
ACOLYTES: Dan McGann and Bradley Timke
WORSHIP LEADER: Dan Clark
PREACHER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Dan Clark and Jane Hutson
ELDER (8:30): Ken Mundorf
PIANIST (8:30): Rosalie Gainer
ELDERS (10:45): Nancy Huller and Betty McIntyre
DIACONATE: Team II
8:30 - Teri Hayes and Bob Maxwell
10:45 - Peggy Haywood, John Henry, Debby Lance, Jack Price, Karen Schneider, Jim Stephenson, Jordan Stephenson, Sue Stephenson, and Jeni Sweeten

Camp CloseUp

All-Ages Retreat Deadline is May 16

Those attending the May 23-25 Disciples Fellowship Retreat ("family camp") at Camp Christian will need to register by May 16. Rates for individuals are \$55 for adults, with reduced rates for children. (Maximum cost for an entire household is \$165, including food and lodging!) Participants will participate in sessions to help them understand, "God's Vision for You." Other activities include Laura (Unger) and Doug Kaufman in concert, a camp talent show, Bible study, basket-weaving, work projects, boating, fishing, worship...and more!

Adult Conference Hotel Deadline May 23

Planning to attend the June 16-20 Adult Conference in Columbus? Hotel reservations must be made by May 23 to obtain a reduced rate. The conference theme is, "Equipping the Body of Christ: Finding Unity in Diversity." Sessions offered include gospel music, conflict management, exploring world religions, art, "kissing frogs", and more. Session leaders include Harry Bolen, Allen Harris, John Johnson, Lester Palmer, Kerry Reed, Tim Savage, Jim Schimmel, and Marti Steussy.

Complete information and registration forms for these events—and more—are available on our main bulletin board.

Calling All Graduates

If you're graduating from high school, college or graduate school—or are completing a vocational training course—you should have received a letter of invitation to WACC's June 1 Baccalaureate. Included in the mailing is a brief "highlights" form, outlining your achievements and future plans, to return to the church office ASAP. (Did we miss you? Contact the church office today.)

R.S.V.P. by Sunday, May 18. *Even if you can't attend the special activities in your honor, please return your bio sheet by May 18 so we can include your information in the Baccalaureate Sunday special insert.*

Please note: If you are planning a graduation party and need to borrow tables and chairs from the church—or reserve Fellowship Hall—please arrange this through the church office. Though there is no charge to members, donations are gratefully accepted.

CROP Walk Participants "Step Up"

WACC participants raised \$1,020 in the April 19 Lorain-Elyria CROP Walk. Fifty percent of the funds raised in this Walk directly benefit hunger-relief charities in the Lorain-Elyria area.

Congratulations—and many thanks—to Dan Clark who ran the 6-mile course and walkers Gary Knapp, Cody Schneider, and Keith Western. Special thanks to their generous sponsors.

Free Legal Consultation Available

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is again offering a FREE drop-in clinic for legal advice on non-criminal matters (i.e., tenant disputes, consumer issues and family matters). The clinic will be held on Thursday, May 15, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Oberlin Community Center, 285 S. Professor Street.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Pentecost Offering This Sunday *** Something to Consider ***

At one point, every congregation was a new church. Since WACC's beginnings, thousands of lives have been touched by this congregation's programs and ministry.

Sixty-five percent of the U.S. population does not live near a Disciples church, so there are many segments of our population that have not had a chance to participate in the Disciples' witness.

The Pentecost Special Day Offering is our opportunity to "pay it forward" by supporting a new congregation. By planting new churches, Disciples establish congregations that also will touch thousands of lives over time.

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!

May 11 Lectionary

Acts 2:1-21*
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b John 20:19-23

**Sermon focus*

Last Call for Men's Retreat

Don't miss out: The Disciples Men's Spring Retreat is May 16-18.

Campers will help ready Camp Christian for another season of ministry by painting, mowing, raking, weed-whacking, repairing—whatever is necessary to put the Camp in tip-top shape. There will also 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. Registration may be done on-line at www.ccinoh.org or with forms available from our main bulletin board.

Women's Event Deadline This Sunday

Disciples women attending the Ohio Women's Ministries Spring Gathering May 17 at High Street Christian Church need to R.S.V.P. by this Sunday, May 11.

Registration may be done through Donna Van Boxel at donna5119@yahoo.com

or 440-255-7926. Cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. The church is located at 131 South High Street in Akron.



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Welcome!

Shari Wesemeyer united with our congregation on Sunday, May 4 by transfer of membership. She has already joined the choir! Shari lives next door (283 Washington Ave., #C111; 322-4161) with husband Scott and son Ricky; a baby will join them in July!

Congratulations!

Wayne Knapp is a member of the University of Toledo Class of 2008. Commencement was held on May 3.

Bradley Dieringer graduated from the University of Dayton on May 4.

Megan McNulty was inducted into National Honor Society at EHS last week.

Steve Kistner won a bowling medal at the Special Olympics held recently.

Early May anniversaries include those of Ron & Beverly Gardner (5/4, #28) and Tom & Ann Busch (5/5, #29).

New Number

Keith Western's contact number has been changed to 440-935-4036.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for all affected by the cyclone which ravaged Myanmar.

Hospitalized

At Cleveland Clinic: Barbara Smith
At LifeCare: Marilyn Hadaway*
At Center Ridge Nursing Home:

Jim Borthwick*
At Wesleyan Village: Myra Ball*

Anne Prentice*
In Rehab in Florida: Mildred Wainwright*
At Home: Carol McIntyre

*We will publish changes of location for our rehab patients as moves occur.

CALENDAR

- Thu., 5/8: - Inquirers Class trip to Camp Christian, 3:30 p.m.
- Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 4 p.m.
- Sun., 5/11: - Pentecost and Mother's Day (see back page for the day's schedule).
- Mon., 5/12: - Northwood Service Unit Girl Scout Leaders' meeting in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Tue., 5/13: - Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room, 5:30 p.m.
- General Board meeting in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.
- Wed., 5/14: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 5/15: - Brownie Troop 524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.
- Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., 5/16: - Ohio Disciples Men's Spring Retreat at Camp Christian begins (ends 5/18).
- Sat., 5/17: - Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 1 (Glenna Knapp, captain).