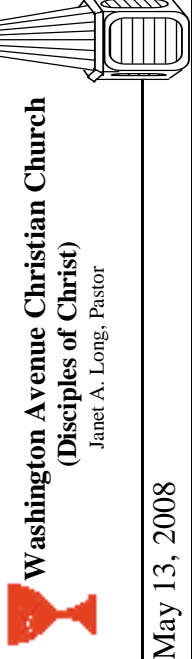


THE SPIRE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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May 13, 2008

Vol. 08, No. 20

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Pentecost was a wonderful day of Spirit-filled celebration here at Washington Avenue Christian Church! We witnessed the confessions of faith and the baptisms of six young persons. Our congratulations and prayers for God's blessings encircle this year's Inquirers and their families: **Collin Thomas Fitzgerald, Jacob Daniel Kuzela, Megan Justine McNulty, Morgan Cally McNulty, Taylor May Novak, and Troy Dominic Charles Piazza.** May they live in faithfulness to Christ and the Church all their days, guided and shaped by the Holy Spirit.

An important component of the Inquirers Class is the time spent with Study Buddies. **Gerald Western, Gary Knapp, Brenda Keenan, Susan Mathes, Cindy Knapp, and Mark Mathes** were matched up with the Inquirers in the order listed above. Thank you!

Appreciation is also extended to Shelley Novak for lending her vehicle for the Bethany trip, to Dan Clark for driving on both field trips and to Carolyn Long for preparing the picnic for the Camp Christian outing.

Many others helped to make Pentecost the special occasion it was. We appreciate the efforts of Sheila Smith and the Hospitality Committee in preparing and serving the delicious dinner, the Church Life & Growth Committee in providing the dessert and the decorations, and the special friend who underwrote the meal costs. The Disciples Men's Fellowship kicked off the morning in fine fashion with their annual Mother's Day Breakfast. We are grateful to all!

May we take our cue from one of the lights (not the sound system) that was literally buzzing with energy during the 10:45 Service. May we be abuzz with the Holy Spirit which seeks to grace our days with its fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Will we welcome the Spirit's presence in all its holiness and wholeness? May Pentecost be only the beginning of our openness to the wonder of God! May these upcoming weeks following Pentecost be filled with the lively, lovely, living, loving Spirit!



Love,

Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



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Janet A. Long, Pastor
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May 18, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. Common Grounds
- 9:30 a.m. Church School and Blended Worship Service Rehearsal
- 10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship
- 12:00 noon Fellowship Hall in use
- OPENER:** Pete Majewski **CLOSER:** Don Hange, Sr.
- GREETERS:** Ron & Beverly Gardner
- ACOLYTES:** Deanna Forbush and Skye Stephenson
- WORSHIP LEADER:** Arlene Burch
- PREACHER:** The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long
- TELLERS:** John McKenna and Lauri Warfield
- ELDER (8:30):** Pianist (8:30): Lauri Warfield
- Mark Mathes
- ELDERS (10:45):** **HOME COMMUNION:** Tim Widman
- Lauri Warfield
- Gerald Western
- David Eby
- DIACONATE:** Team III
- 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

Camp Close-Up

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.

"Grandparent and Me" Camp

is for young children entering grades 1 and 2, and their special adult friend (grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc.). Dates this year are June 6-7 and October 3-4.

Adventure Camp—Canoeing

Canoes Michigan's Au Sable River July 6-12 while learning about biblical boat stories. While designed for those in high school and older, this trip is not considered rigorous; the river current will provide most of the needed forward motion. Registration is \$300 per person and includes transportation, tent, canoe, paddle, life preserver, campground fees, and food. Registration is limited to the first 20 people to sign up.

Contact the church office for complete information on the above events and other wider-church retreats and activities.

June 8 Blended Worship Planned Want to Help?

The next blended worship service, on June 8, will feature songs and stories from Camp Christian. Anyone interested in helping develop or lead this service is asked to come to rehearsal this Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. If anyone has camp pictures to share, please get them in to the church office ASAP. Thank you!

- Lauri Warfield

Elders' Workshop June 14

Norwood Christian Church is hosting an Elders' Workshop on Saturday, June 14. The Rev. Bill McConnell, author of the book, "Renew Your Congregation," will be featured speaker. Registration is \$15 per person. Contact Rev. Heather Schimmel for more information (513-631-5366 or pastorncc@fuse.net).



My thanks to everyone who helped make our recent dinners such successes! I'm grateful for all my kitchen help, salad makers, bakers, decorators, set-up and clean-up crews, cooks, and donors who help make these meals possible. Proceeds help purchase tables, tablecloths and various items for the church kitchen. I couldn't do this without my invaluable crew of helpers and my church family! Thank you! Thank you!

- Sheila Smith

May 18 Lectionary Corner

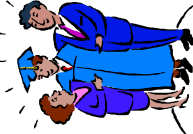
Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20*

*Sermon focus

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Last Call for Graduate Information

2008 graduates who want to be listed in the special insert in our Baccalaureate order of worship need to return their completed profiles to the church office by **Sunday, May 18**. (Didn't get your letter of invitation to our June 1 Baccalaureate celebration? Contact the church office *today!*)



VISIT www.weekofcompassion.org to get updates on Disciples response to current global crises and to donate to WOC on-line. To donate by check (payable to WACC), use the WOC envelopes on the table in the narthex.

Two Ways to Get the BIG Picture

Want to know what Disciples in the Ohio Region are doing? You can get a free subscription to *The Buckeye Disciple* (delivered bi-monthly via email or the U.S. Postal Service) by contacting the Christian Church in Ohio at 614-433-0343 or www.ccoio@ccinoh.org.

Curious about denominational news? *Disciples World* tells it all, in both hard copy and on-line, in 10 issues a year for \$31. To subscribe, call 317-375-8846, visit www.disciplesworld.org or contact the church office.

GOLFING...

Golfing enthusiasts will want to take note of two special events to benefit youth, coming up *FAST* on our calendar:

1. The Christian Church in Ohio is holding its annual golf outing to supply youth camp scholarships. It'll be **Saturday, May 31** at Scioto Reserve (near Columbus). Dinner will follow at Camp Christian with overnight lodging available on Friday and/or Saturday (\$20 per night). Participation levels include \$200 for hole sponsorship, \$125 for golf and dinner, or \$50 for dinner only. Donations will also be accepted. Call 440-323-4213 or visit www.ccinoh.org to register or obtain more information.

2. The Cleveland Christian Home's annual Scramble for Kids will take place on

Monday, June 2 at the Elyria Country Club. The event includes lunch, golf, a putting contest, dinner, a silent auction, and more. Golfers pay \$250 for the entire event. Sponsor packages range from \$250-\$7,500 and come with perks like web and print recognition, tickets, and more. Registration forms are posted on our main bulletin board.

...and GULFING

Interested in doing some Hurricane Katrina mission work? The Christian Church in Ohio is sponsoring an Ohio Region work trip September 22-26 to Metairie, Louisiana. Email revpaul@columbus.rr.com for details.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jeff & Julie Dodd and David & Terri Osborn are celebrating their 3rd anniversaries. Both couples were married May 14, 2005.

CONCERT INVITATION

Judy Jackson will be singing with the Amherst Community Chorus at "A Celtic Celebration" on Friday, May 23 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church Social Hall. Tickets may be purchased at the door (\$4 for adults; \$3 senior citizens; \$2 students).

THANK YOU

Many thanks to my wonderful church family for your expressions of care during my recent illness. Your cards, calls and get-well wishes have been such a blessing!

Love, Carol McIntyre

COVENANT UPDATES

The three-year pledge period of **Renewing Our Covenant** ends May 31. Have you completed your commitment?

The four-year Covenant for a Miracle pledge period begins June 1. Have you turned in your commitment card? Thank you for your part in making May the Miracle month at WACC!

TRAVELING MERCIES

Our prayers go with Kurt Huller who is studying abroad this summer, spending six weeks in Europe. Godspeed!

PRAYER FOCUS

Pray for those all over the world affected by cyclone, earthquake, tornado, and wildfire—and for Week of Compassion which is responding to each disaster.

Pray, too, for victims of random acts of violence.

HOSPITALIZED

No one (of whom we are aware) at press-time.

At Home: Bob Clark

Barbara Smith

Dave Smith (in-and-out)

Missy Vitullo (in-and-out)

CALENDAR



- Thu., 5/15: - Last school day of the Washington Avenue Preschool year.
- 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).
- Sun., 5/18: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Mon., 5/19: - Worship Committee supper meeting at the home of Debby Willets, 6 p.m.
- Tue., 5/20: - Elders' sub-committee on staffing meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7:15 p.m.
- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 5/21: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 5/22: - Church Office closed (vacation day).
- Nominating Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Fri., 5/23: - Disciples Fellowship Retreat (Family Camp) at Camp Christian begins (ends 5/25).