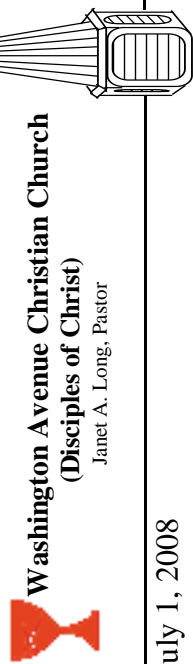




THE SPREE



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

July 1, 2008

Vol. 08, No. 27

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Freedom isn't free. With freedom comes responsibility.

As Independence Day approaches, such trite yet true statements are heard frequently. How do we fully appreciate freedom when we haven't known anything else? How do we truly understand liberty when we haven't experienced any other way of life?

Freedom. As we mark our nation's birthday, we focus on the freedoms afforded us as citizens of the United States of America. Rather than reading the Bill of Rights, though, most Americans will spend the Fourth of July "grilling and chilling", to borrow a phrase from a friend. Instead of exercising our freedom of religion, most Americans will spend the Fourth of July weekend exercising freedom *from* religion, skipping religious services.

This holiday is filled with picnics and fireworks, along with flags and all things red, white and blue. It is a day off work, along with a day to remember our history. Like a birthday or a wedding anniversary, I think it's a good day to reflect and to recommit.

I believe that our country needs to return to its commitment to justice for all. Though we have one of the best systems in the world, the system doesn't always work properly or fairly. Sometimes the State resorts to the same level as the criminal, which should not be the case. As we pledge our allegiance to the flag, which is a worthwhile activity for Independence Day, we commit ourselves to "liberty and justice for all."

How will you spend the 232nd birthday of our country? This great nation reflects the will of its citizenry. How will you get involved? How will you help make our country better and stronger? How will you step up in the name of liberty and justice for all?

Happy Independence Day! See you in church over the holiday weekend...

Love,

Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



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Janet A. Long, Pastor
Phone: (440) 323-4213

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

July 6, 2008

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Common Grounds
9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Church School
10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
12:00 noon Chi Rhoers and counselors depart for Camp Portahoga (return 7/12)

OPENER: Bruce Siffert **CLOSER:** Gary McIntyre
GREETERS: Jane Hutson and Brenda Keenan
ACOLYTES: Bradley Thinkle and Romeo Walker
WORSHIP LEADER: Claire Huller

PREACHER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Mark Mathes and Ken Oblak

ELDER (8:30): PIANIST (8:30):

Mark Mathes Carolyn Long

ELDERS (10:45): HOME COMMUNION:

Betty McIntyre Dan Clark
Don Hange, Jr. Bob Rieth

DIACONATE: Team I

8:30 - Mike Crocker and Robin Crocker
10:45 - Fauna Griffiths, Dennis Jackson, Cindy Knapp, Gary Knapp, Steve McCall, Sue McKain, Chris Thomas, Dan Walker, Nancy Walker, and Keith Western

Camp Close-Up

The following will be commissioned to Camp Portahoga this Sunday, July 6:
Deanna Forbush, Katie Kostohryz,
Jacob Kuzela, Britney March, and Tyler Stephenson (campers); and, Dick & Arlene Burch (counselors).

Last Call for Sessions 2008

It's not too late to join other Disciples men in Oklahoma City July 17-20 for Sessions 2008. This church-wide gathering of men promises to be uplifting, informative AND entertaining. Register on-line at:

www.sessions2008.org

Advance Conference August 10-17

This camp is for post-high school adults through age 29. Register on-line at:

www.ccinoh.org



WACC Habitat Build to Start

Construction will begin soon on a Habitat for Humanity house, co-sponsored by WACC, at 727 W. 19th St., Elyria. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be in the narthex this Sunday, July 6, for anyone interested in helping with the build or in providing food for workers. Workdays will be Saturdays, beginning mid- to late July, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., with specific assigned dates based on Habitat's building schedule. More details will be available on the sign-up sheet.

VBS Sign-Ups Underway

Children age 3-grade 6 are invited to, "Take a Trip Around God's World" on Tuesday, July 29 at WACC's Vacation Bible School. This day camp will help children learn about cultures and customs of Christians around the globe, using songs, stories, scripture, snacks, arts and crafts, and games. We'll start at 1:30 p.m. and end with a 6 p.m. pizza supper with parents as we share our experiences of the day. Registration is only \$1 per student.

Contact Debbie Walker through the church office (office@waccelyria.org or 323-4213) to register...or to help!

Lectionary Corner

July 6

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Psalm 45:10-17
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

July 13

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Vacation Modifies Office Hours

Our Office Administrator will be on vacation July 7-11. As Pastor Janet's schedule can be unpredictable due to hospital visits and other pastoral needs of our congregation, you'll want to call ahead to make sure someone is in the building to assist you before stopping by. (Should you telephone and no one answer, please remember that voicemail picks up even if we're simply on another line; do leave a message and someone will return your call as soon as possible.)

Intergenerational Church School

Don't miss our Intergenerational Church School, led each Sunday by a different WACC leader. These facilitators have been presenting a wide-ranging array of faith and current affairs topics.

This Sunday, July 6, Debbie Walker (our Director of Church School Education) will discuss the unique "Children Worship & Wonder" program and present a demonstration lesson. On July 13, Elder Mark Mathes will lead a discussion on, "Reclaiming Christmas: Seeking an Alternative."

The class meets at 9:30 a.m. in the youth rooms.

July 13, 2008

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Common Grounds
9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Church School
10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Keith Western
GREETERS: Fauna Griffiths / Pauline Wallace
ACOLYTES: Cody Schneider / Tyler Schneider
WORSHIP LEADER: Allison Widman
PREACHER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Larry McIntyre / Dan Walker
ELDER (8:30): Rosalie Gainer
Nancy Huller
ELDERS (10:45): **HOME COMMUNION:** Becky Thompson
Bill Clark Nancy Walker
Tim Widman

DIACONATE: Team II

8:30 - Teri Hayes and Bob Maxwell
10:45 - Karen Davis, Linda Dull, Thomas Dull, Jean Kennedy, Kay Mundorf, Jack Price, Bob Rieth, Jordan Stephenson, Jeni Sweeten, and Elliot Wainwright



Friday, October 17-Saturday, October 18
Crowne Plaza, Columbus
Register at www.ccinoh.org

CALENDAR

- Fri., 7/4: - Church office closed in observance of Independence Day.
- Sun., 7/6: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Mon., 7/7: - Church office closed for vacation (through 7/11); call before stopping by.
- Tue., 7/8: - Church office closed for vacation (through 7/11); call before stopping by.
- Tue., 7/8: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Sat., 7/12: - Lauren Wainwright's senior violin recital, 1 p.m.
- Sun. 7/13: - See third column above for the day's schedule.
- Tue., 7/15: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Thu., 7/17: - Sessions 2008 in Oklahoma City begins (ends 7/20).
- Sat., 7/19: - Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 4 (Susan Mathes, captain).



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Recent anniversaries include those of Bob & LaDonna Maxwell (6/28, #32); Paul & Linda Fridenstine and Chris Thomas & Chris Trunk (6/29, #44 and #11, respectively); Jason & Jodi Higgins (7/1, #8); and, William & Cheryl Grapes and Bud & Polly Simmons (7/2, #36 and #30, respectively).

Continued blessings and best wishes to all!

You Are Invited to Attend...

...Alex McKenna's high school graduation party this Saturday, July 5, 2-7 p.m. at 250 Denison Avenue.

...Lauren Wainwright's senior violin recital on Saturday, July 12, at 1 p.m. in the WACC sanctuary. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.

Board Alert

Board members are asked to note a possible meeting on Sunday, July 13.

New Address

As of July 7, Al & Glenna Knapp will be residing at 122 Marsh Lane, Elyria, OH 44035. Their phone number will remain unchanged. Please make this correction in your church directory.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for liberty and justice for all.

Hospitalized

At University Hospitals: Steve Kistner
At EMH: Joan Schwarz
At Center Ridge: Hildred Edwards
At Home: Ken Roberts (in-and-out)