

THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

The building is buzzing with activity: voters, poll workers and bake sale helpers are all participating in the excitement of Election Day. This evening, some will celebrate while others commiserate. The important thing is what we do tomorrow...

I hope that tomorrow we will wake up ready to:

- Rejoice in the presence and providence of God
- Pray for our elected leaders
- Pledge to work together for the good of our country and our world
- Put aside our differences and focus on our common hopes and dreams
- Remember that we are Christians first and Americans second

As we consider our true identity, we realize that our spiritual bonds are far stronger and deeper than our political leanings. While we may heavily favor one candidate over the other, the reality is this: *We share life under the lordship of Christ*. What defines us more importantly than "Democrat" or "Republican", "true blue" or "real red", is *Christian*. We belong to Christ and to one another. Nothing should threaten the sacred responsibility of building the beloved community, which is the very body of Christ.

Interesting, isn't it, that the end of the presidential campaign coincides with the beginning of our stewardship campaign. Interesting, isn't it, that money poured into both parties' coffers as people displayed confidence in the future their candidate offered.

Instead of raising money to fund a budget, the church encourages the asking of one question: "What percentage of the resources that come into your care is God asking you to return?" *Confidence in God's future is at the heart of our commitments...*

Love, 
Janet

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

November 9, 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 Worship Service
4:00 p.m. Rehearsal for Community Thanksgiving
Service Combined Choir at St. Paul UCC

OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Keith Western
GREETERS: The Kersey Family

ACOLYTES: Katie Kostohryz and Sammie Kostohryz

WORSHIP LEADER: Mark Mathes

PREACHER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long

TELLERS: Ken Oblak and Lauri Warfield

ELDER (8:30):

Bill Clark Rosalie Gainer

ELDERS (10:45):

Nancy Huller Lauri Warfield

Becky Thompson Karen Schneider

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

YOUTH NEWS

"Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow."
- *Elvina M. Hall*

"...So I sent messengers to them, saying, 'I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it to come down to you?' ...—for they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, 'Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done.' But now, O God, strengthen my hands."
- *Nehemiah 6:3, 9*

To the WACC Family,

Thank you all for welcoming me into this wonderful church. Thank you for your prayers as I recover from surgery (torn Achilles tendon). Thank you all for your faithfulness to God, in entrusting me with your youth as we embark on this journey together. Thanks to our Pastor, Janet Long, for hearing—and acting on—God's call, and trusting in Him. I've worked with Pastor Long 6 or 7 years at Camp Christian, and I'm excited and look forward to continuing our work together at WACC. Thanks be to God! To God be the glory!

If anyone is interested in helping, in any kind of way, with the youth, please feel free to let me know.

† Tony Hampton, Youth Minister

Just Beautiful!

Our thanks to those who provided materials and decorated our sanctuary windows and other areas of the church in a beautiful harvest theme: Val Collins and Sheila Smith, Linda Dull, Jane Hutson and Brenda Keenan, Jan Moore and Barbara Terrell, Sharon Siffert, Chris Thomas & Chris Trunk, Carole Weinhardt, and Joan Wilhelm. Their artistry and effort are much appreciated!



CW&W Greeter Training Set

All who have signed up to serve as greeters for Children Worship & Wonder sessions, as well as others interested in doing so, are asked to meet at the church on Sunday, November 16, 12 noon-4 p.m. for lunch and a training session. Questions may be addressed to Debbie Walker.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Looking for Meaningful Gift-Giving?

Consider Alternative Christmas Gifts to honor loved ones and make a difference in the lives of people around the world. Choices include gifts to designated global mission partners, specific missionaries and special projects described on Global Ministries' website: www.globalministries.org.

Note: Commemorative votive candle holders, brass ornaments and matted pictures from WACC's 125th anniversary make nice gifts. Contact Helen Farrar to purchase these items.

November 9 Lectionary Corner

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25* Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13*

* *Sermon foci*

Thanksgiving Service Choir Rehearsal

The Community Thanksgiving Service will include a combined choir from those of area churches. Rehearsal has been set for this Sunday, November 9, at 4 p.m., at St. Paul United Church of Christ, 9715 E. River Road.

The Thanksgiving Service will take place Tuesday, November 25, at 7 p.m., at Wesleyan Village. (Choir members are asked to bring their robes and meet at the Village at 6 p.m.)

This annual event is sponsored by the Elyria Ministerial Alliance and the Elyria Ministerial Association.

Save These Dates!

- Sunday, November 23:
Consecration Day and All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner
- Sunday, November 30:
Hanging of the Greens (includes lunch)
Fifth Sunday Church Family Fun Night
- Saturday, December 13:
Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- Sunday, December 14:
Christmas Caroling and Party
- Sunday, December 21:
Pastor's Open House

Advent Retreat for Women

Women of the church are invited to an Advent Retreat at Camp Christian December 13. Participants will meditate, share, make a craft, and spiritually prepare for Christmas. The event will take place at the Herald B. Monroe Lodge 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and will be led by Margot Connor and Kay McGlinchey. Registration is \$25 (\$30 if received after November 23). Overnight lodging is available December 12 for an additional \$20. Contact the church office (323-4213) for complete registration information.

Young Adults Retreat to Explore Issues of Substance Use/Abuse

The Advance Conference Winter Retreat (for post high-school adults ages 18-29) will take place December 26-28 at Camp Christian. The retreat will focus on the Serenity Prayer and issues surrounding social drinking, alcohol abstinence in peer usage situations, substance abuse, and related topics. Keynote speaker will be Doug Althaus, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation counselor. To register, visit www.ccinoh.org or contact the church office (323-4213).

CALENDAR

- Thu., 11/6: - Girl Scout Troop 524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.
- Joanna Circle gathering at the home of Sue McKain, 3 Canterbury Circle, Oberlin, 7 p.m.
- Fri., 11/7: - Elyria Area Church Women United's World Community Day observance at St. Paul United Church of Christ, 9715 E. River Road, 10 a.m.
- Sun., 11/9: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Mon., 11/10: - Northwood Service Unit Girl Scout Leaders' meeting in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Tue., 11/11: - Elders' conference room, 5:30 p.m.
- General Board meeting in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 11/12: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Sat., 11/15: - Chi Rho "Salt & Light" Rally at Camp Christian, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 1 (Glenna Knapp, captain).



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

What a joy it was to have Dave and Nikki Eby bring their baby, Jacob Robert, in an act of dedication this past Sunday! Best wishes and blessings!

Dick & Phyllis Burke are celebrating their 59th anniversary (11/5)! Continued best wishes and blessings!

Concert This Sunday—"S'Wonderful"

WACC member Mark Wainwright will direct the Lorain County Community College Civic Concert Band in a free concert this Sunday, November 9, at 3 p.m., at the Stocker Center Theatre. The music of Aaron Copland and George Gershwin will be featured.

Home Needed for Thompson Cats

Due to allergies, Becky Thompson needs to find a new home for her two gentle cats. You'll find a complete description and photos posted on our main bulletin board. Please contact Becky or the church office (323-4213) with your interest.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for our newly-elected leaders and for the unity of our nation.

Hospitalized

No one (of whom we are aware) at press-time. *At Home:* Bob McNulty
Bill Wallhead (in-and-out)