

**December 7, 2008—Second Sunday of Advent**

*Cleveland Christian Home gifts deadline.*

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

**OPENER:** Bruce Siffert **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas

**GREETERS:** To be announced

**ACOLYTES:** Cody Schneider and Tyler Schneider

**WORSHIP LEADER:** Carolyn Long

**PREACHER:** The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long

**TELLERS:** Cheryl McKenna and Gerald Western

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

Debby Willets Carolyn Long

**ELDERS (10:45):** **HOME COMMUNION:**

Don Hange, Jr. Betty McIntyre

Ken Mundorf Jordan Stephenson

**DIACONATE:** Team I

**10:45** - 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

**Youth and Wider-Church News**

**Sprouts** (grades 3-5), **Chi Rho**

(grades 6-8) and **CYF** (grades 9-12) will meet at noon this Sunday, December 7.

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**Women**, don't miss your chance to attend

the December 13 Advent Retreat at Camp

Christian. Registration is \$30 (Friday overnight

lodging at the Monroe Lodge is available for an

additional \$20).

\* \* \* \*

**Adults ages 18-29** (who are out of high

school) will enjoy the December 26-28 Advance

Conference Retreat at Camp Christian. Alcohol

use and adult socialization will be featured topics.

\* \* \* \*

**Chi Rho** and **CYF**, the annual **WANEW**

St. (Washington Avenue, North Eaton, Westlake,

and High St. Christian Churches') Winter Retreat

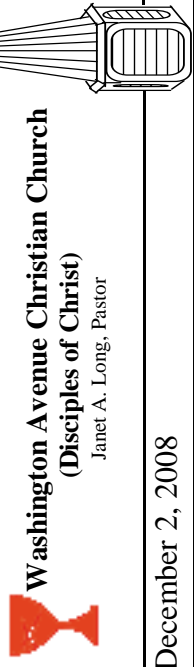
at Camp Christian will take place January 23-25.

\* \* \* \*

Contact the church office (323-4213)

for complete details about the above events.

# THE SPREE



**Washington Avenue Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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December 2, 2008

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## Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Ten coordinated terrorist attacks in Mumbai have killed nearly two hundred and injured several hundred more. Some believe the attacks were waged in an effort to bring India to blows with Pakistan. Both nations are reported to have nuclear capabilities.

Casualties from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are reported in very different ways. One tally I came across counted all deaths at over 700,000 and all serious injuries at over 1.35 million. Details for withdrawing troops from Iraq are being negotiated.

Crowds of "black Friday" shoppers stormed a Wal-Mart on Long Island, New York, trampling an employee to death. When announcements were made that the store was closing due to the incident, people complained that they had been waiting overnight to get in.

A young man, working as a security guard at a Cleveland apartment complex, was killed over the weekend by someone wanting to steal his fancy car. His family, friends and neighbors are devastated by the senseless violence that resulted in his death.

You read the papers; you hear the news. With stories such as these, is there any doubt that we are a people in peril – a people in desperate need of peace? This Sunday, the second candle in the Advent wreath—the candle of peace—will be lit.

As we prepare for the coming again of the Prince of Peace, may we pray for the peace that passes understanding—for our own hearts and lives, for our homes and church, for our community, our nation and our world. May peace prevail! Peace be with you...

Love,



**Washington Avenue Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)



301 Washington Avenue  
Elyria, OH 44035-5124  
Janet A. Long, Pastor  
Phone: (440) 323-4213

**DATED MATERIAL**  
**PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY**

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S.  
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PAID  
Elyria, OH  
Permit No. 332

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### All-Church Christmas Card

Say, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" in a most meaningful way—through our All-Church Christmas Card. The accompanying special offering benefits the work of the Ohio Region of the Disciples of Christ, including providing program and workshop leadership, ministerial oversight, congregational resources, lay leadership training, and more.

This year's card is provided by our Junior and Senior High Church School Classes. A list of all who give in this way will be published in the Epiphany (January 6) issue of *The Spire*. To take part:

1. Sign the large card located in the narthex as a greeting to ALL your church family and friends.
2. Then, donate to our Christmas Special Day Offering the amount it would have cost you to send individual cards to this same group of people.

Please note that your gift may be submitted in four different ways:

1. Use the designated envelope from your personalized packet of offering envelopes;
2. Use the designated envelope found in the pew racks;
3. Use the designated envelope which will be found in the December 16 issue of *The Spire*; or,
4. Place your gift in the box below the card.

Checks may be made payable to "WACC" with "Christmas Offering" written on the memo line. Thanks for giving generously!

### YEAR-END NOTE:

*All gifts for 2008 contribution credit must be postmarked by December 31.*

### December 7 Lectionary Corner

Isaiah 40:1-11  
2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
Mark 1:1-8\*

\**Sermon focus*

### CCH Collection Deadline This Sunday

Please remember to bring in items for the Cleveland Christian Home by this Sunday, December 7. (Call the church office, 323-4213, to learn which items are most needed.) Gifts should not be gift-wrapped, please.

### Giving Tree Deadline Is Thursday, December 11

Our Neighborhood House Association Giving Tree nametags have been moved to the tree in the narthex. We have several tags remaining, and all wrapped gifts **must be brought in by Thursday, December 11.**



Please stop by the tree and remove a card or two (or call the church office for help selecting a nametag), and shop for gifts for the child whose name appears on your card/s. Wrap and bag each child's gifts together, affix the original card to each child's bundle, and return the presents to the church. Thank you for caring enough to share!

*Have you remembered the church in your will?*

### It's Not Too Late

Copies of the complimentary Advent devotional booklet, *Partners in Prayer*, remain available from the rack near the stairs leading to the sanctuary. Stop by the church this week or on Sunday morning to pick up your copy.

### Joanna Circle

will enjoy its annual holiday dinner on Thursday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Carolyn Long, 420 Park Avenue. Those attending are asked to bring a wrapped "white elephant" gift to exchange, and non-perishable food items for the Elyria Hospitality Center.

**R.S.V.P. to 323-4213 by Monday, December 8.**

### WACC Mementos Remain on Sale

Helen Farrar will again be selling WACC votive candle sets, brass replicas of our church (for hanging or displaying on a table stand [stand sold separately]) and matted pictures of WACC and the Elyria area this Sunday following both Worship Services. Proceeds from these sales continue to help offset expenses related to WACC's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

### Vacation / Spire Publication Schedule

Please note that the church office will be closed December 25-January 2 while Diana enjoys her remaining 2008 vacation days.

The final 2008 edition of *The Spire* will be published December 23. Information about all church activities and committee meetings occurring through January 17 will need to be relayed to Diana by December 22.

### NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

#### WELCOME!

Dan & Tina, Courtney and Brian Maddock united with our congregation by transfer of membership this past Sunday at the early Service. We rejoice that the Maddock family has made their relationship with the WACC church family official! All four are active in Church School and fellowship events, Courtney and Brian are part of our CYF and Dan & Tina served on the Hospitality Committee clean-up crew following the All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner. We look forward to having the Maddocks become even more involved in the life of our church!

#### CONGRATULATIONS!

Jack & Debbie Siffert are celebrating their 16<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (11/28). November 29 anniversaries include those of Mike & Debby Willets (#33) and John & Helen Farrar (#22). Benny & Kathy Greer are celebrating anniversary #45 (11/30).

Allison Draper and Jonathan Wheeler were united in marriage on Saturday, November 29, at Northwest Christian Church in Columbus. Allison and her parents, Duncan & Tina, and sister, Laura, were part of WACC when they lived in Elyria.

Blessings and best wishes to all!

#### PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for those affected by the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India.

#### SYMPATHY

Our love and prayers for God's peace surround the following families who lost loved ones the week of Thanksgiving...

...Tom & Ann Busch in the death of Tom's mother. Services were held in Indiana.

...Jeff & Sharon Evans in the death of Sharon's brother, John Donald, in Michigan.

...Dave Smith, our recently-retired custodian, in the death of his wife, Barbara.

#### HOSPITALIZED

At EMH: Warren Hollis  
Don Mosher

### CALENDAR

Sun., 12/7: - Second Sunday of Advent (see back page for the day's schedule).

Mon., 12/8: - Northwood Service Unit Girl Scout Leaders' meeting in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Tue., 12/9: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

Wed., 12/10: - Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:15 p.m.

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

Thu., 12/11: - Joanna Circle holiday dinner at the home of Carolyn Long, 420 Park Ave.

Sat., 12/13: - Worship Committee work session (pointsettias), 9 a.m.

- Salvation Army bell ringing at the Midway Giant Eagle, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

