

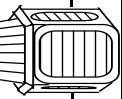
THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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January 6, 2009

Vol. 09, No. 01

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Happy Epiphany! Today, January 6, is the day set aside to celebrate the arrival of the magi at the manger. It is a time for reflecting on our willingness to follow the Light, to travel God's path for us, to worship the newborn King, and to offer gifts to the Christ Child.

As we journeyed together to Bethlehem and joyously received the gift of God's Son, many in our congregation offered their gifts...

- Special music was provided by Rosalie Gainer, the Chancel Choir under the direction of Alan Petersen, Becky Thompson, Quartific, Katie Kostohryz, Sarah Turner, Shellabee Turner, DiAnne Schmidt, the WACC String Ensemble led by Kathy Wainwright, the Elyria High School Madrigal Singers, Carole Weinhardt, Chris Thomas, Chris Trunk, John Henry, and Joshua Henry.
- Advent wreath lighting was led by Adelle Baker and Joan Wilhelm; Cameron Hyder, Jan and Samantha Moore, and Barbara Terrell; the Wainwright Family; Val Collins, Sheila Smith and the Ward Family; the Anderson Family; and, Diane Borthwick, Laurie Figueroa, Pam Henry, Jane Hutson, and Brenda Keenan.
- Carolers—numbering about 30—brought cheer to our homebound members and friends. Susan and Mark Mathes offered hospitality afterwards.
- The youth Church School classes produced this year's Christmas Pageant, with Courtney Maddock directing the effort. It was a delightful and meaningful event.
- The Worship Committee orchestrated the Hanging of the Greens, with the Hospitality Committee providing lunch. The church has been lovely throughout the season, with poinsettias adding to the beauty.
- The presence of all who shared in Worship and contributed to our outreach efforts throughout the season brought blessing to our church family.

May we remain open to God's gifts and to ways we can share those gifts...

Love, Janet

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PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

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Permit No. 332

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

January 11, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by Church School
- 10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
- 12:00 noon Congregational meeting to vote on proposed 2009 budget
- 12:15 p.m. All-church Epiphany luncheon and storing of the greens

OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Keith Western

ACOLYTES: Deanna Forbush & Sarah Turner

WORSHIP LEADER: Don Hange, Jr.

PREACHER: The Rev. Dr. Janet A. Long

TELLERS: Dan Clark and Tim Haywood

ELDER (8:30):

Dan Clark Rosalie Gainer

ELDERS (10:45):

Betty McIntyre Tim Widman

Debby Willets Cindy Knapp

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 and Young Adult Events

Chi Rho and CYF (grades 6-12) are invited to take part in the annual WANEWL St. (Washington Avenue, North Eaton, Westlake, Lakewood, and High St. Christian Churches) Winter Retreat at Camp Christian January 23-25. Cost is \$25 per person, **due in the church office by January 18.** Those attending will need to bring money for fast food on the way down and back, sleeping bag, pillow, shower gear and toiletries, snacks to be shared with the group (i.e., chips, cookies, fruits, veggies, etc.), a Bible, pen or pencil, and game materials (i.e., football, kickball, board and card games, etc.).

Sprouts, Chi Rho and CYF will meet on Sunday, January 18 in the youth rooms.

CYF members are reminded to save March 13-15 for the Ohio Youth Convention at Hiram College. **Early-bird registration is \$60, due by February 15.**

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Epiphany Celebration This Sunday

Be with us this Sunday, January 11, for our Epiphany celebration which will include presentations to our Acolytes and 4th graders during the 10:45 a.m. Service. That Service will be followed by a congregational meeting to vote on the proposed 2009 budget. Afterwards, we'll enjoy an all-church luncheon and then take down and store the church's holiday decorations. Your witness, your voice, your company, and your help are all desired on this very special day in the life of WACC.

Sarah Circle

will meet in the youth rooms on Thursday, January 15, at 10:45 a.m. Pastor Janet Long will present the program, "Sensitivity: Engagement for Life." Lunch will be provided by Florence Hastings. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Available Year-Round

Those who missed the opportunity to purchase WACC memorabilia and Elyria prints over the last few weeks will want to know that these items will be available year-round through the church office. They make excellent gifts for baptisms, birthdays and other special occasions. Your purchase helps with beautification projects linked to WACC's 125th anniversary celebration.

January 11 Lectionary Corner

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29

*Sermon focus

"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" Greetings from:

Taylor Anderson	Brenda Keenan	Sheila Smith
Jean and Ashleigh Arndt	Rick & Jean Kennedy	The Stephenson Family
Roger & Marilyn Bauer	Kimberly Kiser	Janet Stevens-Brown
Chuck & Chris Baumgartner	Al & Glenna Knapp	The Sweetens Family
Jenny and Halena Bliss	D.A. & Arlene Knepper	Barbara Terrell
The Chancel Choir	The Kostohryz Family	The Thimke Family
Jim & Lil Collier	Janet Long & Dan Clark	Brenda Turner
Valerie Collins	The Maddock Family	Sarah Turner
Ashley Crook	The Majewski Family	Elliot Wainwright
John & Karen Davis	Mark & Susan Mathes	Nautica Walker
John & Helen Farrar	Sue McKain	Pauline Wallace
Deanna Forbush	Ken & Kay Mundorf	Lauri Warfield
Jim & Rosalie Gainer	The Obechi Family	Frank & Harriette Wargo
Pat Gohle	Becky Papenbrock	Joe & Bonnie Wargo
Fauna Griffiths	Alan & Mary Lou Petersen	Mike & Carole Weinhardt
The Hange Family	Ken & Joni Roberts	The Western Family
The Higgins Family	Shirley Shubert	The Wilhelm Family
Jane Hutson	Bruce Siffert	The Williams Family
Sherry and Cameron Hyder	Bud & Polly Simmons	Shirley Yost

Our thanks to the above for their support of the Christmas Special Day Offering which benefits the ministry of the Ohio Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Additional holiday greetings (some containing family newsletters) were received in the mail from the following and will be on display on our main bulletin board through January:

Ken & Margi Evans	Christian Church Foundation Staff
Jane Herrington	Disciples of Christ Historical Society
Perry & Maureen Mattern	FirstMerit Corporation (Dave Janowicz)
Wayne & Carol McMullen	Jackson Pacific
Chuck, Linda, Cory, and Brice Necker	Lorain County Sacred Landmarks Initiative
Pearl Sterner	Ross Builders Co., Inc.
	The Storehouse of Religious Goods

2009 Covenant Envelopes: If the number of envelopes you received does *not* accurately reflect your pledged giving frequency (monthly, weekly, etc.), please contact the church office ASAP.

- Sun., 1/11: - Epiphany Sunday (see back page for the day's schedule).
- Mon., 1/12: - Outreach Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- Northwood Service Unit Girl Scout Leaders' gathering in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Tue., 1/13: - Staff meeting in Pastor Janet's office, 4:15 p.m.
- Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room, 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 1/14: - General Board meeting in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.
- Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 1/15: - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.
- Girl Scout Troop 524 gathering in the youth rooms, 6 p.m.

CALENDAR



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Florence Bristol and Philip Hastings were married on December 30. Florence is also celebrating the arrival of her 9th great-grandchild, Michael, who was born December 27.

Teri & Doug Hayes have welcomed a newborn foster baby, Robert William, to their family. Bob & Sandy Rieth, the Sweeten family and Pat Stevens join in welcoming little Robbie.

A KEY FIND

An automobile key was found in our parking lot on December 28; please call the church office (323-4213) if you're missing one.

THANK YOU

The WACC Staff appreciates the many kind remembrances by the Elders and members of this congregation at Christmas. We all feel blessed to share in Christ's service at WACC!

Many thanks to our WACC family for your donations of food, money and clothing to the Elyria Hospitality Center. This generous outpouring has kept us going through days when our cupboards were nearly bare. We wish you all could see what joy and tears our clients show when they receive your gifts! Serving approximately 458 (and climbing!) families per month has been a daunting challenge, but, with help from you and our community at large, we have kept them fed and clothed. We look forward to serving our neighbors in need in 2009 with you beside us. Blessings and thanks, Bud & Polly Simmons

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for Melanie Majewski and others participating in the region's mission trip to Chile this week.

HOSPITALIZED

At Main Street Care Center: Judy Beatty Hook
At Home: Vivian Baiser

Peggy Haywood (in-and-out)
Bob McNulty
Shirley Shubert
Liz Tobin
Marion Wiles (in-and-out)