

April 5, 2009—Palm Sunday
 8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
 9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by
 9:30 a.m. Combined Session Church School
 10:45 a.m. Traditional Morning Worship Service
 12:00 noon Seder Experience, followed by youth group
 gatherings

OPENER: Bruce Siffert **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas
GREETERS: Gary & Carol McIntyre
ACOLYTES: Deanna Forbush & Sarah Turner
WORSHIP LEADER: Jane Hutson
PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Dan Clark and Tim Haywood

ELDER (8:30):
 Dan Clark

PIANIST (8:30):
 Carolyn Long

ELDERS (10:45):
HOME COMMUNION:
 Nancy Huller

Dan Clark
 Ken Mundorf

DIACONATE: Team I
 Gary McIntyre

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

Youth, Young Adult and Camp News

YOUTH GROUPS TO MEET THIS SUNDAY

Sprouts, Chi Rho and CYF will gather for
 faith-building fun and food this Sunday, April 5
 following the Seder Experience.

CAMP FORMS ARE IN!

Stop by the bulletin boards in the upper hall
 near the office workroom—registration information
 and forms are now available for the following:

June 14-20 Partnership Camp Otter (grades 3-5)

June 15-19 Adult Conference (ages 19 and older)

June 21-27 Hiram Conference (grades 9-12)

July 5-11 Chi Rho Camp Portahoga (grades 6-8)

July 5-11 Adventure Camp—Bicycling (all ages;

children younger than grade 9 must attend w/parent)

July 12-18 Partnership Camp Badger (grades 3-5)

July 26-August 1 Partnership Camp Beaver

(grades 3-5)

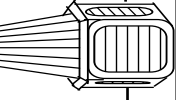
August 9-16 Advance Conference (ages 19-29)

THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor



301 Washington Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035-5124
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March 31, 2009

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Known as Holy Week, the eight-day period from Palm Sunday to Easter is the most important time of the liturgical year for Christians. The events of these days are central to our belief in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Through the unfolding of this divine drama, we have reason to proclaim a Lord and Savior!

Beginning with Palm Sunday, we accompany Jesus in Jerusalem. We cheer his arrival, waving our palm branches and chanting, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!" That same day, a Seder Experience will help us understand the part of Jewish tradition that is the context of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples.

On Monday evening, we will conclude our Lenten Supper & Study Series. The theme of repentance will surface as we view movie clips of *Dead Man Walking*, consider related scripture passages and engage in discussion around the question, "Why is confession good for the soul?" This session will help us keep our focus during Holy Week.

On Wednesday evening, the final mid-week Vespers Service of this Lenten season will be held. Quiet and reflective in nature, this time of worship includes Holy Communion. For a period of twenty-five to thirty minutes, participants are invited to slow the pace, center on prayer and share in this reminder of Jesus' life and teachings.

On Thursday—Maundy Thursday—we reflect on Jesus' mandate to love one another. This service is contemplative in nature. The Lord's Supper is observed in remembrance. The Service of Tenebrae ("shadows") is a verbal and visual reminder of our sinfulness and our need for salvation. It is a very powerful and moving service.

On Good Friday, we share with our friends and neighbors from throughout the community in an ecumenical service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. With the cross covered in black, we experience a poignant reflection on the crucifixion of our Lord. We depart in silence for a personal time of mourning from then until Easter morning.

(continued inside)

Washington Avenue Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)



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

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Janet's Jottings

(continued from page 1)

And then it is Easter! After a very long Lent and Holy Week (and *Spire* column!), the glorious good news which is the heart of our faith is proclaimed: "The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!" Come for the triumphant celebration at 8:30 or 10:45 a.m. Easter is our reason for hope and faith!

I look forward to our journey together through the holiest of weeks. Blessings...



Love,

P.S. As is our tradition, a bountiful Easter breakfast will be enjoyed between the Services.

Walk...Run...But Register!

It's not too late to get in on the fun of the April 11 Walk & Run for the Kids of the Cleveland Christian Home. Contact Keith Western or call 216-476-0333 to register. The event will take place at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

Please remember that fulfilled pledges (cash and/or checks) will be due that day.

COMING UP:

Metropolitan Chorus Concert at WACC April 26
(Invite friends, family, neighbors...)

April 5 Lectionary Corner

Mark 11:1-11* Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

*Sermon focus

Have you remembered the church in your will?

April 4 Spring Clean-Ups Abound

WACC CLEAN-UP

Enjoy some Spring air and a little exercise by helping WACC's grounds clean-up crew this Saturday at 9 a.m. Bring your favorite rake, trimmer, yard gloves, etc. so our yard can look its best in time for Easter. (Rain date is Saturday, April 11.)



CCH CLEAN-UP

Disciples from across the Ohio Region will gather this Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., for a Spring clean-up of the Cleveland Christian Home. To join them, call 216-476-0333 TODAY to R.S.V.P. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Dress in comfortable clothing for indoor and/or outdoor tasks.



LORAIN-ELYRIA CROP WALK

APRIL 25

Contact Keith Western for Walk forms or to be a sponsor.

Thu., 4/2: - Joanna Circle gathering at the home of Bonnie Jackson, 913 Bennett Dr., 7 p.m.

Fri., 4/3: - Advance Conference Spring Retreat at Camp Christian begins (ends 4/5).

Sat., 4/4: - WACC grounds clean-up, 9 a.m. (rain date is 4/11).

- Ohio Region Work Day at the Cleveland Christian Home, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

- Fellowship Hall in use.

Sun., 4/5: - Palm Sunday (see back page for the day's schedule).

Mon., 4/6: - Lenten Supper & Study in Fellowship Hall, 5:55 p.m.

Tue., 4/7: - Daisy Troop 232 gathering in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.

- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) meeting in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.

Wed., 4/8: - Lenten Vespers Service in the sanctuary, 6:15 p.m.

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

Thu., 4/9: - Maundy Thursday Service of Communion and Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., 4/10: - Community Good Friday Worship Service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 300 Third Street, 12 noon.

Sat., 4/11: - Worship Committee work session (Easter flowers), 9 a.m.

- Walk & Run for the Kids of the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, 8 a.m.

Seder Experience Awaits You

The Christian Education Committee is offering a Seder Experience in Fellowship Hall this Sunday, April 5 at noon. Though light in quantities of food, our observance will fill us with the deep meaning of this annual ritual. The Seder meal is solemn and reflective, using specific symbols to represent the events of our Jewish heritage. Come to discover the significance of matzo, hagigah and maror as we commemorate the traditions of Passover. This was the occasion when Jesus shared his last supper with his disciples.

Envisioning Together

Vision 2009 will be held on Sunday, April 19 at noon in Fellowship Hall. The Hospitality Committee will provide a light lunch, and closing circle will be at 2 p.m. We will explore our vision for the future, giving everyone the opportunity to contribute and help broaden our horizons.

Lauri Warfield,

Chair of the Board

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Diane Borthwick welcomed her twelfth great-grandchild, Aiden Jeffery Figueroa on March 24. Born in Indianapolis, he weighed six pounds, twelve ounces and measured 20 inches long. Best wishes and blessings to all, including grandma Laurie Figueroa.

Jon & Jocelyn Bond are celebrating their 4th wedding anniversary (4/2). Our best wishes for continued happiness!

Membership Class for Youth Forming

The Inquirers Class gives young people in grades 6 and higher the opportunity to study the beliefs and background of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as they consider membership in Washington Avenue Christian Church. Those making a decision to become full participants in the life of WACC will be baptized (or confirm their infant baptism with a public confession of faith) on Pentecost, May 31.

Letters of invitation will be mailed this week. If your child meets the grade level requirement and is not yet a baptized member of WACC, but does not receive a letter by Easter, please contact the church office (323-4213 or office@waccelyria.org) to assure his or her inclusion in this year's Inquirers Class.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for those living in the Fargo, North Dakota area as floods threaten.

Hospitalized

At EMH: Pat Gohle

At Home: Lisa Diedrick (in-and-out)

Dennis Jackson

Arlene Knepper (in Florida)

Becky Thompson (in-and-out)

Steve Weinhardt (in Arizona)

CALENDAR

