

September 6, 2009

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
 9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by
 9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Church School
 10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

OPENER: Bruce Siffert **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas
GREETERS: Al & Glenna Knapp

ACOLYTES: Tyler Schneider and Bradley Thimke

WORSHIP LEADER: Elliot Wainwright

PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long

TELLERS: Tim Haywood and Mark Mathes

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

Lauri Wairfield Rosalie Gainer

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

Don Hange, Jr. Janet Stevens-Brown

Tim Haywood Linda Dull

DIACONATE: Team 1

8:30 - Mike Crocker and Robin Crocker

10:45 - Dennis Jackson, Cindy Knapp, Gary Knapp,

Jan Moore, Kay Mundorf, Elliot Wainwright, Kathy

Wainwright, Mark Wainwright, Dan Walker, and Nancy

Walker

YOUTH NEWS / WOMEN'S NEWS

Youth Meetings in September

Due to the Labor Day holiday, youth group meetings this month will be held on the **second** and **third** Sundays, September 13 and 20.

Save the Date!

CYFs from Districts 2, 3 and 15 will gather for a Halloween overnight on Saturday, October 17-Sunday, October 18 at Westlake Christian Church. Those attending will visit a haunted house, watch scary movies, play games, and enjoy the traditional 100 tacos from Taco Bell. The event will end at noon on Sunday, following worship. Further details will be announced in future issues of, *The Spire*.

"Bloom Where You Are Planted" Women's Event

Women are invited to "Bloom Where You Are Planted" on Saturday, September 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Elyria Holiday Inn. This fun event includes a continental breakfast, plated luncheon, wholeness program, and vendor exhibits. Tickets (\$15) are available by sending your name, address and check (payable to "Bloom Where You Are Planted") to Bloom Registration, 127 Wisconsin Cir., Elyria, OH 44035. Program info. is posted on our bulletin board.

THE SPIRE



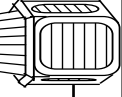
Washington Avenue Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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 Phone: 440-323-4213 Fax: 440-323-4214

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September 1, 2009

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

The start of the school year signals the start of the church program year as well. With the flip of the calendar page to September, things are gearing up here at Washington Avenue Christian Church.

There are a number of ways you can be more fully involved in the life of the church:

- ◆ Participate in Worship regularly. Whether your preference is the 8:30 Service or the 10:45 Service, plan to be here each week to offer your praise and your prayers. Communing at the Lord's Table is an act of faithfulness lived out in community.
- ◆ Attend Church School. If you haven't settled on a class, spend a week or two in each one to find the best fit for you. And make sure the children and youth in your life are here for their age-appropriate classes focusing on faith formation. The Church School year begins September 13.
- ◆ Find a ministry that allows you to live out your faith. Join a Salvation Army Hot Meals team. Get involved in the work of one of our committees (ministry teams). Volunteer to serve as a greeter or worship leader. Share your love of music or your love of children. Offer to make calls or bake cookies or take care of God's House.
- ◆ Introduce yourself to someone you don't know. Wearing nametags helps our newcomers put names and faces together. So...wear yours! Words of welcome are expressions of Christian hospitality. And, a smile is worth a thousand words. Greet others in a spirit of joy.
- ◆ Give proportionally of the monetary blessings that flow into—and through—your life. Invest in your faith and in your community of faith. Making a difference in the world makes a difference in your heart. Giving generously enriches the giver.
- ◆ Pray for our church. Ask God to lead us forward in faith, to bless our ministry, to guide our mission, and to expand our witness. Offer yourself to the cause of Christ Jesus—to be and to share the good news from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth...



Love,

Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



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

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Tales from a Mission Trip to Michigan

Be with us in our Intergenerational Church School class this Sunday, September 6, as Taylor Novak shares her experiences from a recent mission trip to Michigan.

The all-ages class meets at 9:30 a.m. in the youth rooms. Childcare is provided for very young children.

Have you reserved a place in the Elders' Workshop? The event will take place Saturday, September 26, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Central Christian Church, Wooster. Register by calling 330-262-4652 or emailing kevin@ccwooster.org. Registration is \$30 per person and includes lunch.

Board Bits

Question: How many are on the Board?
Answer: Out of a possible 43 Board positions, there are 34 members this year. This happens due to duplication of duties. For example, Mark Mathes is an Elder, Co-Chair of Outreach and represents our Disciples Men's Fellowship (yikes)! Did you know that the Chair of the Diaconate and all Diaconate team captains are also Board members? "Thank you" to all who serve!

Lauri Warfield,
Board Chair

Sarah Circle to Resume

Sarah Circle will begin another program year of 10:45 a.m. gatherings the third Thursday of each month, starting September 17.

September 6 Lectionary Corner

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
 James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17
 Psalm 125
 Mark 7:24-37*

**Sermon focus*

Sing! Sing! Sing!



Join Alan Petersen and the WACC Chancel Choir at its first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 9, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. You'll have a lot of fun and may just learn a thing or two about music. We'll save a seat for you....

Celebration Sunday is September 13

Join us for a special Common Grounds coffee hour at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 13 as we begin another program year of Christian education and fellowship for all ages.

Those attending will gather together in the youth rooms for refreshments, then break into class groupings (by age for children and youth, and by interest group for adults) for the remainder of the Church School period.

Our Campbellites class for adults will begin the year with a short study of, "Paul and the Role of Women in the Church." Our Seekers adult class will learn about, "Keeping Sacred Time" throughout this program year.

If you or your children have never attended Church School—or if you've simply gotten out of the habit—this is a good opportunity to deepen friendships and increase your spiritual awareness.

Women's Fall Retreat Coming Up Fast

The Ohio Women's Ministries Fall Retreat will be held September 11-13 at Camp Christian. "Back to the Future: Building Ohio Women's Ministries" will feature events old and new. Workshops will include: *The Art of Hosting; Retreat Choir; Retreat Worship Service Planning;* and, *For Such a Time As This!*—a discussion about keeping OWM both relevant and dynamic in today's fast-paced society.

* * *

"Storytime" for Guys

Ohio Disciples Men will gather at Camp Christian September 18-20 for "I Love to Tell the Story," this year's Fall retreat theme. The Rev. Harry Bolen will lead the event which will help men "practice" sharing their own faith story with one another as a means of becoming comfortable telling the Good News of Jesus Christ to others.

Complete information and registration forms for both events are available on our main bulletin board.

Thank You

My thanks to everyone for the cards, phone calls and wishes on my recent 50th birthday. Special thanks to Audrey Price, Val Collins, Bill and Diane Wallhead, and my Mom, Dad and brother Craig for the surprise coffee hour. It was a joy to celebrate this occasion with my church family! - *Don Hange, Jr.*

CALENDAR

- Thu., 9/3: - Washington Avenue Preschool orientation, 10 a.m.
- Joanna Circle family picnic at the home of Susan & Mark Mathes, 1730 Gulf Rd., 6 p.m.
- Sun., 9/6: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Mon., 9/7: - Church office closed in observance of Labor Day.
- Tue., 9/8: - Washington Avenue Preschool year begins (Tue., Wed. & Thu. mornings, 9:30 a.m.-noon).
- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 9/9: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 9/10: - Girl Scout Troop 524 gathering in Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.
- Fri., 9/11: - Ohio Women's Ministries Fall Retreat at Camp Christian begins (ends 9/13).



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Welcome!

Allie Lundblad, an Oberlin College sophomore, united with our congregation on Sunday. She is the leader of our Sprouts program for 3rd-5th graders. A life-long Disciple, Allie hails from Asheville, NC, and will maintain dual membership with her home church. She is a Disciples HELM scholar and is exploring a call to ministry. Allie will preach at WACC on September 13.

Congratulations!

Teri & Doug Hayes presented their son, Robert William, in an act of dedication on Sunday at both Services. Robbie's adoption was official on August 25.

Cheryl Majewski retired from the Elyria Public Library System on August 28.

Former WACC member Duncan Draper will join the staff of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer- and Treasurer-designate, effective September 29, 2009. Duncan & Tina will be relocating from Columbus to Indianapolis.

Len & Linda Wahn are celebrating 32 years of marriage (9/3).

Best wishes and blessings to all!

Prayer Focus

Please pray for the spiritual growth of our congregation.

Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers surround Steve Kistner in the recent death of his Uncle Joe.

Hospitalized

At University of Michigan Medical Center.

Ann Arbor: Joe Wargo

At Home: Marilyn Landes (in-and-out)
 Carter and Peyton McKenna
 Harold Rickel (hospice care)