

September 13, 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
12:00 noon Sprouts, Chi Rho and CYF gatherings
2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use
OPENER: Bud Simmons **CLOSER:** Keith Western
GREETERS: Dick & Phyllis Burke
ACOLYTES: Samantha Moore and Nautica Walker
WORSHIP LEADER: Jan Moore
PREACHER: Allie Lundblad
TELLERS: John McKenna and Lauri Warfield

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

Gerald Western

Rosalie Gainer

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

Lauri Warfield

Barbara Terrell

Mark Mathes Wayne Walker

DIACONATE: Team II

8:30 - Teri Hayes and Bob Maxwell

10:45 - Karen Davis, Linda Dull, Thomas Dull, Sue McKain, Cheryl McKenna, John McKenna, Lynn Obechi, Bob Rieth, Sandy Rieth, and Jeni Sweeten

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Meetings in September

Our Sprouts (grades 3-5), Chi Rho (grades 6-8) and CYF (grades 9-12) will meet for lunch and activities following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service this Sunday, September 13.

(The next meeting of these groups will take place on Sunday, September 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*.

THE SPIRE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

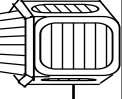
Janet A. Long, Pastor

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September 8, 2009

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Twenty years ago, during a visit to Hong Kong, I saw a cell phone for the first time. A man was walking down the street, seemingly talking to himself. As he passed me, I noticed that he was speaking into a device that resembled a telephone. Commenting on the phenomenon, I turned to Dan and said, "That looks so silly. No one in the U.S. would ever use one of those!"

Now, nothing technological surprises me. From little kids to nursing home residents, everyone seems to have a cell phone. People sit face to face in restaurants, only to talk to two unseen guests via cell phones. I've seen both driver and passenger on their individual phones. One of my friends complains that his daughter sends him text messages from the same room!

Surveys about cell phone use are frequently in the news. I've heard that driving while using a cell phone—even a hands-free model—is more dangerous than driving while under the influence. (Certainly, texting while driving can't be safe.) The practice of "sexting"—sending images that can be construed as having sexual content—is of concern to many parents.

A big question being raised by sociologists has to do with how cell phones affect relationships. Are we able to communicate without gizmos and gadgets? Can we speak to one another directly? Are we willing to turn off our lines of communication so that we are not available to everyone every minute and are more available to those who are nearest to us?

We are in danger of losing any sense of boundaries. The store clerk shouldn't have to listen to a customer's cell phone call, nor should the store clerk be engaged in one. I'd vote for certain places to be "cell phone free zones"—restaurants and restrooms, for starters. Most of all, I'd like the sanctuary to be just that: a sanctuary from the cares – and calls – of the world.

Maybe we should have a blessing of our cell phones some Sunday...

Love,

Janet

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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Join Us for the Celebration!

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

Those attending will gather together in Fellowship Hall 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.

Borrowed Book?

If you borrowed the book, *Global Babies* from the Nursery/Toddler room, please return it or contact Debbie Walker. Thank you.

Sarah Circle

will meet on Thursday, September 17, at 10:45 a.m. in the youth rooms.

Pastor Janet Long will provide the program, "Lives Touched..." and Linda Dull will provide lunch. All women of the church are invited to attend.

September 13 Lectionary Corner

Proverbs 1:20-33
James 3:1-12
Psalm 19
Mark 8:27-38*

**Sermon focus*

An Elders' Workshop 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@cccwooster.org. Registration is \$30 per person and includes lunch.

Board Bits

Question: What's been going on?

Answer: A recap of WACC's summer activities and preview of upcoming events will be included in the Board meeting on Tuesday, September 15, at 7 p.m. All are welcome! "Thank you" to all who serve.

Lauri Warfield,
Board Chair

Coming Up: Fall Retreat for Men

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 are available on our main bulletin board.

FREE Healthful Program

Includes Salad Buffet

Is your busy lifestyle finding you too often at fast food restaurants for your meals? While a fine *occasional* option, Americans are too often selecting convenience over healthy meal choices and are paying the consequences. Unhealthy eating and lack of exercise are direct contributors to weight gain and its related health issues such as diabetes, heart conditions and psychological problems.

As our nation engages in debates about healthcare reform, it makes sense for us to do what we can to protect the precious gift of our own good health. Toward that aim, the Lorain County Medical Society invites you, your relatives, friends, and neighbors to the community forum, "Be the Best You Can Be: Good Sense=Good Health." Area physicians will address various facets of healthy eating and weight issues, including Psychiatric Aspects, Exercise, Diet, Childhood Obesity, Ovarian Disease, Bariatric Surgery, and Medical Complications.

The event will take place on Thursday, September 24, at DeLuca's Place in the Park, 6075 Middle Ridge Rd., Lorain. A complimentary salad buffet will be enjoyed at 6 p.m., with the program following at 6:45. **R.S.V.P. by September 21 to 934-6825 or lcmed@centurytel.net.**

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

CONGRATULATIONS!

Elena & Nicholas Borthwick welcome daughter Alissa Rae, born on Labor Day. Alissa weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz. and measured 20 in. long at birth. Big sister Dasha, grandmother Laurie Figueroa, great-grandmother Diane Borthwick, and a large extended family share in the celebration of this new life.

Gerald & Barbara Western are celebrating their 41st wedding anniversary (9/7); David & Pam Terrell are celebrating their 15th (9/10).

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

BRING 'EM IN!

Items (artworks, gift certificates, collectibles, etc.) for our November 8 Outreach Art Auction may be brought in to the church office starting this week.

THANK YOU!

Thanks so much for all the prayers, cards, food, support, and love during the recent illness and death of Tom's dad, Herman.

You have shown once again the example to other people who do not have a church family what it really means.

Thanks also to the kitchen crew for a great lunch, as usual.

Love,
Tom & Linda Dull

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray with receptivity to God's call on your life.

HOSPITALIZED

No one (of whom we are aware) at press-time. At Home: Joe Wargo (c/o Lynne Byal, 560 Orchard, Northville, MI 48167)

CALENDAR



- 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).
- Sun., 9/13: - Celebration Sunday (see back page for the day's schedule).
- Mon., 9/14: - Northwood Service Unit Girl Scout Leaders' meeting in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Tue., 9/15: - Program staff meeting in Pastor Janet's office, 4:15 p.m.
- Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room, 5:30 p.m.
- General Board meeting in the youth rooms, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 9/16: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 9/17: - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.
- Book Club gathering in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Fri., 9/18: - Disciples Men's Fellowship Fall Retreat at Camp Christian begins (ends 9/20).
- Sat., 9/19: - Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 6 (Gail Hayward, captain).