



# THE SPREE

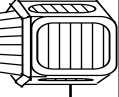


Washington Avenue Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

Janet A. Long, Pastor

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December 1, 2009

Vol. 09, No. 46

## Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

Peace. Shalom. Salaam. Pax. Paix. Pace. Frieden. Mier. Amani. Nabad.

In this season when "Peace on Earth" is the good news from the heavenly host, there is a strong likelihood that more U.S. troops will be sent to Afghanistan. Army Specialist Wayne Knapp is at Fort Benning, Georgia, awaiting deployment.

We yearn for peace—on earth, between rival gangs, within families, in hearts. Everywhere we turn, there is news of humans harming one another. Peace seems so elusive, so evasive, as to be impossible. But wait...

During Advent—and this Sunday in particular—we pray for peace as we await the coming of the Prince of Peace. Dwight Eisenhower, no stranger to war, said this: *Every gun that is made, every warship that is launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, and the hopes of its children.* Heaven help us. God forgive us.

Our prayer for peace must begin with our confession of complicity. But then it must move to our commitment to work for peace. We must give up our hopeless attitudes of helplessness and live in ways of peace and justice.

No more of "an eye for an eye." No more of "an I for an I." Instead, a willingness to turn swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, to train the wolf to live with the lamb and the calf and the lion to lie down together.

It can—and will—happen! The peace of the Lord be with you.

Love,



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**December 6, 2009—Second Sunday of Advent**  
*Deadline for bringing in Cleveland Christian Home gifts*  
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  
12:00 noon Sprouts, Chi Rho and CYF lunch and trip to the Elyria Roll Arena

**OPENER:** Bruce Siffert **CLOSER:** Chris Thomas  
**ACOLYTES:** Samantha Moore and Nautica Walker  
**WORSHIP LEADER:** Dick Burch

**PREACHER:** The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long  
**TELLERS:** Cheryl McKenna and Gerald Western

**ELDER (8:30):** Carolyn Long

**ELDERS (10:45):** Chris Baumgartner  
Barbara Terrell Brenda Keenan

**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 and YOUNG ADULT NEWS

#### WACC YOUTH TO ROLLERSKATE

This Sunday, youth in grades 3-12 will meet in the youth rooms for lunch (provided by Elder Mark Mathes) and then visit the Elyria Roll Arena. The center's Family Skate program runs 2-5 p.m. each Sunday. Admission is \$4; skate rental is \$2 (traditional skates) or \$3 (in-line). Rock climbing is available for \$2; laser tag, for \$3.

#### CYF TO GIVE "ELF HELP"

CYF members (grades 9-12) of District 2 will visit the Cleveland Christian Home on Saturday, December 12, noon-4 p.m. to wrap presents and perform other helpful tasks around the Home.

Those attending are asked to bring a sack lunch; the group will eat together upon arrival before beginning their afternoon of service. To participate, **R.S.V.P. by December 9** by calling 216-543-7164 or emailing [ohiocyfdis2@yahoo.com](mailto:ohiocyfdis2@yahoo.com). The Home is located at 11401 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland.

**Don't forget the Advance Ministry Retreat for ages 16-29**  
(post-high school) at Camp Christian January 1-3.  
Registration info. is posted on our main bulletin board.

**December 6—Your Final Sunday to...**  
 ...volunteer for the December 12 Salvation Army bell ringing at the Midway Mall Giant Eagle. Several hour-long time slots still need to be filled. A sign-up sheet is stationed in the narthex.  
 ...bring in your gifts for the children of the Cleveland Christian Home. A list of suggested gifts is posted near the collection box in the narthex. (You may also call the church office, 323-4213, for gift ideas from that list.)  
 ...submit household information and phone/email preferences for the 2010 church directory.

**Veggie Tales Premiere**  
 Children ages 3\*- grade 5 are invited to reconnect with the friends they made at Vacation Bible School this summer, at a special movie showing on Saturday, December 12. The activity will take place at one of our joint VBS host sites, First Congregational United Church of Christ, 330 Second Street. The Veggie Tales feature, "Saint Nicholas: A Story of Joyful Giving", will be shown at 11 a.m. Lunch and craft activities will follow the movie. Admission is one non-perishable food item for First Church's food pantry. **Registration must be received by Tuesday, December 8;** forms (along with Advent materials) are available on the table in WACC's new building hallway.  
 \*Requirement: Must be toilet-trained.

**December 6 Lectionary Corner**  
 Malachi 3:1-4  
 Luke 1:68-79\*  
 Philippians 1:3-11  
 Luke 3:1-6  
 \*Sermon focus

**Have you remembered WACC in your will?**  
**Advent Retreat for Women**  
 Women of the church are invited to attend an Advent mini-retreat on Saturday, December 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Camp Christian. "Breath of Heaven, Pour Over Me" will be a day of reflection, prayer, crafts, and conversation. Retreat leaders are Margot Connor and Kay McGlinchey. Registration is \$40 for the Saturday program, and an additional \$25 for those who wish to take part in a Friday night slumber party. Registration forms are posted on our main bulletin board.

**Elders' and Board Meetings Reminder**  
 The December Elders' and Board meetings have been moved to December 15 to allow time to prepare the 2010 operating budget. Program chairs are asked to submit their requests ASAP to Cheryl McKenna.



**Sarah and Joanna Circle Meals: R.S.V.P. by December 14**—Sarah Circle will share a Christmas luncheon at the home of Pastor Janet Long on Thursday, December 17 at noon. Joanna Circle will gather at 6:30 that evening for its annual holiday dinner at the home of Carolyn Long. To make a reservation for your Circle's gathering, call the church office (323-4213) by Monday, December 14. Joanna Circle members are also asked to bring a food donation for the Elyria Hospitality Center and a silly gift for the group's white elephant exchange.

- Thu., 12/3: - Girl Scout Troop 524 gathering in Fellowship Hall, 6 p.m.
- Sat., 12/5: - Girl Scout Troop 524 cookie baking in the Fellowship Hall kitchen, 3-7 p.m.
- Sun., 12/6: - Second Sunday of Advent (see back page for the day's schedule).
- Mon., 12/7: - Elders' budget subcommittee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7:30 p.m.
- Tue., 12/8: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 12/9: - WACC hosts the Elyria Senior Women's Fellowship meeting and luncheon, 11 a.m.
- Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Sat., 12/12: - Worship Committee work session (pointsettia set-up), 9 a.m.
- Women's Advent Retreat at Camp Christian, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Salvation Army bell ringing at the Midway Mall Giant Eagle, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Veggie Tales premiere at First Congregational UCC, 11 a.m.
- District 2 CYF "Elf for a Day" gathering at the Cleveland Christian Home, 12 noon.
- Girl Scout Troop 524 cookie baking in the Fellowship Hall kitchen, 3-7 p.m.

**Thank You**  
 Dear Church Family,  
 Thank you for making our Consecration Day Thanksgiving Dinner a success. What wonderful cooks and bakers we have! My thanks to those who donated turkeys (including the Novak family who donated a 40-pound turkey they had raised), those who cooked the turkeys, and the kitchen and clean-up crews.  
 I also appreciate those who helped with the Hanging of the Greens luncheon. It was a great event, enjoyed by all!  
 Thanks again, my wonderful church family!

*Sheila Smith,*  
 Chair of Hospitality Meals  
**The IRS says** that contributions for 2009 charitable gifts tax credit must be **postmarked by December 31**. Is your 2009 General Fund and Covenant giving up-to-date?

**NEWS OF OUR FAMILY**

**Congratulations!**  
 Dan Clark & Janet Long have a fourth grandchild (and first granddaughter) with the arrival of Garryn Elizabeth Bridges on November 29. Best wishes and blessings!  
 Our end-of-November wedding anniversaries include Jack & Debbie Siffert (11/28, #17), John & Helen Farrar and Mike & Debby Willets (11/29, #23, and #34, respectively), and Benny & Kathy Greer (11/30, #46). Congratulations to each of these couples!

**Season's Greetings**  
**Greeting** your WACC family this holiday season is easy to do through our All-Church Christmas Card in the narthex. The money you save on cards and postage is to be placed in the decorated gift box beneath the card and will be directed to the Christmas Special Day Offering.

**Greeting** you in the narthex with handbell music on Sunday, December 13 will be the reunited Whitechapel Ringers. Christmas carols will be played prior to the 10:45 Service.

**Greeting** you in their home on Sunday afternoon, December 20 will be Pastor Janet and Dan. That same day, we'll be **greeting** our homebound friends with songs of the season.

**Prayer Focus**  
 Please pray for peace, in all ways, in all places.

**Hospitalized**  
**At EMH:** Ashley Csata  
**At Fairview:** Cecilia Willets  
**At Home:** Adelle Baker

**CALENDAR**

