

THE SPREE



Washington Avenue Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Janet A. Long, Pastor

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

It's happened again: a politician has been quoted as having said something politically incorrect (a term coined in Oberlin I've been told) and racially insensitive. This time it is Senator Harry Reid who made comments about now-President Barack Obama's skin tone and speech dialect. The senator, intending to be complimentary about the candidate, pointed out our country's ongoing issue with differences.

Ironically, the person calling Senator Reid on the carpet for his unfortunate choice of words used the phrase, "honest injun", in the process. We can't seem to get it right, can we? We speak before we think about whether or not our words might be hurtful to another person. We repeat the joke before we consider whether or not our words might be harmful to other human beings.

As we approach the celebration of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., this quote shared by my friend Bob Hill could address and inform our current situation:

'Black rage' is very much alive across the U.S., and any metropolis, any community of faith engaging with racial diversity must come to terms with this dynamic. Likewise, 'white guilt' is very much alive (and also dysfunctional) as a dynamic in certain liberal camps... The path to mutual understanding across lines of difference (racial, ethnic, national, regional, language, class, etc.) passes through a formidable and fierce forest of pain. We have been largely unable to come to terms with the forest for fear of the various trees that have confronted us – i.e., the possibility that we might have to change, or too often witness the pain, or transform the way we normally live, or upset friends and family. If we can more fully interact with one another with sympathy and an abiding affirmation of the manifest dignity of all human beings, we can prevail beyond the crucible of grief, heartache, loss, and despair, and thus arrive at a summit of celebration the likes of which we have never imagined.

May we share Dr. King's dream...and work for the day when that vision will become "a summit of celebration the likes of which we have never imagined."

Love,

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DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

Nonprofit Org.
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Elyria, OH
Permit No. 332

January 17, 2010

- 8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by Church School
- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 12:00 noon Sprouts, Chi Rho and CYF gatherings and Church Life & Growth Committee meeting
- OPENER:** Pete Majewski **CLOSER:** Don Hange, Sr.
- GREETERS:** Ron & Beverly Gardner
- ACOLYTES:** Tyler Schneider and Bradley Thimke
- WORSHIP LEADER:** Ken Mundorf
- PREACHER:** The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
- TELLERS:** John McKenna and Lauri Warfield
- ELDER (8:30):** Barbara Terrell
- PIANIST (8:30):** Lauri Warfield
- ELDERS (10:45):** Tim Haywood
- HOME COMMUNION:** Bill Clark
- Don Hange, Jr. Glenda Clark
- DIACONATE:** Team III
- 8:30 -** Jason Higgins and Brian Maddock
- 10:45 -** Pam Henry, Michelle Kazmierczak, Michelle Kersey, Sean Kersey, Carol Mosher, Karen Schneider, Laverne Stroup, and Wayne Walker

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH GROUPS TO MEET THIS SUNDAY

Sprouts (grades 3-5), Chi Rho (grades 6-8) and CYF (grades 9-12) will meet this Sunday, the 17th, following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service.

WINTER FUN FOR YOUTH GROUPS

WACC's youth groups will enjoy their choice of a variety of winter sports at Brandywine on Sunday, January 24. The group will leave the church by 12:30 p.m. and return to the WACC parking lot by 5 p.m. Admission is \$20 (\$35 if skiing) if we have a large group, so bring friends!

DISTRICT 2 CHI RHO "WINTER JAM"

CONCERT AND OVERNIGHT JANUARY 29-30

Chi Rhoers of District 2 will attend the Winter Jam at Cleveland's Wolstein Center, followed by an overnight at Franklin Circle Christian Church. The \$15 registration fee will cover the ticket price as well as pizza and snacks back at FCCC. Adult drivers and chaperones are needed. Contact the WACC office (323-4213) to volunteer.

*** CYF MID-WINTER NEEDS HOST HOMES ***

Call the church office (323-4213) if you can provide transportation and sleeping space (a floor will do) for high-schoolers for the March 5-7 Mid-Winter at Westlake Christian Church.



Our observance of Advent and celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany were made richer through the gifts of those who provided special music and by this year's Advent families.

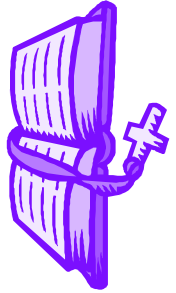
Musicians included: the EHS Madrigal Singers, Rosalie Gainer, Glenna Knapp, Brian Maddock, Caitlyn Osborn, Jacob Osborn, Cathy Pence, Quartific (Mark Mathes, Ken Mundorf, Alan Petersen, and Bob Rieth), Chris Thomas, Becky Thompson, Chris Trunk, the WACC Chancel Choir under the direction of Alan Petersen, the Wainwright family, and Carole Weinhardt.

Advent families were: the Rieth, Hayes, Sweeten and Stevens family; the Hange family; the Wilhelm family; Bob Clark, Kate Matolich, and Keith Western; the Maddock family; and, Mark & Susan Mathes.

Thanks, too, to all who gave the gift of poinsettias and the gift of presence—by attending Worship, by going caroling or welcoming carolers, by sharing in fellowship events. The participation of so many in our church family added to our joy!

January 17 Lectionary Corner

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10



*Sermon focus

Do You Have Your Envelopes?

New offering envelopes have been issued for 2010. If you don't have a set but would like one, please contact the church office (323-4213). If you already have a set, please be sure you have the one with your name on it.

Note: Different envelope numbers are issued each year, so please discard all unused envelopes from 2009.

Have you remembered WACC in your will?

Praise-Apella Concert

On Sunday, February 7, the Catholic Church of Elyria (St. Agnes, St. Jude and St. Mary) will sponsor a concert by Praise-Apella, a contemporary Christian vocal band. The concert will take place at 7 p.m. at St. Jude Church, 590 Poplar St., Elyria. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 for adults (\$15 at the door), \$5 for children ages 6-12, free for children ages 5 and younger. For tickets, call St. Agnes Church (322-5622), St. Jude Church (366-5711) or St. Mary Church (323-5539). Proceeds will benefit Elyria Youth Ministry.



Sarah Circle

will gather on Thursday, January 21, at 10:45 a.m. in the youth rooms. Pastor Janet Long will present the program, "Hope Shared..."; Shirley Shubert and Dorie Hendricks will provide the luncheon. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Coming Up: Fifth Sunday Church Family Fun Night

Don't miss this month's opportunity to attend one of our fun-filled Fifth Sunday Church Family Fun Nights. The next installment will take place on Sunday, January 31. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. for a pizza supper, followed by group and board games provided by those attending. Plan to attend—and bring your friends!

CL&G Meeting Scheduled

Have an interest in—or an idea for—helping our church grow? The Church Life & Growth Committee will meet in the Elders' conference room this Sunday, January 17, following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service. All are welcome.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Outstanding Outreach!

Washington Avenue Christian Church has a long-standing and well-deserved reputation as a congregation with Outreach ministries at its heart. In spite of an adverse economy, 2009 was no exception. Year-end financial reports show that 20%—a double tithe—has been shared "from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth". In addition, 10% of our Covenant contributions are being shared with the Cleveland Christian Home to help with their exterior renovation project. What a blessing these gifts are to others!

Family Finances

At Sunday's congregational meeting, the proposed 2010 budget was adopted by unanimous vote. All committees held their projected expenditures to 2008 levels. Commitments (pledges) are higher than last year, balancing the decrease in the amount being drawn from our permanent funds in support of our mission and ministry. Many thanks to all who helped develop this faithful plan and to all who share God's blessings so generously.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for unity, equality, justice, and harmony in all relationships – among and between all peoples.

Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers surround Anne Prentice and family in the death of her sister, Julie Browand, last Monday. Services were held on Saturday in Elyria.

Hospitalized

At EMH: Gordon Higgins
At Home: Darl Hendricks
Bonnie Jackson (in-and-out)
Helen Post (Wesleyan Village)

CALENDAR

- Sat., 1/16: - Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 4 (Mark & Susan Mathes, captains).
- Sun., 1/17: - See back page for the day's schedule.
- Mon., 1/18: - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (church office closed).
- Tue., 1/19: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 1/20: - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room, 7 p.m.
- Thu., 1/21: - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.
- Girl Scout Troop 524 gathering in Fellowship Hall, 6:15 p.m.

