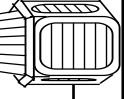


THE SPREE



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

301 Washington Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035-5124
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February 9, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 06

Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

This Sunday is Valentine's Day. It is the perfect time to make a gift of the heart to Week of Compassion. A heart filled with compassion is a gift to the world. And, heaven knows, the world needs the gift of compassion right now!

While our commitment to supporting the relief efforts in Haiti is critical, so is our *regular* response to this year's Week of Compassion offering. Our gifts are mobilized as disaster strikes, and we are present where there is need—around the world, around the year.

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the season of Epiphany. Next week, we embark on our journey through Lent. Please plan to share in our annual Ash Wednesday Service with neighboring Disciples to be held at North Eaton Christian Church.

Beginning February 22, our weekly disciplines here at Washington Avenue will include a Monday evening study ("Finding Faith at the Movies" – part 2) and a Wednesday evening Vespers Service which includes communion.

All of these opportunities will lead us closer to Christ and one another—and closer to Jerusalem. I look forward to the reflection and growth that will take place as we give of ourselves to the ministry of Week of Compassion and to the meaning of Lent.

Love,



Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



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Elyria, OH 44035-5124
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Phone: (440) 323-4213

DATED MATERIAL

PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

Nonprofit Org.
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Elyria, OH
Permit No. 332

February 14, 2010

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

OPENER: Dan Clark **CLOSER:** Keith Western

GREETERS: Sean, Michelle, Rachel, and Paul Kersey

ACOLYTES: Katie Kostohryz and Sammie Kostohryz

SPEAKER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long

TELLERS: Tim Hayward and Ken Oblak

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

Janet Stevens-Brown Rosalie Gainer

ELDERS (10:45): HOME COMMUNION:

Chris Baumgartner Tim Hayward

Debbi Willets Deanna Forbush

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

WANEFW RETREAT THIS WEEKEND

Join us in prayer for the Chi Rho and CYF members from Washington Avenue, North Eaton, Westlake, and Franklin Circle Christian Churches who will be attending a Winter Retreat at Camp Christian this weekend, February 12-14. The group will be focusing on, "Love and Service."

YOUTH TO VISIT BRANDYWINE FEBRUARY 21

Grades 3-12, there's still time to sign up for the February 21 outing to Brandywine. Admission is \$20 (skiing is extra). The group will depart WACC at 12:30 p.m. and return by 5 p.m. The sign-up sheet is on the window of the Elders' conference room.

YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT

Advance Ministry (for post-high school adults ages 18-29) will hold a Spring Retreat March 12-14 at Camp Christian. The theme is, "Get Personal With Yourself: Exploring the Individual." Registration information is posted on our main bulletin board.

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK ANNOUNCED

Do something meaningful with your Spring Break—help build a new mission building in Slidell, Louisiana any time February 28-April 3. For more information, visit: www.discipleshomemissions.org/Volunteer/SpecialProjects/SpringBreak.htm.

Disciples' "Fat Tuesday" Chili Cook-Off Proceeds to Benefit Cleveland Christian Home

Disciples of District 2 are invited to participate in the 4th annual "Champion Chili for Christ" Chili Cook-Off at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Brunswick on Tuesday, February 16, 6:30-9 p.m. Admission is free but proceeds from the voting (quarters dropped into cups next to your favorite chili) will benefit the Cleveland Christian Home.

Each congregation is asked to provide one pot of chili for every eight people attending from their church. Contestants may call 330-225-2998 to register.

Don't want to compete? Come just to eat! (Those who aren't entering the competition may bring an appetizer or dessert to share, if they desire.)

Entertainment will be provided by Olmsted Falls High School's excellent jazz band. FCC is located at 3611 Center Rd., in Brunswick.



Free Devotional Booklet(s) Available

To help you on your journey through Lent, WACC's Christian Education Committee is providing free copies of the devotional booklet, *Fellowship of Prayer*. Be sure to pick up yours from the rack near the stairs leading to the sanctuary.

Note: Copies of the bi-monthly devotional, The Upper Room, are also available from this rack.

February 14 Lectionary Corner

Exodus 34:29-35 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
 Psalm 99 Luke 9:28-36*

* *Sermon focus*

Have you remembered WACC in your will?

Soup Supper Available Ash Wednesday

This year's Disciples District 2A Ash Wednesday Worship Service will be held on February 17 at North Eaton Christian Church, at 7 p.m. Choir members of participating churches are being asked to arrive by 6 p.m. for rehearsal, so a light soup-and-bread supper will be available 5:30-6 p.m. for singers and also for their family and friends who will be arriving early with them.

To help our hosts adequately prepare, you are asked to **R.S.V.P. to either the WACC office (323-4213) or NECC (748-2230) by Monday, February 15** if you'll be attending the supper.



Sarah Circle

will gather on Thursday, February 18 at 10:45 a.m. in the youth rooms. Pastor Janet Long will present the program, "Love Renewed..." and Beth Marling and Joan Wilhelm will provide lunch. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Fellowship and Spiritual Growth Opportunities for YOU

Equipping the Saints—"A New Day Dawning", Saturday, March 6 at North Congregational UCC, Columbus: A Disciples/UCC leadership conference; workshop options include church transformation through corporate prayer; congregational communication (social media); re-imagining your church; sharing "new day" stories of renewed church vitality; managing unsolvable dilemmas; generosity in tough times; a discussion of "exurbia"; and, resources for transformation.

(Women's) Lenten Companionship, Saturday, March 20 at Camp Christian (Herald Monroe Lodge): A day of reflection, prayer, conversation, and crafts. (Optional slumber party March 19.)

Men's Spiritual Life Retreat—"And the Disciples Said, 'Teach Us to Pray'", Saturday, March 20 at Camp Christian (dining hall): Leaders are Rev. Harry Bolen and Rev. Nik Donges.

Advance Ministry Talent Show Fundraiser, Saturday, April 17 at Camp Christian: Silent auction, cookout and talent show. Free admission (donations appreciated). Proceeds help provide scholarships to Advance Ministry (young adult) events (see back page of this issue of *The Spire* for one such event).

Complete information about all these—and other—events is posted on our main bulletin board.

Workshop for Pastors and Lay Leaders—"Resolving Congregational Corporate Pain," Monday, April 19 at Camp Christian: Dr. John Savage, of The Kilgore Group, will help participants understand how the personal pain of a church's members influences that church's energy and effectiveness. This workshop will help participants gauge corporate pain and impart strategies to help reduce it.

Camp Christian Reunion, Saturday, May 15 at Camp Christian: A fun get-together for all ages, in all stages of life.

Adult Conference—"Deep & Wide: Living Out the Spiritual Journey", June 14-18 at Northwest Christian Church and Fairfield Inn, Columbus: Take your spirituality "down and out"—deeper into your soul and wider into your community and world. Bible lecturer is the Rev. Dr. Ronald J. Allen, Christian Theological Seminary.

Quadrennial Assembly—"Awake! Awake!", June 23-27 at the Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, North Carolina: An every-four-years gathering of women, with excellent workshops, worship, mission projects, speakers, and more.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Prayer Focus

Please pray for those you love—and those who love you.

Hospitalized

No one (of whom we are aware) at press-time. At Home: Brad Anderson

CALENDAR



Fri., 2/12: - WANEWF Retreat for Chi Rho and CYF, at Camp Christian, begins (ends 2/14).

Sun., 2/14: - See back page for the day's schedule.

Tue., 2/16: - District 2 Disciples' Chili Cook-Off at First Christian Church, 3611 Center Rd., Brunswick, 6:30 p.m.

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

Wed., 2/17: - District 2A Ash Wednesday Worship Service at North Eaton Christian Church, 35895 Royalton Rd., Eaton Township, 7 p.m. (soup supper for choirs and early arrivers, 5:30 p.m.; rehearsal, 6 p.m. [bring robes]).

Thu., 2/18: - Sarah Circle gathering in the youth rooms, 10:45 a.m.

- Girl Scout Troop 524 gathering in Fellowship Hall, 6:15 p.m.

Sat., 2/20: - Committal and memorial services for Evelyn Hollis (1 p.m. at Ridge Hill Cemetery; 2 p.m. in our sanctuary).

- Salvation Army Hot Meal served by Team 3 (Val Collins, captain).