



THE SPREE



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

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March 23, 2010

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

The holiest time of the Christian year begins Sunday as we observe Palm Sunday. My poetic friend and colleague, Bob Hill, has attached a word or phrase to each of the coming days of Holy Week. These descriptions of the events of Jesus' life set the tone for our contemplation.

Palm Sunday – "Hosanna!" Like the ancient crowds in Jerusalem, we will rejoice and declare our celebration of the coming of the Messiah. Palms will signal our fervent praise of the Suffering Servant and Redeemer, who is so much more than we ever imagined.

Holy Monday – Watch and Wonder "Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come." The disciples heard these words from the trusted voice of Jesus but did not heed them. And thus they were caught off guard when the events of the rest of the week occurred.

Holy Tuesday – Servant "The greatest among you will be your servant." When the disciples argued about who among them would be the chief leaders, Jesus spoke about servanthood. Now, during the final week of Jesus' life, these words come echoing back to us. How will we respond?

Holy Wednesday – Vision "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me." Time is precious, the disciples were soon to find out, as the predictions about Jesus' "little while" came so very true. Will we look for glimpses of God's grace?

Maudy Thursday – The Gift of Love "This is my body given for you..." Few utterances from the lips of Jesus offer more self-giving love than those he spoke around the table where he gathered for his last meal with his closest friends. Are we ready to accept such a gift?

Good Friday – Truth "Truly this man was the Son of God." At the conclusion of the events of Good Friday, the centurion at the foot of the cross hints at the reality to come, that the story just may not be finished yet. We are reminded, "Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal."

Holy Saturday – Silence Now, in between the experience of Good Friday's poignant sorrow and the hope for resurrection on Easter Sunday morning, there truly is nothing humanity can do but wait in silent anticipation and longing for God's next move.

Easter Sunday – Resurrection It might be enough to say, "Enough said!" For what words can ever surpass the power of God's resurrecting love?! But our joy will naturally compel us to engage in an ancient and treasured litany: "Christ is risen! Christ is risen, indeed!"

Love,
 Janet Long

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March 28, 2010—Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Common Grounds, followed by
9:30 a.m. Church School combined session
10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
OPENER: Roger Bauer **CLOSER:** Gary McIntyre
GREETERS: Don & Glendora Hange
ACOLYTES: Caitlyn Osborn and Karina Rosso
WORSHIP LEADER: Sue McKain

PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Cheryl McKenna and Ken Oblak

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

Chris Baumgartner Rosalie Gainer

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

Janet Stevens-Brown Becky Thompson
Bill Clark Cheryl McKenna

DIACONATE: Team IV

8:30 - Bud Simmons and Polly Simmons

10:45 - Arlene Burch, Dick Burch, David Eby,
Nicole Eby, Deanna Forbush, Gail Haywood,
Peggy Haywood, Jane Hutson, Brenda Keenan,
and Jody Six

CAMP/CONFERENCE/RETREAT NEWS

Plan your week of camp NOW for the best rate.

Adults Camp, Too!

In addition to the various youth camp opportunities, another camp—for adults only—is held each year at Northwest Christian Church. Adult Conference will be held June 14-18 with the theme, "Deep & Wide: Living Out the Spiritual Journey." It promises to be a very special week for those attending.

Junior (Sprouts) Camps

(in partnership with the United Church of Christ;
for youth completing grades 3-5)

Camp Otter June 20-26

Camp Badger* July 11-17 (Templed Hills)

Camp Beaver* July 25-31 (Pilgrim Hills)

Chi Rho Camp

(for youth completing grades 6-8)

Camp Portahoga July 11-17 (Camp Christian)

CYF Conference

(for youth completing grades 9-12)

Hiram Conference June 27-July 3 (Camp Christian)

Early-bird (best rate) registration ends May 1; scholarship funds available for eligible campers. Complete information for all 2010 camps is posted on our bulletin boards.



HOLY WEEK OBSERVANCES:

Holy Week information booklets for adults and youth, and activity booklets for children, are available on the round table in the hallway of the new building, near the courtyard door.

PALM SUNDAY

Join us this Sunday, March 28. Palm fronds will be available at our 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Worship Services to take home afterwards. In addition, our 9:30 a.m. Church School will feature a combined session as we “Let Creation Sing”; all classes should gather in the youth rooms.

FINAL LENTEN SUPPER & STUDY NIGHT

Our final Lenten Supper & Study session of 2010 will take place on Monday, March 29 with clips from the film, “American Beauty”. The evening’s discussion topic will be, “How Is Beauty a Gateway to Thankfulness?”. A light supper, beginning at 5:55 p.m., will precede the study.

VESPERS SERVICE

The final Wednesday evening Vespers Service of this year’s Lenten season will take place on March 31. We’ll look for you at 6:15 p.m. in the sanctuary.

SEDER EXPERIENCE

The WACC Seder Experience will take place on April 1 (Maundy Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will have maror (horseradish) which represents the bitterness of the life people suffered in Egypt. Shank bone (chicken) reminds us of the innocent lives sacrificed before the Jews were freed from slavery. Wine (grape juice) is to honor the Lord who brings forth abundance from the earth. The Seder Experience “...is the Passover sacrifice of the Lord...” (Exodus 12:27)

What will the Seder Experience mean to you?

SERVICE OF COMMUNION AND TENEBRAE

Our annual Maundy Thursday Service of Communion and Tenebrae will take place on Thursday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. You’ll want to be present for this solemn, memorable worship service.

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

We will observe Good Friday on April 2 at the Elyria Ministerial Association’s Community Good Friday Worship Service, at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 300 Third St., at 12 noon. We’ll look for you there.

EASTER

Our Celebration Worship Service will take place on April 4, at 8:30 a.m.; our Festival Service of the Resurrection will occur at 10:45 a.m. that day. The 9:30 Church School session will include an Easter egg hunt and surprise gifts for all of our children’s classes.



Have you remembered WACC in your will?

March 28 (Palm Sunday) Lectionary
Luke 19:28-40* Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

*Sermon focus

- Sun., 3/28: - Palm Sunday (see back page for the day’s schedule).
- Mon., 3/29: - Lenten Supper & Study Series in Fellowship Hall, 5:55 p.m.
- Tue., 3/30: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.
- Wed., 3/31: - Lenten Vespers Service in the sanctuary, 6:15 p.m.
- Girl Scout Troop 390 gathering in the youth rooms, 6:15 p.m.
- Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
- Seder Experience in Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Thu., 4/1: - Maundy Thursday Service of Communion and Tenebrae, 7:30 p.m.
- Fri., 4/2: - Community Good Friday Service at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 12 noon.
- Sat., 4/3: - Cleveland Christian Home’s Walk & Run for the Kids at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, 8:45 a.m.
- Worship Committee work session (Easter flowers), 9 a.m.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Jacob Anderson | 15 | Jason Higgins |
| | Jordan Anderson | | Alan Petersen |
| | Arlene Burch | 16 | Stephanie Thimke |
| | Doris Dodrill | 17 | Adlie Buczek |
| | Paul Fridenstine | | Wayne Collins |
| | Claudia Heginbotham | 18 | Larry McIntyre |
| 2 | Sandy Woosley | 19 | Stacy Collins |
| 3 | Jane Hutson | 20 | Chuck Necker |
| | Scott Knapp | 22 | Gordon Higgins |
| 5 | Ashley Csata | | Nancy Huller |
| | Eleanor Stevenson | 24 | Jack Ryan |
| 6 | Gary Knapp | | Kevin Matheson |
| | Debby Lance | | Erin Sweeten |
| 7 | Audrey Price | 25 | Lydia Ward |
| | Pat Schwarz | | Bev Lehman |
| 10 | Missy Stephenson | | Becky Thompson |
| | Pat Stevens | 26 | Kathy Wainwright |
| 11 | Jason Ward | | Benny Greer |
| 12 | Ken Oblak | | Betty McIntyre |
| 13 | Amy Fitzgerald | | Tony Sweeten |
| | | | Marisa Ward |
| | | | Bethany Willets |



APRIL ACOLYTES

- 4 Samantha Moore and Nautica Walker
- 11 Katie Kostohryz and Sammie Kostohryz
- 18 Taylor Novak and Sarah Turner
- 25 Brittany Jacovetti and Amanda Osborn

CALENDAR



NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Tim & Gail Haywood are celebrating 19 years of marriage (3/23). Continued best wishes and blessings!

VBS Dates Set

This summer’s Vacation Bible School will again be a combined venture with First Congregational UCC and St. Paul UCC. Our “Journey to the Congo” will be July 12-16.

Youth Membership Class Forming

Our annual Inquirers Class of young people considering baptism and church membership will begin soon. If your child is in grade 6 or older and would like to be part of this class which will meet after school on Wednesdays, contact the church office.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for Tiana McKenna who leaves today for a term of study in Russia. Also, remember Cleveland’s Euclid Avenue Congregational Church whose building was destroyed by fire caused by lightning.

Sympathy

Our love and prayers surround...the Biltz family in the death of Mildred (“Mil”) last Friday. Services are being held today (Tuesday) with Pastor Janet Long officiating.

...Lynn Obechi and family in the death of her brother, Chris Hirzel, on Sunday. Service arrangements are pending.

May God’s peace bring comfort to all who mourn.

Hospitalized

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