



THE SPIRE



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

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Janet's Jottings

Dear Friends,

This morning, Rosalie stopped by to drop off her "thank you for the thank you" note for *The Spire*. (It's printed inside.) Minutes later, we received a fax containing two "thank you" notes (also printed inside). On top of that, the book *Thanks! How Practicing Gratitude Can Make You Happier* emerged at the top of the stack on my desk..

Its author, Robert A. Emmons, shares the remarkable story of a survivor of 9/11:

When the second plane hit the South Tower of the World Trade Center, I had just stepped out of an elevator onto the 44th floor. Dust and rubble burst out of the elevator shafts and stairways. There was a lot of panic. I clung to the need to see and feel God's love. The descent down the stairwells was orderly and efficient. So many people were actively expressing love for one another—helping them, calming their fears, embracing and comforting them. It sounds strange, but one of my abiding impressions was how much there was to be grateful for, and how many people to be grateful to...things got worse for a time; when the towers collapsed I was a block away... I was able to keep somewhat focused on the need to love and be grateful.

St. Paul, whose life was filled with a variety of challenges, was clear about the importance of gratitude: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

It is Meister Eckhart who is credited with having said: "If the only prayer you say in your life is 'Thank you,' that would be enough."

Love,

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August 1, 2010

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 Youth lunch and gathering (gr. 3-12)
OPENER: Roger Bauer **CLOSER:** Gary McIntyre
ACOLYTE: Deanna Forbush
WORSHIP LEADER: Gerald Western
PREACHER: The Reverend Dr. Janet A. Long
TELLERS: Cheryl McKenna and Gerald Western

ELDER (8:30): Tim Haywood
ELDERS (10:45): Carolyn Long
ORGANIST (10:45): Barbara Terrell
DiAnne Schmidt

HOME COMMUNION: Chris Baumgartner
Nancy Walker and Michelle Kazmierczak
DIACONATE: Team 1

8:30 - Mike Crocker and Robin Crocker
10:45 - Fauna Griffiths, Dorie Hendricks, Dennis Jackson, Allie Lundblad, Jan Moore, Kay Mundorf, Elliot Wainwright, Kathy Wainwright, Mark Wainwright, and Ashley Walker

YOUTH NEWS / CAMP NEWS

Youth Groups to Meet This Sunday
Youth in grades 3-12 will meet for lunch and fun, faith-building activities this Sunday, August 1, following the 10:45 a.m. Service.

Disciples Fellowship Camp Is for All Ages
Disciples Fellowship Camp (i.e., "Family Camp") is a twice-yearly gathering of Disciples from across Ohio who meet at Camp Christian for a weekend of faith-centered fun and fellowship. This all-ages event will take place during Labor Day weekend (September 3-5, Friday-Sunday only). Wanda Werking will help participants learn how to discover—and then utilize—their spiritual gifts in everyday life. Breakout sessions after her program will include photography, scrapbooking, fishing, recreation, Bible study, and more. Children's programming will also be provided. To learn more, contact Bev Sajna (440-590-2488 or sajhome81@yahoo.com).

Annual Reports Past Due

The Worship Committee and our Treasurer turned in their annual reports for WACC's 2009-2010 Yearbook—has your committee done the same?

If you are a committee Chair/Co-Chair, Board officer or program leader, your report (hard-copy or email) is needed in the church office ASAP. The earlier all reports are submitted, the sooner we can distribute the Yearbook this Fall. Thank you for your cooperation.

Have you remembered WACC in your will?

Summer Church School

WACC Elder Chris Baumgartner will lead this Sunday's Intergenerational Church School Class. WACC Elder Debby Willets will lead the August 8 class.

This Church School class meets each Sunday morning at 9:30 in the youth rooms; child care is offered for very young children.

Our Thanks for a Wonderful Gift!

Memories are wonderful things. And it's better yet to have photos of good times shared. Our



sincere thanks to Debby Willets for helping us archive so many of this congregation's "big events" through her photography talents. These photos are used in WACC's in-house publications and slide shows. If there are pics we have that you'd like to see, just ask the next time you visit the church office.

August 1 Lectionary Corner

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43

Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21*

*Sermon focus

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

How can I ever thank my WACC family for its love and support of my music ministry these past 25 years? You have all inspired me to be the best that I can be. I especially want to thank Pastor Janet for the great working relationship and friendship we have had, as well as the entire staff.

I do appreciate the effort that went into the preparation for my Farewell Concert and reception on July 18, and for my last Sunday Service and luncheon on July 25. "Thank you" to: Diana Tyler for the concert fliers, programs and publicity; Janet Long and Dan Clark for seeing that all details were taken care of; the Worship Committee for the concert reception; Alan Petersen for serving as Master of Ceremonies; Debby Willets for taking pictures and for the picture poster at the reception; Cindy Knapp for the love-gift poster; Chris Baumgartner for the bulletin board; Don Hange, Jr. and Don Hange, Sr. for the videos; Quartic for the song at the reception; Becky Thompson for her piano selections; Carole Weinhardt for her special music during the 10:45 Service; Dianne Schmidt for the organ postlude; the Hospitality Committee for the luncheon following Sunday's Services; the Property Committee for setting up Fellowship Hall; Audrey Price for making the cake; and, Phil Smith for preparing the church for both events.

Many thanks to our congregation for the monetary love gift. I am overwhelmed by your generosity. My thanks to the choir for the monetary gift towards a new camera. A big, "Thank you" to all for your cards and good wishes in my retirement. I look forward to our continuing friendship and fellowship together.

- Rosalie

Vacation Schedule to Alter Routine

Our Office Administrator will be helping lead Adventure Camp August 9-13 and will be away from the office. Please call ahead (323-4213) before stopping by the church that week, to be sure someone is available to help you.

The August 3 edition of *The Spire* will need to cover information about events occurring through August 25; all information for that issue will need to be received in the church office by Monday, August 2. Thank you for your cooperation.

Special Board Meeting August 8

The WACC Board will hold a special meeting on Sunday, August 8, at 10:25 a.m. in the Gibbens conference room.



Concert Benefits Organ Fund

The freewill offering from Rosalie Gainer's July 18 Farewell Concert brought in \$500 for our Organ Fund. Our thanks to Rosalie for suggesting an offering for this special cause.

Last Chance to Vote!

This morning, the Hiram Farm autism project was again 18th on the list of programs in the running for a \$50,000 grant. Your vote/s can make the difference in getting this program to the top 10. *Please* cast your vote—today and every day through July 31—at: www.refresheverything.com/hiramfarm.

NEWS OF OUR FAMILY

Congratulations!

Our congratulations and best wishes to those celebrating end-of-July anniversaries: Stephen & Sarah Bond (7/27, #8) and Mark & Susan Mathes (7/28, #31).

Thank You

As I recover from my knee replacement surgery, I am overwhelmed with your continuing support and love shown through cards, visits and prayers. Thanks to Pastor Janet, Brenda and others for their visits to me as I was recuperating. What a wonderful church family we have!

- Mary Lou Petersen

The Petersen Family wishes to express sincere gratitude to Pastor Janet for her participation in the Wesleyan Village memorial service for Alan's mother, Mary Petersen. Also to all our dear WACC friends, we thank you for attending the service, for your many cards and for your concern and prayers at the time of her passing.

- Alan and Mary Lou Petersen

Prayer Focus

Please pray for a grateful heart.

Sympathy

Our prayers surround Jimmy Mariast & Samantha Hafer and Mason in the sudden and untimely death of Jimmy's mother, Suzanne Mariast, last Wednesday. Services were held on Saturday.

May God's peace bring comfort and peace.

Hospitalized

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

CALENDAR

Sun., 8/1: - See back page for the day's schedule.
Tue., 8/3: - Tuesday Night LaPorte Group (AA) gathering in Fellowship Hall, 8 p.m.