

The Church On The Hill



A Newsletter for members and friends of Waverly Heights Congregational, UCC

MAY 2005 NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 71 VOLUME 2

DAVID ZAWORSKI, PASTOR
TRISH EFFENBERGER, EDITOR

From the Pastor,

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." *1 Thes. 5:16-18*

I was first blessed by this passage when I saw it beautifully calligraphed and framed at the guest house of Mount Angel Abbey. This was many years and several churches ago. I was there on spiritual retreat during a very difficult period in my ministry. As I read this passage, a smile broke onto my face, a sense of wonder and peace entered my heart. Receiving these words, in that place, I guess I knew at some deep level that it was possible. Even in hard straights I could rejoice, pray, give thanks, all three at once inseparably. Part of that knowing was surely a recognition that it was grace at work in me.

That was during a hard time -- just trusting God for the possibility of joy was

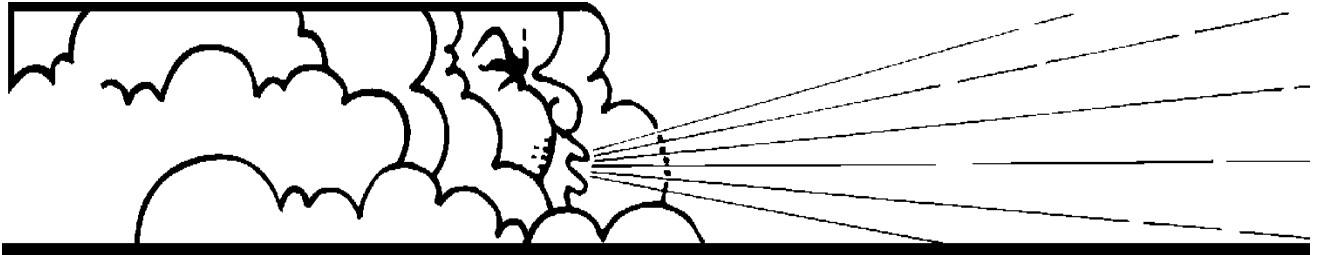
The Grace
of God is
with you!

amazing grace. It is equally amazing to dwell with this passage now, here at Waverly, where you all make it so easy to rejoice, to pray and praise and give thanks. Every week worship is a continuing delight, meditation a renewal, Bible study a revelation. And we have

workdays, other classes, soup and culture, daytimers, consistory meetings..... so many things happening. And all of it depends on so many of you: your great ideas, willingness to work and participate, and above all your capacity to simply to be channels of God's grace in so many ways. I'm still not there of course, rejoicing *always*, praying *constantly*, giving thanks in *all* circumstances. But I am finding a new depth of daily spiritual practice here that I had hardly even contemplated before. I give thanks for that; I pray that you too may be growing every day; I rejoice in God's grace so powerfully at work in us all.

David Z.

Visit our web site @ www.waverlyucc.org

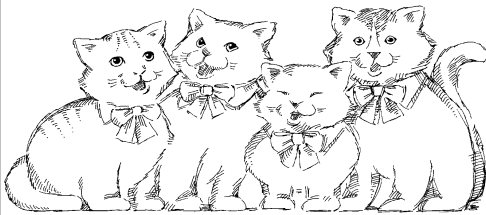


Waverly is Going Green(er)

Starting immediately, Waverly will be purchasing one unit of renewable Wind power each month. The Consistory voted to do this as a first step toward using only renewable, non-polluting energy sources for electricity. The program is available through our electricity supplier, PGE, for customers who want to reduce their contributions to pollution and environmental degradation. Given budgetary constraints, we did not feel it was responsible to go "all the way" just yet with renewables, but we are excited about this first step!

Dan Thoma
Treasurer

Raise Your Voice—



Join the Choir!

BIG CHOIR BASH AND MAY KICKOFF!!!

Theo is joining us full-time, at last, as Waverly Choir Director and full-time pianist on Sunday, May 1st! The choir and Theo will be with us every Sunday starting in May!

So, **THE CHOIR IS HAVING A KICKOFF RECEPTION** at Andrew and Judy Millar's on Saturday, May 7th, at 5 pm! Andrew and Judy live down the street from the church at 3323 S.E. Franklin. Everyone is welcome.

Come join in on rehearsals as well: the choir is now "working ahead" in rehearsals that means we are practicing music a few weeks ahead of expected performance dates—just like we had been shooting for. We have some very raucous pieces planned for Pentecost, May 15TH.

All who love singing and fellowship are welcome and singing experience is not required. Rehearsals will be on Sunday mornings. As well, Theo will be teaching the kids (and the kids' teachers) some songs during Sunday school, starting on May 1!

If you've been thinking about doing the choir, even a little bit, **NOW'S THE TIME to CATCH THE WAVE!**"

Wanted

Handicap Access Coordinator

Looking for person(s) willing to lead our congregation into the next phase of our handicap access project. Must be dedicated to long-term results, future-oriented, and capable of coordinating tasks and people. Please contact the Pastor and/or Moderator.



Belle Wilde who is on the mend after recently having a very bad fall while on a walk. She broke a bone in her right wrist and required seven stitches on her forehead.



to *Lisa Kane* and *Amy Hardin* for volunteering their time to host social hour after worship service during the month of April. Nice job!

Our host for May—
Marie Brandis

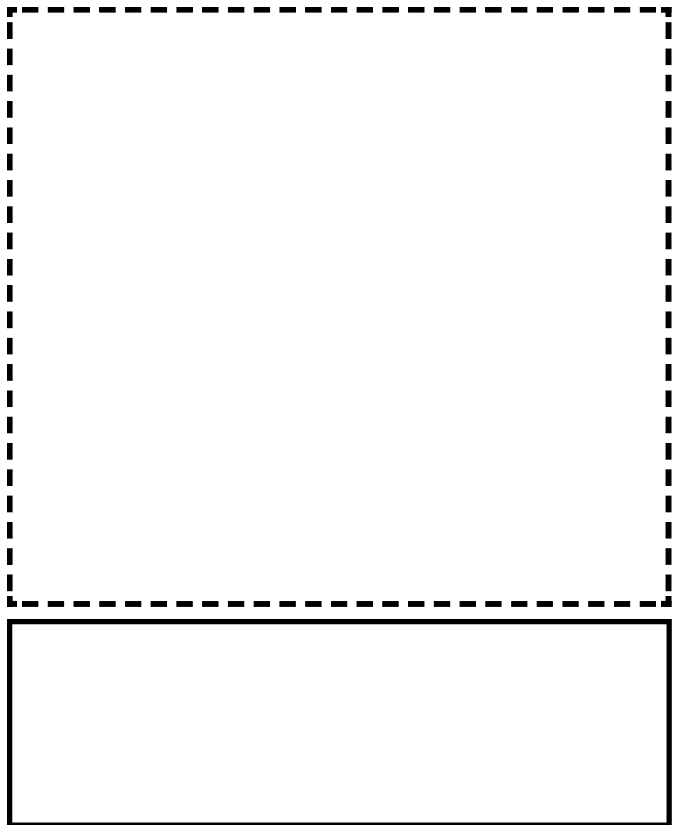


Please submit articles for the June issue no later than May 17th.

Thanks,
Trish Effenberger, Editor

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST NEWSLETTER FROM WAVERLY...

This newsletter is about the current events of Waverly's ministry and mission. If you wish to have more information and background on Waverly, please feel free to call the church office at 503-238-1337 or email—pastor@waverlyucc.org



BRAN MUFFINS

The couple was 85 years old and had been married for sixty years. Though they were far from rich, they managed to get by because they watched their pennies. Though not young, they were both in very good health, largely due to the wife's insistence on healthy foods and exercise for the last decade.

One day, their good health didn't help when they went on a rare vacation and their plane crashed, sending them off to Heaven. They reached the pearly gates, and St. Peter escorted them inside. He took them to a beautiful mansion, furnished in gold and fine silks, with a fully stocked kitchen and a waterfall in the master bath and their favorite clothes hanging in the closet. They gasped in astonishment when he said, "Welcome to Heaven. This will be your home now."

The old man asked Peter how much all this was going to cost. "Why, nothing," Peter replied, "remember this is your reward in Heaven." The old man looked out the window and right there he saw a championship golf course, finer and more beautiful than any ever -built on Earth.

"What are the greens fees?" grumbled the old man.

"This is heaven," St. Peter replied. "You can play for free, every day."

Next they went to the clubhouse and saw the lavish buffet lunch with every imaginable cuisine laid out before them from seafood to steaks to exotic desserts and free flowing beverages.

"Don't even ask," said St. Peter to the man. "This is Heaven, it is all free for you to enjoy."

The old man looked around and glanced nervously at his wife. "Well, where are the low fat and low cholesterol foods, and the decaffeinated tea?" he asked.

"That's the best part," St. Peter replied. "You can eat and drink as much as you like of whatever you like, and you will never get fat or sick. This is Heaven!"

The old man pushed, "No gym to work out at?"

"Not unless you want to," was the answer.

"No testing my sugar or blood pressure or..."

"Never again. All you do here is enjoy yourself."

The old man glared at his wife and said, "You and your bran muffins. We could have been here 15 years ago!"

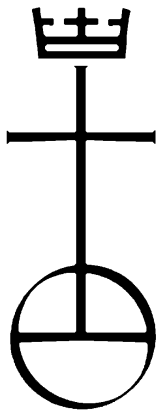
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

3300 SE Woodward
Portland, Oregon 97202
(503) 238-1337
www.waverlyucc.org

Pastor: David Zaworski

Worship Service:
Sunday - 11:00 A.M.

WAVERLY HEIGHTS CONGREGATIONAL UCC



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ
Welcomes all, Honoring each individual's path**

**We invite everyone to
Worship God, Learn the love of Jesus,
Care for one another
Work for change and reconciliation
In our community and the world.**

