

The Church On The Hill



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

JULY/AUGUST 2007 NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 95 VOLUME 2

DAVID ZAWORSKI, PASTOR
TRISH EFFENBERGER, EDITOR

FROM THE



Pastor

I've just finished reading *A Hidden Wholeness: the Journey Toward an Undivided Life* by Parker Palmer. Palmer is an educator, Quaker, and an inspiration to those of us blessed by hearing him speak or reading his books. *A Hidden Wholeness* has yet a further subtitle: "Welcoming the Soul and Weaving Community in a Wounded World." In it, Palmer writes about the experience of living divided lives -- our roles/our work not in touch and in tune with our inner truth. He then details a particular kind of community, he uses the name "circles of trust," that opens us to and supports lives of new and renewed integrity. Though church is not called to be precisely a "circle of trust" in the very particular way that Palmer presents, the goals and methods he sets out are compelling, challenging, and life-giving for our mission and ministry here at Waverly UCC.

Circles of trust are deeply counter-cultural. The community fostered is not an easy like-mindedness, not following any particular fashion of the day while concealing our true selves. Indeed, trying to fit in to what passes for community is part of the divided reality so many of us experience. The goal is community that recognizes, honors, and deeply trusts the unique soul in each of us. Palmer describes the relationships in a circle of trust with some of my favorite words from the poet Rilke "the love that consists in this, that two solitudes protect and border and salute each other."

Our culture likes to fix things, and people, and do it quickly. Trusting the deep solitude of each of us calls us to *not fix* one another. That is a very demanding discipline. Rather than impose our notions of what is needed, we are called to trust that the soul, "inner teacher," or divine spark in each of us provides just the guidance that is needed for each particular individual. Palmer describes the soul as being like a wild animal: "tough, resilient, resourceful, savvy, self-sufficient." It's there, and surviving and remaining itself -- however out of touch we may be, however life may have distorted our outer reality. But again, like a wild animal, it is shy. It only comes out, the inner wisdom and strength are only fully available to us, if we are quiet, still, and patient. "Unfortunately," Palmer writes, "*community* in our culture too often means a group of people who go crashing through the wood together, scaring away the soul." To do otherwise requires us to trust each one's inner teacher. That means not imposing our own agendas, hopes, timetables, and at the same time staying truly present with one another to witness and amplify back the genuine leadings that emerge in each individual's life. Stories, metaphors, deep listening and careful speaking, humor ... all of these are part of this transforming type of community.

And it's a type of community I see us finding and forming and learning to trust here at Waverly UCC.

God's blessings on us all,

David

Visit our web site @ www.waverlyucc.org



New Childcare Provider

Although we will miss our dear Lila, we are excited that she's off into the world of college and we're thrilled to announce that we've found a new person for our nursery.

Laura Buckels comes to us as a graduate of University of Portland with a B.A. in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. She has worked extensively with children and she's excited to join us on Sunday mornings to care for our beautiful wee ones.

Welcome Laura!

Waverly Heights Meal Exchange!

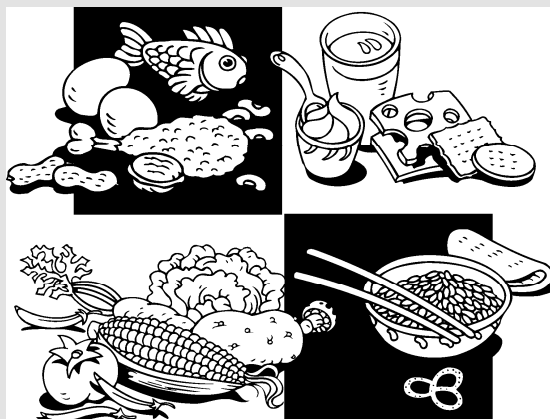
Join us as we raise money for Waverly Heights and lighten the dinner making load for one another. Wouldn't it be nice to have someone else cook you a homemade meal once a week? Join the Meal Exchange!

How will it work? Simple! Four families or individuals sign-up to be in an Exchange group. Once you sign-up and make a \$25 donation to Waverly Heights, you are then responsible for making ONE meal for the group each month. In turn, you will receive three meals each month (one each week for three weeks!) from your Exchange mates.

- 1) Sign-up to be in a Meal Exchange for a month.
- 2) Within that month, select the week you will make a meal for the group (three casseroles/dishes etc.)
- 3) On the Sunday of the week you selected, bring three dishes for your Supper Club mates to church!
- 4) On the weeks you don't cook, come to church and collect the meal your mate has made for you and your family!
- 5) When you sign-up, be sure to note any dietary restrictions for you or your family and for your Exchange mates on the sign-up list!

Questions? Ask Erin Sexton-Sayler! Erinpx77@yahoo.com or 503-888-4539

The Meal Exchange will begin in August, but sign-up now!





You're Invited!

Daybreak Shelter Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Come enjoy with us an evening of heart-warming food and good old fashioned family fun while at the same time helping us raise critical funds that will enable Daybreak to make a real difference to families in crisis. Last year alone the Daybreak Shelter Network provided emergency housing, food, and services to 64 families comprised of 82 adults and 72 children.

The dinner will feature delicious and authentic Italian food, a silent auction, and raffle giveaway. This is a family event, so bring the kids!

When: June 28th, 2007

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Where: St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

2408 SE 16th Ave.

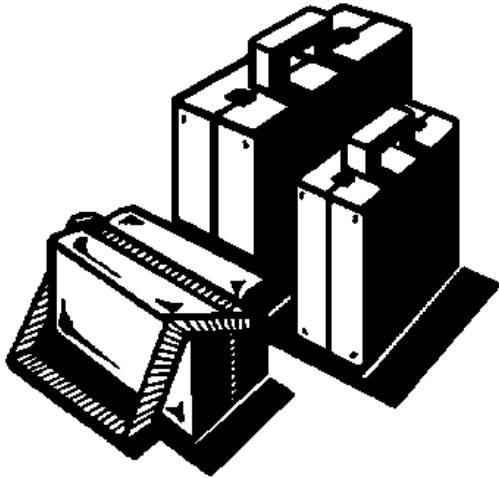
Portland, OR 97214

Cost: Free! Donation encouraged

For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact Lindsey at 503-548-0227 or lmiller2@humansolutions.org . You can also visit our website at www.humansolutions.org.

We hope to see you there!

MOTHER-IN-LAW VISIT



A mother-in-law visits with her son-in-law before leaving for a trip. They are sipping coffee and chatting. Suddenly, mother-in-law looks at the clock and jumps off her chair exclaiming, “My God! It’s already three pm. I’m about to miss my train!” She begins to gather her luggage together.

At this moment, her granddaughter runs up to her and before he can stop her announces, “Don’t worry, Granny! Daddy moved the clock two hours ahead.”

NEWSLETTER Please submit articles for the September issue no later than August 21st.



DEADLINE 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.

A large dashed rectangular box, likely intended for a subscription form or contact information.
A solid rectangular box, likely intended for a subscription form or contact information.

Taize

There will be no July Taize due to the first Wednesday being July 4th. We will resume on Wednesday, August 1st. We look forward to seeing you in August on what's sure to be a warm summer's night to enjoy singing and silence. Bring a friend!

PASTOR'S VACATION DATES



Pastor David and family will be at the annual Holt (adoption agency) Family Camp out at

Honeyman State Park near Florence, Oregon August 5th - 10th. David will be checking messages on his cell phone, so do call if there is a pastoral emergency (but leave messages on the church voicemail for non-emergency matters - thanks.) Make David happy by coming to church on August 5th to support and be blessed by our substitute preacher, Dana Weir.



"CELEBRATE SUMMER"

Waverly Sunday School is on summer vacation, but that doesn't mean the fun and learning has to stop. If you can lead the Waverly kids in a fun, energetic activity on a Sunday morning (i.e. bird watching, urban wildlife hike, fingerpainting/art project, extended game of Simon Says), please don't hesitate to sign up for a Celebrate Summer day! A sign up sheet is posted downstairs by the kitchen window.

Waverly UCC at Waverly Cabin

Labor Day weekend, August 31st - September 3rd, we'll be out at Camp Adams. This is our church's time to hike, hangout at the swimming hole, do some work on Waverly Cabin and around the camp, pick blackberries Plan to come out, whether for just a day or the whole weekend or somewhere inbetween. Sunday worship on the 2nd will be out at camp, followed by a potluck lunch. Watch the church bulletin in August for details. Contact Marie or Pastor David with any questions.



"The BOX"

A low-key and fun fundraiser is underway thanks to Norma Benedict. "The Box" is making its way among the members and friends of Waverly UCC. Here's the basic idea: someone who has the box will call and arrange to get it to you; you look over the items in the box; take out something that appeals to you and put a donation for it in the money jar that's also in there; then you add some item into the box and pass it on to someone else. What kinds of things are folk putting in the box? Handmade items, gift certificates for meals and for pickle-making lessons, chocolate... Start thinking about (making?) something you'd like to put in when the box comes your way. It's already proving fun, sparking creativity, and helping fill the "fundraising" income line we put in our budget this year. Thank you Norma!

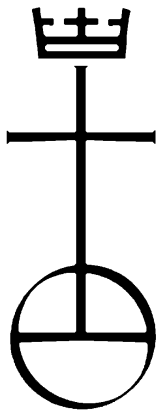
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

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

Pastor: David Zaworski

Summer Worship Service:
Sunday - 10:00 am

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.**

