

The Church On The Hill



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

OCTOBER 2007 NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 97 VOLUME 2

DAVID ZAWORSKI, PASTOR
TRISH EFFENBERGER, EDITOR

Five years ago, when I came to Waverly Heights, our terms of call said we'd plan for a sabbatical. It's pretty standard these days for pastors to have a few months paid study time every four or five years. This is typically a time for more focussed study and reflection away from the everyday pressures of ministry. The approaches to study and the subjects chosen are all across the board, but generally the congregation has agreed that it's something that will benefit the ministry in one way or another. And yes, for some pastors, a sabbatical can be just a much-needed break from work that is becoming more and more a grind.

My first five years here have been anything but a grind. I'm not feeling any need to get away from daily ministry with you all! And yet, I know the value of extended, focussed study to bring new insights, skills, and deepened spirit to my ministry. With all this in mind, the Consistory has approved my plan to take an "in-place" sabbatical over the next two years. I have been accepted into the "Contemplative Listening" training program in Spiritual Direction. The program is offered by Namasté, an interfaith spirituality center here in Portland (led by Sister Pat McCrann, a Sister of the Holy Names -- the folks who run Marylhurst College.) It will involve quite a bit of study time and monthly Friday evening/Saturday morning



class sessions. So I'll still be at Waverly every week, but I'll need your help in being more intentional about my schedule. As a starting place, I'm going to try designating Fridays as sabbatical study days and taking Tuesdays as a day off. So if you all would, please try to keep regular church business off those two days. Hospital runs or other crises, of course *call me anytime*.

Okay, why spiritual direction training? What is spiritual direction? Don't ministers do that anyway? I'm sure I'll have much more to say about this as I progress in the program, but here's a start. One of our readings states, "The goal of spiritual direction is to cultivate openness and responsiveness to the Spirit's presence in our lives." So yes, this is what I'm already trying to do in ministry with you all. The form this takes in spiritual direction, however, is very intentional one-on-one or small group focus on how the Spirit is moving in the particular life of the directee. The term "contemplative listening" is an attempt to correct the misunderstandings that can arise from the term "spiritual direction." Rather than giving answers, it's more a shared listening for what God has to say. It is grounded in profound trust that God does indeed speak in and to each person's life. I do find myself offering "contemplative listening" to people here at Waverly, but that tends to happen in a more-or-less haphazard fashion as I become aware of people's immediate needs. I expect this training

Visit our web site @ www.waverlyucc.org

will lead to more long-term, intentional engagement with some of you. I also expect that this in-place sabbatical study will help shape and ground all of my ministry with you, from preaching to committee meetings. Just what that will look like will unfold over the months ahead as the Spirit continues to move! I am very thankful for the support of the Consistory and all of you. The first class session is October 5th. Ask me how it's going. Pray for me.
God's Peace,
David

Taizé

Our next Taizé service is the first Wednesday of October – October 3rd at 7:30pm. Join us for meditative singing, silence, a few inspirational readings and a chance to slow down and embrace the new season. Come to sing, to listen and just to be.



Beginning October 1st, Pastor David will be following a new schedule. Please take a moment to look this over. And while you're at it, put David's cell phone number (503 515 4460) into *your* cell phone so you'll have it handy when you find yourself in the hospital waiting room.

David will be taking Tuesdays as days off and Fridays as study days. Please do not call with regular church business on those days. Please do call on other days, church phone anytime, or cell or home between ~7:30 a.m. and 9 p.m. If no one answers, leave

message and he'll get it, usually fairly promptly.

If you'd like to drop by the church, David will have set office hours Mondays 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Other times give a call to see if he's around. Making appointments always works well.

Also, David will be on vacation October 20th-21st attending the annual Portland Sacred Harp singing convention -- so keep up the good record of delighting David with good attendance when others are leading worship.

And again, in emergencies call David anytime. You've got his cell number handy, right?

"Building and Grounds" News

There will be a grounds and building clean up day to really set us up for a trouble free winter. Please all who feel able join us on Oct 14 to weed and rake and mow and edge and plant etc, and again on Dec 2 to clear all the leaves and flush the gutters and drains of the church and parsonage. Many hands make light work so please see if you can mark it on your calendar.



Respectfully,
Paul Kane
Building and grounds



Please continue to keep *John Tice* in your prayers as he continues to struggle with back pain issues.



Salsa Soup & Culture

Put on your dancing shoes!! Soup and Culture kicks off the year with Salsa Dancing. Theo is providing music and instruction.

Join us on **Saturday, October 6**

in the Fellowship Hall. 6:30 for a simple supper of soup, salad, bread; 7:30 for dancing. Woohoo!!

Calling all "YARN WORKERS LOCAL 33"!

There have been a number of requests to start up our local group of knitters, crocheters, embroider-ers, and whatever other kind of handwork you may be interested in. Let's meet in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour on the 2nd Sunday of the month (at least through the end of the year). Bring your needles, yarn, books, instructions, or interest and one of us will get you started. We will have a moment of silence for the closing of Mabel's Coffee and Yarn Shop on Division. Let's start **October 14** during coffee hour.



Waverly Youth Group

The first meeting of the Waverly Heights UCC youth group will be Sunday, October 7th. We're hoping to make that an outing after church. Youth group is for middle-school and high school age youth from church families and their friends. We'll be meeting every other week through the school year, and trying to get in a couple overnights out at

Camp Adams as well. Also a mission trip is in the works. And there will also be separate out-of-town Central Pacific Conference youth events for middle schoolers and for high schoolers during the year. Adult leaders will be meeting to make some plans 30 September, so look for emails with details coming soon.



The Waverly Halloween

Carnival is Almost Here!

Save Friday, October 26th from 6:00 to 8:00 for the Carnival. Bring the kids, bring the grown-ups, and bring on the fun! We'll have games, prizes, hot dogs and pumpkin pie. It's always a spooktacular event!

We will need help setting up on Thursday the 25th, so if you can help out, let Lisa Kane or David know. Pizza and drinks will be served. See you then!



NEWSLETTER



Please submit articles for the November issue no later than October 23rd

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.

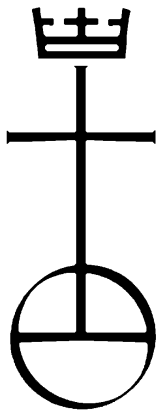
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

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

Pastor: David Zaworski

Worship Service:
Sunday - 11:00 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.**

October