

The Church On The Hill



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

**NOVEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 98 VOLUME 2**

**DAVID ZAWORSKI, PASTOR
TRISH EFFENBERGER, EDITOR**

November is the month of Thanksgiving (early this year!) and I find myself so full of thanksgiving for the blessings God is showering down on Waverly Heights United Church of Christ. It's not that the blessings I see are particularly new or surprising -- just a continuation of the blessings we have known over the five plus years I've been here. "Just" a continuation -- but these are nothing to take for granted and I am feeling the blessings deeply today.



First and foremost, we are blessed by each child, woman, and man who is a part of our church family. The tremendous and varied gifts you all bring enrich and enliven every gathering. The hospitality and integrity you all offer creates a welcoming and safe space at Waverly. The courage you all show in trusting that safe space deepens the bond we share as one body in Christ.

Let me especially lift up three broad groups of folk:

First, the old-timers, the long-term members of the church (some of whom aren't so very old.) I cannot tell you how many times I have praised you to my colleagues and others around the UCC for your willingness to allow newer members and friends to take on the leadership of the church and for your continuing support even

when, inevitably, they do some things differently. The lack of such a gift has killed more than one church. Your generous spirits and willingness to trust the commitment of others has grounded the wonderfully renewing life of this church.

Second, the children. We have such a great bunch of youngsters, from infants to teens. They are wonderfully engaging and engaged, much more often than not greeting me with smiles and sometimes with spontaneous hugs (well, the younger ones...). When we did Salsa dancing, the teens indulged us old folks and joined in. The children feel at home here and it is a great blessing to make a home together at church.

And finally, a word of thanksgiving for every new person who comes through our doors. Some folks just check us out and find we're not quite the place they are called to. What a blessing to present ourselves and to receive the gift of their discernment. Some of you find a connection here and keep coming back, keep giving us the wonderful gift of your participation until we all realize you are no longer giving to us as an outsider, you are part of us and we are all giving together. After five-and-a-half years here, I'm beginning to feel like an old-timer, and that is a great testimony to the gift of the Spirit guiding to

Visit our web site @ www.waverlyucc.org

Waverly the people who need to find Waverly, and whom Waverly needs to welcome.

Well, I could go on and on with blessings, but these will do for now. Do take time to count your blessing -- in your personal life, your family, your church community. Count your blessings and give thanks!

Your brother in Christ,

David

TAIZE SERVICE

Our next Taize is Wednesday November 7th at 7:30. Join us for a short and sweet service of song, meditative silence and inspirational readings.

It's lovely -- really!

A Note from the Choir Director

At press time, the choir is thinking about all the upcoming fall things--leaves, halloween, Thanksgiving, and, of course, Advent and Christmas. We are also, at the moment, looking forward to this Saturday, October 27, our 2nd choir retreat this fall, at the Loyola Jesuit Center! We will be able to report what we did there at church, or in the December newsletter.

This year, we have four Advent Sundays in December, followed by Christmas Eve on Monday, the 24th, and Christmas on Tuesday the 25th. Thus, we will have four Sundays, plus Sunday December 30, plus Sunday January 6 to celebrate with Christmas music, Advent music, and Epiphany music. Thus, there's an extra week of Christmas music, to use for the Pageant, or to sing the "Christ is born" music near the end of the season. Traditionally, we have joined the Daybreak Shelter Network for their fabulous Epiphany choir festival on the afternoon of Epiphany Sunday (Jan. 6) as well.

Come be a part of the choir for Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, and see how it feels. Any existing choir member can tell you what joy it brings to their worship--ask them!

Theo



Say "Yes!" to Serving the Church

The Nominating Committee will be seeking individuals to fill several leadership positions for two-year terms starting 2008. If you feel a calling to get more involved in this way, talk to Jill Johnson, Lisa Kane, or pastor David. And if one of them asks you about your willingness to serve, please take time to prayerfully consider if the request of this church is indeed God's call to you for service. Thank you!



Shared Thanksgiving Service

Thanksgiving WORSHIP SERVICE

Once again this year we will share a Thanksgiving Sunday service in the evening of November 18 at 7pm, at Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church (2828 SE Stephens St). Take this chance, before the rush of preparation for meals/travel/family (or quiet aloneness for some), to recollect our blessings and to deeply give thanks.



Youth Schedule

(Plain type are regular meetings: 7:30 - 8:45 pm at church.
Italic type indicates away events that we can do/participate in if we can gather the needed adult support.)

Nov. 4th David – games and looking ahead/planning with the youth

**Nov. 9-11th Senior High event at Hood River*We need adults to drive/chaperone our older youth to this event (assuming they want to go). More details soon.*

Nov. 18th Christmas Crafts with the Ramsays

Dec. 2nd Andrew & Judy "Holiday" food stuff (cooking is often an early start)

Dec. 16th Service project – Lisa is working on lining up something, perhaps with another youth group

Dec. 30th – no meeting

David is looking into a retreat at Camp Adams sometime during the latter part of Christmas break, i.e. after New Year. This might be a confirmation retreat.

Jan. 13th

Jan. 27th

Feb. 8-10 Mid-winter mid-high youth at Camp Adams

Feb. 10th

Feb. 24th

March 9th

Mar. 23rd – Easter, no meeting

Mar. 24th-28th Spring Break – time for a mission trip? Cindy Winter will be organizing another mission trip this year.

April 6th

April 11th-13th Spring Fling Senior High Youth at Camp Adams

April 20th

May 4th Kanes – something

May 18th



PLEASE **PRAY** FOR:

Nancy Tice as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.

Concert Wednesday, November 14th at 7:30 pm at Lewis & Clark College

Free and open to the public

Sentimental Journey IV

Featuring *Oregon's Poet Laureate, Lawson Inada*

Who will be reading his poetry accompanied by live jazz music

as part of a 3-day, multi-cultural symposium.



(Lawson helped us re-dedicate the Torii Gate at Camp Adams in July 2006.)

NEWSLETTER



DEADLINE

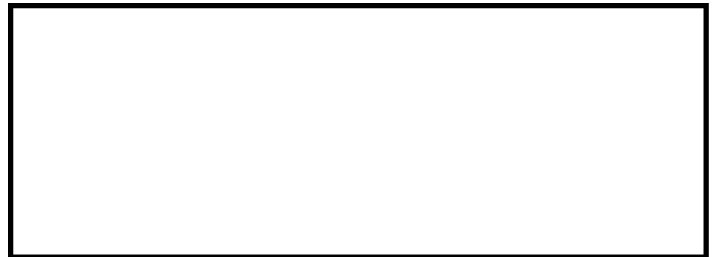
Please submit articles for the December issue no later than November 20th.

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.



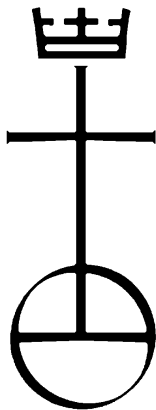
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

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.**

November

