

The Church On The Hill



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

**AUGUST NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 107 VOLUME 2**

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

Some thoughts about our times, Jesus' times, and the place of change in culture. Along with all the things that make Jesus' time different and remote from ours, there are also some notable similarities. Both are times of unprecedented expansion of commerce, of entirely new levels of military, logistical, and administrative organization and capacity, both times of extraordinary cultural ferment -- mixing of ideas and practices -- not least in religion. Whether they would or not, people were and are broken free of the limits and the securities of traditional cultures.

This is different from the reality of most societies for most of time. In a traditional society, one knew one's place, and everyone else's. One understood what was expected and possible. These are the rules, and everyone follows them. Yes, this a bit oversimplified, but what's worth noting is that this is not all bad. Clear boundaries and limits do create a zone of freedom within them. Certainly a very restricted zone, especially if you were poor and female, but even so I'm sure people found ways to live good, reasonably happy lives, and clear boundaries were part of that happiness. So are we better and happier confronted with such a wide-open society, a culture that actively attempts to eliminate all limits and expectations?



Pastor's Report

It is perhaps an idle question, because here we are and we'd better make the best of it. And I'm pretty sure that's just the situation of the earliest Christian communities. And their approach to making the best of it was to build a culture of intentionality in place of a culture of fixed rules. The apostle Paul is always struggling with this.

The law, as a set of rules, was unable to meet the needs of people living in a culture filled with turmoil, change, freedom. His response was to bring faith -- relationship to God -- to all of life. This requires daily intention, to test all the possibilities against the call of God's love. It's not easy. But the relationship with God can give us boundaries, a sense of self and community. It creates a moving zone of deep freedom that can meet change and new understanding, that can help us not be either stuck in one place or overwhelmed by choice. It worked for the early Christians, creating communities of power and freedom, extremely egalitarian for their time, and clerly compelling and engaging judging by their remarkable growth.

How about us, in our time?

Blessings,

Pastor David

Visit our web site @ www.waverlyucc.org



Calling All (potential) Lay Leaders:

Remember reading in front of the class? Some of us really hated it, but some of us *loved* being the center of attention— Why not be a Lay Leader? The signup sheets are down stairs next to the door into the kitchen – (plenty of openings, after all there's one every week).

This is your opportunity to relive bygone days of classroom glory - or to confront your fear of public speaking, in any case if you have an interest - sign-up! Have a question? See Bobby or Beth Kress!



Did you know anyone in the congregation can help prepare the Communion and assist David in its presentation?

This is a very personal and special way to share in this extraordinary part of our service. The participants have an opportunity to take part in (what, for many) is the most spiritual aspect of our service.

The components are simple and their preparation and presentation are quite straight forward. Please consider volunteering, (either alone or as part of a group), for this unique activity, signup sheets are down stairs next to the kitchen door. Please see Beth or Bobby Kress if you have any questions.



Musician Search Progressing Nicely

The Musician Search Committee has been busy throughout August interviewing and auditioning six candidates to be Waverly's new church musician and choir director. We've been very pleased with the expertise of the candidates.

As the choir isn't in session, but everyone on the committee is a current or former choir member, we auditioned candidates by asking each to bring a suitable anthem and teach it to us. This was a fun experience for all and allowed us to get a taste of each person's style. Based on the committee's interviews, we invited three candidates back for interviews with David. Each also played one Sunday service during August.

The committee is meeting soon to recommend a finalist to the Consistory. Once an offer is made and accepted, we'll need to deal with the technical legal stuff of contracting. We are confident, however, that we will have our new church musician in place by mid- to late-September.

Our thanks goes to the congregation for your patience during this process. We'll be giving updates on Sunday mornings and/or by email as we have news to report.



Starts September 7th


Remember that we return to fall schedule on the Sunday following Labor Day. Beginning September 7th worship will be at 11:00 a.m. Regular Sunday School classes will also resume at that time. See you then!

Access Project Update

The Consistory continues to pursue the objective of raising the money to proceed with the lift project. It is in the final stages of completing an application for a loan from the UCC Cornerstone fund, which includes finding the best way of describing our church and its ministry to our UCC national body.


There are plans to hold an informal work session at our Labor Day Camp Adams retreat, on the deck at Waverly Cabin on Saturday, August 30, around 4:00 p.m, to finalize the Cornerstone Fund application and address some of the questions we have about the access project. All are welcome to attend.





Word from Theo

When I last talked to Theo, he was in Pittsburgh staying with family, not sure what his next move would be but sounding upbeat. His eyes were not getting worse, but not really getting better either. This had led him to leave his campaign job in Ohio. He was getting contact information from me about the worship music folk at UCC headquarters in Cleveland, looking at various possibilities including maybe returning to Portland, and just resting up. Keep him in prayer. — ddz




Summer Camping and Service

As we prepare to go out to Camp Adams for our Waverly Family weekend, let's also celebrate all the Waverly folk we sent out over the summer, as campers, camp staff and counselors-in-training, and Geoffrey Pullen spent the summer at Camp as "Charlie's Helper" living out Waverly's ongoing commitment to maintaining Camp Adams as a place of pilgrimage, reunion, fun, and spiritual transformation and renewal.




A new adventure in community gathering. Be looking for your opportunity to suggest a few of your favorite movies. Sing-a-long musicals? Fred and Ginger dance movies? Howl's Moving Castle? The Secret of Roan Inish? Hmm. We have a movie screen (thanks to the magic closet downstairs), and a line on a projector. Popcorn in the sanctuary? Why not!




Truly, a great big heartfelt "Thanks!" goes out both of the very talented "Brothers Hardin"! Paul and then Mark, each did an outstanding job filling the pulpit on two different Sundays in July, when David took some (much deserved) time away from Waverly.

Those of us who missed hearing both/either of them, realize we missed something wonderful – and it only serves to remind us how blessed we are to have such great resources and to be part of such a wonderful congregation filled with so many talented people. Paul and Mark, thanks again for both being so willing to step up, and being so entertaining while doing so!



to Diane Rynerson for stepping in to play for services when Theo left and before we started our round of candidate try-outs. Our congregation is so blessed to have talented and willing volunteers to lead our worship.



Building and Grounds Report

Many thanks to Steve Palumbo and Mark Hardin for all their volunteer plumbing expertise at the Parsonage. It's a great feeling to have a few handymen to call upon when problems arise. Thanks again!!



Scott Tice, nephew of Nancy Tice and son of John Tice, will be married to Clancy Johnston on September 29th, at Edgefield Troutdale. Aunt Rebecca Pellechi and husband Robert will be

attending from Elk Grove, California and Clancy's 10 siblings from Montana will also be there. We wish them a long and happy life together!



Prayers for **John Tice** as he continues his battle with M.S. and spinal problems. A recent x-ray and MRI revealed an area that has been causing most of his pain, and he looks forward to the surgery he hopes will solve most of his pain and mobility issues.

Mmmm...Smells So Good!

We have a new startup business renting our kitchen space: **SoupCycle**. Their website says: "We're like the milk man of the soup world. You register for the Soupscription and wonderful, tasty soups are delivered weekly to your home or office. Our soups are made with fresh, organic veggies grown in the Pacific Northwest, many coming from within 100 miles of Portland." And they deliver to SE Portland by electric assisted tricycle! Jed and Shauna are in the kitchen cooking Monday afternoons and evenings, making the church smell wonderful.



HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL TIME!!!

Well, it isn't yet, but we have scheduled the Carnival to take place October 24, the Friday before Halloween. Did you know that some of those games are the very same ones that Carol Palumbo and Glen Pullen played when THEY were children in this church? It is time to do some sprucing up of the carnival events and props. If we all put our heads together, it won't take long to give the Carnival a refreshed look. Let's have a work party: **Saturday,**

Sept. 27, 1:30 p.m. at the church. Contact Marie if you have some really great ideas for this.



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

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

Thanks,

Trish Effenberger, Editor



THANKS
FOR YOUR HELP!

Jill and I want to extend our thanks to all the people who helped lead Celebrate Summer:

The Pullen Family, Kari, Sarah, Beth, Bob, Judy, Andrew, Becca, Carol, Joanne, Dana, Tom, Lisa B., Karen, Michelle, Jennifer, Kay, Jeanne and the Kanes (and to Jill and David as well!). The kids have had a terrific time enjoying everything from strawberry shortcake to face painting and lots of arts and crafts.

We will continue the opportunities to guide occasional Sunday school activities. We'll use fifth Sundays to bring in volunteers who like to teach the kids special games or crafts. Let us know if you are interested in this or having a regular (once a month) gig in leading Christian Education for our kids.

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.

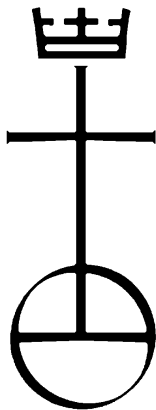
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

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.**

