

The Church On The Hill



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

**OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 108 VOLUME 2**

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

From the Pastor...

As we approach the thick of the election season, it's a good time to again give thanks for the separation of church and state. I was reminded of this as I was reading a sermon written in 1550 by John Knox, the founding light of Presbyterianism. It appears to be (I haven't finished it yet) a rather long and formal exposition of, essentially, "Why we're right and the Catholics are wrong." What I'm struck by is the enormous effort put into justifying one's own position and condemning another's. This isn't confined to Presbyterian rhetoric. It was the general tone of a great deal of preaching across the religious spectrum of Europe in that time—a time when any separation of church and state was all but unthinkable (Mennonites being a notable exception.) If only one religious voice will be heard in the halls of power, it's easy to believe it must be one's own. Housing, education livelihood, even life depended on how one's own beliefs lined up with the official state church. Inevitably, this



Giving Thanks

corrupts.

The early church did not have this problem. They were much more a counter-cultural force, undermining the foundations of the halls of power. They were not martyred without reason. They recognized the authority of women (yes, they did, despite all these centuries of misogynist misreadings); they dismissed class distinctions as trivial distractions from our radical equality before God; they threatened various profitable religious rackets. And, eventually, they too were co-opted by temporal power.

And what of us, given the extraordinary blessing and dynamic reality of separation of church and state? Are we tempted to say, "Well, we really do know better than them—so we need to be pulling some strings." Or do we fall into a lazy understanding of our freedom as mere tolerance, "Do your thing, just don't bother me."

Or is our call more counter-cultural, undermining oppressive power structures by a strong witness of utter humility before God and

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one another. Not repressing or merely tolerating other peoples and faiths, but engaging and embracing them as sisters and brothers. If you doubt how radical this is, imagine how different our political discourse would be if it presumed that every Iraqi life was exactly as precious as any American life, that they deserved and should expect all the rights and protections that we enjoy, that the loss of any life anywhere to violence is a violation of every one of us. And how could it be otherwise in God's eyes? Our freedom and faith is made real in every word and deed that acknowledges the fundamental dignity of all and especially of our opponents, that seeks and believes in the truth that God offers us in engagement with people of every faith, that makes us step back from all or efforts to prove "I'm right and you're wrong."

Blessings,

David

WELCOME
TO OUR

DIRECTOR

of
*Music
Ministry*



A warm and hearty
welcome to our new
Music and Choir
Director Colin Frey!

We're very excited to have Colin with us – his first Sunday was September 14th and the music sounded lovely. Colin is a graduate of Oberlin College Conservatory of Music in Ohio and hails from Texas. He has worked with two other churches, in various capacities, both in San Antonio, Texas. Colin plays the piano, organ, drumset and hand drums, is an active composer, and has a wide breadth of knowledge of musical styles and music history. We look forward to continued growth in the choir's talent and to hearing more from Colin and his various instruments. So, go introduce yourself to Colin and welcome him to Portland and to Waverly.



Blessing of the Animals, Saturday, October 4th, 1:30 - 3:00 PM on the Feast of St. Francis. Bring your pets and livestock to the Waverly Heights UCC parking lot for an individual blessing from Pastor David.

Italian Night Dinner, Monday, October 13th, 6:45 PM seven course Italian dinner made by Waverly's Italian cooks. \$30/donation per person. This is a fund raiser for the elevator. Expect to eat like you have gone to Italy for a vacation. Make your reservations by September 28th to Lisa Baggetta. Limited seating, you don't want to miss out on a true gourmet experience.

Women's Retreat Camp Adams, Molalla OR, October 17th - 19th, sponsored by the Central Pacific Conference UCC Women's Board. The total retreat cost is \$95. Mail money and reservation to Nancy Klingeman, registrar; 3225 NW Elmwood Drive, Corvallis OR 97330. Due by Oct.1st. If you need financial aid to attend the application form for a Rev. Anne Smith Educational Fund Grant may be found online or Deanna Mason in the church directory

Art Exhibit Announcement - Oct. 17th Reception

Dana Weir will soon be participating in an art exhibit at Marylhurst University. This exhibit features diverse pieces of art created by Marylhurst alumni. Dana studied at Marylhurst University from 2002-2005, and received a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies (her focus being Spiritual Traditions and Ethics). Dana would like to invite you all to visit the Mayer Gallery sometime during the exhibit, which runs from Oct. 17th to Nov. 20th.

There will be an opening reception to view the work and meet with the artists on Friday, Oct. 17th, from 6-9pm. The exhibit is located in the lobby of the Mayer Art Building.

Marylhurst University is located at 17600 Pacific Hwy. (Hwy. 43 - just past Lake Oswego).

Feel free to call Dana for more information! 503-975-8991

Italian Night

A Fundraiser for Waverly UCC

Please join us for our first annual Waverly Heights seven course Italian dinner this Columbus Day, **October 13th**...brought to you by three Italian families who love to cook. Here are five compelling reasons to make your reservations now:

*Jerry McGinn of the famous McGinn's Wine Merchants will be holding a tasting of affordable Italian wines.

*Childcare is available with a small donation

*It's a fundraiser for Waverly Heights UCC, a church that is an open and affirming community.

*The meat ball, seriously you can't believe how good it is!

*We have limited seating.

To make your reservations, email Lisa Baggetta: and let her know how many adults and if you are interested in childcare! lbaggetta@comcast.net

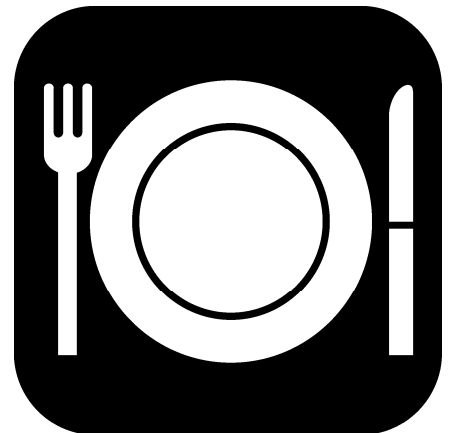
Menu:

antipasto
zuppa on a bed of garlic bread w/ romano
penne alla puttanesca
ravioli with lemon cream
chicken piccata w/zucchini
apples, dessert
OH, and a meat ball!

Suggested donation \$30.00 per person

Dinner starts @ 6:45PM. Can't wait to see you there!

Deadline to make reservations: September 28th



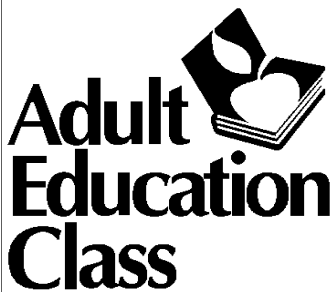


Women's Fellowship

WWW's

What a great start to the fall season was our "Slightly Improper English Tea". Ruth brought her exquisite tea cups and a proper three tiered plate, and we munched on scones and fairy cakes and crustless sandwiches and cake. Oh yes, there was tea with the requisite milk.

It was good also to catch up on summer news, adventures, and challenges. We hope Marie can join us again. Welcome Marie! And a warm welcome to any who wish to join us. The second Thursday of the month will be our regular meeting time in Hyde Hall at 7:00 p.m. We missed those who could not make it to the tea and hope to see you October 9th.



The first Fall Adult Education session will be taking place Thursday, September 25 at 7pm in Hyde Hall. The next date will be determined at that meeting. Look for details in the bulletin announcements so that you can meet with us next time! Our plan is to listen to folks like Bill Moyers - who spoke at the UCC National gathering - and reflect on wisdom he and other theologians have for us. It is a safe place to ponder, question, reflect and deepen our spiritual journeys in community. The specific format will be

determined at the September 25 meeting by the participants. Come join us. Speak to Jill Johnson 503-232-5598 if you have any questions about the meeting details.



Waverly's annual Halloween carnival is "CREEPING" closer. Mark your calendar for October 24th for the spooktacular event! Bring the kids, bring the grown-ups, and bring on the fun! We'll have games, prizes, hot dogs and pie. You won't want to miss it!!!

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 contact the church office at 503-238-1337.



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

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

Thanks,

Trish Effenberger, Editor

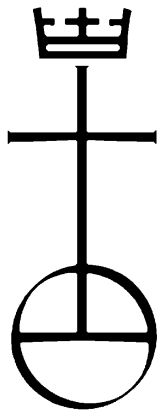
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

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.**

