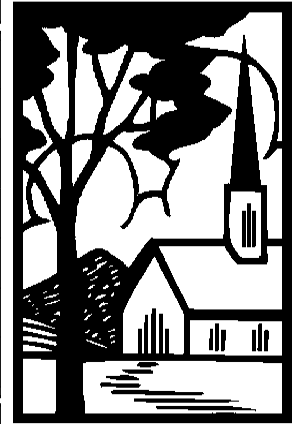


The Church On The Hill



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

MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 115 VOLUME 2

DAVID ZAWORSKI, PASTOR
TRISH EFFENBERGER, EDITOR

I'm recognizing a lot of anxiety in individuals, families, and communities these days. That's understandable given the state of the world. Understandable, but certainly not very comfortable and probably not very helpful. Thinking about this reminded me of interim ministry. I've often thought that the interim time is really about showing us how to be our best, most faithful selves all the time. I think that's true of how anxiety is met in interims.

When one pastor has left and the church is working through the call process to find and welcome a new pastor, churches often feel anxious about such large changes and uncertainties. Every trained interim pastor knows this and knows the importance of being a "non-anxious presence." I apprenticed in interim work with Phil Oliver (one-time interim of Waverly, and of about half the other churches in the conference, too!) Phil's mantra was, "Trust the process."

Trusting the process is a life-calling, because *the Process is life*. It is God at work in and through our lives, every day, in every circumstance. God

From the Pastor



offers us all the opportunity, the grace, to trust that all will be well—or at least that all will be well enough. That trust frees us to meet change and uncertainty with grace and integrity.

In the times when we slip away into anxiety, we are likely to act in ways that just make things worse: jumping to conclusions about what other people are thinking or intending, magnifying small

problems or conflicts into "the end of the world," looking at the world in black and white, for me/against me, all good/all bad. All of these things isolate us, precisely when we most need to be connected.

The process—the *Way of Jesus*—on the other hand, is the way of love. It is meeting adversity, change, conflict, uncertainty with a non-anxious presence, with curiosity and compassion. It is consciously forming the habit of remembering God's love.

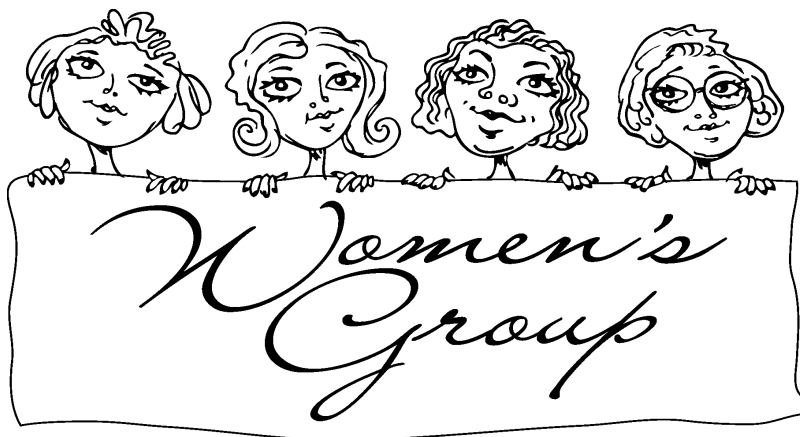
So know that God loves you, always and absolutely. Ask God to help you love others first and always. Trust the process. Live into God's love and peace.

Visit our web site @ www.waverlyucc.org



Blondena Saltzman

December 26, 1913 -
April 24, 2009



The WWW's have been working on lovely bazaar projects. This will continue along with other projects at our regular Thursday meetings. We're trying out the fourth Thursday in the month as most have no conflict on that evening.

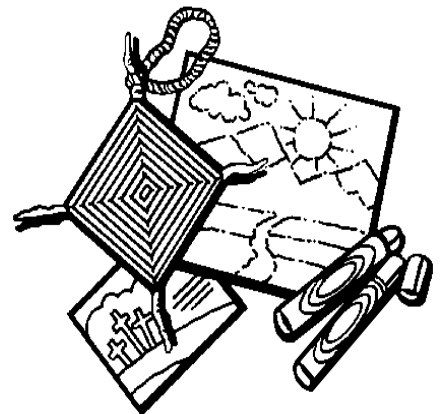
The next Neil Simon play (The Good Doctor) will be Monday the first of June at 7:30 p.m.

Come to the theater on 34th and Belmont before 7:30, or meet in the church parking lot at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are still a bargain at \$5.

We will hang our quilt and begin the raffle on Mother's Day when the church will again be decorated with quilts on the pews. The proceeds will go for the lift project.

As always, everyone is welcome to join us.

Kid's Crafty Easter was a great success! We had more than 15 kids from Waverly and the community at large. A big thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who donated their time and craft supplies to make this fun event happen. Your efforts are appreciated.





Celebrate Kids!

Save the date! On June 7th we will celebrate our school age children who have been participating in Sunday School this year. All children – whether they have come many times or just once - are invited to come up and be honored. We will be making the church look festive and we will have kid-friendly food after the service. This will also be the last Sunday of regular Sunday School for this school year. Celebrate Summer will begin on June 14th.

Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm. A couple of days later the doctor spoke to Morris and said, “You are really doing great aren’t you?”

Morris relied, “Just doing what you said doc, ‘Get a hot mama and be cheerful.’”

The doctor said, “I didn’t say that. I said, ‘You’ve got a heart murmur; be careful.’”

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Celebrate Summer

This is the name we give to our Sunday School programming during the summer. Celebrate Summer begins on Sunday, June 14th which is **also when we begin church at 10am instead of 11am!** Each week different Waverly folks – this means you! – plan something fun to do with all of the school-age children. This can be anything from arts and crafts – like making God’s Eyes with yarn – to playing soccer, to making ice cream, to playing board games. The sky is the limit. We will have a sign-up sheet downstairs by the middle of May so people can begin to sign up for a Sunday. If you’ve been a little nervous about teaching the children, this is the perfect opportunity for you to jump in and just have fun with them on one Sunday during the Summer. Our regular Sunday School classes will resume after Labor Day. If you have questions, please speak with Jill Johnson or Karen Lenore.

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.



Please submit articles for the June issue no later than May 19th.

Thanks,

Trish Effenberger, Editor

UCC National Disaster Ministries offers swine flu resources

Written by Gregg Brekke

April 29, 2009

In response to the outbreak of type A H1N1 virus, commonly known as virulent swine flu, the UCC's National Disaster ministries have prepared resources relevant to the latest strain of influenza.

The Associated Press today reported nearly 100 confirmed cases in 10 U.S. states and added a warning that the World Health Organization is close to categorizing this outbreak of swine flu as a full-scale pandemic. As government agencies ramp-up efforts to produce a vaccine, hygienic measures are currently the best means of preventing the disease's spread.

UCC church members are urged to be especially vigilant about helping children in Sunday school classes keep clean, encouraging the use of frequent hand washing and alcohol-based hand sanitizers. It is also suggested that the "passing of the peace" in worship services be a verbal greeting only.

Florence Coppola, the UCC's executive for National Disaster Ministries, says congregations can prepare for a pandemic by developing "alternative" ways of checking on one another and "identifying those in the congregation who have health issues or ongoing treatment and medical needs that will increase their vulnerability or exposure."

Congregational preparation also includes helping individual members assess their particular situation and decide how their needs would be met during a major service disruption.

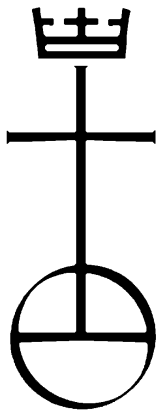
***Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ***

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.**

