



The Church on the Hill January 2012

Waverly Heights Congregational
United Church of Christ

David Zaworski, Pastor

January 2012
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Message from the Pastor

As we enter the year 2012, my mind is actually jumping ahead to 2013 and beyond. I'm thinking about a sabbatical and an amazing opportunity to apply for money to cover the extra expense both for me and for the congregation.

Let's back up. The terms of call from Waverly provide for me to take periodic sabbaticals, and I'm due for one any time in here. A sabbatical is not just a long vacation, and not really an extended study leave. Ideally, it's a time away from the daily tasks of parish ministry in order to engage in a structured time of renewal and growth, a time to restore and develop inner reserves and to explore and expand gifts, all to be able to bring the strengths and gifts back to one's ministry in the local church. The pastor also commits to stay at the church for at least a full year following the sabbatical.

The opportunity I mentioned comes from the Lilly Endowment. Each year they award grants of up to \$50,000 for local church pastors to take sabbaticals. A portion of the grant can also be used to provide leadership to the congregation during the three to four months of the sabbatical.



Lilly is very clear that they are looking for engagement of the whole congregation in the planning and follow through of sabbaticals they choose to fund. That includes working with the pastor to develop a theme or focus for the time, an answer to their question "What will make your heart sing?" It asks for the congregation to also think about how it will engage the theme and how the returning pastor and congregation will share, reflect, and build on what they each have done during the sabbatical. I have heard from colleagues that this can be the most exciting and rewarding aspect.

Here's the timeline. Planning and writing the grant proposal starting now.

Proposals must be submitted mid-May; decision on funding will come in September; the sabbatical would be in 2013 (I'm thinking after Easter and into summer). I'm looking forward to entering this process with you all, probably guided by a small task group. And just to give you an idea of where I'm leaning, when I ask myself "What will make my heart sing?" I recognize a deep desire to give intentional time to creativity, especially drawing and writing.

Blessings,

David

January Events

Italian Dinner—January 14, 2012 6:30 p.m.

Mangia! Come and eat, drink and be Italian for a night! Our annual Italian dinner will be January 14th. Contact Carol Palumbo for information.

Also, please consider donating our *vino della casa*. We would love to have some bottles of wine donated so we can offer them during the dinner.

Annual Meeting and Potluck—January 29, 2012.

The Annual Meeting is an important event in the life of the church for both temporal and for historical reasons. It is the day we elect church officers — the Moderator, the Church Clerk, the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary — elect representatives to the Consistory (the governing body for the Church between annual meetings), and approve the budget for the upcoming year.

Historically, the Annual Meeting is a reflection of our Congregational tradition, in which authority is vested in the local congregation, which has the ultimate say in church governance and the pastoral call. Come experience an ecclesiastical participatory democracy in action — bring your voice, your vote and a dish to share. We promise you will leave well-informed, well-represented, and well-fed.

Book Club—Monday, January 30, 6:30 p.m. at the Brandis/Zaworski residence. The book we will be discussing is *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to read the book, you are welcome to come anyway. The conversation promises to be stimulating.

2011 Annual Reports and Church Yearbook

Waverly's 2011 church yearbook — our Centennial yearbook, — is now in preparation. Consistory members, committee chairs and others with something to add are asked to submit their material to Melinda Nickels by Sunday, Jan. 22.

Our centennial year's reports will be something that future generations will look back on. Let's tell our story in such a way that they will know who we are.

Waverly Cookbook a Success and a Sell-Out

Helen Feight and her daughter Gretchen gathered recipes from folks at Waverly and designed and produced the cookbook, which brought in over \$1,000 for the church. Helen wishes to thank everyone who participated in this project for their support.

Camp Adams Update

Our Cabin—Our Camp—Our Conference

The start of a new year is a perfect time to give an account of recent happenings at our camp. A complete list would fill our newsletter and beyond, but here are some highlights:

Welcome to the new Camp Managers Bob and Natalie Becker. Bob and Natalie, who officially assumed their duties beginning January 1, replace Interim Director Rev. Ira Williams who had served the camp for two years. They have just moved to Camp from Riverside, California with their eight-year-old daughter, Ruby. Both are lifelong UCC members with a lifetime involvement in camping. Natalie has a background in education, most recently as a professor at UC Riverside, while Bob, who has a background in the construction industry, has been a stay-at-home dad helping raise their daughter. Waverly wishes to extend a warm welcome to them and wishes them every success.

2008 Storm Yields 2011 Cabins: A storm in the winter of 2008 felled dozens of trees at camp, blocking trails, clogging creeks and rendering much of the property impassable. Charlie Hill arranged for a portable sawmill to be delivered to camp, cut the fallen trees into manageable logs and hauled them to the sawmill's site. From there the milling operation generated thousands of board feet of high quality cedar and pine beams and boards for use on construction projects throughout the camp.

Aside from the new deck at our own Waverly cabin, whose construction many of us remember well, this windfall of lumber (in the literal sense of the word) has made possible new decks at Antlers and Sunrise cabins; a new, elaborate tree fort at Adkins Lodge at the Nate Creek Site, tables and enclosures at Chehak, numerous posts and railings, stairs, and many other projects where wood is required.

For example, this summer has brought the camp three new sleeping cabins at the Milk Creek Site. These cabins each have 12 bunks, wardrobes, and front and back porches, with our own wood being dried, milled, planed and routed in a custom-fabricated design.

These cabins are joined by a new Activity Center at Milk Creek Site. The Activity Center (pictured right) is being built across from the Old Camp's Morris Lodge, which dates from the 1940s. It will have bathrooms and showers to accommodate the three new cabins, a big fireplace and a large multi-purpose room. With the exception of the laminated structural beams, all the wood for this project has come from our own trees.



Camp Adams Update—Continued

Our Cabin—Our Camp—Our Conference

Another significant project is the completion of the new sewage gravel recirculation system at the Old Camp. This may not be the most glamorous of topics, but it marks the completion of a vital piece of the camp's infrastructure and allows for the maintenance and expansion of camp activities in an environmentally responsible manner.

The Chehak arts and crafts pavilion has received a new concrete floor, new lighting and a new storage shack to better serve its users. Another large-scale project is the completion of a tree fort adjacent to the main lodge at the new camp. This fort has a number of levels and is large in scope, and will be a hit with campers young and old in the years to come.

Waverly member Charlie Hill is now in his 23rd year of service to the Camp and the Conference in his position as Camp Adams Operations Manager, and has been actively involved in all of these projects. It is one of the many benefits of being part of Waverly Heights Church to have a built-in connection to Waverly Cabin and the Camp of which it is a part.

WWW Report

At Waverly the acronym WWW refers not to our web site, but to the variously-named Wild Waverly Women / Wonderful Waverly Women, or perhaps a local chapter of World Wide Women.

In December the WWW gathered to make wreaths for sale, and were also able to sell many items remaining from the previous bazaar, raising several hundred dollars for the church. The WWWs wish to thank all of our congregation for support for their fundraising efforts.

The next meeting is set for the 3rd Thursday in January — January 19th — with a 6:30 p.m. potluck at Judy Wiebe's house.

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 or by e-mail to info@waverlyucc.org.



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

Please submit articles for the February issue no later than Thursday, January 26, to the editor at newsletter@waverlyucc.org

**Waverly Heights
United Church of Christ**

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Worship Service
Sundays @ 11:00 am

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

