

# tidings

## Worship at HCC February 2011

Sunday, February 6

Holy Communion

*Matthew 5:13-20*

The Christ Life:

Letting Your Light Shine

Sunday, February 13

*Matthew 5:21-37*

The Christ Life:

Coming to Terms

Sunday, February 20

*Matthew 5:38-48*

The Christ Life:

Loving Your Enemies

Monday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.

Service of Prayer and Healing

Sunday, February 28

*Matthew 6:24-34*

The Christ Life:

Not Worrying

## HCCUCC Celebrates Long History with Transition Projects

**T**ransition Projects is the largest provider of shelter and care for homeless, single adults in the Portland metropolitan area. Their mission is to serve people's basic needs as they transition from homelessness to housing.

When Transition Projects (or Glisan Street, as it is more commonly known here at HCCUCC) first opened, the church was contacted with an opportunity to become involved by providing a meal. Our church has always sought out opportunities to make a difference in our community, and our church family has faithfully supported this project through the years.

One of our servers may have said it best: "Participation in the Glisan Street project is one way of reaching into and sharing God's love with the community, especially with those who are in greatest need. Providing warm meals for those whose life travels have brought them to Glisan Street Transition Center is very rewarding. All participants are appreciative of our efforts and they consistently ask which church we are from and where we are located. We, as a community of faith, are blessed that we have such a successful opportunity to provide service to a segment of our society that need the greatest help."

The church was recently contacted with an invitation to be interviewed for a story in the Transition Projects upcoming winter newsletter. Following are excerpts from that interview.



**How does your group organize this project each month—is it typically the same group of people who cook and serve each month, or do different people sign up to participated every time?**

Our group is organized into two teams: a team that cooks and a team that transports the food and serves.

The cooking team has 13 people who rotate cooking duties throughout the year. Four people prepare the meal each month, so everyone cooks approximately three times during the year.

The young people in the church like to be involved, so sometimes they will help prepare the whole meal and other times they will prepare the dessert.

The serving team has four to five people who serve most every month and others are recruited to fill out the team, including children who enjoy that activity. Usually once a year, the young people and their parents will go as a group to serve the meal.

**Do you have a signature meal?**

We are always trying out new recipes! We usually serve a hearty casserole containing meat and vegetables, accompanied by a fresh salad, rolls, dessert, bananas, and milk.

**Do you have a favorite memory or story about serving at the Glisan Center?**

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## Recycling Update



**H**CCUCC collects batteries and compact fluorescent bulbs for recycling. Collection bins are located in the Narthex. Church member John Biskey recently took 47 bulbs and 84 pounds of batteries to the recycling center. Great job!

## Go Go Go Joseph! Letter from the Pastor

by Rev. Jennifer Brownell



Rev. Jennifer Brownell

This fall, the Sunday School curriculum focuses on stories of God's first families, and Joseph appears in his coat of many colors.

The Share Christ's Word team invites all HCCUCC members and families to attend a Broadway Rose Theatre production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* on Sunday, March 13, at 2:00 p.m. The performance is at the New Stage, 12850 SW Grant Avenue, Tigard.

This colorful retelling of the story of Joseph, his coat of many colors, and his amazing ability to interpret dreams is a musical blockbuster of biblical proportions! Over 25 voices, including a children's choir, combine onstage in a



variety of favorite musical styles to bring the timeless parable to

life. From the creators of *Evita* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph* features hits such as "Go Go Go Joseph," "Close Every Door," and "Any Dream Will Do," that will thrill dreamers of all ages. This production stars Eric Little as Joseph and Leah Yorkston as the narrator.

We have arranged a special group ticket rate of \$25 for adults and \$20 for children. We are also offering one free child's ticket for each adult ticket purchased.

The deadline for sign-up and payment is Thursday, February 10. You can make see *Joseph*, next column

The garage at my house has one of those motion-sensitive lights inside. The problem is, the sensor is not very well aimed, so you have to walk two or three steps out into the darkness of the garage before it hits you and turns the light on. Sometimes, that seems like no big deal and I walk out confidently, already heading for whatever tool or storage box I was on the way to before the light even pops on. Other times, for some reason, I feel more tentative. I stand in the lighted doorway and wave my hand, trying to fool the sensor and get the light on before I have to move forward.

Both have their hazards. If I walk forth with confidence,

no matter how well I think I know the layout of the garage, I still might encounter an unexpected obstacle—a skateboard, say—in the way. On the other hand, if I just stand there in the doorway, waving my arms and feeling a little foolish, it takes a long time before I can move forward, if ever.

I think our life of faith is just this way. The future is unknowable to us, is obscured in darkness, no matter how well we have planned or arranged. The question is, how are we going to move into it? Do we move with confidence, aware that sometimes we might get a little banged up, or do we go tentatively, waving our arms and wishing

somehow we could see ahead?

I'm beginning the month remembering this little poem and feeling grateful that how ever we move into the dark, we don't do it alone.

*I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year*

*"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

*And he replied, "Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God*

*That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!"*

See you in church!

*Pastor Jennifer*

## Foundation Reports on 2010 Activities

by Becky Meier

The Foundation had a busy year! The big accomplishment was paying off the Texas Street Improvements (LID) remaining loan balance of \$41,422.59! Much of this money came from CDs which were earning around 2 percent while we were paying 6.79 percent on the loan to the City of Portland.

### Joseph (continued)

payment to Hillsdale Community Church, write "Joseph play" on the memo line, and turn in your check to the church office or to Rebecca Holt. For questions, contact Rebecca at 503-866-0340 or rebeccah@lclark.edu..

Early payment has saved thousands of dollars in interest over the 10 years left on the loan.

We have a moderately conservative investment plan which has returned approximately 7 percent. The current funds are invested as follows:

Waddell and Reed	\$99,604
American Funds	86,830
CDs	37,636
Cash Management	<u>7,944</u>
Total	\$232,014

Each year the Foundation develops a budget based on the fund's average value for the last three years. Currently, the recommended dispersion rate is to be not more than 5 percent. Church committees, the Consistory, or the pastor can submit requests

for funds for a specific project to further God's work. This year's money has been spent on:

In-care Seminary Students	\$900
Grounds Maintenance*	1,920
Veterans Fishing Project	750
Mark Roberts' Ordination	379
Haiti Clean Water Project	478
Halloween Organ Concert	<u>100</u>
Total	\$4,527

\* Designated funds

The Foundation received \$6,596 in new funds from memorials, gifts, and donations.

Foundation members Patti Brandon, Howard Pigg, Charlene Dickinson, and Becky Meier met regularly to make decisions after much discussion and prayer. We were sad to lose Paul Thiers, who resigned from the Foundation. Lynn Wolff was appointed to replace Paul.

# February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30a Men's Breakfast, GT	2 10:00a Loaves and Fishes 1:30p Tai Chi, FH	3 9:00a Hillsdale Hikers, LOT 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, CR	4	5
6 9:15a Adult Ed Class, LIB 10:30a Communion Worship Service, FH 2:00p Edgewood Downs	7 10:30a Bible Study, LIB	8 6:30a Men's Breakfast, GT 11:00a Martha Circle, LIB	9 1:30p Tai Chi, FH	10 9:00a Hillsdale Hikers, LOT 1:00p Memoir Writing Group, PO 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, CR	11	12
13 9:15a Adult Ed Class, LIB 10:30a Worship Service and Children's Sunday School, SANC	14 Glisan Street Meal 10:30a Bible Study, LIB	15 Tidings Deadline 6:30a Men's Breakfast, GT 7:00p Consistory Meeting, LIB	16 1:30p Tai Chi, FH	17 9:00a Hillsdale Hikers, LOT 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, CR	18	19 9:00a-1:00p Work Day
20 9:15a Adult Ed Class, LIB 10:30a Worship Service and Children's Sunday School, SANC 11:45a Worship God Joyfully Meeting, LIB 11:45a Celebration Sunday, FH	21 10:30a Bible Study, LIB 6:30p Healing Service Supper, FH 7:00p Healing Service, SANC	22 6:30a Men's Breakfast, GT	23 1:30p Tai Chi, FH	24 9:00a Hillsdale Hikers, LOT 1:00p Memoir Writing Group, PO 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, CR	25	26
27 9:15a Adult Ed Class, LIB 10:30a Worship Service and Children's Sunday School, SANC	28 10:30a Bible Study, LIB 7:00p Book Club, PO	March 1 6:30a Men's Breakfast, GT	2 10:00a Loaves and Fishes 1:30p Tai Chi, FH	3 9:00a Hillsdale Hikers, LOT 7:00p Choir Rehearsal, CR	4	5

CR=Choir Room FH=Fellowship Hall GT=Golden Touch Restaurant (SW Barbur at 19th) LIB=Library LOT=Front Parking Lot PO=Pastor's Office SANC=Sanctuary

## We ♥ Sunny Hills

This year, the Embrace All team continues its tradition of hosting a noontime Valentine's Day party for the children and parents of Sunny Hills Preschool. Jim Ruyle (503-223-8838 or jimruyle@comcast.net) writes: "Please let me know ASAP if you can help. We need some simple refreshments, two or three activities including cookie decorating and face painting, decorating including balloons, setting up, and especially your presence to welcome the kids and play with their parents...or the other way around."

## The Screwtape Letters Comes to Portland

The *Screwtape Letters*, the brilliant novel by C.S. Lewis (author of the Narnia series), reveals spiritual warfare from a demon's point of view. A hit in New York, Chicago, and Washington, DC, this funny, provocative, and wickedly witty theatrical adaptation comes to Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall for two shows only February 12 at 4:00 and 8:00 p.m.

"Wickedly Witty...Played with Lip-Smacking Relish!" says the *Wall*

*Street Journal*. *World Magazine* calls it a "Gripping, Sizzling Dramatization!" And *Christianity Today* says "A Profound Experience!"

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the box office at 1111 SW Broadway, Portland, open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Saturday or two hours before the event, call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000, visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), or visit [www.screwtapeonstage.com](http://www.screwtapeonstage.com).



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**John:** “The first thing that came to mind was my son’s enjoyment the first few times that he assisted with serving at the Glisan Center. He was young and too short to do any serving without standing on an inverted plastic milk carton. It left an impression that is still with him. He is thankful for the warm and supportive home he comes from and is aware of the plight of those who don’t have the same amenities. One way that he still demonstrates his feelings is by buying a newspaper whenever he encounters someone selling *Street Roots*.”

**Mike:** “My best memory is the very first time I served. It was after an unusually stressful Monday. Everything that could go wrong went into hyper wrong. And, I really didn’t know what to expect. But, I needed a positive change and really wanted to do one single thing for some one else. What else could go wrong?”

I took a gamble. It paid off, in spades! The process changes my perspective 180 degrees. When we were done, the people we served stood and applauded! Really! God, that was just what I needed, and much more than I deserved. I still go back and thank God for the opportunity.”

**Barbara:** “I remember a time when a gentleman, who was ready to transition to his own apartment, asked for the recipe for a meat loaf that we had served for the meal. I was honored that he had enjoyed it enough to ask for the recipe, and I hope that he has enjoyed making it in his new home!”

**Why do you participate in this project? Favorite thing about serving/preparing?**

**Cindy:** “My motivation for being involved in Glisan Street is because I work downtown and see so many cold, hungry men walking the streets, and when our meal is served, I have an image in my head that they are going to sleep that night with stomachs

full of good, nutritious homemade food and a smile on their faces knowing others care about them. Our team of “cookers” works really well together. We get to know each other better and share stories as we chop onions, frost cakes, or debone turkeys. Making huge quantities of food brings back memories of growing up in a large family.”

**Anita:** “I’ve always had family who has been there for me. When I was younger I thought everyone had that support; now, as I’m older, I realize how fortunate I have been. Preparing the food for Glisan Street gives me a lot of pleasure because I am spending time with the other cooks and getting to know them better as well as providing others who are alone with a meal and hopefully the knowledge that they are cared about and worthwhile.”



**Barbara:** “It seems like an impossible task to accomplish anything if one is hungry! I take pleasure in preparing a meal that appeals to both the eye and the stomach. My hope is that it will give the men pleasure as they eat a warm meal and experience a full stomach, that they

will have an awareness that someone has thought about them while preparing the meal, and after a rejuvenating sleep, that they will have the energy and motivation to face a new day.” **Barbara**

**Eloise:** “Serving at Glisan Street was the most direct way I knew of to fulfill Jesus’ admonition to “feed the hungry.” It doesn’t matter why the person is hungry, just that he/she is. It was an important part of our children’s education to learn that there are many kinds of people in the world with many different needs. It is up to each of us to do what we can to meet those needs.”