

Weekly Message from  
Parkrose Community United Church of Christ  
Jan. 1, 2009

Good morning and Happy New Year. This is Rev. Chuck Currie from Parkrose Community United Church of Christ with an update for Jan. 1, 2009.

This morning I would like to share with you a prayer that I wrote last year for the New Year. Let us pray:

Loving Creator,

Long ago you brought life from cosmic chaos.  
For over 4.5 billion years your creation has evolved.  
Along the way humanity has stumbled as we have matured.  
Yet you have never abandoned us.

A New Year has dawned.  
Help us to make this the year we take our stewardship  
over creation seriously.  
Guide us to protect your forests and oceans.  
Give us the wisdom to look after all life (even the “creeping things”).)

Help us to recognize the interconnectedness we humans share  
with the oceans, the mountains, the forests, the deserts.  
Help us to recognize the interconnectedness we humans share  
with other humans though we may worship differently.  
Bestow on us the courage of the Prophets of old so that we may speak truth  
to power in your Holy name.

Another year, O God.  
Another year to do justice.  
Another year to love kindness.  
Another year to walk humbly with you (Micah 6:8).

Praise be to God!

Amen.

Life is slowly returning to normal at Parkrose Community United Church of Christ after weeks of severe winter weather.

The Church Council will meet this Sunday, Jan. 4, at 6 pm. This meeting will replace the one canceled in December because of snow. All Council Members – along with members of our Strategic Planning Implementation Team – need to be present. We'll gather in the Garden Room.

The Implementation Team will be presenting recommendations to the council that – if adopted – will be brought to the entire congregation later this month. As always, all members of the congregation are welcome to attend council meetings.

Please note that Nancy Ward needs annual reports from all committee chairs. Those reports are due now. Please e-mail them to Nancy ASAP.

On Tuesday, Jan. 6, our adult education class on "Paul" will resume. The program begins at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall with a potluck dinner. Members from Zion UCC and First Congregational UCC are also participating.

If you missed the fall classes and would like to join up now there will be two opportunities to watch the videos shown in October and November:

Sunday, Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm and Monday, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Please let me know if you would like to attend and I will also e-mail you the reading materials.

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Parkrose Community United Church of Christ."

Our worship service begins at 10 am. More information can be found by calling 503-253-5457 or visiting [www.parkroseucc.org](http://www.parkroseucc.org).