Dear Wesley Students and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in this new year!

As many of you already know, in late October a troubling decision was issued by the United Methodist Church’s Judicial Council (sort of like our denomination’s Supreme Court). The case, from Virginia, involved a pastor who refused church membership to a gay man. In essence, the Judicial Council ruled that it is acceptable for a United Methodist pastor to bar a person from church membership because they are homosexual.

**This decision by the Judicial Council is extremely disappointing and, from my perspective, simply wrong.** Aside from all of the arguments based on church law, I am appalled that our denomination, which claims to have “open hearts, open minds, open doors” would slam the door closed on church membership to someone who authentically desires to become a member and fully intends to honor the vow of membership. What do we allow next? Do we kick out all divorced members? Do we turn away those who have committed adultery? Do we bar membership to political leaders who approved a war against a country that did not pose an imminent threat to ours?

I want each and every one of you to hear very clearly that the Wesley Foundation is committed to welcoming all people into the life of this campus ministry. We hold to a vision of an inclusive church with open hearts, open minds, and open doors. **No one will be turned away because of their sexual orientation.**

In the Power of the Spirit, Jeremy

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**Do something different for spring break!**

Join the Wesley Foundation Alternative Spring Break Mission Trip

**Los Angeles, CA**

March 25-April 1, 2006

Live out your faith by spending spring break volunteering for the Sierra Service Project, learning more about poverty in urban LA, and sharing this awesome experience with your Wesley Foundation friends!

(Contact Jeremy if you want to participate!)

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The United Methodist Student Movement of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference

**Hammer Camp**

@ Camp Magruder

on the Oregon coast

**February 17-19, 2006**

Join other college students and friends for a weekend of fellowship and work fixing up Camp Magruder. A great opportunity to get away for a couple of days!

There is no cost for the weekend — your sweat is your payment!

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**Buzz Hours**

Join Jeremy and Wesley friends for a double-shot of God-talk, Jesus-talk, political-talk, social-talk...stuff that matters!

A safe place to sip a drink and talk!

Mondays from 1-2:30 PM
at the Buzz Coffee Shop
lower level EMU

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**Sacred Ground**

What’s under your feet?

www.FindSacredGround.net

Sundays @ 6 pm starting January 22, 2006
More Great Winter Term Activities!

Fellowship Night continues on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:30pm for a FREE simple supper followed by lively singing, stimulating conversation, and heartfelt prayer. All students—new and returning—are welcome!

Sunday, January 15, 7-9 pm, Reel-to-Real Movie Night at the Wesley Foundation. Popcorn, a great flick, and friends—what more could you want?

January 20-22, Young Adult Retreat at Suttle Lake Camp sponsored by the Oregon-Idaho Conference of the UMC. A weekend of rest and fellowship with other young adults. Suttle Lake is a beautiful and wonderful place in winter!

Thursday, January 26, 6-9 pm, Volunteer Night at Food for Lane County. Help out with the food recovery program.

Sunday, February 26, 10 am, Campus Ministry Sunday at Trinity UMC. Students are invited to attend and help lead worship!

Our annual Ash Wednesday Labyrinth Walk will be held on Wednesday, March 1 at Fellowship Night. The Prayer Path is a Christ-centered Labyrinth experience. A wonderfully meaningful way to begin the season of Lent!

March 10-12, Invocation, a weekend opportunity to explore a call to ordained ministry. Ask Jeremy for more information.

Monday, March 20, Exam Study Break in the evening. A chance to forget the books for an hour or two!

People in the News

A very warm welcome to the many new students who have visited the Wesley Foundation this past fall: Chelsey Augustyniak, Danny Cowley, Katie Dougherty, Jenna Gamble, Emily Hammond, Angela Hansen, Ian Howard, Shelly Ivey, Scott Kitzrow, Tyler Knox, Kara Kroner, Jon Lidbeck, Mary Pisegna, Lindsey Proudfit, John Roberts, Ashley Roth, and Stephanie Taimi-Mandel. *** Welcome home to Emma Nelson-Munson who has returned from study abroad in France and Spain. *** Congratulations to Katie Moss for being accepted into the Education Foundations program in the School of Education. Way to go! *** Congratulations to Wesley Foundation alums Laura Riley and Karl Drueks who will be married next summer! *** Kristen Bitter, Emily Marrer and Caitlyn Gamble have all wrapped up grueling volleyball and soccer seasons over the fall. Way to go! ***

Wake up with a smile and go after life.

Live it, enjoy it, taste it, smell it, FEEL IT!

— Joe Knapp

Interested in a new small group study?

Many people have a sense that they are alone in being a “thinking” Christian. In this small group, you will have permission to ask the questions you’ve always wanted to ask but have been afraid to voice for fear of being thought a heretic.

This small group study will explore beyond the one-dimensional theologies in which many people seem to be stuck. Discover the significance of Christianity in the 21st Century and what a meaningful faith can look like in today’s world.

If a “Living the Questions” small group interests you, let Jeremy know ASAP!

Where’s the Campus Pastor?

During the Winter Term, Campus Pastor Jeremy Hajdu-Paulen will be on campus and around the Wesley Foundation Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday. On Tuesday Jeremy will be at home with his daughter Miriam.

The Wesley Foundation
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Campus Pastor ........ Rev. Jeremy Hajdu-Paulen
Administrative Assistant…..Sherry Bierwirth-Lader