

# CREATING CONNECTIONS



The newsletter of  
Community United Methodist Church

December 2017

On Dec. 3rd and 10th after service, we will hold our annual ALTERNATIVE Christmas celebration. In lieu of a purchased gift, you can make a donation to a charity through CUMC *ON BEHALF OF* a person who does not need any more "stuff."

**Who We'll Support in 2017:** (The needs seem greater than ever this year.)

- ◇ Heifer Project, whose model supports sustainable improvement in people's lives
- ◇ Three projects ("advances") of UMCOR (the United Methodist Committee on Relief), the relief and refugee arm of the United Methodist Church. The projects are:
  - ⇒ #901670 US Disaster Response
  - ⇒ #982450 Non-US & International Disaster Response
  - ⇒ #3022144 Migration (refugees)
- ◇ ECHHO (Ecumenical Christian Helping Hands Organization)

## **How to Give:**

Select the charity/ies you wish to give to.

Write one check payable to CUMC for the amount you wish to give.

You will receive an acknowledgement of your gift on your financial giving statement.

Cards are available to send your recipient.

## **Information:**

Take some time to familiarize yourselves with these organizations to really understand the needs they are addressing.

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# Alternative Christmas 2017



## Plant Update

By Sara Davis

This summer a member of our church handed me \$50. She said she knew that I wanted to buy some plants for the church and wanted to help. I was so grateful. I knew I needed to wait until the hot weather was done and before the big rains and really cold weather of fall.

I made 2 trips to Valley Nursery in Poulsbo and talked with a plant specialist. I got a list of deer resistant shrubs and was reminded that the deer don't know the rules so if they do eat the plants I'd picked, I had been warned. I also was conscious of need for sunlight and shade.



I picked a Sweetbox (*Sarcococca ruscifolia*) for the spot by Melanie's window in front of the Church Office. It says to plant this shrub near shady entrances to revel in the winter fragrance. Tiny white flowers hidden amongst its glossy, dark-green foliage, open to release a delightful perfume of sweet vanilla. The perfume wafts in the winter air from January through February and brings to mind the smells of a Swedish bakery. Yum. I also purchased some deer resistant spray, so if this plant smells funny I'm protecting it from deer for at least a while.

Where Hank pulled the arborvitae between the parsonage and the church property I purchased 5 Flaming Silver Pieris, (*Pieris japonica*). Ed did the hard work here using a pick to dig holes. We removed many rocks and filled the holes with rich top soil. The description says: By planting "Flaming Silver" in your garden or border you can easily have a year-round show of color in your landscape.

I hope you enjoy these plants.



*Pastor Scott and granddaughter, Eva, singing a duet during a church service.*

# Beginners Christian Hula

Do you want to enjoy an activity that is gentle on joints and helps your mind and spirit? Come to the church on Fridays at 11:30am and join Kathy Anderson in Beginners Christian Hula. Learn Basic hula steps to Christian Music. All Christians and levels are welcome. The purpose of our Hula Ministry is to worship Jesus, that others might know about him and we will grow in our faith through study of the Bible and prayer. Come enjoy the fellowship!



**BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Larry Sanderson
- 2 Cynthia Schoneker
- 14 Sara Davis
- 25 Evelyn Mosher
- 26 Dee Chessman
- 27 Jim Finkbeiner
- 31 Norma Brewer



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

- 3 Stephen
- 10 Kathy/Hank
- 17 Dianne/Gladys
- 24 No Sunday School
- 31 No Sunday School

**HOSPITALITY**

- 3
- 10 Stephanie/Liz
- 17
- 24
- 31

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

- 3 Jim/Debbie

**GREETERS**

- 3 Bob Linrothe
- 10 Julie Boggs
- 17 Norma Brewer
- 24 Marcy Wootan
- 31 Dianne Maynard

**USHERS**

- 3 Betty/Jackie
- 10 Norma/Mike
- 17 AJ/Stephanie
- 24 Larry/Connie
- 31 AJ/Stephanie

**LITURGISTS**

- 3 Larry Sanderson
- 10 Diane Johnson
- 17 Stephen Chase
- 24 Liz Hazen
- 31 Dianne Maynard

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

- 3 Advent
- 10 Advent
- 17 Advent
- 24 Advent
- 31 Advent

**OUR PRAYERS**

- \* Bev's friend, Jeanette, battling pancreatic cancer; Sharon, recovering from a fall; and Nancy, living in a camper with no money
- \* Larry's brother-in-law, Larry, in hospice care; prayers for a painless and peaceful passing
- \* Jay Morrow, healing and health after liver transplant
- \* Funding for Jefferson County WIC program and job security for Kathy
- \* Doctor's health wisdom for Debra Rogers
- \* Prayers for Marge Luther's family for her niece, Kieli, who has been diagnosed with metastatic cancer
- \* Friends who received poor health news recently
- \* Law enforcement personnel
- \* Healing from gall bladder surgery for Melanie Rosas
- \* Victims of terrorism
- \* The homeless, hungry, unemployed and our military



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**DECEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS**

December 3

Isaiah 64:1-9  
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
 Mark 13:24-37

December 10

Isaiah 40:1-11  
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
 2 Peter 3:8-15a  
 Mark 1:1-8

December 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
 Psalm 126  
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
 Luke 1:47-55  
 Romans 16:25-27  
 Luke 1:26-38

December 31

Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
 Psalm 148  
 Galatians 4:4-7  
 Luke 2:22-40

# Local Missions Update

By Sara Davis

As all of you know Community United Methodist Church is partnering with Bayside Services which provides temporary housing for people in our community who are looking for permanent housing. Ted and Stephanie Buehler are liaisons for our church. If there is a need for household items while folks are at Bayside and when they transition into permanent housing Ted and Stephanie will work to get these items.

We are also working with the Tri-Area Food Bank. They are currently doing fund raising to purchase a new walk in freezer (Melanie not sure if this is correct freezer or frig) Approximately half of their fundraising goal has been met.

The food bank has also identified people who use their services who are either living in vehicles, tents or unstable housing. Our goal is to provide items other than food that will give them a hand up, especially now during the cold rainy season. Scott put out a call for tarps, flashlights and hotel shampoo, conditioner, etc. I am happy to report that tomorrow I will deliver 6 tarps, 5 flashlights and various soap, shampoo etc Thank you all who contributed. We know more tarps and flashlights will be needed and will keep you posted.

In addition UMW has \$100 that they will use towards hygiene kits to give directly to the food bank. Each kit costs approx. \$10 so 10 kits will be delivered soon. If you would like to see this project continue your donations to UMW are greatly appreciated. Our goal is 10 kits per month if funding is available.



By Stephanie Buehler

"I think it's fair to say that Bayside Housing & Services is very grateful for our congregation's support. Each resident now has a flashlight in the event of an emergency or power outage due to your generosity. Scott was also able to deliver several bags of warm clothing to them just before Thanksgiving. This was enough to take care of their immediate need for sweaters and jackets and they asked us to pass along their sincere appreciation.

As winter draws ever near, the need is still there for warm hats, scarves and gloves for both men and women. Perhaps, if Santa brings you a new knit set this year or you're simply going through a closet or cedar chest and come upon some warm things you haven't worn in a year or two, you might think of our friends at Bayside. Bring them to church in a bag and we will make sure they're delivered.

Thank you for your continued support of those who patiently wait for their opportunity to transition from Bayside to a new home as well as those who are fortunate enough to be transitioning.

Thanks again and Merry Christmas."



CUMC supports three local missions: OlyCAP, Tri-Area Food Bank and ECHHO. We donate a minimum of \$100 each month to one of these three organizations in addition to donations collected from membership. Following is the donation schedule for 2017 and the total amount donated that month (if applicable):

January:	ECHHO	\$100	July:	ECHHO	\$101.60
February:	Food Bank	\$125	August:	Food Bank	\$150
March:	OlyCAP	\$373	September:	OlyCAP	\$100
April:	ECHHO	\$501.57	October:	ECHHO	\$350
May:	Food Bank	\$235	November:	Food Bank	
June:	OlyCAP	\$108	December:	OlyCAP	

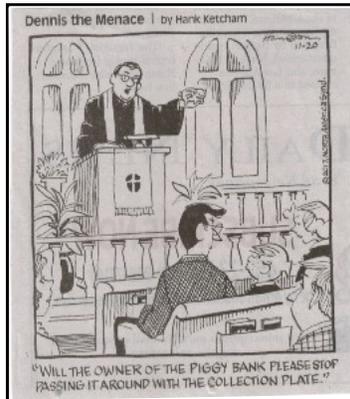
**OUR PRAYERS**

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- \* Betty's friend Jeanette who has cancer; Nadine who is delusional; and Jackie who lost two family members in quick succession
- \* Conrad Barnes, healing after cancer surgery
- \* Local baby, prayers for healing after heart transplant surgery
- \* Prayers for Lani Wong's cardiovascular problem
- \* Those who are in recovery and those who relapse
- \* People suffering around the world from natural and man-made disasters
- \* Peace in the world
- \* Friends who have cancer and those in chemo

**OUR PRAISES**

- \* Pat Nesbitt, friend of the Buehlers, is now recuperating at Northwoods in Silverdale after three surgeries at Harborview
- \* Benefit concert for Lutheran Church Preschool made \$800 in scholarships from talent show proceeds!
- \* Iowa, Iowa State and UW all won their recent games
- \* Jay Morrow, is home after recent liver transplant



**UMW December Program**

Thursday, December 7th  
at 11:00am

The Choral Belles will present a Holiday Musical Program in our sanctuary.

Potluck lunch to follow. Please bring a generous dish to share.



*Merry Christmas*



Also, the ladies of Trinity UMW in Port Townsend have invited us to their Christmas luncheon on December 14th. If you would like to attend please contact Gerri Shaw at 360-732-4632.

**CUMC Charge Conference**

Sunday, December 3rd

Right after Fellowship Time

**Plan to attend!**



**Christmas  
Eye  
Candlelight  
Service  
7:00pm**

**Finance Report through October 2017**

Income:

Pledges	\$62,539
Non Pledge Gifts	21,911
Cash Offering	4,082
Misc. Income	<u>2,580</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$91,112</b>

Expenses:

Apportionments	\$13,884
Local Ministry	2,399
Operating Expenses	18,115
Personnel Compensation	<u>55,314</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$89,711</b>

Surplus/(Deficit) as of October 31, 2017 = \$1,401



# CREATING CONNECTIONS

## Monthly Devotional

*Our Daily Bread, December 19, 2014*

The grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. —1 Timothy 1:14

### The Heart of Christmas

Charles Dickens' novel A Christmas Carol was released on December 19, 1843, and has never been out of print. It tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a wealthy, sour, stingy man who says, "Every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas,' on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding!" Yet, one Christmas Eve, Scrooge is radically changed into a generous and happy man. With great humor and insight, Dickens' book captures the universal longing for inner peace.

As a young man, the apostle Paul opposed Jesus and His followers with a vengeful spirit. He "made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison" (Acts 8:3). But one day he encountered the risen Christ, and his life became a different story (9:1-16).

In a letter to Timothy, his son in the faith, Paul described that life-changing event by saying, even though he was "a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man . . . the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 1:13-14).

Jesus was born into our world and gave His life so that we can be forgiven and transformed through faith in Him. This is the heart of Christmas!

By David C. McCasland

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought. —English carol



## Community United Methodist Church

Open Hearts Open Doors Open Minds

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1165  
Physical Address: 130 Church Lane  
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Phone: 360.385.1579  
Church office email: cumc@olympus.net

Church Office Hours:  
10 am - 2 pm, Tuesday - Friday

Web Site: [www.HadlockChurch.com](http://www.HadlockChurch.com)

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 am**  
**Children's Sunday School: 10:15 am**  
**Fellowship Time: 11:15 am**

Scott Rosekrans, Pastor  
Email: [pastorscottrosekrans@gmail.com](mailto:pastorscottrosekrans@gmail.com)

Pastor's Office Hours:  
10 am - 3 pm, Monday & Wednesday  
10 am - 6 pm, Tuesday