

CREATING CONNECTIONS



The newsletter of
Community United Methodist Church

March 2018

Wild Berry Pickers

by the Wild Berry Pickers

FOREWORD

By Scott Rosekrans

If you've regularly attended Community United Methodist Church over the past 18 months you've probably been blessed by music provided during worship by the Wild Berry Pickers. They are a family band who enjoy playing for us and after they performed again on February 18th, I was asked by a member of our church if I could get an article for the newsletter telling us more. Thank you to the Wild Berry Pickers for indulging our curiosities and for the blessings of your music.



They call their band the "Wild Berry Pickers", not because they pick berries, but rather, because they pick bluegrass, gospel and folk tunes. They are a family band that enjoy working together and performing for the community at various events.

Prior to learning this genre of music, the younger five Kunz children followed in the footsteps of their three older siblings and first learned music through violin instruction. They were taught classical music with the Suzuki method. Their first violin teacher was Pat Yearian, but they are now taking lessons from Cliff Self, both of Port Townsend. Additionally, they have all performed with the Port Townsend High School Orchestra throughout their middle school and high school years. In addition to their violin instruction, many of the Kunz children have taken vocal lessons and youth choir from Leslie Lewis. These local music instructors have provided them with the basic skills they needed to expand their talents and musical interests.

In 2011, Alex, the oldest member expressed the desire to learn the mandolin and 5-string banjo from Chet Rideout, a local musician and family friend. He learned not only how to pick out tunes, but also how to play chords and harmony by ear. One year later, Meigan, the second oldest band member, began learning the guitar with Lynn Rideout. She also learned chords and tablature. Soon after, in 2013, Kailee and Leianna learned to play the ukulele and Jason learned to play the mandolin. They all learned to play the tub bass built by Chet. Both Chet and Lynn Rideout continued to coach the Wild Berry Pickers until 2014, when the couple moved back east to be closer to their family.

In March 2014, they played at the Port Townsend Stars of Tomorrow competition, a local teen competition which explores talent in the youth of the Port Townsend and Chimacum communities. That was the official beginning for their band, the Wild Berry

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Pastor's Pen

I recently finished reading a book written by our former Bishop Grant Hagiya entitled: *Spiritual Kaizen, How to Become a Better Church Leader*. I believe in being a life-long learner so I am always looking for books that will assist me in whatever endeavor I am currently undertaking. My intent is not to write about what I learned that will make me a better church leader but to tell you about some of the interesting things I learned in the first chapter as the Bishop worked to set up the rest of the book for those of us interested in church leadership.

He starts out by defining kaizen as a steady and continuous growth and learning. He says that the slow and continuous improvement of kaizen means we can accomplish great things. Spiritual kaizen, he says, means slow, steady, yet continuous improvement. Improving and growing is what we're all about at Community and steady and continuous is good.



I didn't realize it but the Bishop was leading into a topic regarding church decline that many do not want to talk about or even admit. He sets it up by referencing the teaching of Jesus when he points out that in order to be great, one must first serve, not be served, and to be first, one must model as a slave to all. I think this was a subtle reminder to the reader to remember this when thinking about what is to come and those difficult decisions that will need to be made. He gets right to it when he points out that the problem of growing secularity of our churches produces a "consumerism mentality" and, instead of being true to the historic, biblical roots of an outward mission focus, of serving the needs of the lost and hurting in our midst, we resort to the church itself being the object of care and attention. Ouch! His words, not mine. The Bishop points out that the consumer mentality sees the congregation member as the client, where the responsibility of the church leader is to take care of the parishioner. Let me say that I don't think the Bishop is saying that we can't take care of our own. I think we can, but if that is our only or primary reason for being, then we are missing the mission of God's church. Bishop Hagiya continues by stating that the church of Jesus Christ must consider its client to be God alone and that anything less dissolves into a selfish preoccupation with our own needs and wants. If God is our client, he goes on, then our mission and purpose must revolve around that which God wishes. Biblically, that means an outward focus on the needs of the other, and especially for justice to the poor, the sojourner, and the widow in our midst.

I think he takes pains to make this point so that we can come to grips with the problems that mainline churches have been facing for the last four decades. In his research for his book he found that the vast majority of United Methodist congregations are small to medium in size, and many of them are struggling. There are 17,321 churches with a weekly worship attendance of 50 or fewer people and there are 8,722 churches with a weekly worship attendance of 50 to 100 worshippers. We are averaging around 60 which increases as the weather warms up and our members who winter in warmer climates return. The real challenge, the Bishop points out, for most clergy is to take a diminishing or dying church and make it vital and growing. Many of our churches, he says, are in "turnaround" mode, and the challenge is being able to create health and vitality in a diminishing setting.

Let me say that the first chapter was a real attention getter and definitely provides food for thought. Effective July 1, 2018, the districts in the Pacific Northwest Conference as we know them will be restructured. We are currently called the Puget Sound District with about 27 churches. We will see an increase of around 30 more churches added to our conference with the restructuring of district boundaries. With the restructuring comes a new name. We will now be called the Puget Sound Missional District. Our new Bishop added "Missional" as a reminder to us of our purpose and focus. I can say with confidence that we are on the right path as Community United Methodist Church continues its decades-long calling to serve the community. We have a great blend of new worshippers who are eager to join with our long-time worshippers to build upon and expand our reach out into the community as we seek to serve the least, the last and the lost.

Your prayers for your pastor and those in church leadership positions are needed as we move forward in our steady and continuous growth and learning that will enable us to improve and accomplish great things as we seek to serve and not to be served.

Faithfully,

Scott



Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

Photos by Scott Rosekrans



March Meeting & Program

**Thursday,
March 1st**

10:00am Meeting

11:00am Program



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH+HOPE+LOVE IN ACTION

Church Work Day!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 24th to volunteer for the Church Work Day. There's a long list of "to do" items that need attention both inside and outside the church. More details to follow as the date approaches.

Kudos Corner

Thank you to the following individuals for their help, hard work and/or thoughtfulness:

- ◆ Hank Hazen and Larry Howland for removing and disposing of the old, non-working refrigerator from the back room off the Narthex
- ◆ Larry Howland for fixing two broken drawers in the kitchen
- ◆ AJ Laverty, Dianne Maynard and Bev Rothenborg for their tireless work in cleaning, organizing and sorting the church kitchen and supply closet
- ◆ Larry Howland for purchasing and installing a small extension cord for the hanging light in the boiler room
- ◆ Dianne Maynard for creating a supply re-order form to notify the office of needed supplies
- ◆ Sara Davis for regular transportation of supplies and donations to the Tri-Area Food Bank
- ◆ The countless people from CUMC who volunteered at the Winter Shelter in February. You were such a blessing!
- ◆ Laurel Ankeny for volunteering to proofread monthly newsletters
- ◆ Jim Dodd for getting the boiler up and running after almost running out of heating oil
- ◆ Liz Hazen for purchasing coffee for the church

Please email (cumc@olympus.net) or drop a note by the Church Office to include someone in next month's Kudos Corner!



BIRTHDAYS	GREETERS	OUR PRAYERS
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- 1 AJ Laverty
- 1 Ted Buehler
- 7 Mike Perzel
- 11 Margie Webb
- 12 Liz Hazen
- 14 Gladys Heinzinger
- 21 Chuck Boggs
- 23 Elaine Goodwin
- 30 Bud Clarke
- 31 Judy Gressley



SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 4 Kathy
- 11
- 18 Julie
- 25 Debbie

HOSPITALITY

- 4 Sara/AJ
- 11
- 18
- 25 Stephanie/Cindi

- 4 Bob Linrothe
- 11 Julie Boggs
- 18 Judy Olsen
- 25 Marcy Wootan

COMMUNION SERVERS

- 4 Pat C. & Diane J.

USHERS

- 4 Betty/Jackie
- 11 Mike/
- 18 AJ/Stephanie
- 25 Larry/Connie

LITURGISTS

- 4 Billie Fitch
- 11 Mike Perzel
- 18 Diane Johnson
- 25 Bev Rothenborg

ALTAR FLOWERS

- 4 Lent
- 11 Lent
- 18 Lent
- 25 Lent

- * An end to the flu season; health to all who are ill, young and old
- * Health and successful transition for Sue Ernst, who recently moved into assisted living in Kenmore
- * Law enforcement personnel
- * Victims of terrorism
- * The homeless, hungry, unemployed and our military
- * Dave Hermanson's friend Joe, successful hip replacement surgery and recovery
- * Janet's friend, Ash West, diagnosis for serious medical issues making her weak with episodes of fainting
- * Ted & Stephanie's friends Pat Ryan and Pat Lohrey for the recent loss of their husbands
- * Gene Prentice's sister, Marcia, with medical challenges and needs to make a decision about surgery; granddaughter Alice, who has been hospitalized for a couple of weeks.
- * Peace on earth
- * Justice in the world



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MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

<p>March 4 Exodus 20: 1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 John 2: 13-22</p>	<p>March 11 Numbers 21: 4-9 Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2: 1-10 John 3: 14-21</p>	<p>March 18 Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Psalm 51: 1-12 Hebrews 5: 5-10 John 12: 20-33</p>	<p>March 25 Isaiah 50: 4-9a Psalm 31: 9-16 Philippians 2: 5-11 Mark 14: 1-15:47</p>
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Finance Report through January 2018

Income:

Frontage Rental	\$400.00
Parsonage Rental	1,184.00
Pledges	11,025.50
Non Pledge Gifts	3,945.00
Cash Offering	253.00
Misc. Income	<u>140.00</u>
Total	\$15,363.50

Expenses:

Apportionments	\$1,304.62
Local Ministry	226.47
Operating Expenses	1,689.78
Personnel Compensation	<u>5,332.57</u>
Total	\$8,553.44

Surplus/(Deficit) as of January 31, 2018 = \$6,810



CUMC supports three local organizations: 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. During the January 2018 Finance Committee Meeting, the committee voted to continue supporting the same three missions with the same donation amounts in 2018.

Following is the donation schedule for 2018 and the total amount donated that month:

January:	ECHHO	\$637	July:	ECHHO	\$
February:	Food Bank	\$	August:	Food Bank	\$
March:	OlyCAP	\$	September:	OlyCAP	\$
April:	ECHHO	\$	October:	ECHHO	\$
May:	Food Bank	\$	November:	Food Bank	\$
June:	OlyCAP	\$	December:	OlyCAP	\$

Blood transfusions are frequently needed by patients undergoing surgery, cancer-battling warriors, organ transplant recipients, and during emergency situations.

Your blood donation makes a life-saving difference to those in need. Will you give?

Blood Drive

Wednesday, March 14th 11am-5pm

To make an appt or for questions about eligibility
call 1-800-398-7888 ext 2.

Help save lives!



**Donate blood
at our
upcoming
blood drive!**

OUR PRAYERS

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- * Carolyn’s daughter, Tara, healing from hip dysplasia surgery; Tara’s mother-in-law, Sue, healing for fractured pelvic bone; Carolyn’s sister, Janice, admitted to the hospital with T.I.A. stroke
- * Doris’s family, for sudden loss of her brother due to heart attack
- * Christie, healing from surgery to remove cancer and successful chemo treatment

- * Comfort for family and friends of Jerry Giova, who died suddenly of a brain aneurism
- * Victims of the rail accident in South Carolina, employers of the railway, passengers and freight train workers
- * Victims and survivors of school shooting in Florida
- * Our leaders and government



OUR PRAISES

- * Volunteers in the church, stepping up to serve
- * The beauty of snowy days, a reminder of God’s creativity and greatness



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Pickers. Since then, they have been playing at various events and gatherings, such as violin recitals, church events, Farmer’s markets, Finn River Cidery, Turtle Bluff and the Solo and Ensemble competitions, and busking on the street corners in downtown Port Townsend for tourists and local fans. On two occasions, they were invited to perform at fundraising events in Seattle for two adoption agencies. The Wild Berry Pickers were even highlighted and interviewed on King 5 news!

In 2015, Alex graduated from Port Townsend High School and has attended Western Washington University and Central Washington University where he sang in the men’s choir. He will be attending Walla Walla Community College in the spring of 2018 where he wants to learn more about horticulture and agriculture.

Meigan and Kailee are both seniors at Port Townsend High School and enrolled in their second year of the Running Start program. Meigan will be attending Washington State University to pursue a major in Animal Science in preparation for veterinary science. Kailee will be continuing her education at Peninsula College to finish her Associate of Arts degree and Teaching English as a Foreign Language certification. Her goal is to pursue a career teaching abroad.

Leianna and Jason are juniors at Port Townsend High School this year where they are engaged in the Running Start program at Peninsula College. Next year, they will begin applying for colleges, remaining active in the community and high school, and continuing to stay active in the orchestra. Leianna is interested in studying Chinese in college and receiving a teaching certification so she can pursue a career teaching abroad. After graduation, Jason wants to study to become a paramedic or emergency medical technician at Central Washington University.

When they began playing together more than 5 years ago, they had no idea that these musical experiences would draw them closer as a sibling group. Not only have they learned to work together as a team but also how to be both good leaders and followers. The Wild Berry Pickers have very much appreciated the support they receive from the community when they perform.



CREATING CONNECTIONS

Monthly Devotional

Our Daily Bread, February 28, 2001

If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. Luke 9:23

True Self-Denial

Lent is a period of 40 days prior to Easter (excluding Sundays). For many people it commemorates Jesus' fasting in the wilderness. They "give up something" for Lent every year, like sweets or TV. This can yield spiritual benefits, but denying yourself *things* and denying *yourself* aren't the same. In Luke 9:23, Jesus taught the latter.

This verse can be broken down into three parts. In the statement "If anyone desires to come after Me," the word *desires* indicates that this is for sincere disciples only. In the phrase "let him deny himself," the words *let* and *deny himself* imply a willingness to renounce one's selfish will and ways. And in the statement "take up his cross daily," the word *daily* emphasizes a continual dying to self-will.

It's easier to give things than to give ourselves. Yet Jesus gave Himself, and so must we. To those who deny themselves in obedient service, He has promised, "Whoever loses his life for My sake will save it" (v.24). And to His question, "What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed?" we are called to answer, "There is no profit!" We show that we believe this when we deny ourselves and follow Christ.

By Joanie Yoder

To follow Christ we must let go
Of all that we hold dear;
And as we do deny ourselves,
Our gains become more clear. —Sper

By living for ourselves we die; by dying to ourselves we live.



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

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

Scott Rosekrans, Pastor
Email: pastorscottrosekrans@gmail.com

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