

CREATING CONNECTIONS



The newsletter of
Community United Methodist Church

October 2018

So Much Pain and Suffering

by Scott Rosekrans

Where do you start? How do you know what to do? How do you decide who to help and who not to help? Will what you do really make a difference? All tough questions, and ones we constantly ask ourselves as we strive, as a church, to meet the needs of those who are suffering, whether it is the one person who needs gas for their car to get to an appointment or for an island nation devastated by a super typhoon. The problem is so big, it's bigger than us, so maybe somebody else should handle it. I guess, in my overly optimistic attitude, I don't really believe that. I think there is always something we can do to help.

That's the question posed to me when I decided to ask the congregation to donate money to the UMCOR relief effort for Super Typhoon Mangkhut that made landfall in the Philippines on September 15th. Our bishop, Elaine Stanovsky, put out a call for churches to donate to UMCOR to help with the typhoon victims and the victims of Hurricane Florence that hit North Carolina. I was basically asked if I thought it might be better if we took care of our own before we tried to reach out to other areas of the world. A good question and not one born of selfishness as the person asking the question felt compassion not only for the hurricane victims in North Carolina but for the homeless in our country, the veterans who need help, and the hungry. I couldn't agree more and took the opportunity to assure them that we've been doing as good a job as possible to address those very issues and were constantly on the lookout for more opportunities to meet the needs of those who need assistance.

Community United Methodist Church has a long and rich history of stepping in and up to meet the needs of this community for decades. In the last couple of years, we have really stepped up our game by being creative and imaginative. We started out two years ago by financially supporting the Tri-Area Food Bank, ECHHO (Ecumenical Christian Helping Hands Organization) and OlyCAP (Olympic Community Action Program). Over the last two years we've raised and distributed thousands of dollars to these worthy organizations that serve our local community. We've now taken on the Quilcene Food Bank and the money collected in our spare change Jesus Cup averages about one hundred dollars a month. We support Bayside Housing and Services in their efforts to help people transition into permanent housing. We make hygiene kits to distribute to the homeless along with collecting egg cartons, water bottles, drier lint, and pill bottles.

These, and other little missions, have generated energy and enthusiasm for expanded mission work which has been exhibited in some of our bigger efforts as we experience the ripple effect of (continued on page 6)



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"I think there is always something we can do to help."

Pastor's Pen



Earlier this month, Teresa and I took a short vacation where we spent a week in upstate New York visiting family and friends. One of the things I wanted to do was to go to church at the little Methodist Church of my youth. So, on Sunday the 16th of September we attended services at Warners United Methodist Church. This was especially meaningful for me as it is the church where my grandfather was a pastor and he used to watch me as he tried to work. I attended that church all the way through high school and when Teresa and I lived there for about 18 months it is where we attended. I'd like to tell you that all is well with the congregation, but it is not. The church is still as I remember it, but the congregation has dwindled down to around two dozen on any given Sunday. Their pastor is part-time and has office hours on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m to 12:00 p.m. They post their financial report in their bulletin and they are steadily losing ground. The future of this wonderful little church is not very bright.



Sadly, this is an all too common story for many churches and there doesn't seem to be any concrete solutions to stem the tide of diminishing congregations. I can say that we're doing pretty good but that could all change at the drop of a hat if something unexpected happened. I like to say that I'm not seminary trained and that all I've learned I've picked up in the cheap seats. In preparation for my appointment to my first church I took classes and read many books, sometimes twice, trying to get an understanding of what is causing mainstream Christianity's downward spiral. I've put some of what I've learned into practice with some apparent success, but I'm always looking for more books and studies that might provide some helpful tips or instruction.

This morning I just started reading *Canoeing the Mountains, Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*, by Tod Bolsinger. He's using the Lewis and Clark expedition as a backdrop to help the reader understand that, like Lewis and Clark, we don't know the terrain, what we've been doing may not apply, and that we have to be ready to adapt to the unexpected. I've finished chapter one and have already learned a few things. He reports that upwards of 1,500 pastors leave the ministry every month, and that's not just retirements. He talked to three of his pastor friends who all quit on the same day to find out what the problem was. He said: "Their churches were stuck and declining, stuck and clinging to the past, stuck and lurching to quick fixes, trying to find an easy answer for what were clearly bigger challenges." One of the things he said that really resonated was: "The world in front of you is nothing like the world behind you." The world, as we know it, has changed and the church is having a hard time adapting. How many times have we heard someone say: "I just wish it could go back to the way it used to be, when we had young families with kids." He says that because we are hard-wired to resist change, every living system requires someone in it to live into and lead the transformation necessary to take us into the future we are resisting. Wow!

The good news is that CUMC is not resistant to change and we are eagerly looking for ways to serve God in our community. Admittedly, change can be scary, but not as scary as having to face the reality of closing a once vibrant church. We are experiencing growth and are re-establishing our footprint in our community and that is because we are not afraid to look to the future and try to be the church God needs us to be right here, right now.

Keep me in your prayers as I continue studying this book in an effort to be a better shepherd of the flock to which I am assigned.

Faithfully,

Scott

**NOTHING
CHANGES
IF NOTHING
CHANGES**

PICTUREQUOTES.COM

Want to enhance your **communication skills** and **strengthen your family?**



Parents, Caregivers

of Youth aged 9—14

Join us for **FREE Family Dinner and**
& **Parent Workshops** on

Wednesdays, Oct 10 — November 7, 5:30-8pm



Childcare for younger children upon request

Learn and practice

how to **listen,**

be **assertive, redirect,**

use **I-statements, praise,** and more!

10 Family Limit

Denise Banker, Facilitator

Pinky Feria Mingo, Facilitator

Event Location: **Community United Methodist**

130 Church Lane, Port Hadlock, WA

Guiding Good Choices

For registration contact Jenny Matter

jmatter@co.jefferson.wa.us 360.385.9421



Guiding Good Choices Workshop

We will be partnering with Jefferson County Public Health, along with a number of other organizations, to help offer a five-week parenting workshop beginning this month, for parents of children ages 9-14. The workshop aims to strengthen families, improve communication, and empower children and teens to make good choices, especially in relation to substance abuse. A free family dinner is provided and childcare for younger children is available upon request.

33rd Annual WAVE Food Drive

Thirty-three years ago PT churches decided something needed to be done to help local food banks do the good work of feeding the hungry and so the WAVE [What A Valuable Experience] food drive was born. The drive originates from PT churches and invites the wider community to join in the giving.

Last year's effort brought in an exciting **\$22,748.00** in financial donations [2016 was a little over \$14K] and 1,928 pounds of non-perishable food [up by 339 pounds from 2016].

Saturday, October 27 is the "official day" of the WAVE Food Drive. This is the day for the community at large to participate with us in this gigantic act of kindness to our County.

Participating churches (CUMC is participating!) are encouraged to have their doors open from **10am-2pm on Saturday, October 27th** and to make signs/banners inviting the community to drop off donations. Our local QFC stores [PT/Hadlock] are also donation sites all day long.

WAVE
FOOD DRIVE

MONTH
All October

DAY
Sat. Oct. 27th

Churches gather financial and non-perishable food donations through October to lovingly support.
JeffCo Food Banks

Jefferson County is invited to donate at QFC stores in PT & Hadlock or locations listed at:
wavefooddrive.wordpress.com

BIRTHDAYS	GREETERS	OUR PRAYERS
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3 Stephanie Buehler
15 Audrey Sanderson
19 Bernita Butler
27 Patti Shuff
30 Diane Johnson



ALTAR FLOWERS

7 Marcy Wootan
14 Orene Udd
21 AJ Laverty
28 Leona Long

COUNTERS

7 Lori/Mike
14 Betty P./Marsha
21 Lori/Betty P.
28 Sara/Diane

USHERS

7 Jackie/
14 Mike/Marsha
21 AJ/Stephanie
28 Larry/Connie

7 Bob Linrothe
14 Julie Boggs
21 Judy Olsen
28 Marcy Wootan

HOSPITALITY

7 Dale/Joan
14
21
28 Wendi/

LITURGISTS

7 Stephen Chase
14 Pat Cooper
21
28 Hank Hazen

SUNDAY SCHOOL

7
14
21 Kathy/
28 Julie/Debbie

COMMUNION SERVERS

7 Dale & Joan

- * Kathy's hula mentor, Donna Escobar, total healing from cancer surgery
- * Stephen's pen pal, Bill Smiley, relief from back pain
- * Debbie's friend, Kate Pike, moved from ICU but still in serious condition at Harborview Hospital
- * The homeless, hungry and unemployed
- * Peace around the world
- * Healing from shingles for Sarah McMan
- * Don Olsen, in the hospital in Bremerton
- * Peace and wisdom for our national leaders
- * Victims and those affected by Hurricane Florence and Typhoon Mangkhut
- * Traveling mercies for Kathy traveling to Idaho



OCTOBER LECTIONARY READINGS

October 7

Job 1:1, 2:1-10
 Psalm 26
 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
 Mark 10:2-16

October 14

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
 Psalm 22:1-15
 Hebrews 4:12-16
 Mark 10:17-31

October 21

Job 38:1-7
 Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
 Hebrews 5:1-10
 Mark 10:35-45

October 28

Job 42:1-6, 10-17
 Psalm 34:1-8
 Hebrews 7:23-28
 Mark 10:46-52

CREATING CONNECTIONS

Finance Report for August 2018

Income:

Frontage Rental	\$400.00
Parsonage Rental	1,184.00
Pledges	3,985.00
Non-Pledge Gifts	2,705.00
Cash Offering	444.00
Misc. Income	<u>440.00</u>
Total	\$9,158.00

Expenses:

Apportionments	\$1,304.62
Local Ministry	209.51
Operating Expenses	834.33
Personnel Compensation	<u>4,979.38</u>
Total	\$7,327.84

Surplus/(Deficit) for August 2018 = \$1,830

Local

MISSION
of the
MONTH

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	\$637.00	July:	ECHHO	\$350.00
February:	Food Bank	\$745.50	August:	Food Bank	\$363.00
March:	OlyCAP	\$474.50	September:	OlyCAP	\$
April:	ECHHO	\$355.00	October:	ECHHO	\$
May:	Food Bank	\$429.50	November:	Food Bank	\$
June:	OlyCAP	\$670.00	December:	OlyCAP	\$

Stewardship

By Scott Rosekrans

It's that time of year again. You know, when the church leadership starts talking about the budget for next year and launches a Stewardship Campaign where we ask you to commit to a pledge for the coming year so we can plan our budget accordingly. Realistically, we generally have a pretty good idea of where we will be based upon prior years, so we use the budget for the previous year as a baseline. Financially, we are in good shape and have a budget surplus. Because of the great stewardship of prior administrations and boards, we have the funds necessary to make the repairs and improvements needed to help us continue on into the future. Future financial growth will greatly assist us in re-establishing our footprint in the community and help us in our mission outreach.

That being said, we are asking that you take a good look at your pledge and, after much prayer, give what you feel comfortable giving, knowing that we are extremely good stewards of your hard-earned money. Just as important as your financial giving to the church, is the giving of your time and your talents. There are so many ways to serve the church and there are definitely jobs you can fill. This year I have seen an uptick in volunteering, especially with the many missions in which we are engaged, but I have also seen many people coming by to do little projects around the church. This is pride of ownership and it shows. Along with your consideration of what you can pledge this coming year, I'd also like you to consider serving on some of the committees we have such as Staff Parish Relations Committee, Worship Committee, Finance Committee, Trustees, Missions, Hospitality and a few others. Give this some prayer and thought and, if you are inclined or curious, please contact me and let's talk with the understanding that "no" is an acceptable answer.

Remember, it's not how big a church we are at 130 Church Lane, it's how big a church we are in the community.

Scott

(continued from front page)

giving. We've raised thousands of dollars for such projects as Rebuild, Up From the Ashes, Hurricane Harvey relief that devastated parts of Texas, and Hurricane Maria that savaged Puerto Rico.

We now find ourselves in a position where we can help ease the suffering a little on the other side of the world. The United Methodist Church as a significant presence in the Philippines. In a report I read on the PNW Digest, Bishop Rodolfo A. Juan reported damage to sanctuaries and parsonages as well as his own home. Bishop Pedro M. Torio Jr. put out a call to the entire United Methodist connection for help. We are a part of that connection and, because we are able, we can answer the call to assist our brothers and sisters in the Philippines who are our United Methodist boots on the ground in this recovery effort. I count myself fortunate to be the shepherd of such a generous, loving and giving congregation who don't hesitate to be the somebodies who step forward to do something when something needs to be done anytime, anywhere.



You're Invited...

**New Knitting,
Crocheting,
Fiber Group!**

Come Tuesday, October 2nd at 2:00pm to see what it's all about. There will be some materials available but please bring supplies if you have them. Group emphasis will be on charity work for people in need.



OUR PRAISES

- * All cancer was removed from Donna Escobar, Kathy's hula mentor
- * Gerald Mizokawa is out of the hospital from pneumonia
- * Jay Morrow's kidneys are healed and he's off dialysis
- * For those who contributed to and assembled hygiene kits.



Thursday, October 4th at 10:00am

There will be a short business meeting followed by a program featuring the Quilcene Food Bank. Leslie Tippins, Manager and Tracy Spears, Assistant Manager, will be giving an overview of their program and sharing about their needs. Please consider making a donation to this program. Lunch will be served afterward so plan to stay and enjoy delicious food and visit with friends.



*ALL CHURCH
"FIRST ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY!"
WEDNESDAY ~ October 31
5:00 PM
(COSTUMES Optional, but Encouraged)*

MENU

- Wacky Wieners ~ Creepy Chili*
- Devilish Deviled Eggs*
- Goblin Mac 'n Cheese*
- Gory Guacamole and Fractured Chips*
- Bones and Broomstick Veggies*
- Mystery Munchies*
- Black Cat Cupcakes*

!! Trick or Treats for all who Attend !!



CREATING CONNECTIONS

Monthly Devotional

Our Daily Bread, April 2, 2015

Do this in remembrance of Me. 1 Corinthians 11:24

Enjoying His Meal

It's not about the table, whether it's square or round. It's not about the chairs—plastic or wooden. It's not about the food, although it helps if it has been cooked with love. A good meal is enjoyed when we turn off the TV and our cell phones and concentrate on those we're with.

I love gathering around the table, enjoying a good chat with friends and family and talking about a multitude of topics. However, instant technology has made it difficult. Sometimes we are more concerned about what others—sometimes miles away—have to say than what the person just across the table is saying.

We have been invited to another meal at the table when we come together in one place to celebrate the Lord's Supper. It's not about the church, if it's big or small. It's not about the type of bread. It's about turning off our thoughts from our worries and concerns and focusing on Jesus.

When was the last time we enjoyed being at the Lord's Table? Do we enjoy His presence, or are we more concerned with what's going on somewhere else? This is important, "for as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes" (1 Cor. 11:26).

By Keila Ochoa

I want to learn, dear Lord, when I sit at Your Table, to concentrate only on Your great love and sacrifice for us.

Help me to enjoy the fellowship of others as we remember together what Jesus did for us at Calvary.

Remembering Christ's death gives us courage for today and hope for tomorrow.



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:

10am - 2pm, Tuesday - Friday

Web Site: www.HadlockChurch.com

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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