

# CREATING CONNECTIONS



The newsletter of  
Community United Methodist Church

November 2018

## What does it mean to be a United Methodist?

by Rev. Dale Kelley

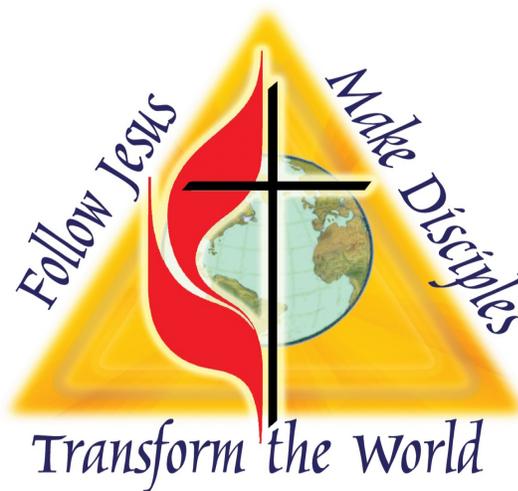
How many of us could answer this question in a few short sentences? Or even a few longer ones?

Starting in January, Rev. Dale Kelley will be offering an interactive, lively “short series” of FOUR classes for folks who may be:

1. interested in joining Community UMC ;
2. already a member, but would love to know more about our denomination; or
3. neither of the above and are just interested in “what the United Methodists are all about”.

You just may learn something you never knew before! To ward off chilly night time driving, we’ll be offering our discussions over a “home-cooked” hot lunch during the week, beginning on TUESDAY, January 8, 15, 22 and 29. Materials will be provided at no cost.

If you are interested, we’d love to have you participate with us, even if you can’t make every class! To sign up, please call Melanie at the church office at 360-385-1579 or email her at cumc@olympus.net .



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# Pastor's Pen

## A Sign of the Times

As many of you have noticed, I like to come up with catchy sermon titles to post on our sign board out on the main road for the motoring public to read. Many times, my titles have a double meaning. Some get it, some don't. It's like the parables Jesus told as he traveled the countryside teaching and preaching. Often times, he was being closely watched by the Pharisees who were trying to catch him in some sort of blasphemy so they could bring him up on charges. I'll admit, there are some parables that I've read and the meaning escapes me to the point where I have to go to my Bible Commentary to have it explained to me. Some of my sermon titles have sparked some interesting responses. One that was entitled: Weeds Are A Fact Of Life drew an angry response from a woman who left a lengthy rant on my phone as she interpreted my message as saying that people like her who didn't go to church were weeds. She didn't leave a message but did call back about a year later when another title caught her eye. This time I was at the office and got to talk to her. As I was explaining the meaning of the title I casually mentioned that I had gotten an angry call about a year ago regarding my Weeds sermon. She admitted to being the caller. In any event, we had a great conversation and I got to talk to her about the gospel. (Mission accomplished!) I've had others who tell me they like the titles and often wonder what the sermon will be addressing. I tell them they need to come on Sunday mornings to find out or read the sermon online.



The point I'm trying to make is that we need to get people talking about these important issues. Issues we care about here at Community United Methodist Church and issues that are of concern to the United Methodist Church. Issues like hunger, unemployment, housing, social justice, racism, the environment, peace (or the lack of it), and many other pressing topics of importance. Theologians like Martin Luther, John Wesley and Martin Luther King spoke out forcefully about matters that they felt affected the kingdom of God and God's suffering subjects. Earlier this year I read a book entitled: A Methodist Requiem, Words of Hope and Resurrection for the Church. One of the observations made by the author was that the Methodist Church has lost its footprint in the community, that people no longer look to the Methodist Church for solutions to their problems. We've gotten complacent and because we've been content to sit back and let others worry about it, we're in decline. This author, and others I've read, believe the path that leads us back to being relevant is one of not only preaching a solid gospel message, but also includes service to others, i.e., missions and outreach. Let's not just talk about it, let's do something about it.

As I was writing this article, a woman came by the church looking for assistance. We've helped her in the past and she is struggling. In any event, she saw the sign which read, Let Go and Let God. She said it shook her as she's been dealing with a lot of issues she can't do anything about so we had a nice talk about letting go and letting God bear our burdens. She gave me a great sermon title when she said, Stand on the Promise, Not the Problem.

Faithfully,

*Scott*





# Wednesday, November 14th

**12:00pm Churchwide Lunch**  
**1:00pm Charge Conference**

Our annual church charge conference will be held on Wednesday, November the 14th at 1:00 p.m. Our new District Superintendent, Mark Galang, will be here presiding over the conference. This will be a great opportunity for the congregation to meet Mark and ask him questions about what is happening in our conference and the UMC in general. Mark will meet with the Staff Parish Relations Committee at 11:00 am. At noon we'll have a churchwide lunch which I hope you will attend and after the lunch, at 1:00 pm, we'll have the actual Charge Conference. Personally, I think the future of the United Methodist Church lies in the vitality of the small rural churches just like it did over 200 years ago with the Methodist movement came to America. Let's take the opportunity to show and tell Mark what we're doing, where our passion lies, and what we hope for the future for not only Community United but for the greater Methodist Church.



Volunteers gathered on October 9, 2018 to assemble homemade fire starters for the Quilcene Food Bank. Melted wax is poured over dryer lint in egg cartons to create these homemade items which the food bank gives out to clients weekly. This time of the year with cold weather approaching the fire starters are greatly appreciated by those who are living outdoors or in vehicles.

Photos by Scott Rosekrans



**BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Wendi Metzger
- 10 Janet Stevenson
- 12 Carolyn Allen
- 21 Cindi Jones



**ALTAR FLOWERS**

- 4 Pat Chase
- 11 Sara Davis
- 18
- 25 Diane Johnson

**COUNTERS**

- 4 Debbie/Mike
- 11 /Marsha
- 18 Lori/Betty P.
- 25 Sara/Diane

**USHERS**

- 4 /
- 11 Mike/Marsha
- 18 AJ/Stephanie
- 25 Larry/Connie

**GREETERS**

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

**HOSPITALITY**

- 4 Sara Davis/
- 11 Cindi Jones/
- 18
- 25 Potluck

**LITURGISTS**

- 4 Sara Davis
- 11
- 18 Larry Sanderson
- 25 Billie Fitch

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

- 4 Julie/
- 11 Stephen/
- 18 Kathy/Hank
- 25 Debbie/

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

- 4 Ted & Stephanie

**OUR PRAYERS**

- \* A job for Jeremy Anderson that helps provide and uses his skills
- \* Our children's ministry will meet the needs of the community
- \* Healing for Linda Mizokawa who feel and is a lot of pain
- \* Janet's cousin, Byron Gholson, at MDA for cancer treatment
- \* The homeless, hungry and unemployed
- \* Peace around the world
- \* Good health for Pat Chase
- \* Peace and wisdom for our national leaders
- \* Victims and those affected by natural disasters around the world



**PRAISES**

- \* Kathy's dog was found after being lost in the woods for 12 hours. It helped build faith in God for Eric and Jeremy

**NOVEMBER LECTIONARY READINGS**

**November 4**

Ruth 1:1-18  
 Psalm 146  
 Hebrews 9:11-14  
 Mark 12:28-34

**November 11**

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17  
 Psalm 127  
 Hebrews 9:24-28  
 Mark 12:38-44

**November 18**

1 Samuel 1:4-20  
 Psalm 113  
 Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25  
 Mark 13:1-8

**November 25**

2 Samuel 23:1-7  
 Psalm 132:1-12  
 Revelation 1:4b-8  
 John 18:33-37

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

## Finance Report for September 2018

Income:

Frontage Rental	\$450.00
Parsonage Rental	1,052.94
Pledges	4,832.16
Non-Pledge Gifts	3,592.00
Cash Offering	322.00
Misc. Income	<u>840.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,089.10</b>

Expenses:

Apportionments	\$1,304.62
Local Ministry	808.90
Operating Expenses	1,205.05
Personnel Compensation	<u>5,854.19</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,172.76</b>

Surplus/(Deficit) for September 2018 = \$1,916

**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	\$350.00
April:	ECHHO	\$355.00	October:	ECHHO	\$
May:	Food Bank	\$429.50	November:	Food Bank	\$
June:	OlyCAP	\$670.00	December:	OlyCAP	\$

### *The Blessings of Child Sponsorship* by Melanie Rosas

I was chatting with Pastor Scott last month in the office, showing him the letters our family had written to our sponsored child and he encouraged me to write an article for the next newsletter to share about the amazing blessings of Child Sponsorship.

I've been sponsoring a child through Compassion International since July 2006. At that time, I was matched with Ruth, a nine-year-old little girl in Indonesia. Every month, the \$32 donation I sent to Compassion enabled Ruth the opportunity to hear the gospel and learn about Jesus, to receive an education, to be healthy and to develop self-confidence and social skills. Handwritten letters were exchanged several times a year and I always enjoyed receiving news and updates from Ruth about her life, family, school, dreams, needs, etc. I also received periodic updates about the area Ruth lived in, the child development center Ruth attended and opportunities to send special gifts and/or special correspondence to her. I sponsored Ruth until she aged out of the program in 2017 and it was such a wonderful blessing to stand alongside parents, pastors, teachers and friends in taking an active role in encouraging and raising this child.

After Ruth aged out of the program, my husband, Jason, and I felt that this was a perfect opportunity to get our daughters involved in choosing a new child to sponsor as a family. Some of you know that we adopted our daughters from foster care in February 2017 after fostering them for six months. Our daughters are biological sisters, (now) ages seven and eleven, who spent most of their lives in foster care and God is doing an amazing work of healing, growing and blossoming them into the

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beautiful young ladies he wants them to be. Family sponsorship would be just one more way to help them grow and stretch their world perspective, as well as to unite us as a family. After much discussion we decided that we wanted to sponsor a little girl in Africa so we plugged that criteria into the web site (www.compassion.com) and looked through child profiles. Boy was that overwhelming because there were so many children! We narrowed down the search by deciding to find a child whose birthday was the same as day as the day we adopted our daughters, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. From that list we finally decided on a little girl named Meron from Ethiopia who is four years old. Within a week we received an information packet full of details about Meron, her family, her life, the nearby child development center, her community and country. A glimpse of Meron's life was a big eye-opener for our daughters. We each write a letter to her once a month and our daughters include a picture they've drawn for her as well. We receive letters from her every couple of months with details and updates about her life (translated into English), pictures she's drawn and/or colored for us, and prayer requests. We read her letters together as a family and pray for her. We're thankful for the opportunity of Child Sponsorship to raise our daughters' awareness of helping others, both locally and far away, showing Christ's love and making a difference in someone's life, all as an act of kindness and to further God's kingdom.

There are many organizations out there that strive to help the least, the lost and the lonely. Compassion stands out among child development organizations because of three distinctive values: (1) the focus on child development, which targets the needs of individual children first rather than the needs of community first, (2) they work exclusively through local churches so that church leaders and members around the world can become effective child advocates in their communities, and (3) their goal of discipleship, acting in the belief that the most loving thing we can do for children is introduce them to Jesus Christ. I've kept a file full of letters and information from Compassion over the years and have now have it at the Church Office. You're welcome to come take a look if you're interested in learning more and I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have. What an incredible blessing Child Sponsorship is!



Our sponsored child, Meron, age 4, from Ethiopia.



The Rosas Family on Adoption Day, February 22, 2017.

# World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 7, 2018



The Altar Flower Arrangement was provided by Dale Kelley and Joan Flowers. Pamela Roberts performed special music for the service on her cello.



Dale Kelley and Joan Flowers, assisted Pastor Scott with serving communion.



Photos by Laurel Ankeny



Wednesday,  
November 7th  
11am-5pm

To make an appointment or questions about eligibility call 1-800-398-7888 x2.



**Blood Flows at CUMC every**  
**56 Days!**

By Debbie Dodd

The need for lifesaving blood is nearly always urgent. Bloodworks Northwest collects about 800 units of blood each day. All blood received immediate, comprehensive testing so that it can be available to more than 90 regional hospitals, usually less than 24 hours after donation.

If you hear about our frequent CUMC Blood Drives and wonder how you can participate, here are some opportunities:

- donating blood or platelets
- baking cookies for our donor canteen
- putting up posters around the community
- placed road signs at main traffic intersections
- phoning donors to remind them of the upcoming drive
- moving chairs before and after the drive

*Folks who come to our drives say it's the home baked cookies that bring them back.*

If you would enjoy being part of our lifesaving team of volunteers, contact Jim or Debbie Dodd in church or by phone: 360-301-2988 (Jim) 360-301-4040 (Debbie).



**UMW Program  
& Lunch**

**Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00am at  
Fiesta Jalisco in Port Hadlock**

The meeting will start at 11:00am featuring Don Olsen and Wendi Metzger giving short talks about Alternative Christmas ideas. The annual luncheon will begin at 11:30am.

**UMW Holiday  
Mission**

One of the holiday missions we will be undertaking next month is to “adopt” 5 or 6 adult women who are clients of Dove House and provide gifts for them for Christmas. These are adults who may have been isolated from their families, and otherwise will not receive any Christmas gifts. Dove House advocates will be working with their clients this month and encouraging them to make a wish list of suggested items they would like to receive. We will share the wish lists with you by way of bulletin inserts in November in case you would like to pick up something when you are doing your holiday shopping. We will also place a sign-up on the table in the narthex so you can indicate what you have purchased or will provide, and then we will all know what things have already been purchased. Dove House asks that we deliver the gifts, **unwrapped**, to them by **December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

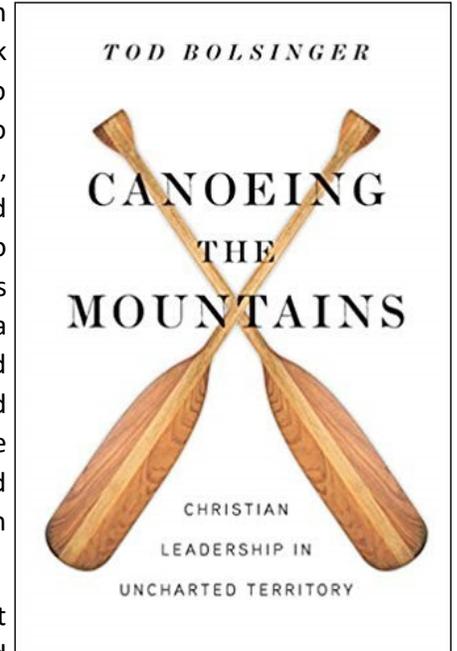
If you would like to support Dove House beyond this, they suggest gift cards from local businesses, wrapping paper and supplies, large yard waste bags, teen stocking stuffers like headphones, charging ports, socks, brushes, aftershave, and financial gifts that can be used to help fill in the gaps.



## Canoeing the Mountains

by Scott Rosekrans

I've just finished reading *Canoeing the Mountains, Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*, by Tod Bolsinger. Tod uses the Lewis and Clark Expedition as a backdrop for his book which I found very insightful as I've also read *Enduring Courage* by Stephen Ambrose which was about the expedition to find a water route to the Pacific Ocean over two hundred years ago. Essentially, what Tod is saying is that, like the explorers, we are heading into uncharted territory and what lies ahead is nothing like we've left behind. What we do know, is that what we've done in the past no longer works. He describes Christendom as the last seventeen hundred years of Christianity. It began as a new movement that nobody but the early followers knew anything about and has developed to the current state consisting of many denominations and countless non-denominations. We've been experiencing a steady decline for the last forty to fifty years and we are almost back to square one where the world has almost less of an understanding of what Christianity stands for than when Jesus Christ walked the earth.



The author says that in order to understand the uncharted territory before us it is important to realize that the world in front of us is nothing like the world behind us. He says that in leading in uncharted territory adaptation is everything. To succeed, we have to start with conviction, stay calm, stay connected and stay the course. When we get nervous, get scared, begin to fear failure, there will be a natural and expected tendency to default back to what we were doing, to doing what we were comfortable with, even if it no longer works. We have this natural desire to continue to live on the successes of the past. I think it is important to build upon those successes, but that it isn't wise to expend energy and resources on trying to repeat them, when we know they no longer produce the results they once did.

The challenge of a changing world requires organizational transformation. Organizational transformation requires ongoing transformation in leaders, including different ways of leading. This is where we find ourselves as a church. The leaders of the church, including myself, must be transformed in our leadership and vision if our church is going to be transformed to meet the needs of the post-Christendom period in which we find ourselves. Tod points out that Christian leaders today are sitting in meetings, reading reports and conversing with colleagues about a brutal truth: All that we have assumed about leading Christian organizations, all that we have been trained for, is out of date. It's true. In my short tenure, I've sat in on some of these meetings, I've attended Annual Conference and this is a topic of many conversations.

Tod says there will be a tendency to protect the status quo, to keep the current system in place, to preserve something that is dear to you. It's not necessarily based on a fear of change as it is more of a fear of loss. You, quite naturally, don't want to lose the church you love, the church in which you have so much invested, the church in which you have raised your families and mourned the loss of loved ones. I know it's scary and that some of you have probably wondered if Community would survive, especially after having a senior pastor retire and then having an untested Certified Lay Minister appointed to be your pastor. If you think you were scared, imagine what was racing through my mind!

At the end of the book, Tod concludes by saying that God is taking us out of the old world of Christendom into uncharted territory to change us. Sure, I'm nervous about the future, but I'm also excited about the possibilities and I think we are on the right path (if there is a path) as some of what we are doing is starting to bear fruit. We are excited and energized about what we are doing here at 130 Church Lane and, as we grow stronger, I have no doubt that we will be making some pretty amazing discoveries about ourselves and where the Spirit is leading us.

## November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>All Saints Sunday</i> 4</p> <p><i>Daylight Saving Time ends</i></p> <p>9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship</p>	<p>5:30-7:30pm Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>2pm Knit/Crochet Group</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>11am-5pm Blood Drive 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (library)</p> <p>5:30-8pm Guiding Good Choices Parent Workshop (Kitchen, Narthex, Classroom &amp; Nursery)</p>	<p>7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting</p> <p>11am UMW Meeting &amp; Annual Luncheon at Fiesta Jalisco</p>	<p>11:30am-12:30pm Beginners Hula Class</p>	<p>1:00-4:00pm Boy Scout Eagle Award Ceremony</p>
<p><i>Veteran's Day</i> 11</p> <p>9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship</p>	<p><i>(Observed)</i> 12</p> <p>Church Offices Closed 10:30am-12pm Memory Caregiver Support Group</p> <p>5:30-7:30pm Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>11:00am SPRC Meeting with DS 12:00pm Soup Lunch 1:00pm Charge Conference</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting</p>	<p>11:30am-12:30pm Beginners Hula Class</p>	<p>8am Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Newsletter Articles Due</p> <p>5:30-7:30pm Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting 6:00pm All Church Ecumenical Thanksgiving Dinner 7:00pm All Church Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Church Offices Closed 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Church Offices Closed 11:30am-12:30pm Beginners Hula Class</p>	<p>24</p>
<p><i>United Methodist Student Day (Special Offering)</i> 25</p> <p>9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30-7:30pm Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

## Monthly Devotional

*Our Daily Bread, November 23, 2017*

Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the firstfruits of the crops you sow in your field. Exodus 23:16

### Harvest and Thanksgiving

Several thousand years ago, God spoke directly to Moses and instituted a new festival for His people. In Exodus 23:16, according to Moses's record, God said, "Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the firstfruits of the crops you sow in your field."

Today countries around the world do something similar by celebrating the land's bounty. In Ghana, the people celebrate the Yam Festival as a harvest event. In Brazil, *Dia de Acao de Gracias* is a time to be grateful for the crops that yielded their food. In China, there is the Mid-Autumn (Moon) Festival. In the United States and Canada: Thanksgiving.

To understand the fitting goal of a harvest celebration, we visit Noah right after the flood. God reminded Noah and his family—and us—of His provision for our flourishing existence on the earth. Earth would have seasons, daylight and darkness and "seedtime and harvest" (Gen. 8:22). Our gratitude for the harvest, which sustains us, goes to God alone.

No matter where you live or how you celebrate your land's bounty, take time today to express gratitude to God—for we would have no harvest to celebrate without His grand creative design.

By Dave Branon

Dear Creator God, thank You so much for the wondrous way  
You fashioned this world—with seasons, with harvest-time,  
with everything we need to exist. Please accept our gratitude.



## 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](http://www.HadlockChurch.com)

**Learning Circle: 9:00am**  
**Sunday Worship: 10:00 am**  
**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