

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of  
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



January 2022

## A New Year and a Renewed Hope

Maybe next year will be better. Maybe COVID will disappear as fast as it appeared, and we can all get back to normal and do all the things we used to do and took for granted. No argument here as we enter our third year of the pandemic as to how difficult it has been. Vacation plans put on hold, weddings put off, jobs lost, friends and families sickened, so many deaths that we've become numb to the reports on the evening news. Is it no wonder that we are consumed with worry? It's in our nature.

And Jesus knows that. In Matthew's gospel Jesus tells us not to worry about our life, what we'll eat or what we'll drink, or about our bodies, or what we'll wear. He asks if life isn't more than food and the body more than clothes. He tells us to look at the birds in the sky and points out that they don't sow seed or harvest grain or gather crops into barns, yet the heavenly Father feeds them. He asks, rhetorically, if we aren't worth more than they are. "Who among you by worrying can add a single moment to your life?" Jesus asks. And why do we worry about the clothes we wear? He tells us to look at how the lilies in the field grow. They don't wear themselves out with work, and they don't spin cloth. He says that even Solomon in all of his splendor wasn't dressed like one of these lilies. Jesus asks if God does this much for the grasses, the plants, the flowers, which will wither and die, won't He do much more for us people of weak faith?

It's not that our faith is weak. It's just that at times what we face is overwhelming and sometimes it seems that it would just be easier to give in, to give up, to shrug our shoulders and say: "what's the use?" It's okay. God knows all about our human weakness and that we are often prone to fits of doubt and despair. He doesn't get upset. He sees it as an opportunity for growth. For God these times of doubt and uncertainty are teachable moments for us his children.

(Continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	<b>1-2</b>
Welcome to Tai Chi	<b>2</b>
Christmas Services	<b>3</b>
UMW meeting and	<b>4</b>
Christmas Missions	<b>5</b>
Lights, Camera, Ac-	<b>6-7</b>
Parsonage Project	<b>7</b>
Winter Shelter	<b>8</b>
General Store	<b>9-11</b>
Ongoing Missions	<b>12</b>
Financial Report, Mis- sion of the month	<b>13</b>
January birthdays, schedules, prayers	<b>14</b>
January Calendar	<b>15</b>
Monthly Devotional	<b>16</b>

Photos by Scott Rosekrans



## Pastor's Pen

I'm a worrier by nature. A worrier in the sense that I want to see things go according to plan. In spite of the fact that I've made a pretty good living off failure, I want things to go right just so I won't have to worry or get stressed out. For example, I knew when I got appointed to our church that mainline denominations were in decline and had been declining for decades. So, I read a lot of books, some more than once, looking for answers. And I prayed a lot opening myself up to the Spirit for guidance. And you know what? By letting go and letting God the Spirit took charge and gave us more than enough to do to where we don't have time to worry about the fact that we are a smaller and grayer congregation. Where COVID has been the death knell, the final nail in the coffin for many churches, I believe it has made us stronger. We have risen to the challenge of being a church in a part of the country where most people neither go to church nor claim any affiliation with any denomination. We are doing everything we can to reestablish our footprint in the community to where people now know where we are, who we are, and what we stand for. We are the "somebodies who do something" when something needs to be done, and we are a "part of the solution" when a problem confronts our community. We don't have time to worry. We've got more important things to do. I know this because God is sending us people who are worried about what they will wear in this cold weather and what they will eat when they have no money to buy food. I know this because God is sending us generous people who are donating items and giving us money to support what God has called us to do during this very difficult time. It is because of this that I have a renewed hope for the future and there is no other group of people I would rather face the future with than my brothers and sisters right here at Community United Methodist Church.

Faithfully, Scott



## Welcome to Tai Chi (A Moving Meditation Class)

Tai Chi class will resume this Wednesday, Jan 5th at 2:00 pm. There is no charge for this class. Please wear flat, soled shoes & comfortable clothes that will allow you to move freely.

After all the Holiday stagnation, (coupled with all the Holiday sweets and treats), it will be good to focus on some renewed Chi (Qi=energy).

There are so many benefits from Tai Chi! Some of those benefits are:

PHYSICAL: Reduce Stress, relieve pain, increase energy, stamina, improve balance, lower blood pressure, strengthen bones and muscles, improves circulation and breathing. Aids digestion, improves concentration and focus, lowers stress, enhances mood. Relieves depression, encourages joy. Creates mindfulness, awareness, positive thinking. Improves self esteem. Encourages serenity, peace and inner beauty! Plus, its social and fun!

So, why not challenge yourself and give it a go?!

For info, you may contact Siochain @ [elfin.stone2@gmail.com](mailto:elfin.stone2@gmail.com)

Or phone ( 707) 472-8772.

Blessings, and hope to see YOU there

# Christmas Services

Longest Night, December 21, 2022



Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022





The UMW meeting was on December 2, 2021. There were two musicians invited to play for the UMW group. The music was beautiful . Pamela Roberts played the viola and Sung-Ling Hsu performed on the piano.

# Christmas Missions



Making Cookies!



Christmas Eve



Making Gift Bags

Gift bags, cookies are for Margaret's Village and Peter's Place.



Toys for Tots

# Lights, Camera, Action!

By Scott Rosekrans

If you haven't already heard, we've made a giant leap into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We're in the process of transitioning from a static Facebook Live service with an iPad to a Zoom Webinar live service with not one, but three cameras! Facebook Live has served us well but, if you've been watching on Sunday mornings, it is a constant struggle with last minute glitches that make putting on the service stressful not only for me but for our behind-the-scenes support staff. Plus, the time is coming when Facebook will want to exert more control over how we use their platform and also start charging a fee for its use. With the help of David Valera from the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church we have installed an up-to-date audio-visual system that provides us with better audio and a video presentation that uses three cameras and a switcher. I will no longer have to worry about using two microphones, one for the iPad and one for the church sound system. The new system will free me up to wander away from the pulpit and again be more interactive. And, I won't have to worry about wandering off camera. Camera one, mounted on the upper back wall of the sanctuary gives the viewer a wide shot of the front of the sanctuary, an establishing shot. Camera two is zoomed in and focused on the pulpit where you will have a close up of the pastor and liturgist. Camera three is focused on our musicians so you can actually see Terry and Diane playing. We did a test run on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> and it exceeded expectations. This new system will give our viewers at home a more engaging service to watch. We will even have the capacity, with training, to put graphics up for the folks at home to see such as the Call to Worship, the Opening Prayer, and maybe even the hymns. That will definitely take more training!

So, here's what you will have to do. For those who have gotten used to Facebook Live you will have to transition to the Zoom system. Many of you have already used Zoom over the past two years so that won't be difficult. If you have never used Zoom, you'll have to download the app on your device which is not difficult at all. On Saturday I'll email out a Zoom Invitation for you to access on Sunday morning. At around 9:55 a.m. our time you go to your email and click on the link, and it should immediately upload for you. Don't worry, we can't see you so you don't have to get all fixed up and you can keep drinking your tea or coffee. And, just like Facebook, there is a chat function that you can use to say good morning to one another and send us your joys and concerns. For those who have internet but don't do Facebook this is an added bonus as they too can now enjoy the live service.

And if you happen to miss the live service because of a competing football game you can still watch it later. There is a way I can upload it to our Facebook Page and I'm working on also uploading it to our webpage. As an added bonus, I can include the link in the Sunday email I send out with the sermon which will allow you to watch the sermon after entering a Passcode. We did that after the service on the 9<sup>th</sup> and several folks watched the service.



(Continued on Page 7)

We will continue to do a mixed service with both Facebook Live and Zoom to give people time to make the transition. I'll continue to make announcements on Sunday morning to those who watch our services but do not belong to our church so that they can send me their emails. The importance of this was underscored Sunday when a person who watches every Sunday sent us a prayer request from her hospital bed as she was watching live and wanted prayers from her fellow worshipers. This is pretty exciting stuff so bear with us as we find our way and adapt to our new and improved service. And, if you would like to become a part of our behind-the-scenes production team let me know because we can certainly use all the help we can get. That's a wrap!



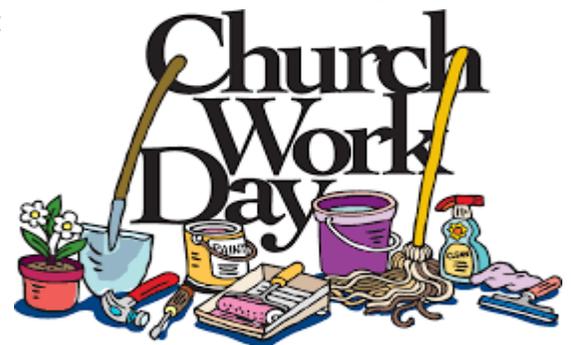
## The Parsonage Project

By Scott Rosekrans

Timing is everything. Our tenants who have been living in the parsonage for the last year are vacating and moving to Indiana which gives us an opportunity to get in there and do some updating which hasn't been done in a very long time, or at least since I've been here. The upstairs is in need of fresh paint and the linoleum flooring in the kitchen and bathroom needs to be replaced. Plus, the appliances need to be replaced. Some of them I think are original to when the parsonage was first built several decades ago. And the downstairs needs new paint and the original carpet needs to be pulled up. We are currently in discussions with a gentleman who would like to live upstairs with a friend and help us do renovations on the bottom floor that would allow us to convert it into a separate apartment, giving us two rental units. He's a contractor from Seattle who wants to move over here and has been very involved with the building of not only the tiny homes behind our church but the new village that is being established in Port Townsend, so he is invested in our community and thinks quite highly of our church.

So, here's what we need from you. I mentioned on Sunday the 9th that we would like to set up a separate account for our parsonage renovations for people to make contributions to as a way of helping us offset some of the costs. I've already had someone come by the church and drop off a check for \$30.00 which will buy one gallon of paint. After the tenants move out on the 12th we'll be able to get in there to inspect it and make a determination as to what all needs to be done other than painting. We may need some new lighting fixtures and wall plates for example. The tenant mentioned some leaky sinks and dripping faucets, a drier that is not drying as it should, and an oven that seems to get awfully hot. We think that with a little luck and some volunteer help we can get the upstairs updated in a couple of weeks to a month so the new tenant can move in.

If you would like to contribute financially you can send us a check made out to the church and on the memo line write Parsonage Project and we'll put it into the new account. If you would like to buy something specific that would also be fine. And, of course, you can volunteer as much as you can as many hands make for light work. We're pretty excited about this opportunity as it allows us to put two rental units on the market for the community, and increases our rental income which will go a long way in supporting what we do here in our community and as far as we can reach.





## JEFFERSON COUNTY WINTER SHELTER

Most of us at Community UMC are blessed with a warm home and a full pantry during the cold months of winter but that is not true for many in our area. We are grateful that Jefferson County offers a winter shelter for even a small number of folks in the area that gives them a place to sleep and three meals a day. The winter shelter is located at the American Legion in Port Townsend and shelters about 25 people, both men and women.

We have been given the opportunity again this year to participate in feeding the guests at the shelter. We will be preparing the evening meals from Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> through Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, we will be responsible for providing milk and juice for breakfasts through Saturday of that week.

**Change this year:** due to Covid-19 and the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, we will not be serving the meal. We will just cook it and drop it off at the center. This is to protect our volunteers.

Those who have participated in the past have found it to be a most rewarding experience and I invite you to take part this year. Per the shelter rules, all volunteers must have a Covid-19 vaccination and

must present their vaccination card so that there is a copy on file. All guests, residents and staff at the shelter are vaccinated.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the church by the beginning of February to indicate how you are able to help. Please mark your calendars and sign up. If you have questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your continued support of those in need. Diane Jensen, 402-290-1220 or [dcjensen29@gmail.com](mailto:dcjensen29@gmail.com)



*CUMC*  
*General Store*

**Saturdays**

**10:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**Free  
food, clothing, shoes,  
sheets, blankets,  
household items,  
camping gear & more!**

**130 Church Lane, Port Hadlock, WA  
[cumc.donate@gmail.com](mailto:cumc.donate@gmail.com)**

## THE CUMC GENERAL STORE COULD USE YOUR HELP!

### WHAT IS NEEDED

(See below for our DO NOT NEED List)

All packages must be store sealed. We cannot take partially used food packages or hygiene items. No re-bagged food or hygiene products (have had bugs in the past). No food beyond its expiration date. Our shoppers mostly live in small, no storage places such as cars, vans, RV's, tents, tiny homes, and small apts., so please don't buy large jars, cans or packages. Cooking facilities are often limited, so ready to eat, individually wrapped foods are best.

The CUMC General Store serves all of the Tri-Area homeless and low-income individuals/families. We do not ask what Church, Temple, Mosque, or Synagogue or faith any shopper practices or doesn't practice. Please refer any of your Church members, f clients, friends or neighbors in need of help. There is no charge for any food, clothing or other items.

### FOOD ITEMS

For persons on medically restricted diets please try to make half of your food purchases low sugar, low fat and low sodium

Canned meats such as Dinty Moore beef stew, cans of chicken, pork, ham, corned beef hash, sardines, tuna, chili with meat, Spam (if you can get these products in "pull type tabs" it helps a lot)

Pasta with pasta sauces – smaller & 15 oz. jars/cans

Shelf milk in cartons – also includes Almond & Soy type milks

Cans of soup – especially Progresso & Campbell Heart Soups

Cans of fruit (15 oz) with pull tabs if possible

Breakfast/Protein bars

Protein drinks such as Ensure, Boost, Premier

Individual packets of oatmeal

Small to medium size box of dry cereal

Small fruit cups, both sugar & low sugar

Small jars of peanut butter (16 oz. sz.)

Small jars of jam or jelly (16 oz. sz.)

Small peanut butter cups or small jars, regular & low sodium

Small packets of crackers

Hot Chocolate packets

Coffee – individual (one cup) packets

Fruit Drinks, some with sugar, some without sugar

Lg. Bed pads for adults, 23" X 36" (to place on beds for incontinence)

Depends for both men and women

Feminine products – tampons/pads

Dog Food & Cat Food – Big bags OK. We re-bag to smaller amounts.

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels

Laundry soap – unscented packet type is best & we can repack these

Dishwashing Soap – unscented & smaller containers

CLOTHING – we collect clothes on a seasonal basis. Please keep In mind what season we are in when you donate clothing.

Men & women jeans, sweats, work pants

Men & women tee shirts, blouses, button shirts , sweat shirts

Underwear – both men's & women's (we prefer new on this item)

All sizes but particularly Sizes 5 – 8 in women's underwear

Men & women socks – all sizes

Men & women's pajamas

(contined from page 10)

Men & women's seasonal coats (waterproof preferred)

Men's & women shoes – everyday sneakers or general wear casual shoes, work boots, & waterproof boots

Men's winter gloves or work cloves (no dress gloves)

Men & women's knit hats, scarves & gloves

**BEDDING** - washed no stains, or rips

Sheets - twin, full, queen & king Sheets, especially Twin Sheets (all with pillow cases)

Blankets- twin, full, queen & king

Bath towels & wash cloths

Pillows – please no stains

**OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

Medium to small crock pots, electric skillets

Medium to small pots & pans

Kitchen cooking utensils, dishes, silverware, bowls, cups, glasses

Small wall mirrors

Small rugs

**CAMPING GEAR**

2 to 4 person tents – clean, no rips, all zippers working

Sleeping bags – washed, no rips, all zippers working

Twin to Queen size air mattresses

Waterproof Tarps – to go under and over tents

Camping chairs – in clean, good condition

Small cook stoves – with appropriate fuel

**WE DO NOT NEED**

Egg cartons or dryer lint – we have plenty

Top Ramen or Maruchan Noodles – we have plenty

Cans of Vegetables – we gave plenty

Black beans or garbanzo beans – we have plenty

If in doubt about your donation please e-mail us at:

[cumc.donate@gmail.com](mailto:cumc.donate@gmail.com)

**For Donations or Shopping**

The Community United Methodist General Store is open every Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

130 Church Lane

Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Go to the left, far end of our building for donation drop-offs or shopping

Thank you one and all!

Jean Holtz & Marsha Hamacher

**We don't do "charity work"  
We call our store "resource sharing".**

# Ongoing MISSIONS

Photos by Scott Rosekrans



General Store



Clothing



Making Fleece Scarfs





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. In 2019 CUMC will begin donating \$100 each month to UMCOR as well to aid in natural disaster relief efforts. Following is the donation schedule for 2019 and the total amount donated each month:

# 2022

Dec. 2021	ECHHO	\$ 500.00
January	Food Bank	\$
February	OlyCAP	\$
March	ECHHO	\$
April	Food Bank	\$
May	OlyCAP	\$
June	ECHHO	\$
July	Food Bank	\$
August	OlyCAP	\$
September	ECHHO	\$
October	Food Bank	\$
November	OlyCAP	\$

## FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

<b>2021 Full Year</b>		<b>12/31/21</b>
<b>Income</b>		<b>\$130,595.66</b>
	Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$105,443.63
	Other Income	\$25,152.03
<b>Expenses</b>		<b>\$122,624.21</b>
	Apportionments	\$18,598.16
	Local Program Ministry	\$12,306.34
	Operating Expenses	\$43,626.67
	Personnel Expenses	\$48,093.04
<b>Difference</b>		<b>\$7,071.45</b>

BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
-----------	-------------	-------------

None on file.

5  
12  
19  
26

- \* For the homeless, the hungry and the unemployed.
- \* For Peace on Earth!
- \* For wisdom for our leaders.
- \* For employment for people struggling to find meaningful work.
- \* For Healing and provisions for those who are suffering with COVID-19.
- \* For protection of the medical front-line workers who are caring for patients with COVID-19 and variants.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

2  
9  
16  
23  
30

**LITURGISTS**

2  
9  
16  
23  
30

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**COUNTERS**

2  
9  
16  
23  
30

2  
9  
16  
23  
30

**USHERS**

**GREETERS**

2  
9  
16  
23  
30

2  
9  
16  
23  
30



**January LECTIONARY READINGS**

Jan 2

Isa 60:1-6  
Ps 72:1-7, 10-14  
Eph 3:1-12  
Luke 3:1-6

Jan 9

Isa 43:1-7  
Ps 29  
Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Jan 16

Isa 62:1-5  
Ps 36:5-10  
1 Cor 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

Jan 23

Neh 8:103, 5-6,8-10  
Ps 19  
1 Cor 12: 12-31a  
Luke 4: 21-30

Jan 30

Jer 1: 4-10  
Ps 71: 1-6  
1 Cor 13: 1-13  
Luke 4:21-30



December 26th, 2021

Timely ResolutionMatthew 5:21–26By Arthur Jackson

The unresolved hurt between Simon and Geoffrey had persisted for years, and Simon's attempts to reenter the relationship had been resisted. Upon hearing the news of the death of Geoffrey's mother, Simon traveled "up country" in Kenya to attend her funeral service. Simon reflected on their encounter: "I had no expectations at all in terms of how the whole thing would turn out, [but] after the service, we opened up and had a fruitful talk. We hugged, shared the moment, prayed together, and planned to meet again." If only Simon and Geoffrey had been able to reconcile earlier, so much ongoing pain could have been avoided.

The words of Jesus in Matthew 5:21–26 help to put unresolved relational tensions in perspective. The anger that can lead to such rifts is a serious matter (v. 22). Furthermore, getting things in order relationally is a fitting prelude to worshipping God (vv. 23–24). The wise words of Jesus to "settle matters quickly with your adversary" (v. 25) remind us that the sooner we do what we can to work toward reconciliation the better for all.

Relationships are risky; they demand work—in our families, in the workplace, in educational settings, and among people who share our faith in Christ. But as those who represent Him, the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6), may we find ourselves going out of our way to extend our hearts and hands to those with whom we have unresolved conflict.

**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 &amp; Wednesday

10 am - 6 pm, Tuesday