

CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of Community United Methodist Church

February 2020

Rainbow Girls and the Blessing of the Hats

By Betty Prentice

On February 2, Pastor Scott conducted a blessing of the hats, which had been knitted for the Quilcene Food Bank by Taryn Rogers, a teenager from Port Townsend. Taryn is Worthy Advisor of the Port Townsend Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, which is a service organization for girls between the ages of 11-20.

Back in December the Rainbow girls came to CUMC one afternoon and wrapped about 50 gifts for the Quilcene Food Bank Christmas party for children of Quilcene. Taryn brought in a bag of hats that afternoon, which she had made, and left with several skeins of yarn which the Quilcene Food Bank had given to the church, excited about the opportunity to knit more hats for the food bank. She turned that yarn into 19 hats, which you can see in this photo. We recently gave Taryn more yarn, and very likely before the month is over, she will have another bag of hats completed.

Asked why she continues to knit hats to give to others, Taryn shared that she receives much satisfaction in knowing that she is helping others and is able to give back to the community because when she was young there was a time when her family needed help.

The Rainbow girls have become partners with us in supporting the Quilcene Food Bank. Twice in the last few months they have spent a Saturday morning working in the back-storage area at the food bank,

organizing all the various non-food donations that the food bank receives. In addition, they make hygiene kits for Quilcene Food Bank. Taryn and her assembly have also done such projects as making cookies for the fire station and the police department, caroling at the Life Care Center, and wrapping gifts and helping with a Christmas party for families of foster children.



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Photos by Dale Kelley



In the 14th chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus promises his disciples that after he goes away the Father will send the Holy Spirit. Depending upon which translation you read, the Holy Spirit is referred to as Counselor, Helper, Companion and Advocate. I like the term Advocate because, in my former days of practicing criminal defense, I used to advocate for my clients. I was their voice. In John 14: 16, Jesus says; *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.* Someone who will stick by you no matter what or how difficult things get. In 14: 26, Jesus continues by explaining; *But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have told you.* Jesus had taught them a lot and he knew they would need another to remind them of the mission and keep them on track. Now, we have the gospels at our fingertips, but we too need the Holy Spirit to remind us from time to time of what we are called to do in Jesus' name, advocate for the last, the least and the lost.

As I said, when I was an attorney practicing criminal defense, it was my job to be an advocate for my clients and to be their voice as we navigated the dangerous and uncertain legal seas in the face of an unrelenting legal system with very little empathy for people like my clients and their families. One of my jobs was to humanize them so the judge and jury would see them more as a person that made a bad decision rather than a criminal who needed to be locked up and have the key thrown away. In a law-and-order state such as Texas this was quite challenging and, I can say with a certain degree of confidence, that I was pretty successful in obtaining lesser verdicts and sentences on the more lenient side of the scale.

It's all about really getting to know the people you serve, whether you are an attorney or a member of a church. And that's what I think we've done here at Community United Methodist Church. We've made a genuine attempt to get to know the people we serve through the relationships we've developed with the entities we support like the two food banks, Habitat for Humanity, Bayside Housing and Services and OlyCAP. They know to call us when they need something. And more importantly, we've gotten to know the individuals as fellow human beings. We know their stories and their struggles. Over the past three years I have gotten to know many of the people who come in for assistance. I listen to them as best I can in an effort to know better the trials they face and what we can do to help them through the resources we have and the relationships we've developed with the service agencies. Through the trust we've developed with these most vulnerable people I believe we are at a point where we can and should do more.

In January I met with our Staff-Parish Relations Committee and they inquired as to what my goals would be for 2020. I told them that now that the mission team was up and running efficiently, I felt I now had more time to devote to the plight of those who individually come to us for help. One of the groups I've identified are the homeless who are living in vehicles that have no safe place to park each night. Most of them are women but there are a few men. They've lost their place to live and now find themselves living in cars, trucks, vans and motorhomes. Most of these people are over sixty years of age and are far from being a threat to anyone. A few even have jobs. They've shared their stories with me, and I can tell you it is a constant struggle just to get by. I told the SPRC that it was my goal for this year for our church to be an advocate for these people and to use the knowledge we've gained through meeting their needs, to be their voice and to speak for them. In this newsletter you will see a copy of a letter I sent to all three of our (Continued on p. 3)





County Commissioners that was authorized by the Administrative Council in December. As of this writing I've engaged in discussions with two of the three commissioners. One in a face-to-face who thanked me for the letter, and we had a nice conversation where I shared a few stories of those I've gotten to know in an attempt to humanize them. The second has been a series of email exchanges with another commissioner who I hope to convince that the situation is urgent and that these people are helpless. Every night on the street is a new experience for these folks. Ironically, both commissioners pointed out that the Washington Supreme Court ruled that it is permissible for homeless people in vehicles to park on public streets. That does not solve the problem as several of them have shared stories with me about the problems they've had when parked overnight on the street. They've had the police called on them, they've been harassed by neighbors, and their vehicles have been vandalized, not to mention the safety concerns surrounding off-street parking and the noise from passing cars and emergency vehicles. I've asked each one if having a safe place to park at night would be something they would like and all of them said it would make their lives easier.

As Jesus told the disciples that the Father would be sending them an Advocate to help and guide them, it is our duty and responsibility to be an advocate for the lesser of God's children who need someone to speak up for them, and I believe that God has sent them to us for care and comfort. Let's make 2020 the year we make our voice heard in the community for the last, the least and the lost.

Faithfully, Pastor Scott



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

**You're
invited**

Thursday, February 6th

Business Meeting at 10:00am

Devotions: Audrey Sanderson

Hostesses: Pat Chase & Bev Rothenborg

*Program: Marcy Wootan – Marcy continues her
heartwarming Valentine card-making tradition*



THAT CHURCH

Our Welcoming Banner

Clothes Closet



Soup Making



Pictures by Scott Rosekrans



Fire Starters



BLOOD DRIVE

● Bettering our community, drop by drop.

Wednesday, February 12
11:00 am to 5:00 pm

(closed 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm)

**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

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

DONATIONS GO TO LOCAL HOSPITALS



800-398-7888 | BloodworksNW.org

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CUMC Boiler Replacement Project

By David Sweet

The Trustees have been studying the need to replace the existing oil-fired boiler since at least the spring of 2018 with several different people leading the project during that time. The existing oil-fired boiler and underground oil storage tank have been in use for nearly 60 years. Both units have served us well and are beyond their normal life expectancy. The existing boiler is not efficient and when repairs are needed there is concern that parts may not be available.

At the outset it was assumed that we would replace the boiler with another oil-fired boiler. As time went on the Trustees became concerned that we should explore more environmentally friendly options. One of the main environmental concerns is the existing underground storage oil tank that has been in place for so many years. It needs to be removed or closed no matter which option is preferred.

Tedd Ross of TRC Engineering had his firm provide, pro-bono, a study on whether an electric plan would be feasible for CUMC. The outcome of this study showed that there would need to be costly electrical upgrades to the building in addition to a cost of about \$51,000 for an electric boiler or \$61,000 for an electric heat pump. The Trustees dismissed this option due to initial cost.

There is also an interest in remodeling the kitchen and converting electric ranges to propane and providing for a propane fireplace insert in the future.

The Trustees explored both oil-fired and propane-fired boilers, again with an eye on being environmentally friendly. Bids were received for both with the following results:

Oil = \$38,694.50 + \$4,050 for added propane = \$42,744.50

Propane = \$42,008.07.

Both prices include permits, trenching and piping, regulators for ranges and fireplace, and closing or removing the existing oil tank. The propane tank will be placed near the west end of the building and hidden by a fence or shrubbery. This does not include propane ranges or fireplace insert at this time.

On January 13 The Trustees recommended to the Admin Council and Finance Committee the propane option. The Admin Council approved the recommendation and the Admin Council and Finance Committee will determine from where to draw the funds to finance the project. There is money on hand to cover the cost.

When we move forward with the kitchen remodel additional fundraising will probably be necessary to cover that cost.

Photo by Scott Rosekrans



BIRTHDAYS

3 Debbie Dodd
 4 John Sweet
 10 Barry Horton
 12 Betty Harmon
 18 Jackie Dale
 27 Scott Rosekrans
 28 John Long

ALTAR FLOWERS

2 Billie Fitch
 9 Marcia Wooten
 16
 23

COMMUNION SERVERS

2

COUNTERS

2 Debbie D./Mike P.
 9 Patty M./Marsha
 16 Betty P./Lori O.
 23 Johnson, D./Connie

GREETERS

2 Diane Jensen
 9
 16
 26 John Sweet

HOSPITALITY

2
 9
 16
 23 Potluck

LITURGISTS

2 Stephen Chase
 9 Marcia Wooten
 16 Liz Hazen
 23 Diane Johnson

SUNDAY SCHOOL

2 Julie
 9 Audrey & Larry
 16 Debbie
 23 Stephen C.

USHERS

2 Bill & Wendi Metzger
 9 Marsha/Mike P.
 16 Ted & Stephanie B.
 23 A.J./Pat Cooper

PRAISES

1. Praises and thanksgiving for all those helping on the Clothes Closet room, it looks beautiful!
2. Praise and thanksgiving for the trustees' hard work on the boiler replacement project.

OUR PRAYERS

- * The homeless, the hungry and the unemployed.
- * For Peace on Earth!
- * For wisdom for our leaders.
- * For the Buehlers' friend, that her treatments be successful.
- * For Jennie that she will be greatly blessed and find peace in the Lord's care.
- * For Bob Linrothe that he get better soon.
- * For Jennifer that she get better soon and be blessed greatly.
- * For Stephanie and Ted's friend Bob who passed, that his family will be blessed and find peace.

PRAISES

3. Praise and thanksgiving for the Rainbow Girls for helping our community!

**FEBRUARY LECTIONARY READINGS**February 2

Mic 6:1-8
 Ps 15
 1 Cor 1:18-31
 Matt 5:1-12

February 9

Isaiah 58:1-9
 Ps 112:1-10
 1 Cor 2:1-12
 Matt 3:13-17

February 16

Deut 30:15-20
 Ps 119:1-8
 1 Cor 3:1-9
 Matt 5:21-37

February 23

Exod 24:12-18
 Ps 99
 2 Pet 1:16-21
 Matt 17:1-9

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. 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:

January:	ECHHO	\$ 88.33
February:	Food Bank	\$238.00
March:	OlyCAP	\$350.00
April:	ECHHO	\$370.00
May:	Food Bank	\$350.00
June:	OlyCAP	\$350.00
July:	ECHHO	\$350.00
August:	Food Bank	\$350.00
September:	OlyCAP	\$350.00
October:	ECHHO	\$350.00
November:	Food Bank	\$250.00
December:	OlyCAP	\$350.00

2020



2020 Underweary

By Scott Rosekrans



It's February and that means it's Underweary Month, the month when we collect underwear to distribute to the many non-profits we support like the two food banks, Bayside Housing and Services, Dove House, WIC (Women-Infants-Children), the Chimacum School District, the county jail and to those who come by the church looking for help. There's not a week that goes by that I don't have the opportunity to talk to someone who is living in substandard housing, a vehicle, a tent or is couch surfing. They're on a pretty tight budget and luxuries like new underwear and socks come well after food, gas and rent. I've noticed that the people who I take back to our clothes closet are always looking for something, anything, warm and what underwear we have doesn't stay on the shelf long. Recently, a homeless man came by the church and I took him to the clothes closet to see what we had. He spotted some thermal underwear someone had donated and quickly snatched them up. With that in mind, you might consider thermal underwear. I really like the thermal shirts and wear them under my shirts for added warmth. As a reminder, the county jail prefers white.

So, how do you get involved? Easy. When you're on your weekly shopping run just pick up some underwear and throw it in your cart. You can bring it by the church on Sunday or any day during the week. Or, as others have done, you can order on Amazon and have them delivered to the church at 130 Church Lane, Port Hadlock. And, of course, you can always send a check to CUMC with Underweary on the memo line to P.O. Box 1165, Port Hadlock WA 98339. This also might be a great project for that service organization you belong to or you can make it a family thing and an object lesson for your youngsters.



The same letter was sent by Scott to commissioners, Kate Dean and Greg Brotherton.



Community United Methodist Church

A United Methodist Congregation Serving East Jefferson County

130 Church Lane
P.O. Box 1165
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

360-385-1579
cumc@olympus.net
Scott Rosekrans, Pastor

January 15, 2020

Commissioner David Sullivan
Jefferson County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Re: Safe Overnight Parking for the Homeless

Dear Commissioner Sullivan,

I am writing regarding a concern that my church has for those who find themselves homeless and living in their vehicles. During my three plus years here as pastor I have met numerous people who find themselves having to live in their vehicles for one reason or another. A common concern with many of these people is having a place to park at night where they feel safe and protected. Many of these people are women and some of them are elderly, my age and older, and alone.

We realize that there is a common misperception that the homeless have serious problems like mental illness, drug and alcohol addictions, and criminal behaviors that may pose a threat to society. It is unfair to lump all homeless under the same umbrella. I can assure you that the people of which I am talking about do not fall into this category.

During my time here I have worked extensively with some of these people by referring them to any number of the entities we have in Jefferson County designed to assist them. We have a close working relationship with OlyCAP and Bayside Housing and Services for example and refer many to them for help. But the problem is that these agencies are stretched to the point of breaking and the homeless are left to wait in their vehicles for the next available place to live which can take many months.

There is not a week that goes by that there is an article in the local paper about the housing and homeless crisis with questions and concerns as to how to fund the solutions and who will bear the expense. In order to address this growing problem, I think it is important to realize that it is impossible to tackle the problem as a whole. We have learned that the best way to approach eating the elephant is to take one bite at a time. Address what you can and build upon those successes. Nothing breeds success like success.

(Continued on Page 10)

Sullivan

p2

What we propose is that Jefferson County designate one of the county properties in the Tri-Area as a safe place for the homeless in vehicles to park overnight. For example, consider the Tri-Area Community Center or the vacant park next door. The County Prosecutor could easily draft an ordinance addressing the time periods overnight parking is allowed. The County Sheriff could have his deputies patrol the area to make sure these folks are safe and not being disturbed. The Sheriff could also have jail trustees clean the area from time to time or the Parks Department could make sure the trash receptacles are emptied and grounds maintained. The Community Center could even allow these folks access to the public restrooms. (I had one lady tell me she got ready for work in the Port Hadlock QFC restroom.) Another possibility is H.J. Carroll Park and I am sure there are others. I'm sure you get the idea.

We, at Community United Methodist Church, encourage you and your colleagues to work together to find solutions to problems such as this that can be of a benefit to all concerned and serve as proof positive that something is being done to help those who need it the most. We believe this is a simple and virtually cost-free fix.

Thank you for your time, attention and cooperation in this matter. If you have any comments or questions, or if I may be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Scott W. Rosekrans

Financial Reports for December 2019 and January 2020

	December 2019	January 2020
Income	\$11,237.42	\$9,499.01
Pledges/Non-Pledges	\$8,828.00	\$7,205.00
Cash Offering	\$320.00	\$192.00
Rental Property	\$1,769.00	\$1,769.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$320.42	\$333.01
Expenses	\$10,333.47	\$8,576.96
Apportionments	\$1,281.35	\$1,363.33
Repairs and Maintenance	\$66.88	\$434.02
Local Program Ministry	\$1,520.07	\$762.76
Operation Expenses	\$3,355.67	\$1,330.81
Personnel Expenses	\$4,109.50	\$4,686.04
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$903.95	\$922.05

[illegible]

In His Presence

September 23, 1998

Monthly Devotion

As the bus rounded another bend in the Israeli road, I was not prepared for my reaction to what I would see. There stretching before us lay the Sea of Galilee. Its beauty sparkled in the bright sunlight, but my heart was not touched just by its natural grandeur. No, the tears of wonderment that clouded my vision came when I realized anew that I was in the land of Jesus' earthly life.

When I looked over that body of water, I was viewing the sea on which Jesus sailed. When I visited the city of Capernaum, I was walking exactly where He walked. When I came to the Mount of the Beatitudes, I was standing in the very place where Jesus gave His remarkable sermon.

My heart was renewed by these realizations. It was warmed with the realities of Jesus' life—and especially His sacrificial death. Although those experiences in Israel have no redeeming power, they made me think about something that will happen in the future. I was touched by this thought: If being in the place where Jesus walked has the power to quicken my heart, how overwhelming it will be to stand in His presence in heaven!

Imagine the absolute ecstasy of being where Jesus is—not just where He was. It will be astounding!

By Dave Branon

*To be in His presence! A glorious thought
So awesome I cannot conceive;
I'll bow down and worship the Lord on His throne
And add to the praise He'll receive. —Sper*



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

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

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