

CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



Don't Be The Goat

August 2020

One of my favorite passages in the New Testament is Matthew 25: 31-46 where Jesus separates the sheep from the goats. Spoiler Alert! You don't want to be a goat. Most of us know this passage as The Least of These parable where Jesus is explaining to his listeners that when the Son of Man comes in his glory, he will sit on his throne and gather all the nations before him and will separate the people from one another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. On his right he will put the sheep and on the left, the goats. If you're not familiar with this passage, or if it's been a while since you last read it, stop now and take a few minutes to read it. In short, the point Jesus is trying to get across is that if you are a child of God and have the means to help out one of His less-fortunate children, you must. You must because by doing it for one of these less-fortunate, one of the least of these brothers or sisters of his, you are doing it for him. This act of unselfish love puts you in with the sheep, the righteous who will receive their inheritance. Of course, the goats, those on his left, indignantly wanted to know when it was they saw him and did not tend to his needs, to which he responded that whenever they ignored the plight of one of the least of his brothers

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whenever they ignored the plight of one of the least of his brothers or sisters, they were ignoring him, they were turning their back on Jesus.

Gee Scott, turning our backs on Jesus is a pretty harsh way of putting it! I know, but I think that's Jesus' position when he says in verse 46: *Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.* Talk about something that will keep you awake at night! I mean, this passage goes right back to the great commission; love God and love your neighbor as yourself. If you'd do it for yourself or one of your loved ones, do it for others.

So, that got me to thinking how are we doing in meeting the needs of the least of these, the ones who come to us for help? Technically, we're closed but I don't think Jesus would find that as an acceptable excuse. With that in mind, I looked back at a few of the more recent examples of when we, as a church, did what we could for a child of God who came to our door looking for help and here's what I came up with. When I was unemployed and looking for work, you gave me several gas cards for my car so I could look for work. When I needed special formula for my baby, you gave me a grocery card so I could buy this formula and feed my baby. When I was living in a trailer with no utilities, you gave me a box of food, a solar light, a grocery card and two pairs of new socks. You see, I think these simple acts are in line with the simple things Jesus was talking about in helping out people in their time of need. He's not talking about something big or complicated like solving the homeless situation or unemployment. But we do that too in our advocacy for the homeless and unemployed through our monthly financial support for non-profits like ECHHO (Ecumenical Christian Helping Hands Organization),

(Continued from page 2)

OlyCAP (Olympic Community Action Program) and the Tri-Area and Quilcene food banks, just to name a few. We have it within our means and gladly return back to God a portion of what we've been blessed with.

The young lady that needed formula for her baby said something that took me aback. When I gave her the QFC card she said: "I never thought to ask a church for help." It's a rare occasion when I find myself at a loss for words and this was one of them. All I could say was that I was glad she came to us (actually she was referred by one of our church members) and that if there was anything else we could do to please come back. I did recover enough to give her one of our green cards that list all the agencies in Jefferson County that provide assistance and told her about two places I saw that were advertising for positions as a cashier.

In any event, I am grateful to be the pastor of a flock of sheep and not a herd of goats, and I am thankful for the constant reminders that there are people out there who need our help and that Jesus sends them to us knowing we will see to the least of one of His brothers and sisters just like we would do for him.

Faithfully, Scott



Photos by Scott Rosekrans

Neil Morgan our , our hardworking 'mower'.

Local

MISSION
of the
MONTH

2020

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	\$300.00
May:	Food Bank	\$275.00
June:	OlyCAP	\$350.00
July:	ECHHO	\$666.67
August:	Food Bank	\$307.32

FINANCE REPORT

2020 Year to Date

7-21-20

Income	\$70,971.32	Income	
Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$56,605.00	Pledges & Identifiable Donors	
Other Income	\$14,366.32	Other Income	
Expenses	\$72,482.97	Expenses	
Apportionments	\$8,181.18	Apportionments	
Local Program Ministry	\$4,906.18	Local Program Ministry	
Operation Expenses	\$36,251.72	Operation Expenses	
Personnel Expenses	\$23,143.89	Personnel Expenses	
Surplus/(Deficit)	-\$1,511.65	Surplus/(Deficit)	

Friendship Bench

In the African country of Zimbabwe, war trauma and high unemployment can leave people in despair—until they find hope on a “friendship bench.” Hopeless people can go there to talk with trained “grandmothers”—elderly women taught to listen to people struggling with depression, known in that nation’s Shona language as *kufungisisa*, or “thinking too much.”

The Friendship Bench Project is being launched in other places, including Zanzibar, London, and New York City. “We were thrilled to bits with the results,” said one London researcher. A New York counselor agreed. “Before you know it, you’re not on a bench, you’re just inside a warm conversation with someone who cares.”

The project evokes the warmth and wonder of talking with our Almighty God. Moses put up not a bench but a tent to commune with God, calling it the tent of meeting. There, “the Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend” ([Exodus 33:11](#)). Joshua, his assistant, wouldn’t even leave the tent, perhaps because he so valued his time with God (v. 11).

Today we no longer need a tent of meeting. Jesus has brought the Father near. As He told His disciples, “I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you” ([John 15:15](#)). Yes, our God awaits us. He’s our heart’s wisest helper, our understanding Friend. Talk with Him now. By Patricia Raybon on January 27, 2020....Maybe CUMC could have a “Friendship Bench?”

John Sweet Making Sure Our CUMC Benches are Looking Fantastic!

Photos by Scott Rosekrans and John Sweet

BEFORE



John Sweet

After



Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

By Scott Rosekrans

On left, Tommy. On Right , Scott Rosekrans



Photos by Scott Rosekrans

I first met Tommy Boyd around 11 years ago when I was a deputy prosecutor for Jefferson County. I hadn't been on the job long when we had a double homicide in Quilcene. Through the quick work of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department we soon had a suspect in custody. As the investigation continued Tommy was identified as a potential witness for the State of Washington that could help put the defendant near the scene around the time of the murders and help establish a possible motive for the underlying robbery. I don't think anyone who knew Tommy back then would dispute that his lifestyle, at the time, was a little rough around the edges. Regardless, he was going to do the right thing no matter how hard the defense team tried to intimidate or discredit him. Everyone who knew Tommy told me he could be counted on to do the right thing, and they were right. We got our conviction and life went on with me becoming a Certified Lay Minister and Tommy getting clean and sober.

Fast forward ten years and Tommy and I would be working together again. This time at the Quilcene Food Bank as volunteers. Tommy had already been volunteering for quite some time when volunteers from

Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

Continued...

Community United Methodist Church showed up to help. . I was persuaded to come down one day just to see the operation and that's when this great photo was taken. I think Tommy got a kick out of working with the former prosecuting attorney and he delighted in calling me "Scottie Boy." With the church being closed I've become a regular volunteer on Wednesdays for the last several months and have come to really enjoy and appreciate my time working with these amazing volunteers. The work they do each week feeding the hungry and helping the poor is truly amazing and a sight to see. You can't imagine the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes even before that first client is served.

Unfortunately, Tommy passed suddenly on Wednesday, July 22nd of a massive heart attack while working at the food bank. Teresa and I were there and watched helplessly as the first responders worked valiantly to stabilize Tommy. All we could do was pray. Sadly, the doctors at the hospital in Seattle could do nothing for Tommy and we would receive the heart breaking news before our day was done.

I think the lesson we can learn from Tommy is that it is never too late to change and devote your life to helping others. He was extremely proud of the fact he was clean and sober and had a purpose and mission for his life. He loved the fact that he was doing something meaningful. He didn't have much to his name but he gave what he had, himself. Most of us, who have so much more, can't hold a candle to the servant's heart of Tommy Boyd and he should serve as an example and an inspiration to those of us who consider ourselves Followers of the Way and brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, professing to love our neighbors as ourselves. I've told several people that I believed that when Tommy got to the Pearly Gates of Heaven he was met by Saint Peter who said; "Tommy, I understand that when you passed you were feeding the hungry. Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into your rest."

BIRTHDAYS		HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
2	David Hermanson	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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. * Pray for healing and provisions for Rubie whose husband, Barry, has passed away. * Pray for healing and provisions for Tommy 's family, as Tommy passed away at the food bank this week.
12	Marcy Wootan	9	
18	Bev Rothenborg	16	
19	Pat Chase	23	
21	Patty Miller	30	
25	Teresa Rosekrans		
31	Jim Dodd		
ALTAR FLOWERS		LITURGISTS	
2		2	
9		9	
16		16	
23		23	
30		30	
COMMUNION SERVERS		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
COUNTERS			
2		2	
9		9	
16		16	
23		23	
30		30	
GREETERS		USHERS	
2		2	
9		9	
16		16	
23		23	
30		30	
			PRAISES
			Thanks to all you who garden, paint, etc. around the church to keep our church looking nice and welcoming.

JULY LECTIONARY READINGS

Aug 2

Gen 32:22-31
Ps 17:1-7,15
Rom 9:1-5
Matt 14:13-21

Aug 9

Gen 37:1-4,12-28
Ps 105:1-6,16-22
Rom 10:5-15
Matt 14:22-23

Aug 16

Gen 45:1-15
Ps 133
Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matt 15:10-20,21-28

Aug 23

Exod 1:8-2:10
Ps 124
Rom 12:1-8
Matt 16:13-20

Aug 30

Exod 3:1-15
Ps 105:1-6, 23-26
Rom 12:9-21
Matt 16:21-28

August 2020

(Regular meetings are listed; however because of Covid-19 virus, these are temporarily cancelled.)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			^B	(¹
2 9:00am Music Class 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	3 Memory Support Group, 10:30am-12 noon (Classroom)	4 2:00pm Chicks in Stitches	5	6 10:00am Red Beans and Rice Making 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	7 Beginners Praise Hula 11:30 am	8
9 9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	10 11	11 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	12	13 10:00am Fleece Scarf Making 6:00pm Admin/Finance Meeting 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	14 11:30am-12:30pm Beginners Praise Hula Class	15 UMW District Leadership Meeting hosted by CUMC
16 UMCOR Offering 9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	17	18 2:00pm Chicks in Stitches 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	19	20 10:00am Mini Hygiene Kits 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting	21 Beginners Praise Hula Class 11:30am	22 8:00 Men's Breakfast
23 9:00am Music Class 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	24	25 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting	26	27	28	29
30	31					

New Beginnings

Monthly Devotion

November 7, 2017

By Keila Ochoa

"How can you be so kind if you don't even know me!"

By making some wrong decisions, Linda had ended up in jail in a country not her own. For six years she remained in prison, and when she was set free she didn't have anywhere to go. She thought her life was over! While her family gathered money to buy her ticket home, a kind couple offered her lodging, food, and a helping hand. Linda was so touched by their kindness that she willingly listened as they told her the good news of a God who loves her and wants to give her a second chance.

Dear Lord, thank You that You let us begin again and again.

Linda reminds me of Naomi, a widow in the Bible who lost her husband and two sons in a foreign land and thought her life was over (Ruth 1). However, the Lord hadn't forgotten Naomi, and through the love of her daughter-in-law and the compassion of a godly man named Boaz, Naomi saw God's love and was given a second chance (4:13-17).

The same God cares for us today. Through the love of others we can be reminded of His presence. We can see God's grace in the helping hand of people we may not even know well. But above all, God is willing to give us a fresh start. We just need, like Linda and Naomi, to see God's hand in our everyday lives and realize He never stops showing us His kindness.



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