

CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



August 2021

It Matters



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On Saturday, July 31st I had the honor and privilege to represent our church at the Community Build Project open house in Port Townsend where they are building some more tiny homes to be placed on some property acquired by Bayside Housing and Services in Port Townsend. I had been asked to speak regarding our experience as the host church for Peter's Place which, if you don't already know, is on our church property. It was a great turnout and I'd like to share what I spoke about with those in attendance.

Essentially, I said the following: I started out by saying that our church had the honor and distinction of hosting Jefferson County's first, and hopefully not last, tiny home village. . We were first because of a law that makes it easier for churches to

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to use their property for such projects in that we aren't subject to a lot of bureaucratic red tape and onerous permitting. I qualified that remark by noting that we did not meet any county resistance and that Commissioner Greg Brotherton was instrumental in serving as a go-between for the project. I then told the crowd that Peter's Place has been up and running now for seven months which drew a loud round of applause. I told them that our experience with our new neighbors has been great and that through our three mission rooms we have gotten to know our neighbors as people as many of them come over on Saturday mornings to look for items that they may need, and if we don't have it, we'll get it. As an aside, earlier in the day I gave a resident a sheet of particle board that Don Olsen had cut down to fit his bed giving his mattress better support than the slats. I even delivered it. In any event, in meeting those needs we've come to know them as people and they've come to know us as Christians, and hopefully not the kind that give organized religion a bad name, which drew a few guffaws. I told the crowd that we value their friendship because it matters. It matters to them, and it matters to us. That led into my telling them about our SODS mission effort, you know: Somebody Oughta Do Something, Be that Somebody. At that point I asked them to consider what they could do. I told them that if they go to church, they should ask their pastor what they are doing to help the community, and if they aren't doing anything, why not? I then said that if they didn't go to church then maybe they could encourage the groups to which they belong to get involved in some way. And I told them that every two years someone is running for County Commissioner or City Council and that they should let these candidates that the homeless crisis matters. I closed by telling them that the very fact that they were present told me that they were somebodies who wanted to do something, and that if they stepped forward and volunteered to do anything they would become POTS: Part Of The Solution because whatever they did, mattered.

Before I could get away, Judy Alexander who organized the event and worked tirelessly on Peter's Place presented me with a nice card that said: *Dear Scott, you and your church congregation have played such a KEY role in our community efforts to provide housing-secure space to BE, to our unsheltered folks. By being a "front runner" in providing shelter to our most vulnerable, and giving a very clear example of the loving intentions of the Community Build Project volunteers, you have greatly assisted in the effort to gain governmental support for realizing the importance of safe housing for everyone. I truly believe your willingness to host the Peter's Place village has helped immensely in turning the tide of public opinion towards support for our vulnerable citizens. Thank you a million times-Judy on behalf of the Community Build Project volunteers!*

I can't say it enough, what we do as a church in this community matters, and sometimes it matters more than we will ever know. Thank you so much for being the loving and caring congregation that you are and for allowing me to be your pastor. I've done a lot in my lifetime, and I can say, without reservation, that this has been the most rewarding and fruitful. I'm having a hard time keeping my hat on, but I'll share this one last thing with you. Before the program began, I was visiting with Gary Keister, who is the owner of Bayside Housing and Services, and I jokingly told him that I'm the guy that knows a guy when it comes to getting things. He said: "No, you are that guy." So now we have "that" church and "that" guy. I am so excited about whatever it is that the Holy Spirit has planned for us I can hardly contain myself. It truly is great to be a part of the solution when you see how much it matters.

Faithfully "that" guy,

Scott



"that" guy



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

September 2 – 10:00 a.m. at the Church

By Diane Jensen

It's hard to believe that we're more than half way through 2021 . After being physically apart for over a year and having some of our more recent meetings via Zoom, we are ready to gather together again unless the Covid situation worsens and we need to make more adjustments.

So - **Save the Date - September 2nd** - we will **meet at the church at 10:00 a.m.** Marcy Wootan will be leading a program on Community Building which is a fun opportunity to get to know each other a little better. Due to local and UMC Conference guidelines, we will still have some restrictions e.g. masks and distancing as we do for church service.

For those who are comfortable doing so, we will plan to have a lunch following the meeting. Bring a sack lunch and we can share some fellowship time. This could change by September as the situation warrants. There may be some of you who are not yet comfortable with having a meal at the church and we will certainly understand your not participating in the lunch gathering.

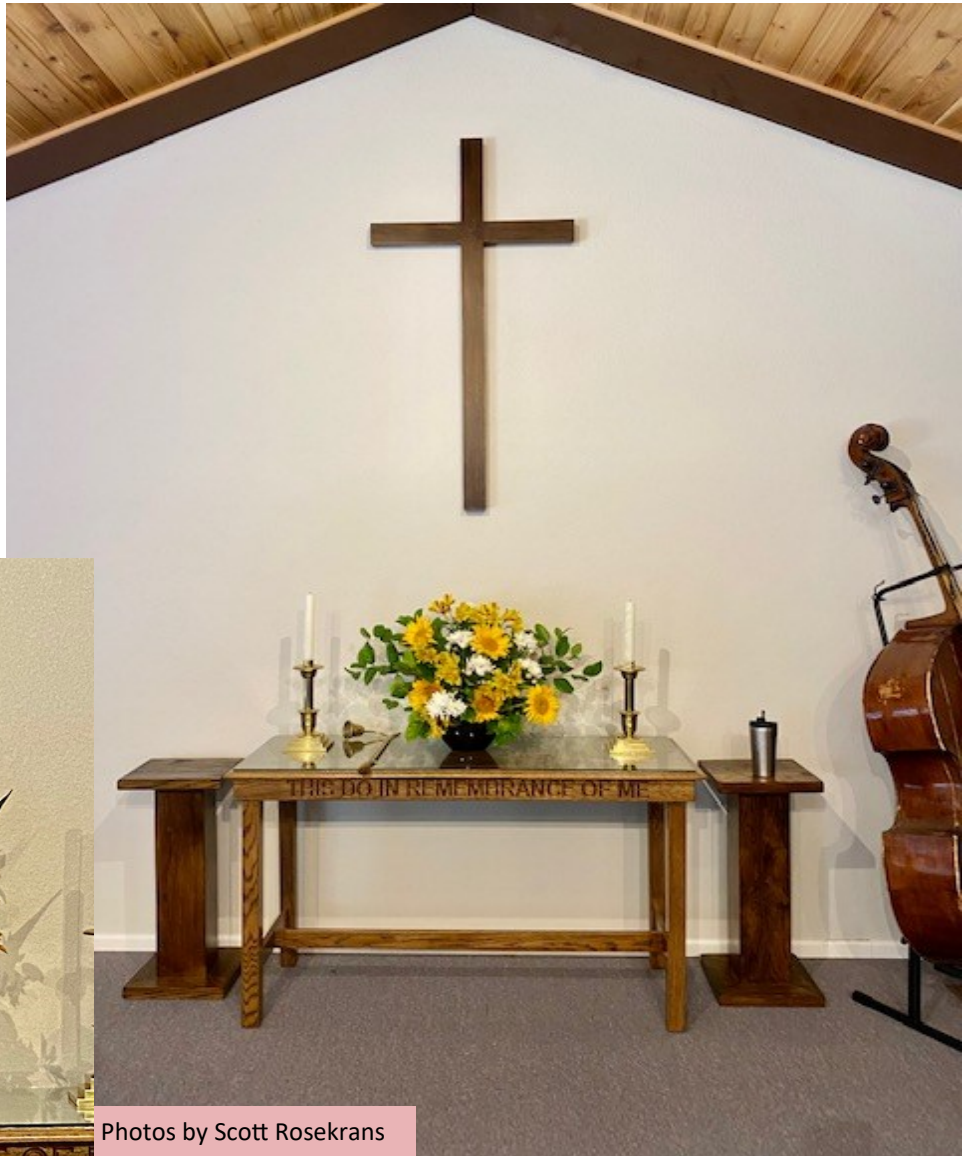
Our October program will be on the local Backpack Program that we support, in November we'll have our annual lunch out and in December we'll be decorating the church Christmas tree as well as having a wonderful music program. Please join us as you are able.

Looking forward to our September meeting and hoping to see you there.



Recent Altar Flowers

We the members of CUMC and our on-line attendees greatly appreciate the lovely altar flower arrangements which are provided by our talented members. These beautiful flowers make our worship service a “special time” with the Lord.



Photos by Scott Rosekrans



by Jean Holtz

I was in Mexico many years ago with a Missionary Program. Our missionary work was to teach English Language classes and to make house to house visits to try and determine who, in the Village, might need medical care. Many of the homes we visited were thatched huts with dirt floors. In visiting one such home the mother of the family who had invited me inside, had one rustic wooden chair in her home. The woman rushed to where she had some hanging clothes, selected one which was very pretty and put the dress over the seat of the chair. The woman indicated that she wanted me to sit down. It was a dilemma for me. I didn't want to sit on her dress but I sensed that if I didn't I would offend this proud woman. I sat down and she stood while we talked. I was humbled by her generosity to me. She gave me her one chair and her best dress to sit on the rustic chair. Sharing with me the best of what she had was a lesson in the dignity of giving that has stayed with me to this day.

Once I started working with the CUMC General Store, as we like to call it, life gave me yet another opportunity to remember that noble woman in Mexico. When I give, I try to give and receive with the same dignity she showed me. Neither the giver nor the receiver should feel "better than" or "less than". Each of us deserves to receive and should give the respect that all God's creations need.

Our store visitors are people, our brothers and sisters, not "those poor souls". I think some of those souls are in better shape than my soul. We try to keep in mind that we do not serve "the poor", "the homeless" or "the low income". We serve human beings. Calling poor persons "the unfortunate" objectifies people and makes them less human. When people come to our store we want them to enjoy the visit and to have fun. We try to remember their names and the food or type of items they like. We try hard not to make our visitors feel "grateful to us" but rather, grateful to be alive. We try to give them the best of what we have.

That brings me to the "etiquette of giving". Etiquette is based in being thoughtful toward others. When you receive a less than thoughtful gift from a loved one or friend you question how they really feel about you. Be assured, I am not talking about the expense of the gift. Well, when you give or donate something to our store we ask is that you be thoughtful about your "gifts". Sharing with our brothers and sisters is not just an opportunity to clean out your food pantry of those "less than thoughtful gifts" you got at Christmas or your birthday. Most of our population don't eat those exotic foods you got in Christmas boxes last December or they may be on medically restricted diets. Many of our store customers live in tiny homes, their cars, their RV's or in tents. They don't have space for large food cans of soup or 5 pounds bags of flour or sugar. Smaller, individually wrapped food which is easy to open and easy to heat are the best items to donate.

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Our motto at the Store is “we won’t give anyone food, clothing, bedding or camp gear that we wouldn’t eat or use ourselves”. That’s why we sort all the food, clothing, bedding and gear that comes in. We cull out the soiled clothes, the muddy or worn down shoes, the rusty or out of date cans of food, the stained bedding, etc. Yes, some of the food & items come in that way. We most appreciate it when you ask us what our store needs. We can advise you if we have room for your donation or if it might be better for you to go to Goodwill or some other collection place. We most appreciate it when you ask us ahead of time “can your store use this?” You can email us at donate.cumc@gmail.com One of us will get back to you as soon as we can.

The volume of visitors at the store is picking up over time. The volunteers’ time is really meant to be spent greeting and helping the customers. When we have to spend time sorting volumes of clothes we have less time to spend with the people who come for our help. Please understand that when we say we are full and can’t take any more of this or that, we really mean that we are full, as in having no more room to put anything. Trust us when we say we will let you know when we need certain foods, clothes, shoes or bedding. At the present time we are full with most foods, clothes, and bedding.

The things the store needs right now are, **(and this is all we need):**

Food: Cans of canned meats such as beef, chicken, port, spam (we do not need tuna)

Cans of chili with meat.

Clothes: Small to medium size women summer tees or tops

Bedding: Twin size sheets and blankets

Camping Gear: Tents, sleeping bags, sleeping mats, camping chairs

Places where you can donate your goods at this time are: (always call before you go)

Goodwill – Port Townsend

Habitat For Humanity Stores – Port Townsend & Quilcene

Dove House – Port Townsend

The Homeless Shelter at the American Legion in Port Townsend

We are very grateful for the wonderful generosity of our donors in the Tri-Area. You are simply the best!

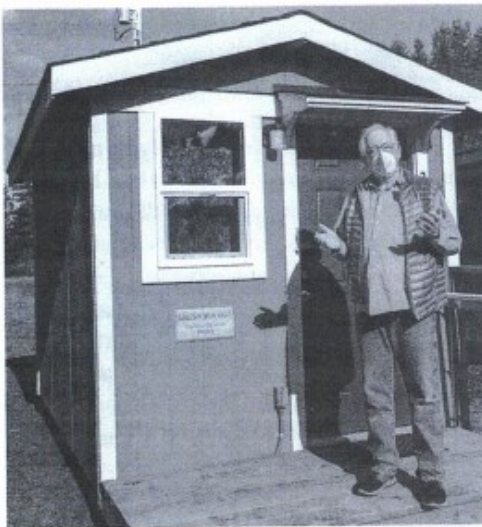


Spotlight

A Community Spirit Village

by Bev Rothenborg, Contributing Writer

As many of our readers are aware, the issue of homelessness in Jefferson County remains an ongoing challenge. Our cover photo this month calls attention to one of the many efforts by social service organizations, churches, and individuals to address this issue. Thanks to the combined efforts of the Evangelical Bible Church of Port Townsend, Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), Olympic Community Action Program (OlyCAP), Bayside Housing, Boeing Bluebills, the Port Townsend School of Wooden Boat Building, and others we may have missed, twelve new housing units for low-income residents are now available in Port Hadlock.



Pastor Scott Rosekrans.

Photos by Brian Jennings

CUMC in Port Hadlock has a strong history of providing care for those in need. A favorite phrase of church members is 'SODS' – Somebody Ought to Do Something. Church members had the foresight to purchase ten acres of land many years ago and have been using that land effectively. In 2000, the South Seven apartment complex was built on church grounds to provide affordable housing for seniors. It was named Margaret's Village to honor the late Margaret Matheson, who volunteered countless hours to get the project started. Eight apartments were built and are always 100 percent occupied; a current resident waited seven years to get an apartment.

In the fall of 2020, Scott Rosekrans, the pastor of CUMC, received a call inquiring about the availability of CUMC property for a 'community build.' The tiny homes were already under construction at the Evangelical Bible Church of Port Townsend, and a location for those homes was needed. Knowing that church members of CUMC were always seeking the best use of their available property, Scott had the caller contact OlyCAP, who leases the property at the church for \$1 per year. OlyCAP provided their approval as well.

I first learned about the Tiny Homes project when I noticed that a large tent had been erected next to the church parking lot. Many volunteers were engaged in finishing the final construction of the tiny houses under the tent. The volunteers included young people aged 18-25 who were gaining carpentry skills, while some of the construction was also being completed at the Port Townsend School of Wooden Boat Building.

Among the volunteers was Peter Bonyum, the initial Team Leader. When the name for the new village was chosen, it appropriately became *Peter's Place*. Each tiny house has been creatively named. The names – 'Luna Landing,' 'Crimson Tide,' 'Sunflower Suite' among others - have been beautifully carved on wooden plaques and placed near the front doors. The Boeing Bluebills will be building ramps as some of the residents have difficulty stepping up to the front porches.

The twelve Tiny Homes were dedicated on December 31, 2020. These homes are classified as transitional housing – the residents must be actively pursuing permanent housing. Gary Keister, the founder and Executive Director of Bayside Housing, said there are currently 150 names on the waiting list for housing. Bayside coordinates the selection of residents and provides case management. A resident of the tiny village,



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Village continued from previous page

'the Ambassador,' greets new residents, provides an orientation to procedures at the property, and serves as mediator when necessary. Since Peter's Place began accepting residents, two people living there have found permanent housing.

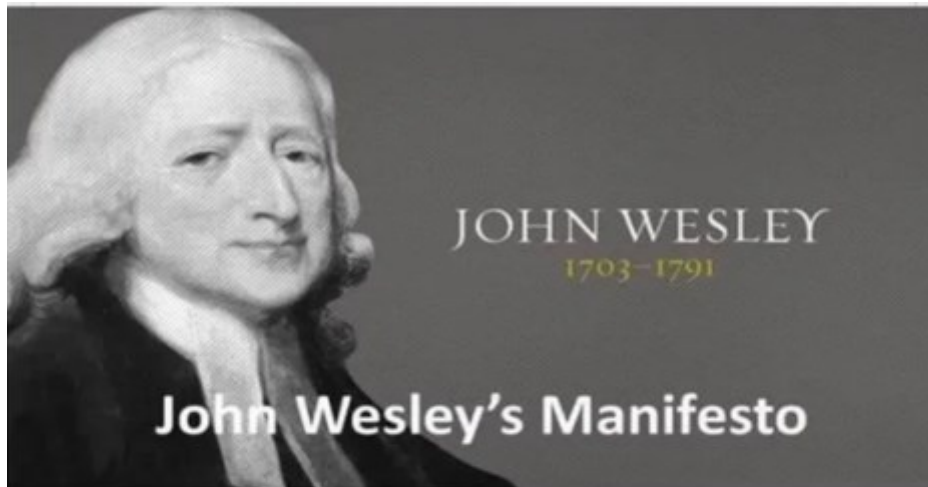


Bayside Housing has also provided and parked on the grounds a kitchen RV which is equipped with a gas stove and a microwave for residents' use. Bayside delivers one hot meal a day to the residents as well. Since the tiny houses do not include bathrooms, a lavatory is on the premises, and overnight security is provided for the site.

CUMC church members provide not only housing assistance, as achieved with Margaret's Village and Peter's Place, but also operate a food pantry and clothes closet, which provide food and clothing items to those in need every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Additionally, the church provides a Christmas luncheon for residents each year.

For more information and a wonderful window into the project, please view this 50-minute video from the person who video-documented the Tiny Home project youtu.be/dqLtVfy3uY. It gives you the story from the inception to the dedication. I think you'll find it very informative and inspirational, and you can be proud of the part Community United Methodist Church played in this project.

I look forward to meeting the residents and having The Ambassador give me a personal tour.



- Reduce the gap between rich people and poor people
- Help everyone to have a job
- Help the poorest, including introducing a living wage
- Offer the best possible education
- Help everyone to feel they can make a difference
- Promote tolerance
- Promote equal treatment for women
- Create a society based on values, not profits & consumerism
- End all forms of slavery
- Avoid getting into wars
- Share the love of God with everyone
- Care for the environment

Local

MISSION of the MONTH

2021

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	\$ 300.00
February:	Food Bank	\$ 200.00
March:	OlyCAP	\$ 500.00
April:	ECHHO	\$ 500.00
May:	Food Bank	\$ 500.00
June:	OlyCAP	\$500.00
July:	ECHHO	\$360.00
August	Food Bank	\$
September	OlyCAP	\$
October	ECHHO	\$
November	Food Bank	\$
December	OlyCAP	\$

FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

07/31/21		2021 year to date
Income		\$72,223.15
	Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$57,687.15
	Other Income	\$14,536.00
Expenses		\$75,317.87
	Apportionments	\$10,157.26
	Local Program Ministry	\$8,439.47
	Operation Expenses	\$28,594.05
	Personnel Expenses	\$28,127.09
Deficit		-\$3,094.72

BIRTHDAYS

12 Marcy Wootan
 18 Beth Rothenborg
 19 Pat Chase
 25 Teresa Rosekrans
 31 Jim Dodd

ALTAR FLOWERS

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

COMMUNION SERVERS**COUNTERS**

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

GREETERS

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

HOSPITALITY

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

LITURGISTS

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

SUNDAY SCHOOL

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

USHERS

1
 8
 15
 22
 29

OUR PRAYERS

- * 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.

**JUNE LECTIONARY READINGS**August 1

2 Sam 11:26-12:13a,
 Ps 51 1-12
 Eph 4:1-16
 John 6:24-35

August 8

2 Sam 18:5-9, 31-33
 Ps 130
 Eph 4:25-5:2
 John 6:35, 41-51

August 15

1 Kings 2:10-12;3:3-14
 Ps 111
 Eph 5:15-20
 John 6:51-58

August 22

1 Kings 8:(1,6, 10-11)
 Ps 84
 Eph 6:10-20
 John 6:56-69

August 29

Song 2:8-13
 Ps 45:1-2,6-9
 James 1:17-27
 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15

August 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 1:00 pm Women's AA (Library) 2:00pm Bible Study Group (Library) 7pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	6	7 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm.
8 9:00am Music Class 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	9 Memory Support Group, 10:30am-12 noon (Classroom)	10 2:00pm Chicks in Stitches 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	11 Admin, Financial Meetings 6pm	12 1:00pm Women's A.A. (Library) 2:00pm Bible Study, (Library) 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	13 Beginners Praise Hula 11:30 am	14 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm
15 9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	16	17 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	18	19 1:00pm Women's A.A. (Library) 2:00pm Bible Study (Library) 6:00pm Admin/ Finance Zoom Meeting	20 11:30am-12:30pm Beginners Praise Hula Class	21 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm 8:00 Men's Breakfast
22 UMCOR Offering 9:00am Learning Circle 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	23	24 2:00pm Chicks in Stitches 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	25	1:00pm Women's A.A. (Library) 2:00pm Bible Study (Library) 7pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	27 Beginners Praise Hula Class 11:30am	28 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm
29 9:00am Music Class 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	30	31				

Listen and Learn

James 1:19–27

July 14th, 2021

By Anne Cetas

On one side of the street a homeowner displays in his yard a giant blow-up bald eagle draped in a US flag. A big truck sits in the driveway. Its side window features a painted flag and the back bumper is covered with patriotic stickers. Directly across the street in a neighbor's yard are signs that highlight the slogans for current social justice issues in the news.

Are the people in these homes feuding or friends? we might wonder. Is it possible that both families are believers in Jesus? God calls us to live out the words of James 1:19: "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." Too often we stubbornly hold on to our opinions and aren't willing to consider what others are thinking. *Matthew Henry's Commentary* has this to say: "We should be swift to hear reason and truth on all sides, and be slow to speak . . . and, when we do speak, there should be nothing of wrath."

Someone has said, "Learning requires listening." The practical words from God in the book of James can only be accomplished if we're filled with God's loving Spirit and choose to respect others. He's willing to help us make changes in our hearts and attitudes. Are we open to listen and learn?



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