

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of  
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



February 2022

## Expecting the Unexpected

Last week as my fingers were busily flying across the keyboard I inadvertently caused my first Pastor's Pen article from July 18, 2016 to pop up so I took some time to read it. I noted that in my first month on the job that everyone had been welcoming and positive, making us feel at home. I wrote that I sensed a real heart-felt desire to be a church that is relevant and one that makes a difference in the community. The article reminded me that in my very first week of being your pastor I got a request from the funeral director at Kosec's Funeral Home to perform a Celebration of Life for someone who had just passed away and did not have a home church. The man's daughter wanted a service, wasn't from here, and asked for a recommendation for a pastor who would be willing to do the service. The funeral home director knew me from my days as the County Coroner and gave me a call. And then, after I had prepared my second sermon, four Dallas police officers were shot and I felt that the matter warranted addressing from the pulpit so I shelved the already-written sermon and wrote a new one. These were things not covered in my Certified Lay Ministry training. Expect the unexpected.

Well, I'm more than halfway through year six of my ministry and I can say that some of the job is what I expected but a lot of it has been unexpected. I mean who would have anticipated a pandemic that would close our doors for over a year? Many of the books I read in anticipation of taking on this new profession talked earnestly and matter-of-factly about the decline of mainline denominations and the struggle to keep church doors open. One of the books I read was entitled: A Methodist Requiem by William B. Lawrence. Not a very cheerful title but early on in the book the author made the point that we, the Methodist Church, had lost its footprint in the community. Nobody knew who we were, where we were, and what we stood for. Our job, he said, was to reestablish that footprint through engagement in the community. Well that stuck with me. He pointed out that relevancy is why Methodism was born in the first place when John Wesley realized that his church, the Church of England, was not living up to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And several hundred years later the author is saying that people no longer see us as relevant.

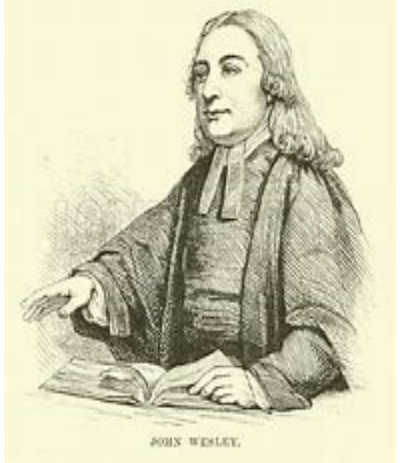
And this brings me back to my first Pastor's Pen article where I wrote about the sense I got that this church wanted to be relevant and make a difference in the community. And here we are five and half years later and I don't think anyone can say we aren't relevant, that we aren't making a difference in the community. We have come a long way in reestablishing our footprint in the community. They know who we are, where we are, and what we stand for.

As I wander around the church taking inventory I can truly say that what I see was truly unexpected but it is without a doubt a part of God's plan for his church in this community. What we have been able to accomplish would not have been

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possible without the support of many people, some who have gone on but believed in this church. What we have done has strengthened the faith of many who have invested their lives in this community and see this church as a part of their legacy. And, as a part of God's plan, our renewed relevance has attracted new people to our congregation as they look for a church that is relevant, one that practices what it preaches. They are looking for a church that expects the unexpected and knows what to do when it happens.

Faithfully, Scott

## Happy Are You If You Play Handbells...

We just received an amazing gift of some beautiful handbells and Terry and Marsha are ready to ring those bells. Marsha has experience in handbell choirs and is interested in putting together a handbell choir. If you are interested please contact Marsha Hamacher at: [marsha@schimother.com](mailto:marsha@schimother.com) and she'll gladly give you the details.



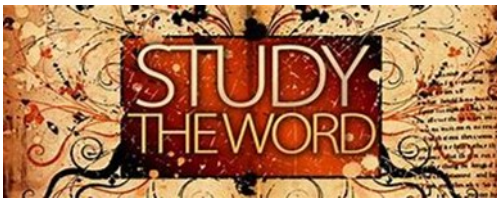
Photos by Scott Rosekrans

## Bible Study Group Update

By Larry Jensen



The Bible Study Group is completing its study of the Gospel of Mark. After a brief break we will begin a study of the Gospel of John on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 1:30 pm. We will use William Barclay's two volume "The Gospel of John" from the Daily Study Bible Series as our study guide. All are invited. If you have been thinking about joining the start. Meetings are in the church library and via Zoom. For more information contact Larry Jensen at [lpjensen15@gmail.com](mailto:lpjensen15@gmail.com) or (402)290-0963.



### Welcome to Tai Chi

#### (A Moving Meditation Class) by Siochain Deva

Tai Chi class has resumed on Wednesdays, at 2:00 pm in the church Narthex. 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



You are invited to a concert as my gift to you.  
**FREE HOUSE CONCERT & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**



**WITH CELTIC, FOLK & WORLD MUSIC "DUO FOUR SHILLINGS SHORT"**

**SATURDAY: MARCH 5, 2:00 – 4:00pm**

Home of Siochain Deva in Port Townsend, WA

For info contact Siochain Deva @ (707) 472-8772

Or email [elfin.stone2@gmail.com](mailto:elfin.stone2@gmail.com)

Please RSVP by Feb 25th

All attendees must be fully vaccinated and wear face coverings for the concert. Social distancing will be in place for seating. The windows will be open during the event. Maximum seating will be 20. This is open to those who attend CUMC. Their CDs will be available.

For further questions, please call Sochain.



New cooktop for parsonage

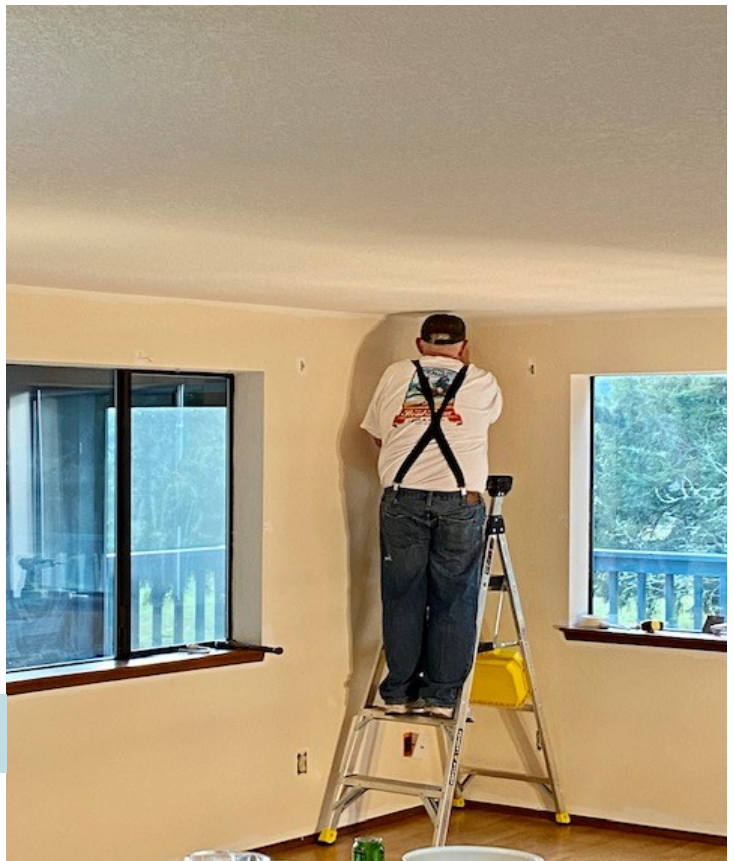
## The Parsonage Project

By Scott Rosekrans

In January our tenants moved out of the parsonage which gave us an opportunity to get in there and see what needed to be done to bring it up to date. It had been quite some time since the interior had been painted so we put a nice fresh coat of paint on the walls which really brightened it up. We also replaced the ceiling fixtures with updated lighting and replaced the wall plates. In the kitchen we installed a new cooktop and vent hood. Once we replace the flooring in the kitchen and entryway the top floor will be finished. The bottom floor still needs painting and new light fixtures. We really appreciate those who stepped forward and answered the call for donations (both cash and in-kind) which helped update the upstairs at no cost to the church. Hopefully in the next couple of weeks we'll have an open house so you can drop in and see what's been done. The parsonage is a great asset to the church and we must be good stewards of it, especially as it is currently being used as a rental for people who are looking for housing.



Teresa and Don working on the parsonage





# Firestarters at Work

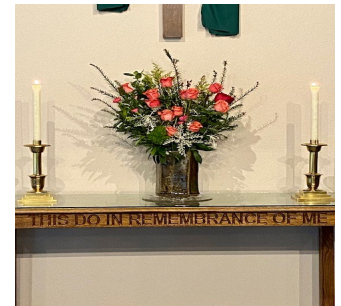


Photos by Scott Rosekrans



## SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

By A.J. Lavery



Sharing a flower arrangement or plant for the Sunday altar can honor an anniversary, birthday, or flowers in bloom, etc..

If you would like to provide flowers for the altar please sign up on the sheet provided on the table at the front windows (Narthex) or call church office so there's no overlap.

Church phone 360-385-1579.

Thank you for sharing.



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

2022

## FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

## Financial Report for Newsletter

2022 January

01/31/22

## Income

**\$8,972.32**

Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$7,665.00
Other Income	\$1,307.32

## Expenses

**\$10,622.86**

Apportionments	\$1,439.18
Local Program Ministry	\$1,067.89
Operating Expenses	\$3,832.59
Personnel Expenses	\$4,283.20

## Difference

**-\$1,650.54**

BIRTHDAYS		HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
3	Debbie Dodd	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* For the homeless, the hungry and the unemployed.</li> <li>* For Peace on Earth!</li> <li>* For wisdom for our leaders.</li> <li>* For employment for people struggling to find meaningful work.</li> <li>* For Healing and provisions for those who are suffering with COVID-19.</li> <li>* For protection of the medical front-line workers who are caring for patients with COVID-19 and variants.</li> </ul>
4	John Sweet	13	
12	Betty Harmon	20	
18	Jackie Dale	27	
27	Scott Rosekrans		
ALTAR FLOWERS		LITURGISTS	
6		6	
13		13	
20		20	
27		27	
COMMUNION SERVERS		SUNDAY SCHOOL	
6		6	
13		13	
20		20	
27		27	
COUNTERS		USHERS	
6		6	
13		13	
20		20	
27		27	
GREETERS			
6			
13			
20			
27			



## January LECTIONARY READINGS

Feb 6

Isa 6: 1-8 (9-13)  
 Ps 72:138  
 1 Cor 15:1-11  
 Luke 5:1-11

Feb 13

Jer 17: 5-10  
 Ps 1  
 1 Cor 15:12-20  
 Luke 6:17-26

Feb 20

Gen 45:3-11, 15  
 Ps 37:1-11, 39-40  
 1 Cor 15:35-38,42-50  
 Luke 6:27-38

Feb 27

Exod 34:29-35  
 Ps 99  
 2 Cor 3:12-4:2  
 Luke 9:28-36 (27-43)



February 2022

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Stoichain 2 pm Tai Chi class (Narthex)	3 2 12:30pm Women's A.A. (Library)	4	5 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm.
6 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship PJT Community Choir 2- 3pm (Sanctuary)	7 Alzheimer Support Group, 10:30am-12 noon (Classroom)	8 2:00pm Chicks in Stitches	9 Stoichain 2 pm Tai Chi class (Narthex) Admin/Finance Council Meeting 6:30pm	10 12:30pm Women's A.A. (Library) 1:30pm Bible Study, (Library) 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	11	12 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm
13 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship PJT Community Choir 2- 3pm (Sanctuary)	14	15 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	16 Stoichain 2 pm Tai Chi class (Narthex) 6:30pm Admin/ Finance Council Meeting	17 12:30pm Wom- en's A.A. (Library) 1:30pm Bible Study (Library) 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	18	19 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm
20 Statistical Report 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	21	22 2:00pm Chicks in Stitches 5:30-6:30pm AA Meeting (Library)	23 Stoichain 2 pm Tai Chi class (Narthex)	24 1:30pm Women's A.A. (Library) 1:30 pm Bible Study (Library) 7pm Al-Anon Meeting	25	26 Clothes Closet Hours: 10am to 1pm
27 9:00am Music Class 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	28					

February 8, 2022

## Success and Sacrifice

[1 John 3:16](#)By [Jennifer Benson Schuldt](#)

During a summer study program, my son read a book about a boy who wanted to climb an Alpine mountain in Switzerland. Practicing for this goal occupied most of his time. When he finally set off for the summit, things didn't go as planned. Partway up the slope, a teammate became sick and the boy decided to stay behind to help instead of achieving his goal.

In the classroom, my son's teacher asked, "Was the main character a failure because he didn't climb the mountain?" One student said, "Yes, because it was in his DNA to fail." But another child disagreed. He reasoned that the boy was not a failure, because he gave up something important to help someone else.

When we set aside our plans and care for others instead, we're acting like Jesus. Jesus sacrificed having a home, reliable income, and social acceptance to travel and share God's truth. Ultimately, He gave up His life to free us from sin and show us God's love ([1 John 3:16](#)).

Earthly success is much different from success in God's eyes. He values the compassion that moves us to rescue disadvantaged and hurting people (v.17). He approves of decisions that protect people. With God's help, we can align our values with His and devote ourselves to loving Him and others, which is the most significant achievement there is.

**Community United Methodist Church**

Open Hearts Open Doors Open Minds

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Physical Address: 130 Church Lane  
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Phone: 360.385.1579  
Church office email: [cumc@olympus.net](mailto: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