

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of  
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



## A Gathering Place

October 2022

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"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I'm there with them." (Matthew 18: 20, CEB) Most of us are familiar with this statement made by Jesus, and it seems so obvious that we usually don't give it much thought. We usually think about it when we are all gathered for church on Sunday morning, or for an Easter or Christmas service, or for some church function where Christians gather. But what about those other times when we're gathered together?

Well, that did get me to thinking about those other times when at least two or three Christians gather together, and I immediately thought about our Clothes Closet and Food Pantry that is open every Saturday from ten to one that meets the needs of the less fortunate who live among us. On any given Saturday we have four or five volunteers who gather together in Jesus' name to minister to the least of Jesus' brothers and sisters. I like to pop in from time to time just to see what's going on and I marvel at the personal attention that our volunteers give to each individual client. They have previously taken the time to get to know them and listen to their stories, and these people who are invisible to most of society, respond to the kindness extended to them and open up even more as they build a new relationship with someone who is not there to judge them. Many times, these folks don't need anything on that particular visit, but they just want to stop in and say hello or give an update on their situation. Our disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world rejoice with them in their good news of a new home or a job and empathize with them over a setback regardless of how minor it may be. And I wonder if these folks can feel the presence of Jesus with them as their needs are attentively and lovingly met. I think maybe they do as some, on their way out the door, depart saying: "God bless you." I think this is maybe what Jesus meant in Matthew 5: 16 when he said: "In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven." You just have to believe that when these people return to wherever they are staying, whether in a car, a tent, a tiny home, or camper trailer that they thank God for the few that are gathered in Jesus' name and for the light of his love that shines upon them with each visit.

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Photos by Scott Rosekrans

And I wonder where all this stuff comes from. We started small and weren't sure we could meet the needs of those who came to us for help. Where would it come from and how will we pay for it? But then Jesus said: "Again I assure you that if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, then my Father who is in heaven will do it for you." (Matthew 18: 19, CEB) When we put out the call for whatever it is that we need, God responds through moving your hearts and you generously give out of your abundance, because that's what we do as a church. But more amazingly, people who do not attend this church, or any church for that matter, have heard about what we do and want to help whether it is through the giving of money, or finding out what we need and going to get it themselves. We have people who regularly show up on Saturdays with those items they know we need, and if there is something else we need they go get it paying for it out of their own pocket. If they are a believer, I know they are grateful for the opportunity to do their part, and praise God for us providing that vehicle of service.

Yes, it truly is a gathering place in more ways than one, and our disciples look forward to each Saturday keeping a watchful eye for their newfound brothers and sisters who so much want to be seen as just another child of God. And as much as I enjoy popping in from time to time, I know Jesus is there every Saturday morning, first in line to gather with those who are there in his name.

Faithfully,

Scott

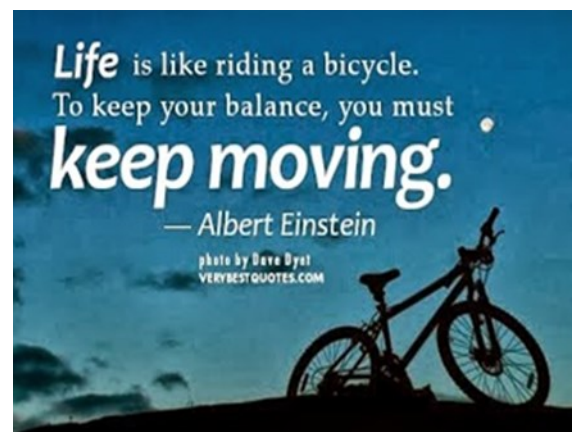


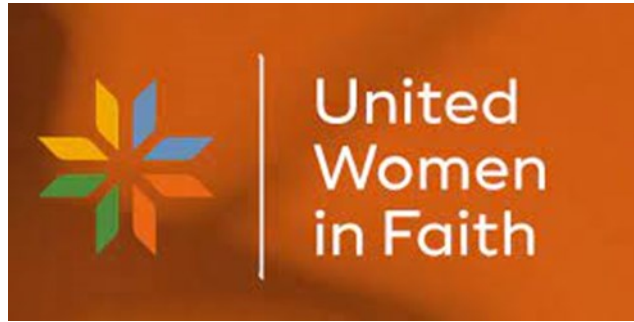
## KEEP MOVING

By John Sweet

Electric bikes are now becoming very popular with cyclists of all ages and especially seniors. There are more bikes on the highways and there are some requirements in state law on how motorists treat cyclists.

According to Washington law auto drivers must allow at least three feet of space when overtaking or passing a bicycle on the highway. Also, motorists can cross the yellow line, if the way is clear, to allow for the three feet.





By Diane Jensen

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF) will meet **Thursday, October 6, at 10:00 a.m.** at the church.

Devotions will be given by **Billie Fitch** and our program will be presented by **Diane Johnson** who will speak about the AARP Grant for the Quilcene Trail Project.

We hope to see you then. It's always nice when you bring a friend!

Be sure to mark your calendars for upcoming UWF meetings:

November 3 - lunch out - place TBD

December 1 - at the church - the Choral Belles return!

**United Women in Faith** supports partners providing direct services to women, children, youth and families in neighborhoods around the country. Internationally, we support partners empowering women, children and youth with education and economic development opportunities. We advocate for a more just world to improve life for women, children and youth. We support:

U.S. Projects and nearly 90 national mission institutions which are community centers, schools, and residences located around the United States.

International partners that focus on impacting poverty through enhancing the capacities of local women leaders and supporting economic development programs to provide women with the tools required to make positive, measurable change in their communities.

Advocacy. Every four years we identify a specific focus for our advocacy in addition to our ongoing work for gender and racial justice and for oppressed and dispossessed communities, with special attention to the needs to women, children and youth. Our current justice campaigns are Just Energy 4 All and Ending Mass Incarceration and Criminalization of Communities of Color.



## Free to a Good Home



As we've expanded our use of the rooms in our administrative wing we are running out of room to store the things we no longer have use for. I've moved them from room to room as we utilize our space to where there is no longer any place to put them. So we have this great old piano and a storage cabinet that are ready to be rehomed. If you are interested or know someone who is, come on by the church and take a look at them.



Photos by Scott Rosekrans



By Lori Oberlander

The small group study about neighboring has completed Lab 1 and we are preparing to dive into Lab 2.

October brings around a big change for the Neighboring team. After hearing from you, we have decided to move our meetings from an in person small group into a zoom format. Please send an email to me if you are interested in participating in the new zoom format. The small group discussions day will remain on Thursday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. If you want to be put on the zoom invite list, please send me an email at [Lori.obe@q.com](mailto:Lori.obe@q.com). We will be building on the experiments in Lab 1, but not to worry, we can get you up to speed quickly.

Relationships are one of the key ingredients of neighboring; the other two are Abundance and Joy. While these 3 ingredients complement each other and work together, Lab 2 is going to take us on a deep dive with relationship (and abundance and joy will come up from time to time).

Week 1 – October 6, 2022: reflection on three phases of relationships: Stranger, Acquaintance, and Relationship.

Week 2 – October 13, 2022: Reflection on what makes a stranger.

Week 3 – October 20, 2022: Reflection on what makes an acquaintance.

Week 4 – October 27, 2022: Reflection on neighbor relationships.

### Mark your Calendars

Next in person Workshop is October 15, 2022

from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Edmonds United Methodist Church located at 828 Caspers Street in Edmonds.

***We look forward completing lab 1 together in October as we embrace lab 2 in October. Join us!***

# OCTOBRRRRR!

By Scott Rosekrans



In case you haven't noticed, there is a chill in the air which means cooler and wetter weather is on the way. So, we have designated the month of October as OCTOBRRRR when we put out the call for warm clothing for those who come to shop at our General Store and Clothes Closet. As you know, we have been operating our clothes closet and food pantry out of the church for the past couple of years and have been open every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. since January of 2021. In the month of August, we had 48 visits with an average of 12 people each Saturday. As a result of this mission, we have developed a pretty good knowledge of the needs of the folks who come to us for assistance, and you all have responded in kind.

Some of the items we are looking for as the weather turns cooler and wetter are sweatshirts in both hoodie and regular pull-over and zip up. Warm undergarments are also popular such as the 32 Heat clothing you see at Costco. Leggings are always in demand with our female clients. We're in good shape on socks but the heavier boot socks are popular. We're in good shape as far as hats and scarves go but warm gloves are in short supply. Our supply of blankets is low so warm and durable blankets would be appreciated. If you are wondering what size to get, just get the size you or a loved one would wear as our clients come in all shapes and sizes. Very gently used is what we are looking for but new is great. Remember, the quality of what you give us to hand out to our clients speaks volumes as to what you think, and we as a church think, about them.

And we also operate a food pantry and can always use nonperishable food items such as beef stews, canned meat, Spaghetti-O's, ravioli, chili, corned beef hash, Vienna sausages, potted meat, macaroni and cheese, and soups. You know, the stuff that tastes good and fills you up.

Saturday morning between ten and one is the best time to drop off your donated items. If you have any questions regarding what we need or how to help out send us an email to: [CUMC.donate@gmail.com](mailto:CUMC.donate@gmail.com) and one of our volunteers will get right back to you.



## ALTAR FLOWERS



Very creative ladies provide the church with these lovely creations.





## Lay Leader

### Have you ever considered being a Lay Leader?

You may be wondering: what does a Lay Leader do? Who are they? How to get involved?

The Lay Leader is elected by the Charge Conference annually and the Lay Leader is responsible for:

- Fosters awareness of what our congregation and our community of faith does in the church, in the community, in its ministries, at home, in the community, and in the world.

- Meets regularly with the Pastor to discuss the state of the church and the need for ministry.

- Is a member of the Charge Conference and the Church Administrative Council, the Finance Committee, the Staff Parish Committee, and the Nominating Committee.

- Keeps track and interprets the actions of the Annual Conference and the general church.

- The Lay Leader helps develop leadership.

- Studies and grows in knowledge about the purpose of the church in our community.

- Advises the Administrative Council on opportunities for ministries.

- Informs the laity of training opportunities.

If you have questions regarding the role of the Lay Leader, Debbie Dodd is our current Lay Leader and is in Church most Sundays and she is listed in the Membership Guide, feel free to ask her any questions.

If you enjoy being part of the heartbeat of ministry in our church, consider the role of Lay Leader.

For more information contact Lori Oberlander, Pastor Scott, or Debbie Dodd.

# WAVE FOOD DRIVE

## MONTH

### **All October**

Churches & community partners gather financial and non-perishable food donations through October in a "love-your-neighbor" effort to support Jefferson County Food Banks.

## DAY

### **Sat.Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*All of Jefferson County is invited to donate at QFC stores in Port Townsend & Port Hadlock or locations listed at:*  
***wavefooddrive.wordpress.com***

Give online at: [jeffersoncountyfoodbanks.org](http://jeffersoncountyfoodbanks.org) or by mail to JeffCo Food Banks PO Box 124 Pt. Hadlock WA 98339  
Make checks payable to **Jefferson County Food Bank Association**. Home-canned foods cannot be accepted.  
Canned foods that are past their expiration dates by less than three years CAN be donated. Opened food containers cannot be accepted BUT opened shampoos, lotions, dish soaps and pet foods are welcome.



# A CHANCE TO SERVE

BY Scott Rosekrans

Church leadership can be a rewarding and fulfilling experience, especially if you look at it from the perspective of doing your part in advancing the kingdom. And, each year at this time the Administrative Council starts looking for willing individuals who are ready to step forward and fill the vacancies that occur each year.

One of those positions is Treasurer. Larry Jensen, our current Treasurer, is stepping down after completing his three-year commitment and we really appreciate his service as he assisted us in accomplishing much, especially during COVID. That being said, we would really like you to consider serving as Treasurer. And just so you know what all the position entails we've broken down some of the responsibilities. Weekly you would record the deposits and pay the bills as they come in. Monthly you make sure the designated giving funds get to where they are supposed to go, and you prepare the check that goes to the conference for our apportionments. You would also be responsible for payroll, making sure our taxes make it to the US Treasury, and pay any other vendors. You would also prepare a Treasurer's Report for our monthly Administrative Council meeting, prepare a report for our newsletter, and reconcile our bank accounts. Quarterly you would pay our Worker Insurance and file a required report with the Internal Revenue Service. And, annually, you make sure our insurance, and property taxes are paid. You also prepare an Annual Report to the Conference and participate in the budgeting process.

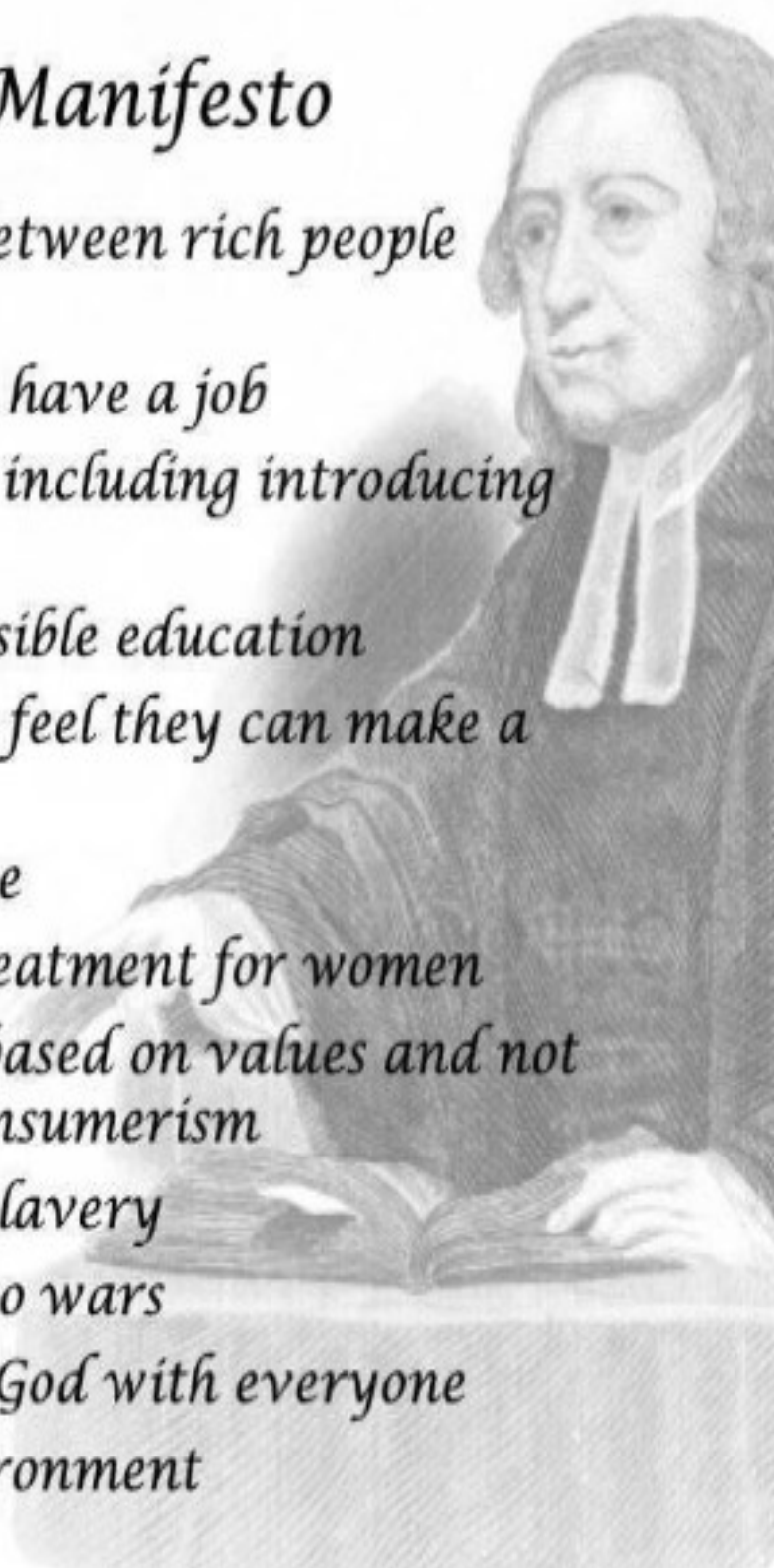
Yean, I know, this may seem like a lot to do but you don't have to do it alone as we provide the support necessary to help get the job done and are always looking for ways to streamline the process to make it easier. And, should you make a mistake, nobody gets bent out of shape as we've yet to have a mistake that couldn't be rectified.

So please, give this position some prayerful consideration and, if interested, contact Lori Oberlander or me. And, if you have any questions regarding the actual position, I am sure that Larry would be more than happy to answer them.



## *John Wesley's Manifesto*

- 1. Reduce the gap between rich people and poor people*
- 2. Help everyone to have a job*
- 3. Help the poorest, including introducing a living wage*
- 4. Offer the best possible education*
- 5. Help everyone to feel they can make a difference*
- 6. Promote tolerance*
- 7. Promote equal treatment for women*
- 8. Create a society based on values and not on profits and consumerism*
- 9. End all forms of slavery*
- 10. Avoid getting into wars*
- 11. Share the love of God with everyone*
- 12. Care for the environment*



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

2022

## FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

## 2022 August Year to Date

08/31/22

## Income

**\$90,925.53**

Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$77,928.20
Other Income	\$12,997.33

## Expenses

**\$83,061.38**

Apportionments	\$11,513.44
Local Program Ministry	\$8,112.74
Operating Expenses	\$30,392.54
Personnel Expenses	\$33,042.66

## Difference

**\$7,864.15**

BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
3 Stephanie Buehler	2	* 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.
13 Marsha Hamacher	9	
19 Bernita Butler	16	
23 Patti Smith	23	
27 Patti Shuff	30	
30 Diane Johnson		
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	<b>LITURGISTS</b>	
2 Marcy Wootan	2	
9 Pat Chase	9	
16 Liz Hazen	16	
23 Laurie Engelbeck	23	
30 Diane Johnson	30	
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	
	2	
	9	
	16	
	23	
	30	
<b>COUNTERS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	
2	2	
9	9	
16	16	
23	23	
30	30	
<b>GREETERS</b>		
2	2	
9	9	
16	16	
23	23	
30	30	



### October LECTIONARY READINGS

#### October 2

Lam 1:1-6  
Ps 137  
2 Tim:8-15  
Luke 17:11-19

#### October 9

Jer 29:1, 4-7  
Ps 66:1-12  
2 Tim:8-15  
Luke 17:11-19

#### October 16

Jer 31:27-3  
Ps 119:97-104  
2 Tim 3:14-4:5  
Luke 18:1-8

#### October 23

Joel 2:23-32  
Ps 65  
2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18  
Luke 18:9-14

#### October 30

Hab 1:1-4;2:1-4  
Ps 119:137-144  
2 Thess 1:1-4,11-12  
Luke 19:1-10

**Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Good Neighbor Exp. Small group 7:00p Music Rm) 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting Bible Study 1:30-3:00pm (Lib)		1 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm.
2 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellow- ship	3 Rainshadow Rehears- al (sanctuary) 6:30p – 9:15pm	4	5 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	6 Good Neighbor Exp. Small group 7:00pm (Music Room) Bible Study 1:30-3:00pm (Lib)	7	8 General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm
9 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellow- ship	10 Alzheimer Support Group, 10:30am-12 noon (Classroom) Rainshadow Rehears- al (sanctuary) 6:30p – 9:15pm	11	12 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	13 ) 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	14	15 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm
16 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellow- ship	17 Rainshadow Rehears- al (sanctuary) 6:30p – 9:15pm	18	19 Deadline for arti- cles for October Newsletter 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	20 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Lib)	21	22 General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm
23 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellow- ship	24 Rainshadow Rehears- al (sanctuary) 6:30p – 9:15pm LAST ONE	25	26 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	27 Bible Study 1:30-3pm (Lib)	28	29
30 10:00am Worship	31			7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Lib)		General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm

**When We Gather Together**Hebrews 10:24

September 1st, 2022

By Kirsten Holmberg

Denmark is among the happiest countries in the world, according to the World Happiness Report. The Danes weather their lengthy, dark winters by gathering with friends to share a warm drink or a gracious meal. The word they use for the feelings associated with those moments is *hygge* (hoo-gah). Hygge helps them offset the impact of enjoying less sunlight than their counterparts at lower latitudes. By circling around a simple table with loved ones, their hearts are nourished and rejuvenated.

The writer of Hebrews encourages this idea of gathering together as a community. He acknowledges that there will be difficult days—with challenges far more significant than the weather—requiring those who follow Christ to persevere in faith. Though Jesus has made certain our acceptance by God, through our faith in the Savior, we may struggle against shame or doubt or real opposition. By gathering together, we have the opportunity—the privilege—of encouraging one another through those moments in our faith. When we're sharing company, we're able to "spur one another on toward love and good deeds," which bolsters our faith (Hebrews 10:24).

Gathering with friends doesn't assure us of a ranking on a "happiness report." It is, however, something the Bible offers as a means to bear up in faith under the common frustrations of life. What a wonderful reason to seek out the community of a church! Or to open our homes—with an attitude of Danish simplicity—to nourish one another's hearts.

**Community United Methodist Church****Being the Somebodies Who Do Something in Jesus' Name**

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