

CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of
Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



December 2022

MOVED BY THE SPIRIT



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On Saturday, November 12th we had our annual Charge Conference led by District Superintendent Mark Galang. The charge conference, much to my relief, was successful, but we still need to fill a few leadership positions in order to be fully effective in our mission to locally make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. He made an interesting observation that is worth repeating. He marveled out loud to those in attendance at all we had accomplished as a church during the over two years of COVID closure.

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He mentioned the remodeling of our kitchen, the conversion of our parsonage into two rental units, the tiny home village in our backyard, and our Saturday morning clothes closet/food pantry outreach. I was, as were those in attendance, pleased at the acknowledgment and affirmation of what we are doing as a church to share what we have with others in Jesus' name, you know, being "that" church.

The conversation took me back to May of 2016 when I was introduced to the Staff-Parish Relations Committee as your new pastor. The church, like so many other churches, was experiencing declining membership and attendance to the point where it was no longer feasible to support a fulltime ordained pastor. The solution was to find a Certified Lay Minister that was not nearly as financially burdensome. We had an interesting meeting. I was excited at the prospect of being a pastor and they needed a pastor in the worst way. (My goal was not to be a pastor in the worst way.) In any event, they told me the history of the church and the great mission work they had been involved with over the decades such as the cooperative relationship with OlyCAP that led to the creation of the South Seven Senior apartment complex known to us as Margaret's Village. They then asked me what ideas I had for the church regarding possible missions. Good question. I responded that as their former Drug Court prosecutor I knew that the Tri-Area was ground zero for addiction, unemployment, and homelessness. I told them that these livability issues were unaddressed by the current County Commissioners Court and that we should look at doing something about it. They seemed to like that answer so we negotiated an employment contract, and I was good to take the pulpit on the first Sunday in July of 2016. The title of my first sermon: The Enthusiastic Methodist.

Now I'll be real honest with you, my knowledge of leading a church is limited with most of my experience coming from the cheap seats on Sunday mornings. If I have any talent, it's in coming into an organization, sizing it up, and determining what it needs to accomplish its basic mission. I've honed this skill through my involvement in Little League Baseball, School Board, and being an elected prosecutor in two different states. Each one has a basic stated purpose, and the key is identifying that purpose and making sure that everything you do goes towards advancing that purpose. Anything else is superfluous and distracting.

However, there is one often overlooked dynamic when you are charged with leading a church. The Holy Spirit. Success, true success, in any church is dependent upon following the lead of the Holy Spirit. In John's gospel Jesus says in preparing his disciples for his departure: *I have much more to say to you, but you can't handle it now. However, when the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you in all truth. He won't speak on his own, but will say whatever he hears and will proclaim to you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and proclaim it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine. That's why I said that the Spirit takes what is mine and will proclaim it to you.* Jesus sent us his Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, to guide us and work right along side of us in all that we do in Jesus' name. The key is to listen to the Spirit and not get ahead of yourself. And I do firmly believe that we are truly a "Spirit-led" church as is evidenced by all of our mission-driven efforts that are focused on others and not ourselves, being the somebodies who do something in Jesus' name.

I look back on that May of 2016 meeting with the SPRC and chuckle at how naïve I was. I told them I would commit to three years to see what I could do to get them back to where they could, once again, afford an ordained pastor to lead them. Well, here I am part of the way into year seven and I'm discussing with the SPRC the feasibility of increasing my hours from 25 a week to 32. I'm not sure what the Spirit has up his sleeve, but I am confident it isn't anything we can't handle or accomplish. We just have to remember that with God nothing is impossible.

Faithfully, Scott



Lay Servant Ministries

Have you wondered about what Lay Servant Ministries is all about and what it takes to become a: Lay Servant, Certified Lay Servant, or Certified Lay Speaker

During our Annual Charge Conference on Saturday November 12, 2022, we recertified our very own Lay Servant, Diane Johnson—Congratulations Diane!

Thank you for your commitment and leadership

The Pacific NW Conference makes available and invites and encourages all laity to participate in Lay Servant Ministry courses. We recommend the “Basic Course in Lay Servant Ministry” as a great place to start. This course is also required as a first step for anyone seeking certification as a lay servant, lay speaker, or lay minister.

Here is a basic Fact Sheet about the Lay Servant Ministries opportunities and if you are interested in learning more about the Pacific NW Conference’s Lay Servant Ministries, visit the website at <https://www.pnwumc.org/ministries/lsm>. The website has cool video and other information.

CERTIFIED LAY SERVANT	CERTIFIED LAY SPEAKER	CERTIFIED LAY MINISTER
<p>Serves the local church or charge (and/or beyond) and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides program leadership, assistance, and support Leads meetings for prayer, training, study, and discussion Conducts, or assists in conducting, services of worship, preaches the Word, or gives addresses Provides congregational and community leadership and fosters caring ministries Assists in the distribution of the elements of Holy Communion Teaches the Scriptures, doctrine, organization, and ministries of The United Methodist Church. 	<p>Serves by preaching the Word when requested by the pastor, district superintendent, or committee on Lay Servant Ministries, in accordance and compliance with ¶1341.1.</p>	<p>As part of a ministry team with supervision and support of a clergyperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducts public worship Cares for the congregation Develops new faith communities Preaches the Word Leads small groups Establishes outreach ministries Serves as a class leader Engages in specialized ministries after appropriate training such as in parish nursing and church planting Assists in program leadership
REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION:	REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION:	REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation Lay Servant Ministries BASIC course Lay Servant Ministries advanced course District committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure (See ¶1668.3) approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified as a lay servant <i>(or equivalent as defined by his or her central conference)</i> Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation Completion of a track of study as defined in ¶1267.3.c. Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval after interview with and recommendation from the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified as a lay servant, lay missionary <i>(or equivalent as defined by his or her central conference)</i> Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation Completion of a track of study as defined in ¶1268 District Superintendent recommendation Appropriate screening & assessment Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval after interview with and recommendation from district committee on Ordained Ministry
REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL:	REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL:	REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report & renewal application Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation Lay Servant Ministries advanced course in the last three years District committee on Lay Servant Ministries, or equivalent structure (See ¶1668.3) approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report & renewal application Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation Lay Servant Ministries advanced course in the last three years Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval every three years after interview with and recommendation from the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report Pastor and church council or charge conference recommendation Ministry review Lay Servant Ministries advanced course or approved continuing education event every two years District Superintendent recommendation Conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries approval every two years after interview with and recommendation from district committee on Ordained Ministry
<div data-bbox="82 1822 267 1997"> </div> <div data-bbox="293 1829 974 1902"> <p>ADOPTED LEGISLATION AT 2016 GENERAL CONFERENCE For more information visit: www.UMCdiscipleship.org</p> </div> <div data-bbox="293 1913 711 1990"> </div>		



Update: The small group study about neighboring has changed over to a Zoom format! The days and time will remain the same—Thursday night from 7p.m. to 8p.m. If you are interested in getting on the weekly Zoom Meeting invitation, just send an email to Lori at Lori.obe@q.com or catch her before or after church.

We will be finishing lab 2 and starting lab 3

Over the next 6 weeks, we are going to journey together through a cycle that we hope you will continue to use (and modify) for the rest of your life. It is a process designed to move us from scarcity to abundance. We have discovered that once we begin to look through the lens of abundance it can transform how we see everything, from the briefest conversation to the biggest project. But getting there is not easy, and we discover again and again that we still have areas of our lives and the world where we start with scarcity and needs. For this reason, it is helpful to think of this process as being designed to be repeated.

Week 1 – December 8, 2022: Individual/Small Group: Practice learning conversations and use asset categories to discover gifts of the individuals in your small group.

Week 2 – December 15, 2022: Congregation: Use learning conversations and asset categories to discover gifts of persons in your congregation.

Week 3 – December 22, 2022: Merry Christmas!

Week 4 – December 29, 2022: Happy New Year!

We look forward completing starting Lab 3 in December. Join us!



United
Women
in Faith

The Choral Bells on December 1st



Tuesday, December 13 we'll be preparing and distributing gift bags to our neighbors at South Seven and Peter's Place. Let Marsha Hamacher (360-385-0840) know if you are planning to help or to make cookies. Cookies can be dropped off between 11:00 and noon when assembly begins.

Many thanks to all those who donated tampons and panty liners for the women at Dove House and the Recovery Cafe. This is very much appreciated!

March 6 - 10 at the American Legion

Serving evening meals at the Winter Shelter in Port Townsend. More on this after the first of the year.

We look forward to seeing you as we work on these service projects.

Faithfully,

Diane Jensen

Photos by Scott Rosekrans

ALTAR FLOWERS



Photos by Scott Rosekrans

Thanks for all the beautiful November Flowers!
Advent Altar. Thanks to Don Olsen for building the stable.

PARSONAGE UPDATE

Thanks to Don Olsen and John Sweet for installing a more secure entry door to our lower level apartment.



Become a Methodist and learn a trade! Lynn Marlow and Don putting the subway tile backsplash up in our new apartment.



CHRISTMAS ANGELS

BY Pat Chase

Gorgeous!



THAT CHURCH!



A Thanksgiving feast.

Our first **potluck** for almost 3 years!



Clothes Closet. Saturday morning sorting clothes and helping a client find what he needs.

Photos by Scott Rosekrans



THAT CHURCH! CONTINUED



United Women in Faith decorating the church Christmas Tree!



TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE: Pick up a new toy and place it (unwrapped) in the box. Make a child's Christmas a little brighter.

Photos by Scott Rosekrans

BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
1 Larry Sanderson 15 Janice Fischer	4 11 18 25	* 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.
ALTAR FLOWERS	LITURGISTS	
4 Advent Worship Comm 11 Advent Worship Comm 18 Advent Worship Comm 25 Advent Worship Comm	4 John Sweet 11 18 25	
COMMUNION SERVERS	SUNDAY SCHOOL	
	4 11 18 25	
COUNTERS	USHERS	
4 Connie R., Marsha H. 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	
GREETERS		
4 11 18 25		



December LECTIONARY READINGS

December 4

Isa 11: 1-10
 Ps 72:1-7, 18-19
 Rom 15:4-13
 Matt 3:1-12

December 11

Isa 35:1-10
 Luke 1:46b-55
 James 5:7-10
 Matt 11:2-11

December 18

Isa 7:10-16
 Ps 80:1-7, 17-19
 Rom 1:1-7
 Matt 1: 18-25

December 25

Isa 52:7-10
 Ps 98
 Heb 1:1-4j (5-12)
 John 1:1-14

Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	¹ 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting	²	³ General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm.
⁴ 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellowship	⁵	⁶	⁷ 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	⁸ 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	⁹	¹⁰ General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm Charge Conference
¹¹ 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	¹² Alzheimer Support Group, 10:30am-12 noon (Classroom)	¹³ WUF Help pack and deliver gift bags. 10:00am at church	¹⁴ 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary) Deadline for arti- cles for jJanuary Newsletter Admin Council Meeting 6:30p	¹⁵ 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	¹⁶	¹⁷ General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm
¹⁸ 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	¹⁹	²⁰	²¹ 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	²² 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	²³	²⁴ General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm
²⁵ 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship CHRISTMAS	²⁶	²⁷	²⁸ 4pm Bell Choir (sanctuary)	²⁹ 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	³⁰	³¹ General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm

Local

MISSION
of the
MONTH

2022

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	ECHHO	\$ 500.00
October	Bayside	\$ 1129.00
November	Food Bank	\$ 500.00
December	ECHHO	\$

FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

Financial Report for Newsletter

2022 October Year to Date		10/31/22
Income		\$113,344.26
Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$93,618.93	
Other Income	\$19,725.33	
Expenses		\$97,425.46
Apportionments	\$14,391.80	
Local Program Ministry	\$9,027.95	
Operating Expenses	\$32,664.40	
Personnel Expenses	\$41,619.88	
Accounting Adjustment	-\$278.57	
Difference		\$15,918.80

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



Unbeknownst to most theologians, there was a fourth wiseman, who was turned away for bringing fruitcake.

★
A
Very
Merry
Christmas
And all the
Best Wishes for
A Happy New Year!
S.D.

November 29th, 2022

A Hot Meal

Matthew 25:40

By Our Daily Bread

Barbecue chicken, green beans, spaghetti, rolls. On a cool day in October, at least fifty-four homeless people received this hot meal from a woman celebrating fifty-four years of life. The woman and her friends decided to forgo her usual birthday dinner in a restaurant, choosing instead to cook and serve meals to people on the streets of Chicago. On social media, she encouraged others to also perform a random act of kindness as a birthday gift.

This story reminds me of Jesus' words in Matthew 25: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (v. 40). He said these words after declaring that His sheep will be invited into His eternal kingdom to receive their inheritance (v. 33). At that time, Jesus will acknowledge that they're the people who fed and clothed Him because of their genuine faith in Him (unlike the proud religious people who did not believe in Him; see 26:3–5). Although the "righteous" will question when they fed and clothed Jesus (v. 37), He will assure them that what they did for others was also done for Him (v. 40).

Feeding the hungry is just one way God helps us care for His people—showing our love for Him and relationship with Him. May He help us meet others' needs today.

**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**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