

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of  
Community United Methodist Church



## Perseverance

It was just before Easter three years ago that we got the order from our Bishop to shut our doors and suspend in-person worship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Talk about a game changer for churches! Churches were already having a difficult time keeping their doors open due to dwindling attendance and resources, but now we were telling the faithful few to go home until further notice.

Well, we complied, sort of. We immediately went to a Facebook Live service using my older model iPhone 6 which is a story in itself. I don't work well from home, so it gave me an excuse to come into the office to work on my sermons. It wasn't long before I got a call from our District Superintendent who was checking on his pastors. He called me on my cell phone, assuming I was home, but when he heard another phone ring and the answering machine pick up he asked if I was at the church. I told him I was, and he reminded me of the Bishop's instructions to close. I told him I understood but that there were too many people in the area who relied upon us for help, and now was not the time to abandon them. I assured him that I was following all of the safety protocols and then some. He sighed and told me to be careful.

I thought of this today as I was putting the finishing touches on my sermon entitled: God Has Your Back, and how God did indeed have our back over the last three years as we rose to the challenge of being there for the least of Jesus' brothers and sisters in their time of extreme distress. In Chapter 5 of Paul's letter to the church in Rome he says: *Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness combined with our faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God's glory.* Yeah, I thought, with God's faithfulness to us through his covenant and our faith in him that he will do as he promised, what do we have to be scared of? And then Paul says that through it all, we even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. And, he says: *This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*

April 2023

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## Perseverance continued

What we've been through the past three years is a testament to the hope we have as a church. My attempting to do some Facebook Live services in front of my fireplace was just the beginning of what we were being called to do by the Spirit. The Spirit knew that the congregation at Community United Methodist Church liked a challenge and would more than rise to the occasion. We began stockpiling food, clothing and other items to meet the needs of the growing number of people who found out we were here to help. Now you'd have to believe that providing this service was enough, but the Spirit was only getting started. What better time than to build tiny homes and establish Jefferson County's first tiny home village on our property? And, with the christening of Peter's Place just over two years ago we made the decision to open our clothes closet and food pantry to the public on Saturday mornings doing what we could to make sure nobody went hungry and had warm clothing to wear in the winter and cool clothing to wear in the summer. In the two years of being open on Saturdays we've recorded just under 1,000 visits to our mission wing, all made possible through the selfless service of some very dedicated volunteers and some generous members of our community who wanted to support what we were doing, no questions asked with no strings attached. Again, you'd think that the Spirit would tell us how good a job we did and move on, but you'd be wrong. We weren't done. We were just getting started. We were moved to take out a loan and remodel our parsonage into two rental units providing affordable housing through OlyCAP to two families. And, as if we didn't have enough to do, we decided we needed to remodel our kitchen, not knowing that the Spirit had future plans to open up a soup kitchen which, through a generous donation and some dedicated volunteers is up and running serving hot and healthy soup on Saturday mornings, along with a dash of fellowship. I shudder to think what's next.

Our faith, combined with God's faithfulness, has allowed us to do some amazing things in His service. We met the problem of closing to in-person worship and being a resource in the community with determination and resolve which produced an amazing endurance that sustained us for three years. Rising to the challenge has created in us a stronger Christian character that has produced in us a hope in which we can take pride in knowing that our efforts have glorified God and kept a light on during a very dark time for many people, including God's people called Methodists. What a privilege it has been for me to be your pastor during this character-building time in the life of our church, the pastor of "that church," that church that helps the homeless.

\*\*\*\*\*WHAT A DIFFERENCE NEW FLOORING MAKES IN THE STORE ROOM\*\*\*\*\*





**March 6-10**

**Providing meals at the Shelter in Pt Townsend. Thanks to all who helped!**

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**Janet Stevenson and Pastor Scott sang a lovely duet 3/19/23 during the church Service. What a treat for all attending and those who were able to enjoy at home!**



Easter Memorials;

We will be offering you the opportunity to bring a Lilly to place in the front of the church on Easter Sunday, to commemorate a passed love one. Please contact the office or AJ Laverty if you wish to participate or bring in a Lilly. If you could please let the office or AJ by Sunday the 2nd of April, I will try to print an insert noting who the Lillies are for.

**Also, for those with allergies, Please remove the brown stamens before bringing to Church. Thank You!**

Easter is the 9th of April. Please feel free to contact the office (360-385-15790 if you have anymore questions or concerns.

THANK YOU!

Kathi VanCamp

Admin Assistant



The Good Neighbor experiment is halfway through Lab 3 and we are excited about some of the progress we have made getting to know some of our neighbors and hearing about discovering gifts and building meaningful relationships. We are pleased to notice how natural and organic some of the relationships are forming.

Lab 3 we are also reflecting on looking for hidden gifts in our small group and in our church family. We will be working on looking for hidden treasures in our community, which happens at the speed of relationship and watching how God is working already in our neighborhoods.

We have been taking a deep dive into the process of moving the congregation from scarcity to abundance.

The steps include:

1. Looking for hidden gifts
2. Connecting these gifts
3. Tell the story of abundance.
4. Identifying areas that we view through a lens of scarcity.

Please join us in our experiment to discover the gifts of the garden in our church community. We welcome new stories about how neighbors have impacted your life and how you have impacted their lives.

\*\*\*Workshop 3 will be introducing Lab 4 and will be held at Brownsville United Methodist Church on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-5pm \*\*\*\*

***We look forward completing lab 3 in February. Join us!***



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Please Join the UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH when they meet Thursday April 6th @10am at the church.**

**The program will be presented by Barbara Berthiaume for the Peninsula Support Org( Bluebills). This is one of the missions that our UWF supports annually , but the org does so much more. Come learn about the ways the Bluebills support various groups and individuals on the peninsula. Please plan to stay afterwards for a fellowship sack lunch (bring your own!), dessert and coffee will be provided. Feel free to contact Diane Jensen if you have questions or need a ride. Her #402-290-1220 Or [dcjensen29@gmail.com](mailto:dcjensen29@gmail.com)**

**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH ARE STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION.**

**Protecting God's creation and those who are disproportionately affected by global climate change is more than our belief, it is one of our core principles.**



## Attention One...Attention All

The annual before Easter spring cleaning is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

There is outdoor cleaning to do and indoor cleaning to accomplish.

Outdoor Cleaning	Indoor Cleaning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gardening</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning exterior windows</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dusting/Clearing cobwebs.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pressure washing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deep cleaning of Bathrooms</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General yard clearing/cleaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning walls/radiators as needed</li> </ul>




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*If you are able, please bring supplies such as mops, rags, cleaner, gardening tools, wheelbarrows, and pressure washer, if not just bring you!*

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# COMMUNIQUÉ

Next meeting of the Health and Fitness Committee  
April 6 at 9:30 a.m.

Health and fitness enthusiasts are welcome.



“It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all – in which case you fail by default.”  
- J.K. Rowling.

[Seven most effective exercises according to WebMD](#)

## Bay Club Hours

- Mon-Fri 7:30 am – 8 pm
- Sat 9 am – 5 pm
- Sun 12 pm – 4 pm

See [What's Happening at the Bay Club](#) for fitness and other Club activities.

## Seniors urged to get medical alert device

According to a Dr. Howren, “Seniors are just one fall away from being put in a nursing home...every senior should have a medical alert device.” This is especially important for people who live alone.

According to the CDC, more than one out of four older people fall each year. Falls can result in broken bones – wrist, arm, ankle, hip fractures and head injuries. These injuries often lead to nursing home care.

There are numerous stories of people who were not wearing a medic alert/fall detection device of some kind falling and lying on the floor for hours before someone came to their aid.

There are many fall detection devices available on the market including smart watches. [Consumer Reports](#) is one resource to start finding a device that works for you.

Hip injuries are a very common result of falling so hip strengthening exercises can be very helpful in preventing injury and surviving a fall. Here are [14 easy to do exercises](#) for strengthening and increasing mobility in the hips.

## Five of the best exercises you can do

There are a lot of different suggestions on the best exercises you can do. Here is *Harvard Health Publisher's* top five:

1. Swimming.
2. Tai Chi.
3. Strength training.
4. Walking.
5. Kegel exercises strengthen the pelvic area. Squeeze the muscles you would use to prevent yourself from passing urine.



## New water exercise opportunity

Watch for communication from SBCA regarding new water exercise activities. A smart tv is now installed in the swimming area capable of viewing videos for water exercise activities.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4pm Bell Choir	2 UWF 10AM Good Neighbor Experiment. Zoom 7-8pm GNE  7-8pm Al-Anon	3	4 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
5 10:00am Wor- ship 10:15am Sunday School 11:15am Fellow- ship	6	7	8 4pm Bell Choir  Finance Admin Council Meeting 6:30pm on Zoom	9  7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)  GNE Zoom 7-8p	10	11 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
12 10:00am Wor- ship 11:15am Fellow- ship	13 Alzheimer Support Group 10:30-noon In classroom  Rainshadow Re- hearsal (sanctuary) 6:30p –9:15pm	14	15 4pm Bell Choir	16  7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)  GNE Zoom 7-8p	17	18 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
19 10:00am Wor- ship 11:15am Fellow- ship	20	21	5 4pm Bell Choir  deadline for arti- cles for May Newsletter	23 GNE zoom 7-8p  7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	24	25 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
26 10:00am Wor- ship 11:15am Fellow- ship	27	28	29 4pm Bell Choir	30 GNE zoom 7-8p  7-8pm Al-Anon		



BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
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1: Betty Prentice  
17: Mike Myers

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

2 Lent  
9 Easter  
16  
23

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

30

**COUNTERS**

2. Lori & Kathi  
9 Debbie & Connie  
16 Marsha & Diane  
23 Lynn & Betty

**GREETERS**

**LITURGISTS**

2: John Sweet  
9: Billie Fitch  
16: Liz Hazen  
23: Laurie Engelbeck  
30: Kathi VanCamp

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**USHERS**

- \* 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.



## April LECTIONARY READINGS

April 2  
Isa 50:4-9a  
Ps 31:9-16  
Phil 2:5-11  
Matt 26:14-27 or 27:11-54

April 9  
Acts 10:34  
Ps 118:1-2  
Col 3:1-4  
Col 3:1-4  
John 20:1-18

April 16  
Acts 2:14a 22-32  
Ps 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

April 23  
Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Ps 116:1-4,12-19  
1Peter 1;17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

April 30  
Acts 2:42-47  
Ps 23  
1Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name

In what could be a very common theme amongst the church, is what also lead Ted and Connie Ross to first come to this area, **following children**. They visited often beginning in 2003 when their son was transferred here by the Navy and they then bought a Port Ludlow condo in 2013.

It was an easy decision to make this area their permanent home, when they sold their Engineering business in Gaithersburg Maryland, retiring here in 2021.

They have been coming to the CUMC since 2013 when their neighbor, Bev Rothenborg introduced them to this wonderful congregation.

Their hobbies and interests, are Ted volunteering at the Naval Undersea Museum, The American legion and he helps when he can with the CUMC Security team and Trustees. Connie is an avid quilter and is a member of the Cabin Fever Quilters Guild , the Bell choir and recently has become one of the newly formed “Pastorettes” adding her lovely voice to the worship service. She is also the President of her condo’s HOA !

In their spare time, they visit with family as much as possible and are building a new home on the Shine Rd.

Reach out and meet them. They are an awesome addition to our church family!





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:

# 2023

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	\$ 500.00

## FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

<b>Financial Report for Newsletter</b>		
<b>2022 November Year to Date</b>		<b>11/30/22</b>
<b>Income</b>		<b>\$122,651.26</b>
Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$102,200.93	
Other Income	\$20,450.33	
<b>Expenses</b>		<b>\$103,503.00</b>
Apportionments	\$15,830.98	
Local Program Ministry	\$9,355.03	
Operating Expenses	\$34,395.06	
Personnel Expenses	\$44,200.50	
Accounting Adjustment	-\$278.57	
<b>Difference</b>		<b>\$19,148.26</b>

April 3, 2023 Upper Room

By: Akanksha Singh, India

## Choose to Rejoice

When I moved to Lucknow, I was longing for a good job and had many interviews. When I couldn't find a job, I became so frustrated that I decided to give up and move back to my hometown. While I was packing my bags, I received a call from a renowned institution informing me of my selection for a position. Then I realized that many times in my life, when everything seemed to be falling apart, I simply gave in to my adversities or refused to be led by God. But thankfully, God never left me alone. Sometimes even when we are praying continuously, we still feel stuck in our problems. It is easy to assume God is not listening and to stop praying and reading our Bible. But that makes us more vulnerable to the chaos of life. Instead of giving up, we can choose to rejoice, just like Habakkuk. God loves us too much to ever leave us alone. After all, God gave His son for us. Jesus is the ultimate proof of God's love and faithfulness. God is with us as our trusted companion and will never walk away or let us down.



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 & Wednesday  
10 am - 6 pm, Tuesday