CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen



July , 2023

By the time you read this I will have started my eighth year here as your pastor. And, to tell you the truth, I wasn't sure how long I'd be here. I initially committed to three years. Aside from the twelve and a half years I spent at the Houston Police Department, this is the longest I've held a steady job. Teresa has asked me how long do I plan on serving here and I tell her I don't know? It depends upon when God decides I am needed somewhere else, no longer needed here, or it is time for someone else to come in and follow the lead of the Holy Spirit and build upon what we've accomplished.

But why me, I've asked myself on numerous occasions? I didn't go to seminary. I went through a police academy and law school. But then again, neither did the Apostle Peter or most of John Wesley and Francis Ashbury's early itinerant Methodist preachers. Many were barely literate and not all that well-versed in the Scriptures, but they felt called to serve, even if only for a little while. And, when you think about it, Jesus' first four disciples were fishermen. Another was a despised tax collector. They all had the privilege of responding to the call not knowing where it would lead.

So, what you ask has prepared me for the ministry? Good question. The other day I was going through some old files in my

desk, and I came across a letter dated March 16, 2016, from then District Superintendent Daniel Foster to the congregation of Community United Methodist Church advising the membership that Bishop Grant Hagiya was appointing me to CUMC as their next pastor. In the letter DS Foster writes that Teresa and I have been married over forty years, have two kids and two grandkids, and that Teresa has a background in special education. Daniel points out that over the past 28 years we have faithfully served in three churches where I've done everything from teaching to preaching to painting and that my life, both personally and professional, has been dedicated to serving others as a police officer, defense attorney, and prosecutor. Additionally, he points out that I've served on various boards such as school board, youth baseball, crime stoppers, and various church boards and committees. What does all this have to do with my being qualifi4d to lead a church during times of declining enrollment and financial belt tightening? I'll let you answer that question.

For me, what was significant about the letter, was the paragraph where the District Superintendent wrote that it was my belief that what we do in life is only limited by our imaginations and that I use this approach in addressing the issues and challenges I face. That's true and if you recall all of my experiences in various occupa-

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1/2
Altar flowers/visitor	3
Parking Lot	4
Vintage Photos	5
Saviors Soup News	6/7
GNE	8
Hello Laurie	9/10
Nominating Com	11
Treasure Position	12
Men at Work	13
Financial	14/15
Calendar	16
Birthday/Hospitality	17
Closing thoughts	18



this approach in addressing the issues and challenges I face. That's true and if you recall all of my experiences in the church to do something about it and we are the various occupations and serving on many different boards and organizations you will realize that they were all goal oriented with their own sets of unique issues and challenges. Problems to be solved. He also said that I looked forward to serving the members of CUMC in their quest to love God, love one another, and serve the world. So, when Daniel formally introduced me to the Staff-Parish Relations Committee as the new pastor I was asked what I saw as my mission for the church going forward. That was a great question that showed a genuine concern for the church's continuing role in the community. Without giving it much thought, I responded that as their former Drug Court Prosecutor I saw the Tri-Area as ground zero for drug addiction, unemployment, homelessness, domestic violence, and other livability issues and that CUMC was right in the middle of it. I asked them to give me six months to get my feet on the ground and that I'd come back to them with a plan, and the rest is history.

So, what's the plan going forward? Well, I think it's to continue to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit as we use our resources in our quest to love God, love one another, and serve the world. Yeah, but we're not growing. We don't have any children. Not making any excuses, but we are growing. As of this writing we have approximately 36 people, not counting me and Teresa, who currently attend our church that didn't attend seven years ago. During that time, many others have come and gone, moved on to other parts of the country for a variety of reasons, or passed on into their eternal reward. Plus, we have a pretty good following online extending beyond the Tri-Area. But more importantly, I believe that as a congregation we've grown spiritually as we become better disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. As our current District Superintendent pointed out, we do live in a retirement community. A recent study of population demographics has Jefferson County sitting number six in oldest per capita counties in the United States. That is our target demographic. People who retire here, are looking for a church, and still have a desire to serve. Have I done a good job in leading people in professions of faith and desires to be baptized into the Methodist Church? Sadly no, but that I believe, is not why God called me to this church. I was not the only one to see the Tri-Area as ground zero for many so-

cial ills and failings. God saw it too and knew we were somebodies who do something in Jesus' name, the SODS. We have re-established our Christian footprint in the community.

So, I say all that to say that I am humbled that God has entrusted me with his church, his people, and that we are continuing a decades-long history of loving God, loving one another, and serving the world. I am excited about what the future holds and am pleased to serve a congregation that is only limited by its imagination, an imagination that is not afraid to step out, step up, and take chances in serving those who need to feel the warmth of God's love. This is what we are called by God to do.







We are blessed with some of the most beautiful flower arrangements every Gunday! Thank you to all who share their gifts with us and bring such joy to the Gunday Gerwices



We nourish all kinds of souls here! Sweet little squirrel getting a drink after Pastor watered the flowers.





Parking Lot Project

Over the last five or six years our church leadership and trustees have done an excellent job in addressing the maintenance issues we've faced as a church. Our administrative wing used to include the main sanctuary and was constructed around 1960. Our current sanctuary and narthex were attached sometime during the 1970s as a temporary solution to church growth. Well things wear out and due to great financial stewardship, we've been able to pay for our improvements and remain debt free. Just to refresh your memory, we've updated the sanctuary and narthex with a fresh new look, remodeled the kitchen, painted the exterior of the church, replaced the aging boiler, and remodeled the parsonage. All accomplished with much prayer, sweat equity, and a faith in God's plan for this church as we continue to be a presence bringing the light of his love into the darkness.

That being said, the big project remaining is repaying our parking lot. We've been patching the potholes for years, but it is time to consider an upgrade to a completely new surface. In addition to our Sunday services, we are seeing a lot of increased traffic on Saturdays as people come to our General Store to shop or drop off donations and then enjoy some delicious soup

and friendly fellowship. We certainly don't want them to drive into one of our bone jarring potholes or injure themselves walking to and from their vehicles. We must also consider the curb appeal effect of a parking lot in disrepair and what it says about our church. During the week I see a lot of drive-bys of people checking us out and can only imagine what they think when they drive into one of our potholes.

So that brings me to our parking lot project. We already have some money set aside but it is going to cost a whole lot more than what we have on hand. Our trustees checked into what it would cost for a parking lot of our size, and it could run between seventy and seventy-five thousand dollars. It doesn't have to be done anytime soon but we'd rather see it sooner than later. What we ask from you in the meantime is for your prayers as we embark upon this project and to consider how much, if any, you can contribute to the effort, so we won't have to borrow as much. We are that confident that God is not done with us and that He has further plans for us as we reach out to meet the needs of the least, the last, and the lost.









Vintage Church Photos, shared by the Pastor. So many changes!





Clothes Closet News:

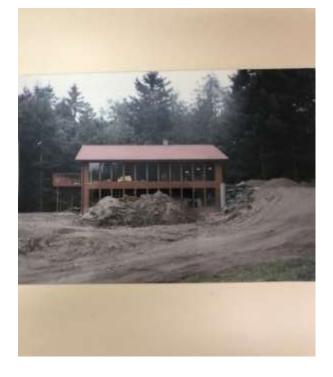
The CUMC general store is now collecting your Rx prescription bottles to refill with shampoo and conditioner, to hand out to those in need. Please de-label and rinse them out. They can be left in the Food Room of the store.

Thank you!

And remember July is Shoe-ly month. Donate if you can!









Soups On!

Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup

Thanks to Ray and Lodema Hatch, the Savior's Soup kitchen is off and running. Yay!

We are excited to report the number of participants is growing and other people are volunteering to prepare and serve the soup and getting warmed up to help when needed this summer and, in the fall, when the Hatch's leave for the winter. Thank You!

God is calling you to be Somebody that Does Something in Jesus' Name

Each week it takes two people to handle the soup kitchen:



One person is needed to prepare the soup, set up the sanctuary, serve our guests, and clean up afterwards. A double batch usually does it especially if you use an extender like pasta or rice. Don't let the cost of buying ingredients slow you down, there are funds available to reimburse the costs of ingredients if requested.

We also need an extra set of hands to help with set-up, clean up and interacting or fellowshipping with our guests.

There is always plenty of bread and corn muffins, so you only need to provide a double batch of soup—maybe more, come in and set up, serve, and clean up when done.

We are finding that some people need gluten free and vegetarian options. You can coordinate with Lodema to help meet this need.

We have also discovered that hard boiled eggs are a BIG hit--especially to go--and they love fresh fruit such as bananas and tangerines. We need volunteers to make a dozen hard boiled eggs and

Continued from page 5

• provide fresh fruit for each week. The hours are 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (this may change) and we serve about 15-30 people, including some to go.

It is easy and fun!

f you would like to help after they leave in September, come by any Saturday and we can provide you with the low-down

of what it takes to do the set-up and clean up. <u>It isn't difficult</u> and it warding and fun!

How to get involved:

Stop by any Saturday to get familiarized.

Talk to Lodema, Ray, or Lori on Sunday.

Use the calendar located in the kitch-sign up.

Call Pastor Scott or the Church office 385-1579.

Call Lodema or Ray at 661-289-0176. Call Lori Oberlander at 360 620-0809.

Make a dozen hard boiled eggs.

Provide fresh fruit.

Prepare a double batch of soup.

Setup and clean up.

Come and participate in fellowship.



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at 360

29th:

July Soup sign Up:

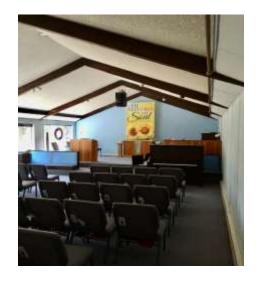
1st: Lori Oberlander 8th: Ted & Connie Ross

15th: Ray & Lodema Hatch

22nd: Cal & Linda White

We look forward to seeing you at lunch, also known as Savior's Soup!

Vintage Church Photos









Discover Someone's Hidden Gifts

Engage anyone: friends, family and even strangers on a deeper level by helping them find their hidden gifts by asking a few simple questions.

<u>Gifts of the head</u>: Ask them about something that they know about? For example, if you notice something, you can ask them about it or ask them what they like to read. Have they read any cool articles or books? If they ever thought about teaching something, what would it be?

If **you're** nervous to ask about them, you can tell them about an article that you read or something that piqued your interest on the news or a program that you watched on television. Before you know it, you will have connected beyond a basic polite greeting.

<u>Gifts of the hands</u>: You can also ask them about something that they like to do in their free time. Ask them what they are good at making such as hobbies, interests, etc. When they tell you, affirm them by acknowledging their wonderful gifts and be curious about learning more about their skills and talents. You will be off and running in no time. **Don't be afraid to share something that** you like to make or do.

<u>Gifts of the heart</u>: Another thing you can use as a conversation starter is to ask them about something they care about so much that it moves them to action, what makes them happy or brings them joy.

These are all great ways to not only start learning about each other, we connect, and discover each other's hidden gifts.

Now go and find someone's hidden gifts—it is fun!





For CUMC Newsletter: Laurie Engelbeck

My husband George and I bought a home in the Kala Point neighborhood in Port Townsend in October 2021 but didn't move in full-time until June 2022. Before we moved in, I started looking for churches. I had belonged to Faith United Methodist Church in Issaquah for over twenty years, so I started by looking for United Methodist churches in the area. It was a good thing that all churches were online during the pandemic, so I could "visit" them from home. I enjoyed hearing what Pastor Scott said about being an active church "the somebodies who do something." During that time, when he was working on the video set-up, Scott frequently mentioned Pastor David Valera, who I knew from Faith Church. I told David I was moving and looking at the UMC in Port Hadlock and he had many good things to say about Scott and the church. I starting coming to Community UMC in the spring of 2022, whenever we were in the area. My husband comes occasionally. He is mostly a Christmas and Easter church-goer.

We settled in to our new house when I retired from my job as a school psychologist last June. George is still working from home for a software company and plans to retire this July.

We previously lived in Sammamish, Washington, for 25 years. In Sammamish we enjoyed being close to stores, restaurants, work, and church, and fairly close to concerts, plays, and activities in Seattle. However, after two years of not going out to eat or to any concerts or theater, we decided that going out was not a critical factor in choosing a retirement location. We have enjoyed concerts by local bands, jazz artists, and chamber musicians and have been pleasantly surprised to find an active and varied music scene in Port Townsend.

We like to camp and had stayed at Fort Townsend State Park several times. On one of our visits, we walked through the woods and discovered a housing development. "That's interesting..." we thought. When we were looking for a place to retire some years later, we looked at Port Townsend and remembered the development near the state park, which is where we now live.

We love being close to the beach and close to the forest and having beautiful places to walk our dogs every day. Chili the Chihuahua and Roxie the Boston Terrier are loving it here as well. We enjoy the quiet neighborhood and the friendly neighbors. We have enjoyed exploring Port Townsend and getting to know people in the area. We have been surprised at how friendly and helpful people are here. The friendly people I have met through church and in my neighborhood and the beautiful setting are the best parts of living here.

George and I met when we were both graduate students in psychology at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Our son, Ian, was born in Boulder and was two years old when we moved to Sammamish. I went back to school when Ian was in first grade to re-specialize as a school psychologist, and then worked in the Issaquah School District for 20 years while George worked in software product development. Ian is now an assistant attorney general for the State of Alaska and loves living in Anchorage where he can hike, canoe, kayak, or ski all year. Ian and his girlfriend, also an attorney, are buying a house together and plan to get married, probably next summer.

While I loved my work as a school psychologist, I am not missing it. Retirement is great! I am enjoying having more time to work on my garden, scrapbooks, and to try new vegetarian recipes. I have been busier than I thought I would be. I enjoy working with the tech team at church, doing the Facebook

and Zoom videos, serving as liturgist once a month, and working on the Good Neighbor Experiment, along with other projects as needed. I volunteer at the Senior Table at the Quilcene Food Bank a couple times a month and that has been very interesting. Outside of church-related projects, I volunteer as a reading tutor with kindergarten students at Chimicum Creek Primary School. I love reading with the kindergartners! I also help with writing and editing the newsletter for my homeowner's association.

George and I enjoy walking and RV camping. We own a two-person kayak and pickleball gear but have not used either very much. We hope to get better at both kayaking and pickleball this summer. We have several camping trips planned around western Washington this summer and will be taking the RV to Montana later in the summer. We will fly to Anchorage to see our son in September.

We would like to explore more around Vancouver Island and also to go back to the Banff/Lake Louise area and spend more time hiking around there. We would like to get back into international travel beyond Canada, but probably not for a while.

In the meantime, I am happily enjoying living in this beautiful area, with the peaceful atmosphere and friendly people and looking for useful ways to spend my time and energy.



Laurie & George Photo submitted by Laurie





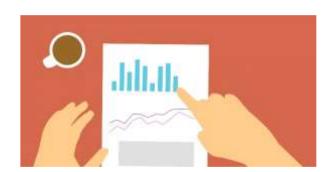
Treasurer Needed

After many years of faithful service, Larry Jensen's term as Treasurer is ending at the end of this year. Thank you for your service! You have done a terrific job and will be missed in this position. We look forward to seeing where God is leading you to serve in the future.

CUMC is looking for a Treasurer as it is a vital role in the church. If you understand balance sheets and profit and loss statements and if God calling you to serve by helping to ensure good stewardship of our church funds, the Treasurer is a good fit for you!

The job has become easier in the last year because we now have a professional doing the day-to-day bookkeeping.

The Treasure serves to oversee the financial status church and presents reports to the Ad Council Board. There are other duties involved too. If you are interested and would like to review the full job description, please ask Pastor Scott, Larry, or Lori for a copy. We can be reached after church or by calling the church office at 360 385-1579.







Job Description Volunteer Treasurer

United Methodist Mission Statement

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Community United Methodist Church Vision Statement

To be a community of followers of Jesus Christ
who are growing in our knowledge, love and service toward God and neighbor.

Responsible to: Finance Committee, the Administrative Board, and the Pastor.

Spiritual Gifts and Qualifications

- 1. Acquaintance with financial best practices.
- 2. Able to research, discern and make sound financial decisions.
- 3. A commitment to "team ministry"
- 4. Open to personal spiritual growth

Responsibilities

- 1. Work with the Finance Committee, other Committee Chairs, and the Pastor to develop and present an annual budget.
- 2. Monitor the status of the monthly budget compared to actual income and expenditures using reports provided by the pald church bookkeeper.
- 3. Monitor functions of volunteer counters and financial secretary ensuring deposits are completed correctly and in a timely manner.
- 4. Monitor functions of paid church bookkeeper ensuring recording of deposits and payment of expenses and payroll is completed correctly and in a timely manner.
- **5.** Monitor other functions performed by the paid church bookkeeper such as monthly, quarterly, and annual reporting to the IRS and Labor and Industries.
- **6.** Perform monthly reconcillation of church bank account.
- 7. Report monthly to the Ad Council Board on financial status of the church and guide decisions that affect the financial wellbeing of the church.

Time Required: Approximately five hours per month.

Benefits: Knowledge that you are using your God given skills and talents to serve God by performing an essential function of Community United Methodist Church in Port Hadlock.

Larry will be leaving this position soon, please search your heart and see if you can commit to this position. It is as described above and has a positive impact on the day to day running of the church, staff and Pastor. What better way to serve God, than in this position? Be in prayer that God will reveal his desires for the next Treasurer and for us to be the support the next person will need to take over this very important position. Questions? Call 360-385-1579



We are so Blessed to have these men and others not pictured to give of their time and talents to make our church function and work like a smooth oiled machine.

These are photos taken of the parsonage redo. The photo to the left is of the new kitchen installed in the basement apartment.

Don tiling and John repairing the deck in preparation for fresh paint.

They are truly handy men who use their gifts to minister us all!











CREATING CONNECTIONS



CUMC supports three local organizations: Bayside, Tri-Area Food Bank and ECHHO. We donate a minimum of \$500 each month to one of these three organizations in addition to donations collected from membership. CUMC will donate \$100 each month to UMCOR as well to aid in natural disaster relief efforts. Any donations from church members that are designated to UMCOR are included each month. Following is the donation schedule for and the total

2023



Financial Report for I				
2023 May Year to Date		05/31/23		
Income		\$76,282.82		
Pledges & Identifiable Donors	\$52,925.82			
Other Income	\$24,357.00			
Expenses		\$64,243.14		
Apportionments	\$6,305.76			
Local Program Ministry	\$1,858.87			
Operating Expenses	\$30,915.87			
Personnel Expenses	\$25,162.64			
Difference		\$12,039.68		

Community United Methodist Church

Financial Secretary's Report May 2023

Summary of all donations by category between May 1 and May 31, 2023

Category	Amount	# Donations	# Donors
Benevolence	\$100.00	1	1
General Store	\$300.00	1	1
Missions	\$100.00	1	1
Non-Pledge Gifts	\$120.00	3	3
Pledges	\$11,520.00	32	18
Quilcene Sr. Table	\$100.00	1	1
Tri Area Food Bank	\$200.00	1	1
Totals:	\$12,440.00	40	7



REPORT

Summary of all donations by category between January 1 and May 31, 2023

Category	Amount	# Donations	# Donors
Bayside Housing	\$200.00	1	1
Benevolence	\$200.00	2	1
Cards	\$10.00	1	1
Clothes Closet	\$155.00	4	2
ECHHO	\$400.00	2	1
General Store	\$700.00	2	2
In kind Donation	\$55.80	1	1
Methodist Men	\$51.00	1	1
Missions	\$3,000.00	6	3
Non-Pledge Gifts	\$1,560.00	21	9
Pastor's Fund	\$50.00	1	1
Pizza 4 Clean-up Day	\$50.00	1	1
Pledges	\$48,508.82	170	32
Quilcene Sr. Table	\$945.50	9	3
Soup Kitchen	\$100.00	1	1
Tri Area Food Bank	\$200.00	1	1
UMCOR	\$700.00	5	5
Totals:	\$56,886.12	229	

Total Distinct Donors across all Categories: 49



For 2023, there were 24 pledges turned in for a total of \$91,320

્ર Şા <mark>ંક</mark>	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	Cantastic Sin	5	UWF 10AM 6 Bell Choir 4pm Good Neighbor Experiment. Zoom 7-8pmm 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting	7	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
9 10:00am Wor- ship 10:15am Sun- day School 11:15am Fel- lowship	10	Designated Drivers 4:30p	12	7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) GNE Zoom 7-8p	14	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
16 10:00am Wor- ship 11;15 Fellow- shio	Alzheimer Support Group 10;30-noon In classroom Rainshadow Re- hearsal (sanctuary) 6:30p –9:15pm	Designated Drivers 4:30pm	19 Admin Counsel zoom meeting at 6:30pm	7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) GNE Zoom 7-8p	21	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
23	24	25 Designated Drivers 4:30pm	deadline for articles for Junes Newsletter	27 GNE zoom 7-8pm 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	28	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p Mens Breakfast at the church 8am
10:00am Wor- ship 11:15am Fel- lowship	31	AUGUST				

BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
6: Lee Dohse 14: Bob Linrothe 17: Fred Miskell 21: Patty Miller 24: Billie Fitch 25: Hank Hazen	LITURGISTS	 For the homeless, the hungry and the unemployed. For Peace on Earth! For wisdom for our leaders.
ALTAR FLOWERS	2:John Sweet	* For employment for
2: Marcy Wootan 9: Billie Fitch 16: Liz Hazen	9: Billie Fitch 16: Liz Hazen 23: Laurie Engelbeck 30: Kathi VanCamp	people struggling to find meaningful work.
23: 30:	·	* For Healing and
COMMUNION SERVERS	SUNDAY SCHOOL	provisions for those who are suffering with COVID-19.
		* For protection of
COUNTERS		the medical front-
2: Lori & Kathi 9: Debbie & Connie 16: Marsha & Diane 23: Lynn & Betty 30: Lynn & Betty	USHERS	line workers who are caring for patients with COVII -19 and variants.
GREETERS		My

July LECTIONARY READINGS

July 2 July 9 July 16 July 23 July 30 Gen 22:1-14 Gen 24:34-38,42-49,58 Gen 25:19-34 Gen 2810-19a Gen 29:15-28 Ps 13 (UMH746) Ps119:105-112 Ps 105:1-11,45b -67 Ps 139:1-12,23-24 Rom 6:12-23 Ps 45:10-17 Rom 8:1-11 Rom 8:12-25 Rom 8:26-39 Matt 10:40-42 Matt 13:1-9,18-23 Matt 13;24-30,36-43 Matt 13:31-33,44-57 Rom 7:15-25a Matt 11:16-19,25-30

Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name

CREATING CONNECTIONS

18

July 1,2023

A Way in the Wilderness

Some years ago, I was in financial wilderness. I had no way of earning money, my greatest need was food. The Lord promised to make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert for the Israelites and I trusted that if I could somehow get food for

my family, the Lord would provide for my other needs in time.

I didn't know where I would get money for food. But then someone unexpectedly gave me a piece of land for cultivation. I

planted maize and beans and experienced an abundant yield. God had indeed made a way in the wilderness.

We will all enter a wilderness at some point—financial crisis, sickness, isolation. But God works in simple ways like making a

par-time job available to us or sending someone to keep us company when we are lonely. We can trust God to make a way

for us in every wilderness.

Upper Room July/August



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:

8:00am-2pm, Wednesday/Thurs

8-12 Friday

Web Site: www.HadlockChurch.com

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