

CREATING CONNECTIONS

The newsletter of
Community United Methodist Church



Fly Community United

May, 2023

Early on in my preaching career one of my sermons was critiqued by an experienced pastor who said the sermon was good but that it ended abruptly. He said to think of my sermon as a flight on an airplane. The beginning of your sermon is when you are taxiing down the runway preparing for take-off. Then you go wheels up and quickly ascend to your cruising altitude where you are preaching on the scripture. As the sermon comes to an end you begin your slow descent to where you have a smooth touch down and approach the gate sending the passengers on their way. I thought that was an excellent analogy that stressed the importance of each phase of the sermon. The flight is the most important, but the take-off and landing are equally important to a pleasurable flying experience.

Well, that got me to thinking about similarities between going to the airport to catch a flight and going to church to hear a sermon. Think about some of the good and not-so-good airport experiences you have had. The directions to entering the airport were confusing and finding parking was difficult. The airport employees were rude, the lines were long, the free coffee tasted like battery acid, the snacks wouldn't keep a bird alive, the seats were cramped and uncomfortable, and the attendants were unpleasant and acted like they couldn't be bothered. Now think of our church as a mini terminal. How is our signage? Can visitors even find us? And once they do find us how is the parking situation? When they get out of their car is the entrance to the sanctuary clearly marked. How's our curb appeal? When they enter are they greeted with a friendly face that is welcoming and happy to see them? Are they given instructions on seating? Are they directed to the coffee bar where they are also greeted by a friendly face? Is our welcoming area clean and inviting? When they make their way to their seats is the area around them clean, free from debris, and are the chairs comfortably spaced? Do people check on them to see if there is anything they need? Do they offer to sit with them? Are the speakers set at just the right level so the music is pleasant to listen to and can they hear the liturgist and the preacher? And at the conclusion of the service are they thanked for attending? Are they invited to stay for refreshments and are they visited with? Will they leave with a favorable impression, or will they feel the need to try another church with better service and a better service?

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1/2
Altar Flowers & Easter Lilly's	3
Good Friday photos	4
Sock It to Me Sunday.....And GNE	5
Meet Siochain Deva	6/7
Mens Breakfast	
Soup Kitchen News	8/9
Join the Finance Com	
Spring cleanup before & after photos	10
United Women In Faith	11
Bev Rothenberg & John Sweet Articles	12
Calendar	13
Birthdays, Finance & Missions	14/15
Creating Connections & Creating Connections	16

Fly Community United...con't

effort to get to know other regular church attenders. Our musicians and technology people are great at making sure everything is up and running timely, not only for those present in the sanctuary but also those who are watching at home on their devices. And when it's time for the preacher, liturgist, and singers to do their part, the in-flight portion of the service, there are no distractions. And then we land smoothly and taxi up to the gate. Unlike an airport where people can't get out fast enough, we like to encourage people to hang around and visit where we tell them it was great to see them and, if a visitor, hope we see them again. And, if you are talking to a visitor make sure you get their name, have them sign in (address included) and introduce them to the pastor if we haven't already met.

Admit it. You have your favorite airlines you like and fly with them whenever you have to go somewhere. And there are some where you had an unpleasant experience and won't fly with them again if you can help it and are unwilling to give them a second chance. Our church is like an airline in that we want to encourage frequent fliers so that God can be their copilot as they journey through life. Fly United. Community United. This is your preacher speaking.



Pastor Loves this church! Working to improve the gardens!

Photo by Siochain Deva





Easter Memorial Lilys donated in the name of loved ones, was a beautiful sight to see for the celebration of Christ's resurrection!



4-23-2023 Flowers provided by Liz Hazen

4-16-2023 Altar flowers provided by Pat Chase and AJ Laverty



Good Friday

Service included a soup lunch.
The Hatches outdid themselves again!



CUMC Bell Choir performed under the guidance of Marsha Hamacher



Palm Sunday service featured a Hula by Kathy Anderson.



Sunday, May 7th, is Sock-it-to-me Sunday. Our clothes closet is always in need of good socks for the many clients who come shop on Saturday mornings. We could use just about every type of sock other than men's dress socks. If you can, won't you help us out? As our clients come in all sizes just buy the size you would wear if you or a loved one was in need of socks. They won't sit on the shelf long.



According to a neighboring survey the majority (75%) of people say it is important to welcome new neighbors, but only 41% say they were welcomed when they moved in. Additionally, only 46% actually welcomed someone new into the neighborhood. This tells us that people want to know their neighbors, but many don't take the initiative to make it happen.

We have not knocked on one door or invited ourselves somewhere we are not welcome. The Neighboring team has changed the way we think about people in our community by looking for, recognizing and appreciating our neighbors' gifts.

We have changed our mindset from scarcity to abundance.

As we go into lab four, we are using everything we have learned about neighboring, to listen to how God is working in the life and our neighborhoods. We are discerning what the next steps will be for our church will be.

The Good Neighbor Experiment team is feeling called to help our church get to know each other better in an authentic manner.

Our first mini experiment is to encourage our online community to get to know each other by getting more familiar and comfortable with the chat functionality of both Zoom and Facebook Live. There are more mini experiments in the planning stages to help us get to know each other.

If God is calling you to help the church to get to know each other, please join us for our zoom meetings.

If you are interested in hearing more, please call Lori at 360 620-0809 or send an email to Lori.obe@g.com.



We look forward to completing our first mini experiment through April and May. Join us!

Meet Free-Spirited Siochain (Shee-hahn)

Dí'a Duit! (Dee-Ah-Gwit)(May God Be With You!

I came to this area after a whirlwind of events:

Both Parents had just passed on, I'd closed my restaurant, finalized my divorce, and the rental cottagel was living in had just sold! God obviously had other plans for me- and I listened carefully and with full trust for direction. I made the leap after 30 years on the Mendocino/Ft. Bragg Calif. coast..and, desiring another similar small artistic town..bought a house P.T. (I had visited my 2 Aunts for many years here so was familiar w/ this area).

I have a 42 y/o daughter, a 13 y/o Hockey playing grandson, and a 25 y/o Music & Film producer grandson that are just an air flight away!

I retired from splitting my days working mornings with Autistic K-3 and 7th graders, afternoons working with Alzheimer's/Hospice Support (40 yrs!), Evenings at my Cafe. 1-2 days per week I would fit in teaching Adaptive Tai Chi, Meditation & Music therapy for Seniors. I am quite grateful for all those wonderful opportunities & life experiences! My dear friends & neighbors Don, Judy & Jimmy Olsen introduced me to CUMC in 2021. Although I am Non-Denominational, I saw so much true HEART and true Christian ministry being carried out by this humble little church for others (Daily Miracles!), I knew then that this was truly close to what my heart feels " Passion In Action". I feel blessed to be included in this lovely congregation!

In my spare time now, I love to relax and appreciate my massive Music collection, cook for friends, continue studying philosophy & meditation, doing Kwan Ping Tai Chi Qi Gung (14 yrs!).

I am MOST PASSIONATE about Geneology, Finding Commonalities..Encouraging Others to find their Joys & Strengths.."COLLABORATIVE JOY"

My favorite quote from Thich Nat Hahn (Nobel Peace Recipient):

"The Most Precious Gift We Can Offer Anyone Is Our Attention. When Mindfulness Embraces Those We Love, They Will Blossom Like Flowers"

Slainte' (Slawn-cha)= Health, Love & Clarity to you)

The Pole next to Siochain says; "[May Peace Prevail on Earth](#)"



Mens Breakfast...held on the 4th Saturday of the month.

The men enjoyed a breakfast casserole provided by Steve Chase (with help form Pat or so the rumor goes).

Please feel free to join the men and come be blessed by good food, good conversation and Christian fellowship

Photos by Scott Rosekrans





Soups On!

Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup

We are calling for your help to serve!

A special thank you to Ray and Lodema Hatch, the Savior's Soup kitchen is off and running. Yay!

While they have taken the lead in getting it started, we will need help to fill in when they leave for the winter.

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 fellowshiping 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.

The hours are 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (this may change) and we serve about 15-20 people, including some to go.

Ray and Lodema plan to leave for the winter months starting in late September 2023 and they will be returning in May 2024.

It is easy and fun!



Finance Committee: Join Our team!

Port Hadlock Community United Methodist Church needs you!

You may be wondering:

- What does the Finance Committee do anyway?
- What qualifications does someone need to serve on the Finance Committee?
- What is the goal of the Finance Committee?

These are all great questions.

The goal of the Finance Committee is to guide the Administrative Council on all financial matters and decisions. In simple terms, the Finance Committee is responsible to ensure that the church has enough resources to do the things that we want to do. It is the responsibility of the finance committee to plan, strategize, and work closely with the Administrative Council to raise, account for, and safeguard the funds needed to operate the church and support the ministries of the church.

Some of the functions include:

- Manage or delegate the oversight of the volunteers who count the offering on Sundays.
- Oversee the annual audit.
- Steward our resources in a manner that supports the missions of the church.
- Make recommendations to the Administrative Council regarding matters of insurance and investments.
- Write functional policies and procedures ensuring proper internal controls.





Before and after photos of a lot of hard work landscaping and generally sprucing things up around the church! Many thanks to ALL who helped!
SPRING CLEANUP DAY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS! The church just shined on Easter morning





United
Women
in Faith

Please join us as UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH meets on **Thursday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m. at Fiesta Jalisco Restaurant.** Note the change in time!!

For those who are not familiar with the restaurant, it is located at 10893 Rhody Dr. (Highway 19), Port Hadlock. We will be meeting in their private dining room.

Devotions will be given by Diane Jensen and we will have a brief business meeting. If you would like to join us and need a ride, please contact Diane at 402-290-1220 or dcjensen29@gmail.com.

Join us for a time of fellowship, fun and, of course, lunch!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Our Vision

We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children and youth, we act for justice and transform communities. We face the realities we see in the world, even when they are not the ones we would like to see. However, our goal is not to bear witness simply to harms but also to God's love by acting boldly to change those harms.

Our Action

Bold action, like faith, takes courage. Our bravery is inspired by God's love and our powerful commitment to improve the lives of women, children and youth. United Women in Faith works for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems that harm women, children and youth—from racial and gender injustice to economic inequality, climate issues and more.



My Journey to CUMC by **Bev Rothenborg**

When my late husband and I purchased our home in Port Ludlow I was a member of the Congregational church at Winslow on Bainbridge Island. After a few Sundays of the early morning commute over the bridge to get to church, I quickly tired of that trip. It was December and one day as I was driving to shop at QFC I noticed a sign pointing to a church that had a living nativity. Curiosity made me drive to CUMC where a lovely lady named Jovita Dreisbach took me by the arm to explain what was happening at the nativity. There were even sheep and a goat but no camel! After that she said that I needed to go to the parsonage for some refreshment. Since there were no other churches in the area in the '90s, I thought that it might be interesting to check out this church.

That year CUMC had a Christmas pageant in the sanctuary. The children wore ill-fitting costumes but were filled with enthusiasm. Margaret Mathesen (yes, of Margaret's Village) even located a live baby that we could “borrow” for the pageant.

That visit to CUMC was in 1991, and it wasn't long before I resigned my membership from the church in Winslow and joined CUMC. Since that day I have enjoyed many friendships and have met 3 or 4 pastors. I served as Sunday School Superintendent for a year or two. One year we had as many as 100 kids for Vacation Bible School. Pastor Mark Williams and his wife had children at the elementary school, and she was a dedicated recruiter for the Sunday school. Most of the teachers who served with me are no longer around, but Liz Hazen might remember when we brought the pupils to the marina near her home where they got to eat their lunches and explore.

I love CUMC, and I am so happy that the fateful day I chose to check out a nativity scene had such lasting results!



Space for Bicyclists By John Sweet

Spring is here and bicyclists are on the roads around Port Ludlow and East Jefferson County. This area attracts bicyclists including local riders and many who pass through the area on self supported tours. According to the Washington Driver Guide “The safety of bicycle riders on the road is the responsibility shared by both motorists and cyclists. All bicyclists have the same rights, duties, and responsibilities of a motor vehicle driver. Every year, over 38,000 bicyclists are killed or injured in the United States. If motorists and cyclists understand and obey the following state laws, it will help make the roads safer for everyone.” Among the numerous laws cited in the Driver Guide that is of most interest to cyclists is to “Allow at least three feet of space when overtaking or passing a bicycle.” Also, motorists can cross the yellow line, if the way is clear, to allow for the three feet. We cyclists appreciate very much when vehicles give us a lot of space when passing, especially on Oak Bay and Paradise Bay Roads where there is very little shoulder. Let's have a safe bicycling season.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>Happy May Day</p> 	2	3	<p>4</p> <p>UWF 10AM Bell Choir 4pm</p> <p>Good Neighbor Experiment. Zoom 7-8pmm</p> <p>7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting</p>	5	<p>6</p> <p>General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm</p> <p>Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p</p>
<p>7</p> <p>10:00am Wor- ship 10:15am Sun- day School 11:15am Fel- lowship</p>		<p>9</p> <p>Pastor out of the office until the 16 th.</p>	10	<p>11</p> <p>Bell Choir 4pm</p> <p>7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)</p> <p>GNE Zoom 7-8p</p>	12	<p>General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm</p> <p>Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p</p>
 <p>Happy Mother's Day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Alzheimer Support Group 10:30-noon In classroom</p> <p>Rainshadow Re- hearsal (sanctuary) 6:30p -9:15pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Pastor back in office</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Admin Counsel zoom meeting at 6:30pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bell Choir 4pm</p> <p>7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)</p> <p>GNE Zoom 7-8p</p>	19	<p>20</p> <p>General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm</p> <p>Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p</p>
<p>21</p> <p>10:00am Wor- ship 11:15am Fel- lowship</p>	23	23	<p>24</p> <p>deadline for articles for May News- letter</p> <p>Kathi out till the 1st of June</p>	<p>25</p> <p>GNE zoom 7-8p</p> <p>Bell choir 4pm</p> <p>7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)</p>	26	<p>27</p> <p>General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm</p> <p>Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p</p> <p>Mens Breakfast at the church 8am</p>
<p>28</p> <p>10:00am Wor- ship 11:15am Fel- lowship</p>	29	30	31	<p>JUNE</p>		

BIRTHDAYS

4th Kendra Hermason
 5th Lori Witheridge
 9th Laurel Ankeny
 20th Michael Swartout
 21st Cal White
 24th Kathy Anderson & Judy Olson
 31st Ed Davis

ALTAR FLOWERS

7
 14 Billie Fitch
 21
 28

COMMUNION SERVERS

COUNTERS

7 Lori & Kathi
 14 Debbie & Connie

GREETERS

21 Marsha & Diane
 28 Lynn & Betty

HOSPITALITY

LITURGISTS

7 John Sweet
 14 Billie Fitch
 21 Liz Hazen
 28 Laurie Engelbeck

SUNDAY SCHOOL

USHERS

OUR PRAYERS

- * 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.



May LECTIONARY READINGS

May 7 Acts 7:55-60 Ps 31:1-5,15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14	May 14 Acts 17;22-31 Ps 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21 MOTHERS DAY	May 21 Acts 1:6-14 Ps. 68:1-10, 32-35 1Pet 4:12-14:5:6-11 John 17:1-11	May 21 ASCENSION SUNDAY Acts 1:1-11 Ps.47 or Ps 19 Eph 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	May 28 Acts 2:1-21 Ps.104:24-34, 35b 1 Cor 12:3b-13 John 7:37-39
--	--	--	---	--

Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name



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	\$ 500.00

2023

FINANCE REPORT

By Larry Jensen

2023 March Year to Date 03/31/23

Income \$46,090.

28 Pledges & Identifiable Donors \$31,730.28

Other Income \$14,360.00

Expenses \$40,762.02

Apportionments \$4,504.32

Local Program Ministry \$767.70

Operating Expenses \$20,282.52

Personnel Expenses \$15,207.48

Difference \$5,328.2

May 1, 2023 Upper Room

Solid as a Rock

As a child, I developed a fascination with rocks. I would wander the desert areas around my home picking up rocks of all shapes and sizes. My rock collections would line the window sills at home or pile up on the back porch. I could hold a rock in my hand and imagine that it may have been formed in the fire of a mighty volcano or through pressure of an ancient sea. I also tried to imagine how God put all these things in motion, resulting in the rock I held in my hand. In the quoted verse from Matthew, Jesus recognized the inner strength of his disciple and calls him Peter, which translates to “rock” in Greek. Even solid rock has its cracks, flaws, and imperfections. But despite his imperfections, Peter went on to spread the good news wherever he went. What about ME? I tend to have far more flaws and imperfections than I would like to admit. Still, I ask myself, **Am I strong enough, like a solid rock, to be the foundation of love and forgiveness that Jesus has called me to be?** Thankfully, through the grace of God, I don’t have to be perfect to fulfill God’s purposes for my life.

By Doug Wingert (Arizona)



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