

CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church



2023 Annual Charge Conference

Well, our 2023 annual charge conference is in the books, and I want to thank the many people who played a part in making sure all of the required forms and reports were completed in a timely and accurate manner.

For those who don't know, Charge Conference is truly a Methodist thing and to me it gives off an obsessive-compulsive vibe. The information they want is so detailed and I've often wondered if anyone really reads the reports. I suspect it may have been a plot hatched by Methodist lawyers to ensure that if anything ever went wrong at a local church the greater church had plausible deniability. When I first got here eight years ago the forms and what was required were overwhelming and burdensome to say the least, especially to someone who abhors red tape. And, to add to the frustration, it seemed as if the forms were changed or modified each year which complicated things for me as I have gone through four administrative assistants since I've been here, so the forms are always new and confusing to them as well. Fortunately, the Conference and District have some very user-friendly people who are very helpful and patient to a fault. In any event, this year went smoothly and much of the credit goes to our administrative assistant Kathi who had to learn on the fly.

But I'm not writing this to rant about having to fill out a bunch of forms every year and, oh yeah, there are more due in December and January. I'm writing to let you know that we are on the right path and the higher-ups know it. Our current District Superintendent J. Mark Galang has been with us for the last five or six years and it has been a pleasure getting to know him. He speaks glowingly about our church and all the work we have done in our efforts to be the somebodies who do something in Jesus' name, and I believe he likes coming all the way out to the peninsula to see what we're doing. One of the things he told our Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and then again during the actual Charge Conference, and then again to me after the meeting is that he is using us as an example of what a small and aging church can do if they follow the lead of the Holy Spirit. One of our new Bishop's focuses is on housing and homelessness, which I am glad to know, and that Bishop Bridgeforth has been holding meetings all around the conference to talk about his concerns and his vision. And in case you didn't know, the Pacific Northwest Conference includes Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Idaho, and parts of Canada. Anyway, Mark told us that he was recently at a meeting in Idaho and took the opportunity to relate to the group what one of his small churches is doing to actually meet the needs of the least of Jesus' brothers and sisters. What's really exciting is that there is a distinct possibility that we may be asked to share our experiences with others as a model on how to get such a ministry up and running on a shoestring budget. Talk about producing sweet fruit!

Anyway, what a privilege it was to sit at a table of disciples of Jesus Christ who truly are working to transform the world. I actually enjoyed this Charge Conference as it was a validation of all we are doing in Jesus' name bringing glory to God as people thank Him for what we do as his humble and faithful servants. Our future is so bright we gotta wear shades!

November 2023

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1
Pastors' Vacation?	2
Men's Breakfast	3
Baby Kai baptism and celebration	4
Bishop report by Debbie Dodd & Jean Holtz	5/6
Saviors Soup	7
Bake Sale Fund Raiser	8
Thanksgiving potluck	9/10
Parking lot update	
Pledge card	11
Seen at church	12
Life Is Not Fair, by Scott Rosekrans	13
Financials	14
Mission Gifts	15
Calendar	16
Birthdays &	17
Closing thoughts	18



What a view! Just lovely.....& Teresa too!



Well we know they made it to Texas! So very glad to have them home!





**Men's Breakfast is flowing into Sav-
iors Soup on the 4th Saturday of
each month. What a great way to
serve our community!**

Join if you can.



WELCOME BABY KAI CHARRIER



BAPTIZED SEPTEMBER 24, 2023



Joining Brittany on this special day was her sister Marci who is also Kai's God mother



Being introduced to the congregation. Such a joyous event!

Proud Parents: Ryan & Brittany Charrier

The following are the remarks made by Debra Dodd and Jean Holtz, sent as representatives of CUMC to meet our new Bishop, Bishop Cedric Bridgeforth. The meeting was held at the Redeemer Methodist Church in Kingston, WA on 10-9-23. Our Pastor, Scott was on vacation and could not attend.

Part I:

A Brief History of CUMC and our Tiny Home Village Peter's Place

Debra Dodd:

The first two Methodist Churches in rural Jefferson County were built around 1890 in Chimacum and Hadlock. One pastor served both congregations. In 1959 those two small church buildings were sold and a 14-acre piece was purchased between the two communities. A new church was formed. The congregations combined to become Community United Methodist Church, as it remains today. We have always been a very community minded **congregation**. **Pastor Scott Rosecrans has taken the "SODS" idea to a new level. (that's "Somebody Otta Do Something" and we're the Somebodies Who do Something in Jesus' Name)**

In 2019, Community Church donated property for a tiny home village of 12 homes to be built on open land next to the church. Built by volunteers, these tiny homes house folks who otherwise would be living **in their cars or tents**. **It's called Peter's Place after Peter Bonyun who was instrumental in making it happen.**

The "about" statement on our FB page reads: There is joy at Community. We celebrate people, have fun and laugh. A lot. We see unexpected events as new opportunities to reach and embrace the least, the lost, and the last. We greet those unexpected surprises with delight and excitement as we go where the Spirit leads us.



Good morning Bishop Bridgforth and our fellow Methodists.

Community United Methodist Church in Port Hadlock firmly believes in a ministry beyond the front door of our Church. This has been, and continues to be, **demonstrated in CUMC'S long** commitment to the following ministries:

1. A ministry to make and send warm blankets to the southern US borders in winter time.
2. A ministry of mixing and packaging dry soup mixes, complete with the needed spices, for our local food banks to distribute.
3. A ministry to make fire-starters for winter time use by our homeless campers. We also distribute these through the Food Banks.
4. A ministry aligning our Church with the local area immigration rights organizations to help immigrants find homes in our area.
5. A ministry forming partnerships with over 25 local Churches, agencies and organizations who, together, serve our local low-income and homeless neighbors.
6. A ministry embracing The Good Neighbor Program developed by the larger Methodist Church. TGNP hosted a summer picnic for our community neighbors. Neighbors and Church members enjoyed the picnic together



Speech by Jean Holtz while attending meeting with the Bishop and Debbie Dodd was in attendance.

7. A ministry to start a CUMC based Clothes Closet just a few years back. This was, and still is a **totally "free"** Clothes Closet".
8. And one of our newest, ministries is our new CUMC General Store. We added to the Clothes Closet by including a food distribution room, a blankets and bedding area, and, a household items area. For those completely homeless persons in our area we have a Camping Gear area.

We are the only completely free store in the eastern part of Jefferson County. We have doubled our number of shoppers each year and we have had 650+ shopping visits since Jan.

9. Finally, just last year CUMC added a the ministry of a Soup Kitchen out of the Church. The Soup ministry opens concurrently with the General Store every Saturday morning & afternoon. The Soup Kitchen is called **Savior's Soup**. **Folks can sit in the Narthex** of the Church to have the soup or get a take-out container. Many CUMC members come and enjoy a bowl of soup and visit with our neighbors.





Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup

Thank you to all the volunteers that have provided soup and fellowship for September and October. We are ready to start scheduling volunteers for November. Many of the volunteers have expressed how easy and fun volunteering at the soup kitchen is, some have excelled at providing fellowship with our visitors and have provided some great tasting soups! THANK YOU!

We still have openings on November 4th and November 11th for volunteers to make soup, serve, provide handheld fruit and hard-boiled eggs. If you would like to sign up, visit the signup sheet in the Narthex or click on the link below.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Csppwd__nP1fifWg2cuy2TVNC0AyApth4BHnMclAMM4/edit

Sign up for fun, fellowship, and soup!



**SOUP
KITCHEN**

Volunteer Sign Up Sheet!

October/November/December 2023

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Make/serve</u> <u>soup</u>	<u>2 Serve</u>	<u>Eggs</u>	<u>Hand held</u> <u>Fruit</u>
	11-4				
	11-4				
	11-4				
	11-4				



Silent Dessert Auction

A special thank you to the bakers and dessert makers who helped make the October Silent Dessert Auction a big success. Together we raised \$155.00 to help make our parking lot safe!

We have three bakers lined up for November who are planning to make some yummy homemade desserts. You can look forward to:

- Peach Pie
- Blackberry pie
- Cinnamon rolls and more! So yummy!

Get ready to bid on some scrumptious homemade desserts that you can take home and share with your friends and family.

If you are interested in baking for future dessert auctions, please let me, Lori Oberlander, know at 360 620-0809. Be creative, we love pies, cakes, brownies, sweet breads—whatever you like to bake, we like to eat!





Join us for a Thanksgiving Celebration for the church, our neighbors, and friends. CUMC will be supplying turkey, and we ask that you bless us with a delicious side dish to share: mashed potatoes and gravy, salads, stuffing, desserts or any of your favorite dishes are welcome! There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Who: you, our neighbors and anyone else who wants to join us

Where: the church

When: Saturday, November 18th at 12:30 p.m.

Bring your friends, family, and neighbors!

Please RSVP so we have an idea of how much turkey to prepare. You can RSVP by calling the church at 360 385-1579, sending an email to Lori Oberlander at Lori.obe@q.com or Kathi at cumc@olympus.net or see signup sheet in Narthex.

See you at the Thanksgiving Celebration!



Parking Lot Needs Help!



In **Paul's letters** to the people of the Roman Church in Romans 1:7 he reminds us that: **"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ"** and in Romans 8:28 Paul also writes: **"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose"**.

Jesus is here with us at Community United Methodist Church, Jesus is calling us to serve the homeless, the hungry, and people struggling simply to meet their daily needs.

We have responded with support to area food banks, The General Store (the clothes closet and the food pantry) **and now Saviors' Soup** (the soup kitchen). We have been blessed with wholehearted support from neighbors, other churches, and other local organizations by way of donations of money, goods, and volunteers.

We are blessed!

All these blessings have us looking at the safety of our guests: donors, volunteers, and the people we serve. CUMC has invested in an upgraded kitchen, an upgraded boiler, and an upgraded sanctuary and it is time to invest in something else: An upgraded parking lot! It is time. We want **everyone who participates in our ministry to serve God's people in need to be safe** and the current condition of the parking lot is not safe.

An upgraded parking lot will cost close to \$75,000. The Church has some funds to get started and we have been blessed by anonymous donors who will match any gifts we receive up to \$15,000—this is a good start, but we need you.

We need your help keep our donors, volunteers, and guests safe in our parking lot. Please prayerfully consider making a gift or pledge to help upgrade the parking lot and keep people safe!

Please consider making a gift or a pledge to help upgrade the parking lot to keep donors, volunteers, and visitors safe! Please see the enclosed pledge card and return it to the church by September 3, 2023.

Thank you and bless you for your careful consideration to support this urgent and important project to keep people who visit Community United Methodist Church safe!



Is there a pothole with your name on it? Would you like there to be? Bid on a baked goodie on November 12, and reserve your pothole!

Pledge Cards are available in the Narthex or call Kathi and she can mail you one. .

Yes, I want to keep donors, volunteers, and the people we serve safe!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

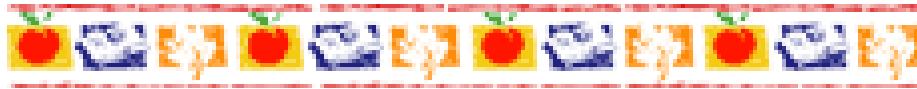
I will help with my prayers I will help with fund raising efforts.

*I will help by making a pledge of _____ per year/quarter/month/week.

I will help with a one-time gift of _____.

I have other ideas to share, please contact me at _____.

**Please know that you can change your pledge at any time; just notify the Financial Secretary, Betty Prentice.*



To Our Knitters Out There In CUMC Land:

We have an offer from one of our volunteers in The General Store to make these cute little toys for the children who accompany their parents to our Store on Saturdays. Ari Carter-Douglas will assemble the parts needed for these toys if we can find some knitters out there to make the squares. You just knit the squares, bring them back to the Store and Ari will do the rest! Please see the picture that accompanies this notice.

If you would like a pattern to knit and assemble the whole toy just let Jean H. at the store know and we will get the patterns to you. To participate send us an email at cumc.donate@gmail.com
Thanks a lot for supporting this fun endeavor for The Store. And, thanks to Ari for creating and offering to share her creations with the Store.

Jean Holtz





Seen around CUMC:

Pat Chase and Sue French working the Clothes Closet with such Joy!

John Sweet doing sidewalk cleaning

Don Olsen sizing up the office desk for the secretary

Sheila Harwood practicing

Fall colors

Marsha's grandson playing Bells with the choir.

Connie Ross sporting a sweet new ride after her car was wrecked.

1080 yummy smelling Meatballs made by the daughters of Norway

Choral Belles, Sopranos ,practicing with Sheila

The old office desk getting a new home and out of the back hallway!

Busy prep for the Charge Conference

Sue French feeling better and delivering a Key Lime Pie

A very successful Charge Conference

Liz Hazen back in church after a nasty fall

Baby Kai talking in church

Diane Johnson delivering the 5th Sunday sermon



Life is Not Fair

Scott Rosekrans

Life is not fair, and to be honest with you, it was never meant to be. As a police officer, attorney, and now as a pastor, I talk to people frequently about the unfairness of life. One of the books I hand out to people who ask me why bad things happen to good people is *Why?* written by Adam Hamilton. Essentially, Hamilton says that we live in an imperfect world with imperfect bodies and that we are often subjected to the exercise of free will that goes bad, **whether it's our exercise of our own free will or the exercise of someone else's free will that either intentionally or unintentionally impacts us and the ones we love the most.** Little comfort to someone who has lived a good life and has walked humble with God through his or her journey.

Let me give you an example. One of Teresa's cousins is truly one of the nicest human beings you would ever want to know. He has Alzheimer's Disease, and I can't see the justness in it. He grew up in Teresa's small town, married his high school sweetheart and raised two wonderful children. He was a high school teacher and coach. He ate right, didn't smoke, didn't drink, didn't do drugs, played golf religiously walking rather than riding in a cart, went to church faithfully, and never (that I know of) uttered an unkind word. He used to be able to dress himself and go where he wanted to go. Now he has Alzheimer's. He can't dress himself without help from his wife and she takes him by the hand wherever they go. How is that fair especially considering he led a life that brought honor to God?

I think about that a lot, **especially now that I'm in my eighth decade and I see my contemporaries getting old and feeble right before my eyes.** Every time I feel a new ache or pain **or forget someone's name** I wonder if this is the beginning of the downward slide. Teresa and I talk about it a lot, **especially because we've seen both of our fathers go down that dark path leaving their wives behind. And as your pastor, I've seen many people I've grown close to go down that same path.** Some go willingly while others fight it as they fear losing their independence and freedom. Many of our members have sold their homes and are now living in some sort of assisted living or perhaps with their kids. Many are thriving but others are not happy and even resentful. Why is this happening to them? How could their children do this to them? What do I tell them? What advice and comfort can I offer? What would Jesus do?

In the twenty-first chapter of John's gospel Jesus has such a conversation with one of his favorite disciples, Peter. After telling Peter three times to feed his sheep, his charge, he tells him about his death. In verses 18 and 19 Jesus says to Peter: *I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie your belt and lead you where you don't want to go.* John tells us that Jesus said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Jesus could have just as easily told Peter that because of his faithful service in establishing **Christ's church he would live to a ripe old age with his loving wife at his side surrounded by dozens of adoring grandchildren. But he didn't. He didn't because the world is full of imperfect people who abuse their free will and we are gifted with imperfect bodies that can give out at any time whether mentally or physically, or both at the same time. In Peter's case, after faithfully serving God, he was led to a Roman cross and crucified just as his Lord and Savior only he insisted upon being hung on the cross upside down as he didn't feel worthy of being crucified in the same manner as his King.**

Even as believers we may be uncertain and fearful about our future here on earth, not the one we know about in eternity, but the day-to-day struggle to get by as best we can. But if we know God is in control, we can confidently follow Christ even if we can no longer safely do for our selves and are led to places we'd rather not go. We do it because we have tried our best to lead a life that has brought glory to God, a life well lived where we walked humbly with our God, and nobody can take that from us no matter where we spend our remaining days.



Stunning florals by Pat Chase brought fall into focus and lifted our spirits on that gray Sunday. Thank you Pat!

November 5th:



Local



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 also donates \$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.

2023


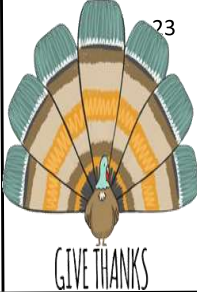





CUMC

Summary of All Donations by Category Between September 1– September 30, 2023

Category	Amount	#Donations	#Donors
General Store	\$170.00	2	2
Missions	\$100.00	2	2
Non-pledge gifts	\$145.00	5	3
Parking lot	\$2,620.00	16	13
Pledges	\$ 6,084.00	34	21
Quilcene Sr Table	\$193.00	1	1
Other Non-deductible	\$200.00	8	8
Totals	\$ 9,749.50	61	
	Total distinct donors across all categories		33

November, 2023

			Wed 1	Thur 2	Fri 3	Sat 4
5 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Fall Back 1 Hour	6 Alzheimer Support Group 10:30-noon In classroom	7 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11:00-12:30p	8	9 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting	10	11 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
12 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Dessert Auction after church	13 Pt Hadlock Caregiver Support group 10:30-Noon	14 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11:00-12:30p	15	16 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) Admin Meeting 6:30pm Zoom	17	18 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
19 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship	20	21 Designated Drivers 4:30pm Bell Choir 11:00-12:30p	22 Deadline for Newsletter articles	23 	24	25 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
26	27	28 Designated Drivers 4:30pm Bell Choir 11:00-12:30p	29	30	December 1	December 2 General Store Hours: 10am-1pm Saviors Soup 10:30a-1:30p
						

November, 2023

BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
<p>2 Wendi Metzger 5 Richard Christopher 9 Bill Metzger 10 Janet Stevenson 11 Barb Sweet 12 Carolyn Allen 21 Cindi Jones</p>	<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">LITURGISTS</div> <p>5: John Sweet 12:: Billie Fitch 19: Liz Hazen 26: Laurie Engelbeck</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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.
<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">ALTAR FLOWERS</div> <p>5: Marcy Wootan 12: Billie Fitch 19: Diane Johnson 26: Pat Chase</p>	<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">SUNDAY SCHOOL</div>	
<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">COMMUNION SERVERS</div>	<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">USHERS</div>	
<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">COUNTERS</div> <p>5: Lori & Kathi 12: Lynn & Connie 19: Marsha & Diane 26: Debbie & Betty</p>		
<div style="background-color: #FFD700; text-align: center; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">GREETERS</div>		



November LECTIONARY READINGS

November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26
Josh 3:7-17	Josh 24:1-3a,14-25	Judg 4:1-7	Ezek 34: 11-16,20-24
Ps. 107:1-7,33-37	Ps. 78:1-7	Ps. 123 or Ps 76	Ps.100
1Thess 2:9-13	1 Thess 4:13-18	1 Thess 5:1-11	Eph 1:15-23
Matt 23:1-12	Matt 25:1-13	Matt 25: 14-30	Matt 25:31-46

Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name

November 2023 Upper
Room by Doug Wingert

Small Corrections

When I was a young boy, I enjoyed watching my father drive the family car. His feet were always moving between the clutch pedal, gas pedal, and brake pedal. But it was the small movements he made with his hand on the steering wheel that fascinated me. So, when the family car was safely parked in the driveway, I would sit behind the steering wheel and pretend to drive. My legs were too short to reach the pedals, but I could make those small movements with the steering wheel, as if I were heading down the road. When I was finally old enough to learn to drive, I quickly understood that without those small corrections on the steering wheel, the car would drift off course.

I've come to realize that my life has been a little like driving a car. At times I've had to slam on the brakes to avoid a disaster in my life. But most of the time, I've just had to make those small corrections to keep myself on a steady course.

Now I think of God's word in scripture as my compass and my road map. Together, they can keep me on God's path, leading me to greater understanding of what God expects of my life.



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, Tues/Wednesday](#)
[8-10 Thursday](#)
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 - 4pm
Monday– Thursday