

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church



January 2024

## From Our Home to Yours

Earlier this week I had a lady come by the church to drop off a Christmas card. The front of the card showed a winter scene with an outside decorated tree with several deer grazing through the snow on the ground. The front read: "From Our Home to Yours." Inside it read: "Christmas is for saying out loud what we think in our hearts all year long. You've got a special place in our lives, and we thank God for you!" It was signed Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!! Many Blessings to you all. It also contained a handwritten note on the inside cover that read: We would like to thank you and your church for all the help you do for us at Peter's Place, and was signed by several of the residents at Peter's Place which is, for those who may not know, is the tiny home village located on church property and managed by Bayside Housing and Services.

It was the perfect card, first for what it said on the outside; "From our home to yours." Yes, from their 96 square foot tiny home to our church home. And the inside referenced what was in their hearts, that we have a special place in their lives, and they thank God for us. And the inscription on the inside cover acknowledging all that we do down in our General Store on Saturday mornings where our disciples do what they can to meet their specific needs and, more importantly, treat them with genuine grace,

love, and empathy. They come to us because they feel welcome and know that we see them as human beings, as brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, and as neighbors who we treat just like we would want to be treated if we found ourselves in a similar situation.

As a church that is truly Spirit-led, a church that strives to be the somebodies that do something in Jesus' name, this is so Biblical. If you've been paying attention at all during the past seven plus years you know one of my favorite New Testament passages is found in the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew's Gospel. It's the one where Jesus tells his audience that when the Human One returns in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered before him and he will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. Spoiler alert. You don't want to be a goat. Anyway, the sheep are the believers who when they saw someone who was hungry they gave them food to eat, when they saw someone who was thirsty they gave them something to drink, when they saw someone who was naked they gave them clothes to wear, when they met a stranger they welcomed him or her, when they saw someone who was sick they took care of them, and when they saw someone who was imprisoned they visited them. Jesus assured them that when they did any one of these things for the least of his brothers or sisters, they did it for him. The goats, however, were the believers who saw the

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or sisters they did it for him. The goats, however, were the believers who saw the needs yet did nothing and would go away into eternal punishment while the righteous ones would go into eternal life.

And in the Apostle Paul's second letter to the church in Corinth, the ninth chapter, he talks about people cheerfully giving whatever they have out of their abundance. Giving what they have decided in their hearts without hesitation because God loves a cheerful giver. Paul assures us that if we do this God will provide us with what we need, with more than enough of every kind of grace. And, he says, that the one who does this will be made rich in every way so that he or she can be generous in every way. Such generosity, he says, produces thanksgiving to God through us. The ministry of this service to God's people isn't only fully meeting their needs but it is also multiplying in many expressions of thanksgiving to God. These people will give honor to God for your obedience to your confession of Christ's gospel. They will also pray for you, and they will care deeply for you because of the outstanding grace that God has given to you.

We are doing exactly what Jesus would have us do with all that we have been provided, and as a result these people and others are praising God and are praying for us because we care for them, no strings attached, and no questions asked, as it should be.

And that's our ministry and our mission as we go into the new year. To carry on what we have been led to do by the Holy Spirit. I can only wonder what new mission opportunities the Spirit will lead us to as we continue to grow spiritually in God's service.

Top Right: Ted Ross & Don Olsen getting their Christmas spirit on!

Middle: John Sweet gives so much of his time to helping our church be the best it can be!

Bottom: New flooring in the lower unit of the parsonage. Looks great!!



Winter Soups are Especially appreciated. Please consider signing up!

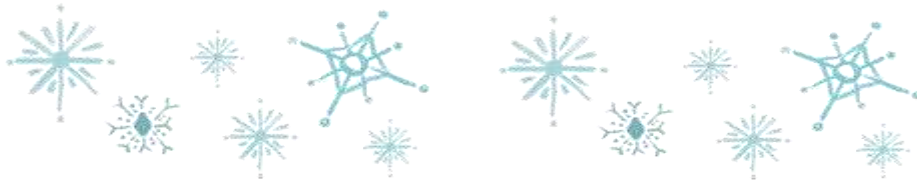


Men's Breakfast & Saviors Soup. What a way to start a Saturday! Those serving and those partaking are all

Blessed by this important ministry!







Christmas Eve Service and Potluck was a HUGE success! A great message by Scott, wonderful music and the joy of fellowship together.



Delicious ham provided by the church, wonderful sides and deserts provided by the congregation, and sweet toddler visits .

Top: Potluck yummys & Pat Broughton and cute little!

Bottom Left: Joyful fellowship was had by ALL





Micheal Hohnbaum is the newest music member and if you haven't heard him in person, your missing out!

Sheila Harwood is the gift that keeps on giving...her talent knows no boundaries!

Bell Ringers blessed us with two song selections. Directed by the most talented Marsha Hamacher, the improvement is evident and the joy they have is in working with Marsha!





Cute Story submitted back in August and as the still new to



the positions of church secretary, it got tucked away in my desk to be discovered for this publication. So enjoy belatedly!

By Shirley Goodness

Timmy was a five year old boy. His mother loved him very much. A worrier, she was concerned when he started kindergarten about his walking to school. She would walk him to school for a couple of days but one day he told his mother that he did not want her walking him to school every day. He wanted to be like the “big boys”. She had an idea how to handle it.

She asked her neighbor, Mrs Goodnest, to follow her son surreptitiously to school at a distance that he would not likely notice, but close enough to keep a watch on him.

Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well.

The next school day, Mrs Goodnest and her little girl Marcy set out behind Timmy as he walked to school with another boy. She did this for the whole week. As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy’s friend noticed that a lady was following them every day , all week.

Finally he asked Timmy, “Have you noticed that lady following us? Do you know her?”

Timmy nonchalantly replied, “Yeah, I know who she is”

“Well, who is she?”

“That’s Shirley Goodnest”, Timmy said

“Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she, and why is she following us?”

“Well, Timmy explained, every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm, cuz she worries about me so much. The Psalm says, “Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life.”

“So I guess I’ll just have to get used to it”



Gift bags lovingly stuffed for our neighbors in Margarets Village and Petes Place as well as our Tenants in the Parsonage units! Thank you to the UWF!

(pictured: Connie top right, Teresa, Siochain & Laurie bottom left and AJ bottom right)





Organization was the key to a successful gift bag program and thanks to all the ladies and especially Marsha Hamacher who truly organized the filling of the baskets for doing such a good job. Those involved had a great time doing it!



AJ & Siochain  
(top)

Laurie & AJ  
(bottom)





## Silent Dessert Auction



A special thank you to the bakers and dessert makers who helped make the December Dessert Auction a huge success.

There was a great competitive spirit for the Fruit Cake, the Carrot Cake, The Sweet Potato-Pecan Pie and the Short Bread Cookies. Together we raised \$535.00 to help make our parking lot safe! The running total raised to date to support making the parking lot safe is \$925.00. Thank you everyone for your support.

In January can look forward to a special treat of Traditional Oatmeal Gingerbread called Broonie. This tradition is associated with the Orkney Island located off the northeastern coast of Scotland.

Thank you Siochain for sharing your culture with us!



We can also look forward to loaves of sweet bread, a homemade pie, and more.

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



## Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup

Thank you to all the volunteers that have provided soup and fellowship for December: Debbie, Marcell, Men's Breakfast Group, Ted, Don & Judy, and Kathi & Patrick. You are awesome!! The people we serve are so grateful for your support.

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 are ready to start scheduling volunteers for January. We have discovered that our guests especially like bananas, so I am requesting banana as the hand held soup.

There are openings in January for the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13, and 20<sup>th</sup> to make soup, serve, and provide hard-boiled eggs and bananas. If you would like to sign up, visit the signup sheet in the Narthex or click on the link below. If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Lori at 360 620-0809.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Cspwd\\_nP1fifWg2cuy2TVNCOAyApth4BHnMclAMM4/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Cspwd_nP1fifWg2cuy2TVNCOAyApth4BHnMclAMM4/edit)







## Seen around CUMC:

Christmas Elves doing Toys for Tots

Choral Belles performing for the UWF

Christmas tree in the Narthex

Ted & Connie doing a dump run for the  
Clothes closet. TY! Both!

Cookies in the fridge with a “hands off” note  
to the Pastor!

A group of lovely ladies packaging gift bags for  
our neighbors in Margarets village and Peters Place as well as the  
parsonage renters. For some it is their only Christmas.

A most beautiful poinsettia gifted in the church office.

Meeting the new lower level tenants family. Welcome Roberta!

Spirit Singers & Micheal Hohnbaum performing for the 12/17 service

Sign up sheets for Christmas Eve potluck (am) and Soup Kitchen in  
the Narthex...please consider serving in this special mission!

Music, Music, Music.....the holidays bring out some beautiful music!

A rousing Potluck was enjoyed by all who attended





United  
Women  
in Faith

Next Meeting is Thursday, January 4, 2024

Location: Community United Methodist Church

Time: 10am

Hello Ladies!

We will be meeting to install new officers and take care of business in regards to the United Women In Faith.

Please bring a sack lunch and join us for this important meeting and socializing with our UWF sisters

Need more information?

Please contact Pat Chase 360.385.3457 or [Poneygal67@gmail.com](mailto:Poneygal67@gmail.com)

Or AJ Laverty 360.379.6386 or [ajrjlaverty@cablespeed.com](mailto:ajrjlaverty@cablespeed.com)







## 2024 Annual Pledge Campaign

2023 was a good year for the church. We expanded our ministries by increasing financial support to Bayside Housing, the food bank, the Senior Table and to ECHHO (Ecumenical Cristian Helping Hands Organization). We served more and more people at the General Store (the clothes closet and food pantry), and we started our Saturday Soup Kitchen, Saviors' Soup. We are looking forward to 2024 and we can't do it without your support!

There is a special letter in the mail, and you can expect to read more about God's calling for us to be a big church in the community. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge to support the church and our mission to serve God and serve his people in need and say Yes!

Yes, I want to be a big church!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- I will help with my prayers     I will help with my time
- \*I will help by making a pledge of \_\_\_\_\_ per year/quarter/month/week.
- \*I will help regularly, but can't commit     I will help with a one-time gift of \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to make a planned gift     I have other ideas to share, please contact me

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



We will be blessing the pledges during the service on January 14, 2024.





Treasurers Report  
Year to Date  
1/1/2023-11/30/2023

Income		
Pledges	\$	101,188.26
Earned Income	\$	40,050.00
Other	\$	1,455.00
Total Income		\$ 142,693.26
Expenses		
Missions	\$	15,629.17
Operating	\$	43,204.52
Program/Ministries	\$	8,629.00
Personnel	\$	55,745.99
Total Expenses		\$ 123,208.68
Total to date Profit/ Loss		\$ 19,484.58





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 November 1– November 30, 2023**

Category	Amount	#Donations	#Donors
General Store	\$1525.00	24	4
Missions	\$100.00	1	1
Non-pledge gifts	\$795.00	9	7
Parking lot	\$1,800.00	9	6
Pledges	\$6,253.00	35	18
Quilcene Sr Table	\$25.00	1	1
Tri-area Food Bank	\$200.00	8	8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 10,718.00</b>	<b>61</b>	
	<b>Total distinct donors across all categories</b>		<b>30</b>



# January , 2024



 Mon 1.	Tues 2	Wed 3	Thur 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
7 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	8 Alzheimer Support Group 10:30-noon In classroom	9 Designated Drivers 4:30p	10 11 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting  Rogue Yoga 10am-1:00pm	12	13 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
14 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship  Dessert Auction after church	15 Pt Hadlock Caregiver Support group 10:30-Noon	16 Designated Drivers 4:30p  Bell Choir 11:00-12:30p	17	18 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)  Rogue Yoga 10am-1:pm	19 20 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
21 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship	22	23 Designated Drivers 4:30pm  Bell Choir 11:00-12:30p	24  Deadline for Newsletter articles	25 26 Rogue Yoga 10am-1pm  7-8pm Al Anon meeting Library	27 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
28	29	30 Bell Choir 11:00-12:30pm  Designated Drivers 4:30pm	31	Rogue Yoga 10a-1pm  Al-Anon meeting 7-8pm Library	30 General Store Hours: 10am-1pm  Saviors Soup 10:30a-1:30p
	HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL				

January 2024

**BIRTHDAYS**

18. Evelyn Fett  
31: Kathi VanCamp

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

7.  
14.  
21.  
28.

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

**COUNTERS**

7: Lori & Kathi  
14: Debbie & Connie  
21: Marsha & Diane  
28: Lynn & Betty

**GREETERS**

**HOSPITALITY**

**LITURGISTS**

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

**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.



**December LECTIONARY READINGS**

January 7  
Gen 1:1-5  
PS 29  
Acts 19: 1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

January 14  
! Sam 3:1-10  
Ps 139:1-6,13-18  
1 Cor 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

January 21  
Jonah 3:1-5,10  
Ps 62:5-12  
1 Cor 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

January 28  
Deut 18:15-20  
Ps 111  
1Cor 8:1-13  
Mark 1:12-28

**Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name**



January 2, 2024

## Standing Tall

When we moved to our current home. We learned that the redbud tree is very common here. They are often oddly shaped with gnarled trunks. Many have broken branches from storm damage. But in the spring, they are the first trees to bud; when their flowers open, they bring vibrant color to the dull, winter landscape. One fall, my husband transplanted a redbud sapling into our yard. Within a few months a storm had broken its tallest branch. However, the young tree made it through the winter and its remaining branch bloomed in the spring. It continues to grow tall to this day. God made the redbud tree to withstand all sorts of adversity, and it continues to be resilient.

I want to be like those beautiful trees. When I am faced with hardship, I want to trust in God my Creator. God has much planned for us and can turn our struggles into blessings if we persevere. When hard times attack me, I want to be strong enough to say to them, "You are helpless against me because God made me and I can overcome anything through God's power" With this faith I can stand tall like the steadfast redbud trees.

Read James 1:2-3



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](mailto:cumc@olympus.net)

Church Office Hours:

8:00am- 2pm, Tues/Wednesday

8-10 Thursday

Web Site: [www.HadlockChurch.com](http://www.HadlockChurch.com)

**Sunday Worship: 10:00 am**

**Fellowship Time: 11:15 am**

Scott Rosekrans, Pastor

Email: [pastorscottrosekrans@gmail.com](mailto:pastorscottrosekrans@gmail.com)

Pastor's Office Hours:

10 am - 4pm

Monday– Thursday