

CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church



April 2024

A Good Reputation to Have

The last time I was in private practice my law office was on the tenth floor of a bank building which meant I had no visibility to those passing by on the street. Nobody ever looked up at the bank building and wondered if there were any attorneys renting office space. I don't even recall if the bank even had a directory in the lobby letting you know who else was in the building. I had to depend upon people learning about me in one of the two Yellow Pages I had an ad in along with dozens of other law firms, which was expensive. When someone contacted me, I'd ask them how they found me. Many would say they saw my ad in the phone book which was how I measured the effectiveness of my advertising. Sometimes the person would tell me that I had previously represented a friend or other family member and they had recommended me as an attorney who could help them. I was told that I had a good reputation, a reputation as an attorney who paid attention to detail, cared about his clients, was respected by the judges and other attorneys, and got the best possible results for his clients. That's a good reputation to have in the legal community.

And it's having a good reputation in the faith community of being a church that cares about its congregation, the people in the community, that pays attention to detail, is respected within the community for what it stands for, and gets the best possible results in its mission efforts

is what I believe we have achieved. You see, we're a lot like my law office on the tenth floor of a bank building. We're way off the road and, other than our sign-board, you wouldn't know there is a church back here. And advertising has changed. Phone books are all but extinct and most people can find a church by going online and doing an internet search for churches near them and then check out the church webpages. And then there's that word of mouth where people talk about us and even recommend us to people who might be looking for a church, a church with a good reputation for doing what Jesus would do.

That good reputation hit home earlier in March when Marsha Hamacher and I traveled to Sequim to talk to the mission committee of Trinity United Methodist Church. They had heard about what we were doing and wanted to know more. Initially, they thought we had a parking lot ministry for people living in vehicles. I told them we had explored the idea but opted to go in another direction when we realized a parking lot ministry wasn't feasible. But not to worry as Marsha and I visited with them for probably over an hour describing our mission efforts and field. We described in great detail all of the various missions we are involved in and how we are always looking for more opportunities to serve as we learn more about the needs in our community. When I told them we were a mature congregation that averaged about thirty people in worship on Sunday morn-

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United
Women
in Faith

Next Meeting is **Wednesday, April 3, 2024**

Location: Tacoma Community House

Time: **Leave the church parking lot by 9:15 to CARPOOL**

Hello Ladies!

Please come and **bring a friend. Lunch will be provided.**

Need more information?

Please contact **Pat Chase 360.385.3457** or Ponygal67@gmail.com

Or **AJ Lavery 360.379.6386** or ajrjlavery@cablespeed.com

The Real flex is to see how many wounds you
can turn into wisdom! Rexanna Scrimager.



Fun!

Potato Bake

Yummy!



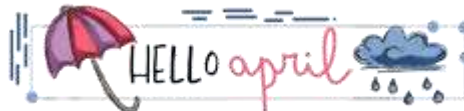
Join us for a Potato Bake and fun & fellowship, to help raise much needed funds to help recoup the costs of rebuilding the parking lot.

- ✓ **What:** Fresh hot baked potato served with butter, sour cream, onions, broccoli and cheese, and more.
- ✓ **When:** Sunday April 21, 2024.
- ✓ **Where:** After church during fellowship
- ✓ **How:** Donations Welcome!

*To Help Recoup the Cost of Rebuilding the Parking lot *

Fellowship!

More information talk to Siochain or Lori



Silent Dessert Auction



A special thank you to the bakers and dessert makers who helped make the March Dessert Auction a great success!

We had some great Broonie, Sweet Bread and cookies to choose from. Together we raised \$270.00 to help make our parking lot safe! The

running total raised to date to support making the parking lot safe is \$1,714.00. Thank you everyone for your support.

Even though the parking lot has been completed and we were able to get a better price, we still had to dip into our reserve funds to pay for it. We still need to replace our reserve funds in case there is an unseen emergency in the future and therefore, we will continue to raise money to pay for the parking lot.

We have bakers lined up for April who are planning to make some yummy homemade desserts.



In April you can look forward to a home-made fruit pie, Buttermilk Banana Nut Bread, Buttermilk Lemon Bread 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



Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup



Thank you to all the volunteers that have provided soup and fellowship for February: Marcell, Lee, Lori, and Patti Clark, Kathi and Patrick, and Lori, Diane Walker & Steve, and Men's Breakfast Group. You are all awesome!!

The people we serve are so grateful for your support. They love the fellowship and relaxed atmosphere!

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 had a good line-up for March!, And we are ready to start scheduling volunteers for April. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

We have discovered that our guests especially like bananas, so I am requesting banana as the handheld fruit.

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/1Csppwd_nP1fifWg2cuy2TVNCOAyApth4BHnMclAMM4/edit

Continued Pg 11



Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup



Volunteer Sign Up Sheet!

Feb / March 2024



Volunteer Sign Up Sheet!

April 2024

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Make/serve</u> <u>soup</u> | <u>Serve</u> | <u>Eggs</u> | <u>Bananas</u> |
|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| | <u>4/6</u> | | | | |
| | <u>4/6</u> | | | | |
| | <u>4/6</u> | | | | |



A pastor asked an old farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.

“Lord, I hate buttermilk” the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened an eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going

The farmer loudly proclaimed, “ Lord I hate lard”. Now the pastor was growing concerned. Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, “And Lord, you know I don’t care much for raw white flour”. The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, “But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So, Lord, when things come up that we don’t like, when life gets hard, when we don’t understand what you’re saying to us, help us to relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen”



Hey pastor, you left the U out of church! That's right. You can't spell church without U, and we can't have church without You. Shocker, right? But it's true and is a fact that is often overlooked in the business of "doing" church. This epiphany was brought about recently by a couple of things. A couple of days before writing this, a Facebook memory from eight years ago popped up on my feed reminding me that it was eight years ago when I learned that I was to be appointed to be the next pastor of Community United Methodist Church. My first shot at leading a flock. I was so excited by the possibilities, and I still get excited by the possibilities as they present themselves. But, for some unknown reason that escapes me, I told the Staff Parish Relations Committee at the time to give me three years to see what I could do to turn the church around so that they could have an ordained pastor appointed to lead them. I honestly don't know what I was thinking. I mean churches all over Washington State and around the country were closing and they were being led by pastors far more qualified than I. I do remember telling them, in response to a question regarding my vision for the church, that I felt that the Tri-Area was ground zero for all sorts of problems, that nobody was doing much about them, and that we would. You see, I come from a long background of trouble shooting and working with what I have to make it better, plus I read a book that said missions was the life blood of a church in that it inspired and invigorated congregations that were high-centered, spinning their wheels and not going anywhere. So, we began investing in missions following the lead of the Holy Spirit and, at the same time, started addressing some of deferred maintenance issues presented by our well-used facilities.

And then the second thing that really got me thinking was an observation made by a person whose opinions I respect and value. Am I so fired up about missions that I am overlooking the spiritual needs of the congregation? A fair question. Afterall, everyone that attends our church for any amount of time knows that we are mission focused and perhaps does not need to be reminded of it on so frequent a basis. Maybe they want to hear a message that will address some of their issues, a message that will strengthen and deepen their spirituality. I couldn't agree more. I follow the lectionary as a sermon guide, so I won't become a one-trick pony only preaching on one topic or what only interests me. And by doing this I've discovered that there are actually some mini sermon series that pop up allowing me to preach on a topic over the span of a couple of weeks that have a theme or deeper meaning. Another thing that I hope has helped develop my messages is the fact that the Administrative Board approved my request to add an extra day to my week which has given me more time to research my sermon topics rather than cleaning off my desk on Monday morning and then looking at the lectionary to see what I might preach on the upcoming Sunday, which is difficult with all of the unforeseen matters that need to be addressed during the week that can disrupt your flow of thinking. I now find myself researching my sermons a week or more ahead of time giving careful thought as to what I need to say and how to say it with ample time to edit and rewrite it if necessary. I'm hoping that they have more substance.





Seen around CUMC:

Birthday celebrations for our outstanding Pianist, Sheila

Crocus poking their little heads up through the soil, and Daffodils blooming

Snow or groffle or sleet or whatever it is, we are ready to move on!

Sunday March 10th was a musical extravaganza...Randy Stillwell on trumpet and accompanied by our very own Sheila Harwood! Plus the Spirit singers. If you missed it, check it out on the www.hadlockchurch.com, there's a link to view the service.

Laurel Ankeny back from Hawaii , looking rested and relaxed! Welcome Home!

Jean dropping kindling off in the early morning hours. She works tirelessly

SUNSHINE...FINALLY.... SUNSHINE!

Spirit Singers prepping for a busy Easter Season of Music

The sun brought out the gardener in Scott. He worked on the flower beds

and they look great!

Even with Easter this month and all the activity that goes with the season, the newsletter is a few pages short. Please if you have an interesting article or photos to share, the deadline for them is the third **Wednesday of each month. I love adding them to our newsletter!





Cheeseburger Soup



I think the men have been holding out on us...those soups look delicious, or was it secretly the wives who made the soup and the men who took the credit...or maybe they just served it, but either way, we are thankful for their service and the folks who frequent the soup kitchen enjoy their company and yummy food!

Thank you Methodist Men!

Italian sausage Minestrone Soup



It's Not Too Late!



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.*





Treasurers Report
 Year to Date
 1-1-2024 - 2-29-2024

Income

| | | |
|---------------|----|-----------|
| Pledges | \$ | 21,170.47 |
| Earned Income | \$ | 2,719.00 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|----|-----------|
| Total Income | | | \$ | 23,889.47 |
|--------------|--|--|----|-----------|

Expenses

| | | |
|--------------------|----|-----------|
| Missions | \$ | 6,730.40 |
| Operating | \$ | 9,378.64 |
| Program/Ministries | \$ | 1,441.44 |
| Personnel | \$ | 10,784.38 |

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|----|-----------|
| Total Expenses | | | \$ | 28,334.86 |
|----------------|--|--|----|-----------|

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|----|------------|
| Total to date Profit/Loss | | | \$ | (4,445.39) |
|---------------------------|--|--|----|------------|



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



2024

Summary of all donations by category February 1-February 29, 2024

| Category | Amount | #Donations | #Donors |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|---------|
| Clothes/General Store | \$20.00 | #1 | #1 |
| Missions | \$100.00 | 1 | 1 |
| Non Pledge gifts | \$195.00 | 4 | 4 |
| Parking lot | \$280.00 | 8 | 5 |
| Pledges | \$5,263.00 | 28 | 18 |

Summary of all donations by category 1/1/2024– 2/29/2024

| Category | Amount | #Donations | #Donors |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| Clothes/General Store | \$20.00 | 1 | 1 |
| Missions | \$550.00 | 3 | 3 |
| Non Pledge gifts | \$395.00 | 7 | 3 |
| Parking lot | \$880.00 | 14 | 8 |
| Pledges | \$16,310.60 | 56 | 24 |
| Quil Sr Table | \$394.50 | 3 | 2 |
| UMCOR | \$200.00 | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | \$18,750.10 | 85 | 34 |

For 2024 18 pledges were turned in for a total of \$70,860

|  | Mon 1 Alzheimer Support Group 10:30-noon In classroom | Tues 2 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11-12p | Wed 3 | Thur 4 | Fri 5 All Church spring cleaning! 9AM-done! | Sat 6 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship | 8 Tai Chi 1-2pm | 9 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11-12p | 10 | 11 UWF Meeting 10am at the church 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting Rogue Yoga 10am-1:00pm | 12 | 13 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p |
| 14 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Dessert Auction after church | 15 Tai Chi 1-2pm | 16 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11:00-12p | 17 | 18 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) Rogue Yoga 10am-1:pm Ad Council ZOOM | 19 | 20 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p |
| 21 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship | 22 Tai Chi 1-2pm | 23 Designated Drivers 4:30pm Bell Choir 11:00-12p | 24 Deadline for Newsletter articles | 25 Rogue Yoga 10am-1pm 7-8pm Al Anon meeting Library | 26 | 27 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p |
| 28 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship | 29 Tai Chi 1-2pm | 30 Bell Choir 11:00-12pm Designated Drivers 4:30pm | | | | |
|  | | | |  | | |

March 2024

BIRTHDAYS

1: Betty Prentice
17 Mike Myers

HOSPITALITY



LITURGISTS

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please see sign up sheet to provide flowers for the altar each Sunday. They add so much to the service!



COUNTERS

4: Lori & Kathi
11: Debbie & Connie
18: Marsha & Diane
25: Lynn & Betty

GREETERS



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

April 7
Acts 4:32-35
Ps 133
1John 1:1-2;2
John 20:19-31

April 14
Acts3:12-19
Ps 4
1John 3:1-7
Luke24:36b-48

April 21
Acts4:5-12
Ps 23
1John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

April 28
Acts 8:26-40
Ps22:25-31
1John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name

April 21, 2024

Praying Boldly

Our young daughter was tucked into bed, covers up to her chin. After a song, I asked her the same question we pose every evening; "What do you want to pray about?"

She paused, lips pursed together, forehead furrowed in thought. Her sweet toddler voice responded, "I want to ask God to make unicorns real"

In the hardships of daily life, it is not difficult to lose our joyful, trusting, wide-eyed faith. But as for children, why wouldn't they ask God for anything? If God can heal the sick, raise the dead and create the planets in outer space, surely God can make unicorns real! And if my daughter has faith enough to pray for that, **I want a childlike faith to ask God for big, bold things too.**

We all experience times when our faith feels small, when we haven't dared to hope that God can bring healing or reconciliation or fulfillment. Even then, God is still the God of the impossible. So let's take a page from the children among us and start asking God for the big, seemingly, impossible things!

Gretchen Schloesser, AZ

Read Matthew 18:1-5



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****Fellowship Time: 11:15 am**

Scott Rosekrans, Pastor

Email: pastorscottrosekrans@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours:

10 am - 4pm

Monday- Thursday