

CREATING CONNECTIONS

1

Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen

Running the Race



September 2025

In the twelfth chapter of the Book of Hebrews the writer starts out by saying: "So then let's also run the race that is laid out in front of us, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us. Let's throw off any extra baggage, get rid of the sin that trips us up, and fix our eyes on Jesus, faith's pioneer and perfecter." The writer packs a lot into those two sentences. The first thing that jumps out at me is: "the race that is laid out in front of us." In one sense, we are all running the same "Christian" race with the common goal of a life in eternity. And like some of the races where Teresa and I have gone to watch our grandchildren run the writer tells us that there will be a "great cloud of witnesses surrounding us" which I take to mean those who have already finished the race cheering us on, giving us encouragement. And then the writer says we should throw off any extra baggage that may be weighing us down and getting rid of the sin that trips us up. And then to "fix our eyes on Jesus" who is faith's pioneer and perfecter, the finish line.

Teresa and I recently went on one of our favorite hikes which we've done a couple of times over the past decade. We like going to Hurricane Ridge and hiking up Hurricane Hill, which is quite challenging. It's about a mile and a half long with an elevation gain of around 800 feet. We walked it several times in training for our hike down into the Grand Canyon nine years ago and it is a favorite spot to take friends and family visiting from out of

state. The goal of hiking Hurricane Hill is not to beat any of the other hikers but to safely get to the summit so you can enjoy the view. As experienced hikers, Teresa and I are aware of any extra baggage we don't need to lug to the top. We have our hiking poles and day packs to carry water and an energy bar or two to eat once we get to the top. I guess the sin that would trip me up is the extra weight I'm carrying due to my unhealthy eating habits and also not getting enough exercise. (I am now watching my intake and actually have a regular exercise routine.) And we fix our eyes on the summit constantly reminding ourselves that the goal is to get there in one piece.

Our race starts out the evening before by getting a good night's sleep and hitting the road early to beat the crowd of other hikers, some prepared and experienced and others not so much. We start out at the parking lot which begins with a very level walk through some shady trees revealing majestic views of far away mountains, and then as the trees thin out the grade gradually steepens, and you get to this point where it's all uphill. You break out your poles and push on, finding yourself stopping more and more frequently to catch your breath and admire the view. Eventually you find yourself stopping wherever there is a spot of shade and about the time you begin to question the wisdom of this hike, a cool and refreshing mountain breeze envelops you as if to give you some encouragement. You pass some hikers along the way and some pass you, each running their own race, some not as prepared as they should be, and then you get passed by the octogenarian hiker who effortlessly offers a cheery hello and chugs

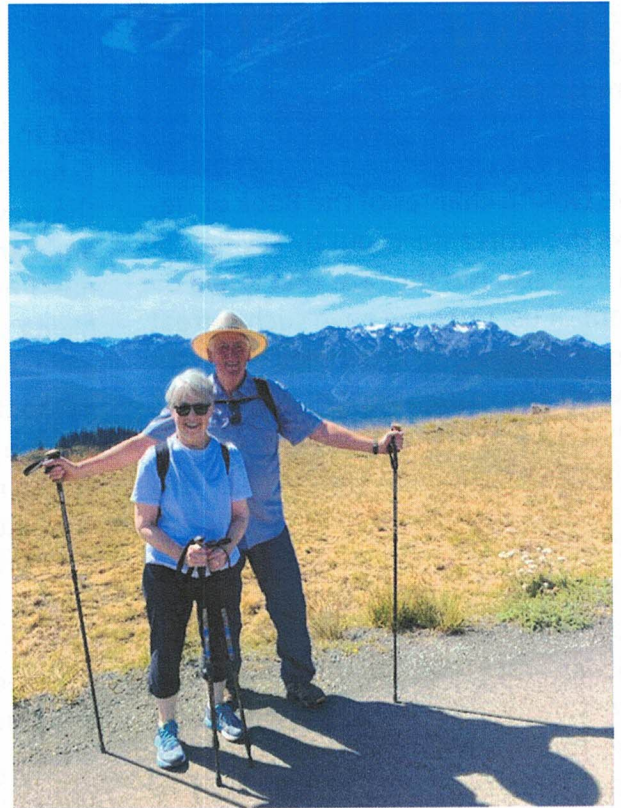
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up the hill out of sight. There's one point in the hike where it seems as if you are looking straight up and all you can see are switchbacks and open sky and think that now would be a good time to turn back, but you don't. You catch your breath, drink some water, and push on. Eventually, you reach the summit, and it truly is beyond words. You're surrounded by other people who have made it to the top, all taking the beauty in, rejoicing in finishing the race that was laid out before them. Everyone is happy and smiling, relaxing on the grass and enjoying the cool mountain air, sharing their experiences and talking to strangers like they were old friends. As a matter of fact, the young woman who took the picture accompanying this article asked to share my bench as she took it all in. It wasn't long before she openly shared her story of how she had arthritis in her ankles and was told that she would never be able to do something like hike up a mountain. She ran the race set out before it and overcame her obstacles.

For me, I think my hike up Hurricane Hill represents my Christian Walk. It has not been easy, there have been obstacles, things weighing me down, sin out there along the path meant to trip me up. There have been times when I've passed others struggling along the trail and times when I've been overtaken by others effortlessly putting one foot in front of the other disappearing around the next bend in the trail. And there have been those times when I've been encouraged by

those who have already completed the race and are awaiting me at the finish line, ready to welcome me home. A race worth the effort.



***Our resident Doe has twins, and Sunday, they strolled by to say "HI", they still have their sweet little spots! One of the babies booped it's nose on the exterior door by the office, probably at it's own reflection!*

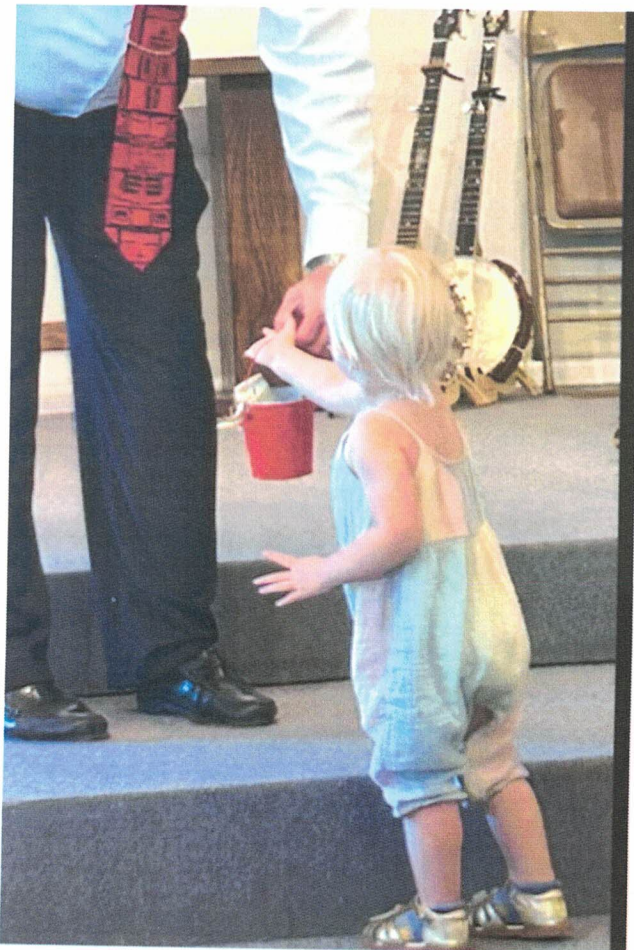
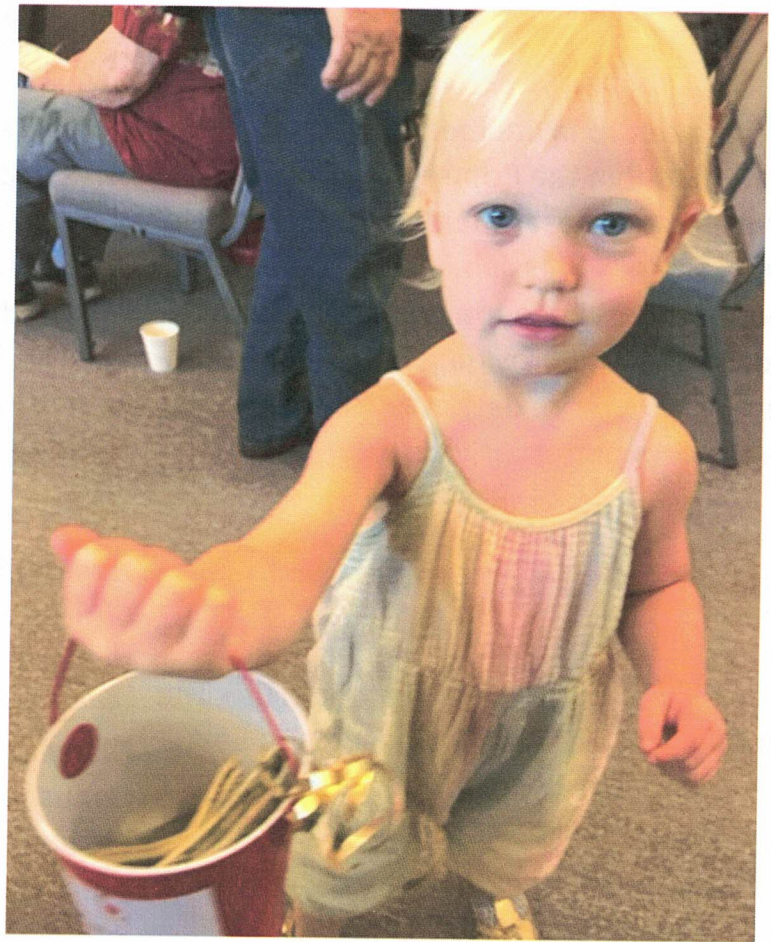
Photo courtesy of Wanda Garrett



Kai Kares Ministry is going strong. She is becoming more comfortable with the concept and often gets so much change she can barely hand it up to Pastor Scott.

She is such a blessing to this church family and is even beginning to whip those men in the back who Greet and help with Offering, into shape!

And of course her favorite church person, Teresa Rosekrans is back there running the Facebook account. She is just so special!



Kai Charrier

To Date she has collected \$ 300.00

Brittany & Kai often go to Maryland to visit "MIMI", and while she is gone, her Mission continues. The "JESUS CUP" is on the counter next to the coffee and cookies each Sunday. All change and bills donated there are used along with the Kai Kares monies to buy food for the food pantry.

*A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO
DONATE AND SUPPORT THIS
SWEET GIRLS MISSION*

Recent Email

I am reaching out to invite members of your congregation to join the Community Chorus of Port Townsend and East Jefferson County this fall to sing Handel's Messiah. If you could put this announcement in your newsletter it would be appreciated. I am providing both a longer announcement with more details and a shorter one if that works better for you.

Thank you, Linda Atkins, board president

Shorter version - You are invited to join us - The Community Chorus of Port Townsend and East Jefferson County has big plans for its 50th anniversary this fall. It will be collaborating with RainShadow Chorale to bring the classic oratorio "Messiah," by George Frideric Handel, to local audiences on Nov. 22 and 23. For more details, visit ptchorus.org, email nowak.lynn@gmail.com, call 360-643-3345, or find the group on Facebook

Longer with more info - You are invited to join us - The Community Chorus of Port Townsend and East Jefferson County has big plans for its 50th anniversary this fall. It will be collaborating with RainShadow Chorale to bring the classic oratorio "Messiah," by George Frideric Handel, to local audiences on Nov. 22 and 23.

An expected combined choir 100 voices strong will join together with a select orchestra to present the beloved work, which includes rousing choral pieces such as "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" and the famous "Hallelujah" chorus, as well as familiar, soaring solos and instrumental interludes. RainShadow Chorale's artistic director Laurie de Leonne has been tapped to con-

duct singers.

Rehearsals for the anniversary "Messiah" concerts begin Sunday, Aug. 31, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 1335 Blaine St., Port Townsend, and continue on Sundays thereafter. Registration begins at 5:30 on the 31st. Registration fee is \$50. For singers who do not have their own scores (Watkins-Shaw edition), music will be provided.

No auditions are required to join the Community Chorus. Men are particularly encouraged to participate. For 50 years, the organization has provided an outlet for people to return to singing. Many forms of assistance are offered, including bonus rehearsals, sectional rehearsals of individual voice parts, and sound files for individual practice.

For more details, visit ptchorus.org, email nowak.lynn@gmail.com, call 360-643-3345, or find the group on Facebook.





Rev Dale Kelley introducing BellaJack, who performed for the Benefit concert, supporting the Olympic Angels

What a successful concert, raising just over \$1646.00 to aide in supporting Foster Families on the Olympic peninsula!

Band members; Jim & Ali McMahon, MJ Hillard & Joe Gillard



The behind the scene helpers are what makes all things so successful! Thank you to Laurie Engelbeck, Betty Prentice & Lori Oberlander (pictured L-R)

And of course Ted Ross our fearless hot dog chef! Everything he does is done with great joy and enthusiasm. Thank you Ted!



SEPTEMBER

Concert to Benefit Olympic Angels: Answered Prayer

As many of you know, Community United Methodist Church has been praying for children aging out of foster care without resources and God has called on CUMC to answer that call.

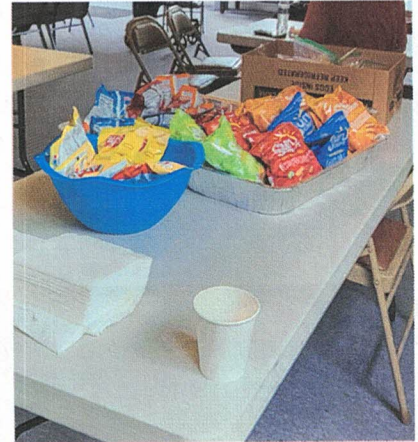
On Sunday, August 17th, the United Woman of Faith organized a concert to benefit Olympic Angels: a non-profit organization that supports foster families and children.

The concert featured local band: Bellajack! There were hot dogs, chips, homemade cookies and fun were on hand too.



Thank you to the many hands that made this event possible: the United Women in Faith for planning and organizing the event, the Methodist Men for helping with cooking, setup, clean up and even shopping, the many bakers who made individual wrapped cookies and many other hands that helped. Thanks to all of you, it went off without a hitch.

Together, we raised \$1,700.00 to support such a worthy cause.



One of the great features of the concert was that Olympic Angels Board Members were there to tell their story and get the word out about the great work they do.

**The past is a teacher,
not a judge. Your next
move matters more than
your last mistake.**





United
Women
in Faith



Next Meeting: Potluck Picnic September 4

Time: 10am

Location: Gladys's Heinzinger's Deck, 85 Heinzinger Rd. Nordland

Program: Church Care

Devotions; Gladys Heinzinger

Coming off a successful Olympic Angels Benefit Concert, we turn our attention to our September Potluck Picnic. As always, UWF is open to all ladies in the church and an open invitation is to all. Questions, please call Pat Chase 360-385-3457 or Gladys H 360-608-6953

**No matter how far you have walked away
from God, the return trip is only one step.**



September

Clothes Closet Update



This car load made up of the abundance of donations is on its way with Laurel Ankeny to the Makah tribe to help them with their neighbors!

PLEASE, BEFORE DONATING....contact the ladies via the donation website or personally before donating. We just don't have the storage for excess clothing. We do appreciate your continued support!

Donation website:

cumc.donate@gmail.com



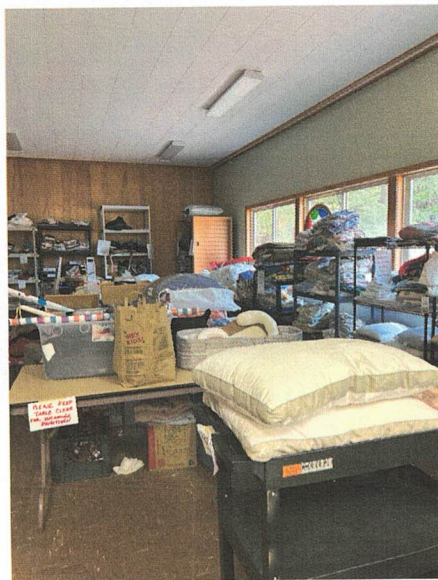
Photo on left shows many hours of sorting, yet the photo on the right shows how much is left to go and how much is being stored for winter.

Photo below shows the non clothing side. House supplies and camping supplies etc fill this side.

Jean Holtz, Marsha Hamacher, Sue French, Jean Schubert, Ari Douglas, Debbie Dodd, Pat Chase, Laurel Ankeny and many more do a wonderful job and we thank them all!



Donations must be a coordinated effort between the General Store and our very generous & appreciated donors. If we receive your donations as we can handle them, we are more able to get them out to our clients quickly and be able to share any excess with Dove Closet, Quilcene bible Church's store & recipients like the Maka tribe as pictured above



September

Sheila Harwood Update.

Sheila will soon be moving in with Lisa Lanza in Port Townsend soon. Temporarily she is staying at her land-lords ADU till Lisa is able to have her move in with her. Once we know more, I'll post address and pertinent info, Such as visitation times and phone number info. Welcome back home to our area, Sheila



There was not enough interest to do a garage sale in September.

Seen around CVMC

***A super busy dry erase board!! The Salish Sea Fellowship has submitted their ALPS class schedule. October is especially active! Please check with the office if you need to schedule anything.*

***A FULL and exciting altar area last Sunday. We have been blessed with a few new musicians, playing and singing with the Spirit Singers! It is SO worth your while to get dressed and come on in! You won't be disappointed!!*

***A FULL TO THE BRIM, clothes closet!! What a wonderful problem to have! The ladies have been sorting and labeling and preparing all our donations for our neighbors to help themselves to. Of course the FOOD PANTRY is still in need of donations. Food insecurity is a serious problem for so many and having our free food store is a blessing to so many! Please continue to donate, non perishable food, no out of date donations please and if your unsure email cumc.donate@gmail.com.*

***Thank you!*

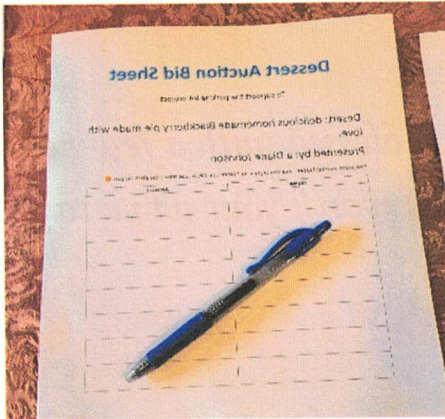




Silent Dessert Auction

The Dessert Auction is back!

Some of you have asked about the Dessert Auction, now that the parking lot is paid off. The good news is that the parking lot is paid off, however, our annual budget was a little short, so we created a line item called "Fund Raising Income". I chose to recommend this new income line item to offset other options to balance the budget. Mostly, I didn't want to touch our missions of the month budget because that money is greatly needed for the organizations that we support: Tri-Area Food Bank, ECHHO, Bayside, and UMCOR.



September brings some sweet delights: Mini Cinnamon, Mini Loaves of Banana Bread (with and without nuts) and more.

I could use one more baker to make sweet treats!

Bring your cash or checks and your appetite for sweet treats to bid on some delicious desserts that you can

bring to a party, a family gathering or just take home to enjoy at your leisure.

If you are interested in baking cookies, brownies, or bars for our June auction set for the second Sunday in June, contact Lori Oberlander, know at 360 620-0809 or lori@tlobe.com.

Proceeds will be used to help support our Missions Budget.



Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup



The winter volunteers are back and in full swing.

1st Saturday: Lori and Marcel

2nd Saturday: United Methodist Men

3rd Saturday: Salish Sea Fellowship

4th Saturday: Patti and Ginney

5th Saturday: Nancy and Friends



We continue to serve 20-25 bowls of soup with gusts up to 30 bowls of soup per week. Our visitors keep sending a clear message that this service is needed and appreciated. They are grateful for a hot meal and goodies like eggs and bananas to take with them. It is preferable to provide a Veggie and a meat choice. (Keep the veggie choice gluten free).



I invite everyone to come and check it out and spend time getting to know our volunteers and our participants—and have a bowl of soup. We love the fellowship and relaxed atmosphere

We now have volunteers to serve soup each Saturday of the month including the 5th Saturday.

CUMC is spreading our love one bowl of soup at a time!

Things to Remember:

- Bananas
- Hard Boiled Eggs
- No added Salt

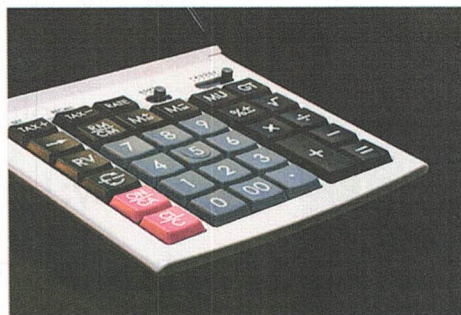


If you any questions, please contact Lori by text, phone call, or email at 360 620-0809 or Lori@tlobe.com

Thank you for your support in this important ministry!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lori at Lori@tlobe.com or 360 620-0809.





Treasurer's Report Year to Date

1/1/2025 - 7/31/2025

Income:

Pledges-loose Plate \$66,369.95*

Earned Income \$29,313.84

Fund Raising \$2,261.00

Total Income \$97,944.79

Expenses:

Apportionments \$9,741.20

Mission \$4,200.00**

Operating \$31,286.60

Program Ministry \$7,837.23

Personnel \$40,443.23

Total Expenses \$93,508.26

Total Profit/Loss \$4,436.53

* Your Pledges are Needed! If you haven't made your pledge, it isn't too late.

**This amount does not reflect funds received or spent for the Soup Kitchen or General Store; those funds are accounted for in an Accounts Payable (pass through) Account. All funds given for the Soup Kitchen or General Store goes directly to support those ministries.



Local MISSION of the MONTH

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.

Summary of all donations by category YTD – July 31, 2025

	Amount	#Donations	#Donor
Fund Raising	\$1,750.00	5	4
In Kind donation	\$ 694.60	2	2
Pledges	\$58,39.00	177	27
Clothes/Store	\$1260.50	16	10
Food Pantry	\$ 350.00	4	3
Non-pledge gifts	\$ 640.00	12	7
LA Fire Relief	\$2,125.00	12	12
Missions	\$5,796.70	84	19
Soup Kitchen	\$320.00	4	3
UMCOR	\$662.00	7	5
TEXAS Floods	\$500.00	5	5
Totals	\$75,444.80	325	
Total distinct donors across all categories			53

2025 YTD: 20 pledges for a total of \$80,530.00



September 2025

BIRTHDAYS

- 2. Joan Flowers
- 15. Lori Oberlander
- 23. Lil Tiller

HOSPITALITY



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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

LITURGISTS

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

COUNTERS

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

GREETERS

Ted Ross
Patrick VanCamp



July 2025 LECTIONARY READINGS

September 7
Jer 18:1-11
Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18
Philem 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 14
Jer 4:11-12, 22-28
Ps 14
1 Tim 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

September 21
Jer 8:18-9:1
Ps. 79 1-9
1 Tim 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

September 28
Jer 32:1-3a, 6-15
Ps. 91:1-6, 14-16
1 Tim 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

*****HOPE HAPPENS HERE*****

Sunday	MON 1	Tues 2	Wed 3	THUR 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
		Smart Recovery 12-1pm Library Designated Drivers 4:30p 9	Spirit Singers 10:30	7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) Rogue Yoga 10am-11		General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
10:00am Worship 7 11:15am Fellowship SSF Service 3-7	Alz Support 10:30-noon 8	Smart Recovery 12-1pm 9 Designated Drivers 4:30p Hand Bells practice resumes: 11-12:30	Spirit Singers 10:30 10	7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) 11 Rogue Yoga 10am-11	12	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm 13 Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
10:00am Worship 14 11:15am Fellowship	Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 15	Smart Recovery 12-1pm 16 Hand Bells practice resumes: 11-12:30 Designated Drivers 4:30p	Spirit Singers 10:30 17	7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) 18 Rogue Yoga 10am-11	19	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm 20 Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
10:00am Worship 21 11:15am Fellowship SSF Service 3-7 pm	Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 22	Smart Recovery 12-1pm 23 Hand Bells practice resumes: 11-12:30 Designated Drivers 4:30p	Spirit Singers 10:30 24 Deadline for Newsletter articles Ad Council meeting 6:30p Via ZOOM	Rogue Yoga 10am-11 25 7-8pm Al Anon meeting Library	26	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm 27 Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
10:00am Worship 28 11:15 Fellowship CUMC Movie Or Class right after church service	Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 29	Smart Recovery 12-1pm Hand Bells practice resumes: 11-12:30 Designated Drivers 4:30pm ALPS: 3:30-5 Book group in Conference room				
		SSF: Salish Sea Fellowship				

GOD WALKS WITH US

SEPTEMBER 2025

My husband and I are downsizing. Moving to a smaller home requires donating and discarding items in our current house. For me, this involves parting with an antique collection I acquired in the 90's with my brother Bob on our "treasure hunts." We were on quests to find relics from the past. Bob scoured shelves for childhood toys while I rummaged through boxes searching for antique tins with graphics from bygone eras. Bob passed away many years ago, and the antiques displayed in my house remind me of those long-ago treasure hunts. But now it's time to part with them. In that earlier season of my life, collecting these treasures was a priority. Now as I put them all in a large box, today's scripture reading is on my mind.

Our earthly treasures. Whether money, possessions or a collection of antiques, have no value in heaven. Instead, Jesus exhorts us to store up heavenly treasures. Worship and obedience to God, seeking God in scripture, supporting the church with my tithes, talents, and time, praying for the needs of others, being kind and encouraging, and sharing my faith through my writing are my spiritual treasures. They have value not only here but in my eternal home in heaven.

Debra Pierce (Upper Room)



Community United Methodist Church

HOPE HAPPENS HERE

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