

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church



December 2025

### Giving Thanks

In the life of a church, this church anyway, Thanksgiving and Advent slip up on us without warning, but we manage to rise to the occasion. I was reminded of this fact this past Saturday when we held our annual Thanksgiving lunch where we invite our neighbors and regular clients who visit our General Store and Soup Kitchen each week to enjoy a celebratory meal with us. I was reminded of how thankful I am as I mixed, mingled and greeted some of our guests at the front door as they entered into our church in eager anticipation of a hot and nutritious meal.

**Enter his gates with thanks, enter his courtyards with praise! Thank him! Bless his name! Because the Lord is good, his loyal love lasts forever; his faithfulness lasts generation after generation.** (Psalm 100: 4,5)

After giving a tour of our mission rooms to a Port Townsend City Councilman we each grabbed a heaping plate (at least mine was heaping) and sat at one of the tables and talked about what we were doing to address the plight of the least fortunate around us. As we shared ideas I looked around listening to the happy chatter and recognized several of our regulars who were enjoying their meals with gusto and gratitude. I was filled with happiness as I watched our servers wait upon them with joy and warmth. It was hard to tell who was enjoying themselves more.

**Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.** (1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18)

After my lunch companion excused himself to go back to work a young man was pointed out to me by one of our members. He was sitting by himself with his plate before him and it appeared he wasn't eating. He looked troubled. I approached him and asked him if everything was okay. He looked very uncomfortable and said being in a crowded room gave him anxiety and that he suffered from PTSD. I told him that was okay and that I would fix his plate to go. When I returned, we stepped outside and he immediately relaxed and became talkative. He told me that he was homeless and had just gotten into the motel just down the street run by Bayside Housing. I then asked him if he knew about our clothes closet and food pantry which he told me he had not so I directed him to the end of the building and told him that the ladies would help him out with whatever he needed. As he headed that way he told me that Monday was his 26<sup>th</sup> birthday. I learned later that he talked to Teresa in the food pantry and that Jean Schubert helped him out in the clothes closet. I think he left knowing that he was seen and cared for, and that maybe a prayer or two had just been answered.

**Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.** (Philippians 4: 6,7)

During this busiest time of the year when we are faced with two major holidays within thirty days, trying to figure out what to get our loved ones for Christmas, and trying to remember to observe the season of Ad-

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vent we often forget whose we are and why we are really here. The Father in heaven has blessed our little church and has entrusted us with the awesome responsibility of caring for his lost sheep with joy and thanksgiving. He sends them to us to show the love of Christ and when we've sufficiently loved them, he sends us more because he knows we are up to the task.

**And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. The peace of Christ must control your hearts—a peace into which you were called in one body. And be thankful people.** (Colossians 3: 14,15)

So, as we stop and take a breath during this season of Advent, looking forward to the new year and the hope we pray it will bring, we need to reflect upon just who we are and what we can do in our mission to be disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world because that is what we were called to do.

**Give thanks to the Lord of heavenly forces, for the Lord is good and his kindness lasts forever.** (Jeremiah 33: 11)

SCOTT



November 22, 2025

CUMC celebrated Thanksgiving with our neighbors by hosting a full on Turkey day meal. There was plenty for all and was beautifully organized by Connie Ross. Many of the women stepped up to help provide the food, set up the tables, serve, and clean up after the festivities. Thank You!



Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto  
him, and bless his name.

Psalms 100:4, KJV



*The UWF are again hosting the Choral Belles of Pt Ludlow for a wonderful Christmas concert/potluck. This is a highlight for both the UWF and the Choral Belles!*

*Please come and kick off your holiday season with great music and fellowship!*

*Date: December 4, 2025*

*Time: 11-1:00pm*

*Hosted by: Pat Chase & Billie Fitch*



"Look at the birds of the air, they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" Matthew 6: 26





\*December 7th: 2nd Sunday of Advent; Purple or Blue. Lighting of the candle

\*December 14th: 3rd Sunday of Advent; Purple or Blue. Lighting of the 2nd Candle. Special music by Wanda Garret & Micheal Hohnbaum

\*December 21st: 4th Sunday of Advent; Purple or Blue. Lighting of the 3rd Candle. Special music performance by the Bell Choir

\*December 24th Christmas Eve; White or Gold. Please plan to attend the Christmas Eve service at **5:00pm** as we eagerly await our Saviors Birth! Lighting of the 4th Candle

\*December 25th; **CHRISTMAS DAY**

\*December 26th; First day of Kwanza

\*December 28th: 1st Sunday after Christmas- White or gold

\*December 31st: White or Gold



Please bring an unwrapped new toy for kids who are less fortunate at this time of the year!

There are two large boxes in the Narthex to drop your toy, or new winter clothing or blanket throws, hats, gloves etc! Please drop off ASAP!

Thank you all!!



Dear Friends in Christ,

We all heard and have at times said the phrase: “There but for the Grace of God go I”. What does that mean?

According to Paul in Ephesians 1:5-6 *”he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – to the praise of his glorious grace which he has freely given us in the One he loves.*

In other words: because we believe we have received the grace and forgiveness of God through Jesus Christ. We are called to work in accordance with God’s good plan.

As Pastor Scott said: “there but for the Grace of God go I, precedes the follow-up statement of: Somebody ought to do something”.

Here at Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), we have taken this to heart and action. We have been serving the most vulnerable people living amongst us by using our church to provide food, clothing, fellowship and hot soup. All of this in accordance with God’s plan for us. Never did we say: “we are not a wealthy church or a big church or a young church”. We have heard God’s will and followed it.

We have received God’s grace! God has also graced and blessed us with you!

It can’t be done without each one of you! You have provided prayers, you have shared your precious time, you have freely shared your talents, and you have shared your hard-earned treasures.

Please prayerfully consider making a pledge to acknowledge the grace we have been given by God through Jesus Christ to help us continue to work to fulfill God’s plan for us here in the Tri-Area. Say yes to fulfilling God’s will for us by making a pledge of prayers, time, talents, or treasure.

Yours in Christ,

Lori Oberlander

Stewardship Chair



Yes, I want to fulfill God’s Will!

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.*



The Spirit Singers were invited to join the Lutheran church to share their talents and to help fund raise through donations. Pictured: Scott, Mark, Connie, Peggy, Marsha, Carol, Suzanne and a mystery drummer in the back. Fun was had and good times shared



*Sheila Harwood update:  
Sheila has moved to Pt Angeles.  
Address:  
c/o Laurel Place  
1133 E. Park Place, Rm#113  
Pt. Angeles, WA 98362*



Beautiful arrangement by  
Liz Hazen



# Silent Dessert Auction

The Dessert Auction is back!

The dessert Auction will be held at church on Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>. December brings some special surprises: Debbie Dodd has made 18 loaves of her famous delicious Holiday Fruit Cake.



We are taking orders in advance, and we are fixing the price to \$20.00 per loaf. If you would like to reserve your loaves, please contact Lori at 360- 620-0809 or [Lori@tlobe.com](mailto:Lori@tlobe.com).

In addition to Debbie's homemade Fruit Cake, you can look forward to sugar cookies and other sweet treats that you can eat, share or give as gifts.



If you are interested in baking cookies, brownies, or bars for our next auction, contact Lori Oberlander, at 360 620-0809 or [lori@tlobe.com](mailto:lori@tlobe.com).

Proceeds will be used to help support our Missions Budget.



Another photo from the Thanksgiving dinner for our neighbors.

Pictured are Betty Prentice, Lori Oberlander, Gladys Heinzinger and Laurie Engelbeck. Just a few of the many who helped make this meal such a success! >>>>





# Community United Methodist Church<sup>8</sup>

*A United Methodist Congregation Serving East Jefferson County*

130 Church Lane  
P.O. Box 1165  
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

360-385-1579  
cumc@olympus.net  
Scott Rosekrans, Pastor

October 30, 2025

Rep. Dan Newhouse  
402 E. Yakima Ave. Ste. 1000  
Yakima, WA 98901

Re: Serving the People

Dear Congressman Newhouse,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter. I am sure you are wondering why you are getting a letter from some church on the other side of the mountains. I understand we are not in your district, but I believe, and I hope you agree, that you also represent the interests of all who call Washington State home.

Our church is deeply invested in serving our community, which is a small microcosm of the entire state if not the country. In our calling to be the church that God needs right here in this community we are actively engaged in the mission field to the extent that we have a tiny home village on our property, operate a clothing closet and food pantry, and a soup kitchen on Saturdays. Additionally, we work hand in hand with several entities that receive state and federal funding who are also attempting to alleviate the issues of addiction, homelessness, unemployment, access to healthcare, and food insecurity. I pray that these are issues that are of concern to you as I have visited Yakima and know that the same issues can be found there with various like-minded groups working hard to alleviate the suffering and inequalities that exist and impact the most vulnerable in our communities.

As United Methodists we are called to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and part of that mission involves feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, visiting the prisoner, and welcoming the stranger. This mission is not that different from the oath one takes when being sworn into public office. The DNA runs deep as our Declaration of Independence states that "all individuals are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness", and the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution states that "no State shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law".

I certainly do not presume giving you a history or civics lesson as I have no doubt you are well aware of your calling as a person elected to serve the people. Our United Methodist

Continued next page

Book of Discipline states: *We affirm that every form of government stands under God's judgment and must therefore be held accountable for protecting the innocent, guaranteeing basic freedoms and liberties, protecting the natural world, and establish just, equitable, and sustainable economies.* As United Methodists, we urge those elected or appointed to public posts or holding other positions in government to act as responsible leaders and stewards of the authority and resources entrusted to them. We call on all government officials to aspire to the highest standards of professionalism, honesty, and integrity. Furthermore, we urge all governments to adopt policies and practices that guarantee accountability and transparency in fostering and maintaining the trust of the public. Make no mistake, we are not in any way attempting to tell you what to do or how to do it, we are merely calling upon you and your colleagues to maintain the highest ethical standards and put people over politics. As United Methodists: *We reject governmental use of threats, extortion, unlawful detentions, extrajudicial killing, and other forms of coercion to silence political opponents and those objecting to unlawful or immoral government policies and practices.* We are, quite simply, much better than that, and as a former metropolitan police officer, criminal defense attorney, and elected prosecutor in two different states, I think I have a pretty good understanding on how our laws should be enforced and at the same time safeguarding the rights of those who come into contact with law enforcement and governmental agencies.

We are also very concerned over what we see as a perverted form of Christianity trying to make its way into our government and we, as United Methodists, support the separation of church and state. Our discipline further states: *While we do not believe churches should affiliate with particular political parties, we do encourage churches to speak out boldly on social issues from a gospel perspective.* Quite frankly, that is exactly what we are doing and rest assured you are not the only elected representative we have corresponded with.

As I stated, I once was an elected prosecutor in two states and I understand the delicate balance of serving the people, all the people, and it required me to make some difficult decisions that drew some intense opposition leading to two defeats at the ballot box, decisions I do not regret and would do again as I believed what I was doing was best for the people I swore to protect and serve.

Such being the case, we implore you to look deep into your heart when you are called upon to make these most serious decisions that bear greatly upon those who are impacted the most. For that we would be greatly appreciative. Thank you for your time and your service.

Sincerely,

Scott W. Rosekrans



## Desserts When You Want Them!

### Our Baker's Are Ready to Bake!



- Are you craving something sweet?
- Do you have a special birthday or other occasion to celebrate?
- A special cake makes any occasion more festive!
- Do you want to help our missions in a sweet way?
- Do you need a special cake or pie for a dessert auction?

There are no requests for November, so it isn't too late to get your requests in. From January through September, we raised \$2,201.00 between the quarterly auction and baking personalized cakes and other baked goods.

We can make:

Pies, Cakes, Cookies, Cupcakes, Giant Cupcakes, Jumbo Cupcakes and bars.

We can also make: Brownies, sweet breads and other items. I recently made a new item that can be added to the list of offerings: a Cookie Cake. It is a 9-inch round cookie cake with frosting and sprinkles.

If you want something to celebrate your special occasion, just call Lori and she will coordinate with the volunteer bakers to fulfill your requests. The minimum fee is \$50.00, but most people are so happy with their cake that they pay more—and it all goes to the church for missions.

I have received feedback from some of the people who have ordered cakes:

- It was delicious
- You went above and beyond
- Can you make one of those Giant Cupcakes—  
They are so cool!
- Sold the cake at the auction for over \$250.00.

It's a win, win, win!



You get a sweet treat when you want it, our bakers get to do what we love to do, and the church raises money to help support our missions! Call, text or email Lori at 360 620-0809 or [lori@tlobe.com](mailto:lori@tlobe.com).

## Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup



The winter volunteers are back and in full swing.

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: United Methodist Men

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday: Lori and Marcel

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday: Salish Sea Fellowship

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday: Patti and Ginney

5<sup>th</sup> Saturday: Nancy and Friends



We have seen a small uptick in the number of bowls we serve per week and now we are serving between 20 – 35 Bowls per week. We have branched out to serve other items such as Grilled Sandwiches and Mac and Cheese and other items. 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 soups with a Veggie and a meat choice. (Keep the veggie choice gluten free and dairy 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Lori@tlobe.com)



### Treasurer's Report Year to Date

1/1/2025 - 10/31/2025

#### Income:

Pledges-loose Plate \$83,625.45\*

Earned Income \$38,296.86

Fund Raising \$3,201.00

Total Income \$125,123.31

#### Expenses:

Apportionments \$13,916.00

Mission \$6,271.56\*\*

Operating \$40,149.62

Program Ministry \$9,621.80

Personnel \$58,075.34

Total Expenses \$128,034.32

Total Profit/Loss (\$2,911.01)

\* 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.





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 – September 30, 2025**

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>#Donations</b>	<b>#Donor</b>
<b>Fund Raising</b>	<b>\$2,410.00</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>In Kind donation</b>	<b>\$ 820.42</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	<b>\$73,321.00</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Clothes/Store</b>	<b>\$2,065.50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Food Pantry</b>	<b>\$ 992.00</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Non-pledge gifts</b>	<b>\$7,416.70</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>LA Fire Relief</b>	<b>\$2,125.00</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Missions</b>	<b>\$3,910.00</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Soup Kitchen</b>	<b>\$320.00</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>UMCOR</b>	<b>\$662.00</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>TEXAS Floods</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Olympic Angels</b>	<b>\$220.00</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Sheila fund</b>	<b>\$3,555.00</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Worship/Music</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Pastor Appreciation</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Technology Fund</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$99,167.62</b>	<b>490</b>	

**Total distinct donors across all categories 66**

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

**2026 9 Pledges—\$31,320.00**



December 2025

BIRTHDAYS	HOSPITALITY	OUR PRAYERS
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- 10 Janet Stevenson
- 11 Barb Sweet
- 12 Carolyn Allen
- 21 Cindi Jones



\*  
\* For the homeless, the hungry and the unemployed.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

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

**LITURGISTS**

\* For Peace on Earth!  
\*  
\* For wisdom for our leaders.

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

\* For employment for people struggling to find meaningful work.

**COUNTERS**

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

\*

**GREETERS**

- Ted Ross
- Patrick VanCamp



**December 2025 LECTIONARY READINGS**

<i>December 7</i>	<i>December 14</i>	<i>December 21</i>	<i>December 28</i>
<i>Isa. 11:1-10</i>	<i>Isa. 35:1-10</i>	<i>Isa. 7:10-16</i>	<i>Isa. 52:7-10</i>
<i>Pss. 72:1-7, 18-19</i>	<i>Luke 1:46b-55</i>	<i>Pss. 80:1-7, 17-19</i>	<i>Pss. 98</i>
<i>Rom 15:4-13</i>	<i>James 5:7-10</i>	<i>Rom 1:1-7</i>	<i>Heb 1:1-4(5-12)</i>
<i>Matt 3:1-12</i>	<i>Matt 11:2-11</i>	<i>Matt 1:18-25</i>	<i>John 1:1-14</i>

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

# DECEMBER

2026

Sunday	MON 1	Tues 2	Wed 3	THUR 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
	ALPS 1:00-3	ALPS 1-2:30pm		UWF Choral Belles performance/potluck 11-1:00pm		General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
7 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship SSF Service 2-4 pm	8 Alz Support 10;30-noon ALPS 1-3:00pm	ALPS 1-2:30 Hand Bells practice 10:30-12:00 Spirit Singers 12:30 Designated Drivers 4:30p	10	11 Rogue Yoga 10am-11 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) Music practice sanctuary	12	13 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p ~~~~~ Pony Club Christmas party 2PM
14 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship 4:30-7:00pm SSF Potluck	15 ALPS 1-3:00pm Spinners Group 1:30-3:30	16 Designated Drivers 4:30p Hand Bells practice 10-12:00 Spirit Singers: 12:30	17 Deadline for Newsletter articles –or updates	18 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) AD Council 6:30p Zoom Rogue Yoga 10am-11 Bell Practice	19	20 General Store-Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
21 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Bell Ringers perform during service! SSF Service 2-4 pm	22 Spinners Group 1:30-3:30	23 Hand Bells practice 10-12:00 Spirit Singers 12:30 Designated Drivers 4:30p	24 Christmas Eve	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS Office closed		
28 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship	29 Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 ALPS 1-3pm	30 Spirit Singers 12:30 Designated Drivers 4:30pm	31	January 1 2026 Office closed		27 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
		SSF: Salish Sea Fellowship				

**CHRISTMAS DAY****DECEMBER 2025**

*My two young grandchildren arrived 3 days before Christmas to celebrated the holiday at my house. In the dining room, I had set out a decades-old nativity scene, except I left the manger empty. Baby Jesus' absence greatly concerned my four year old granddaughter. Straight away, she asked, "Where's the baby?" I told her he would arrive Christmas morning, but she was not consoled. Several times over the next 3 days she walked by the manger and commented, "There's no baby". Eventually, she took the matter into her own hands and placed the tiniest figure from my nesting doll in the crib. I told her that was not the baby Jesus and she replied, "I know that" and merrily went on her way.*

*On Christmas Eve, after my granddaughter went to sleep, I switched the nesting doll with the baby Jesus. I was sipping coffee at the kitchen table early Christmas morning when I hear my granddaughter shout over and over "He's Here! Baby Jesus is here!." She ran through the house to wake her family to the "good news of great joy". She paid no attention to her overflowing stocking or gifts from Santa. Her exuberant reaction helped me experience anew the good news of the arrival of the Christ Child. Indeed, he is here! Baby Jesus is here!*

*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](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

Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year!