

CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen 

February 2026

Hope Happens Here

It was in the fall of 2020 when I got the call. A gentleman who said his name was Peter told me he was part of a group in Port Townsend that was building tiny homes. Fine, I said, how can I help I asked? He said they had built several 96 square foot homes but had no place to put them. He heard that our church had a lot of property and wondered if we would be interested in hosting a tiny home village. Without hesitation or checking with the trustees I said yes. He then asked if they could move their building operation out to our property. Sure, why not?

I was asked to bless the new village, dubbed Peter's Place, in January 2021 welcoming the first twelve residents who would call Peter's Place home. Around the same time, we had started a clothing closet and food pantry due to the number of people who would come by the church during the week looking for help. My volunteers, or disciples as I now call them, came to me with the idea of opening our clothes closet and food pantry on Saturday mornings to meet the needs of our new neighbors to which I again said yes. Well, if you remember back that far you know what happened next. A pandemic that came with instructions from the Bishop to suspend all in-person worship until further notice. After a phone call with a very concerned District Superintendent, I reasoned that now was not the time to close the church and that we would put protocols in place to ensure the health and safety of not only my disci-

ples but those who came to us for much needed items and food. He agreed and urged me to use the utmost caution.

And here we are entering our sixth year of serving the least of these and, as far as I know, I didn't lose anyone to COVID. Because we are Methodists we are fascinated with numbers and statistics so one of our missionaries keeps monthly records just so we can gauge where we are. February 2021, our first month of operations, we had 16 visitors to what we call our General Store. We count visits as it may be one and done or they may come by more than once a month as the need dictates. At the end of 2021 we recorded 364 visits averaging 33 a month. Each year the average monthly visits increased significantly as word of mouth spread and needs increased. We finished 2025 with 1,092 visits averaging 91 visits a month. This is an increase of over 201 from the end of 2024 which corresponds with our weakened economy and increased food insecurity not only on the Peninsula but nationwide. And as if this wasn't enough to keep us busy, we started a Saturday soup kitchen to feed our hungry shoppers.

The support from the community and a few of our neighboring churches has been great as they like what they see and are eager to help by contributing money and shopping for us on their own spending their own hard-earned money, plus we have several volunteers who do not attend church here putting in many hours doing whatever needs to be done. Con't pg 2

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1/2
Photos	
UWF News	3
What's for lunch?	
Salish Sea Fellowship schedule for Spring	4
UWF meeting featuring Connie Ross and her Quilts	5
Letter from Jean Holz with photos	6
SPRC members	7
Clothes closet pics	8
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	9
Desserts on Demand	10
Soup Kitchen News	11
Treasurer Report	12
Financial Report	13
Birthdays	14
Calendar	15
Closing thoughts	16



United Women in Faith



Next Meeting: Valentine Cards

February 5, 2026

10:00am

At CUMC

Host: AJ Laverty

Devotion: Laurie Englebeck

All Welcome!!

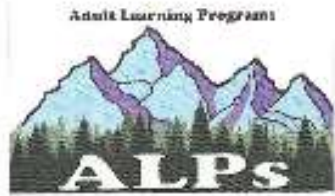


The CUMC men's group has become quite the cooks! Offering a large variety of soups, along with a vegetarian choice made by Lori Oberlander.

They often add ham and cheese sandwiches along with the Chili Dogs and Chips as shown below. Eggs, fruit, pastries and pies fill out the menu nearly every weekend. We are so lucky to have such talented cooks, servers, soup makers, church members and SSF folks along with neighbors that just want to be a part of something so special!

Come sit a spell, enjoy some soup and get a chance to meet our neighbors!!





Spring 2026 Classes, Workshops & Field Trips



*Adult Learning Programs (ALPs) are Open to All
A Free Community Service of
The Salish Sea Fellowship
<https://salishseafellowship.org>*

A Religious Community of Open Hearts & Open Minds

CALENDAR OF SPRING PROGRAMS (See full descriptions beginning on p. 2):

- Feb 3→Mar 31 – Spiritual Embodiment Study Group with Tai Sheridan
- Feb 4 & 11 – AI and Art - You Can Do It Too with Doug Rodgers
- Feb 9 – Winter Birding in Skagit Valley with Dave Rugh, Penny & Clara
- Feb 11→Mar 4 – Exploring the Hero's Journey with Richard Meadows
- Feb 23 – Characteristics of Sociopaths & Child Molesters with Terry Copeland
- Feb 26 – Introduction to the Magic Lantern with Brian Rogers
- Feb 28 – Rose Care & Spring Pruning with Rob Wamstad
- Mar 2→Apr 6 – The Perennial Philosophy Reloaded with Ken Ing
- Mar 4→25 – Great Decisions at JC Library with Joyce Francis
- Mar 6→27 – Great Decisions at Quimper Village with Joyce Francis
- Mar 9 & 16 – Why All the Fuss about Psilocybin? with Liz Barnes
- Mar 11 – What Happens When You Flip the Switch? with Gary Nelson
- Mar 18→Apr 22 – *The Tao of Jung* with Ron Strange
- Mar 23 – Blossoms, Books, and a Bite to Eat with Kendra Golden & Clara Mason
- Mar 28 – Cooking Simple French Cuisine with Judy King
- Apr 4 – To Be Is Enough: The Descent into Wholeness with Tai Sheridan
- Apr 9 – Why Antarctica? With Rob & Karen Wamstad
- Apr 20 – Depolarizing Ourselves with Braver Angels Workshop Leader Sol Riou
- May 1→29 – Biking Tours with Nils Pedersen, Joyce Francis, & Friends
- May 6→Jun 10 (NEW DATES) – Being Mortal with Joannie Murphy & Paul Hinton
- May 30 – A Taste of Summer with Judy King

**NOTE: Programs take place at Community United Methodist Church (CUMC),
130 Church Lane, Port Hadlock, and other locations as noted.**

The Salish Sea Fellowship offers a wide variety of classes and often they are held here at our church. They welcome all to attend. This posting is in an effort to keep the congregation informed of up coming events being held at the church. You can also go to their website to access more information on the classes.

We also have Peninsula College that uses the Conference Room (or music room), for their Spanish and French classes. Along with the Spinners, Hand Bells, Choir.

We are so fortunate to have such respectful use of our facility, as well as adding to our budget for the year.

Please contact the office or see the bulletin inserts and the white calendar board for building use. We are happy to help arrange use for the CUMC members.



The United Women of Faith were pleased to have Connie Ross share her love and talent for quilting at their January meeting. These are just a sampling of the beautiful work she has done!

IT DOESN'T ALL HAPPEN ON SATURDAY

By Jean Holtz

It doesn't all happen on Saturdays. As hard as all of our wonderful volunteers work at the Store on Saturdays during a four hour shift, that only tells of part of the story of the work it takes to keep the Store running smoothly. Actually, a number of us do additional work during the week.

Here's a run down of the various other tasks our Store volunteer staff continues to do during any given week. Scott, and Teresa, our Pastor and his wife and Marsha Hamacher are champion shoppers for the Store. These three haunt the Winco, Walmart, Costco and the Big 5 Stores in Silverdale. More recently, Scott, Marsha and Jean make regular stops at the Dollar Tree in Port Hadlock to take advantage of their low prices to buy supplies that we run out of quickly on Saturdays.

I am the Store's Chief Shoe Cleaner! I take home up to 14 pairs of shoes a week to scrub and polish, put in the insoles or new shoe-laces if necessary and polishes up shoes to make them more suitable for our shoppers. I also take home toys and linens to wash. I use my garage shop to make small sized furniture for the tiny homes At Peter's Place and now, at Caswell-Brown camp in Port Townsend.

Debbie Dodd is the Store's Chief Mender! Debbie takes home clothing, blankets and camping gear, that are otherwise in good shape, to sew up rips and tears. In addition, she takes home laundry when we receive things that we would love to hand out but have a small spot or two that we think will come out in the wash. (We still do not accept dirty clothes or items with lots of damage).

Sue French, Pat Chase, Ari Dourglas, Georgia Thomatos and Laurel Ankeny all come to the Store whenever necessary, during the week to sort through the donated clothes that we cannot get completely sorted on Saturdays. They inspect each article of clothing to make sure there are no stains, rips, tears, missing zippers, as do the volunteers who work on Saturdays. Pat and Laurel also take home clothes to wash and Laurel does specialized shopping for the Store's needs. Laurel and Georgia have taken donations to Dove Closet and consignment items to Fancy Feathers, all of which has to be done on weekdays.

Marsha takes some items of fine clothing/shoes, that might not be appropriate for most of our shopper, to Fancy Feathers in Port Townsend. Fancy Feathers takes our finery and puts it on consignment, giving back to us part of the profits they make. This allows us to buy the new things that we need such as boots, underwear, children's clothing and the like. Marsha and I also reach out to

other organizations which are serving our homeless and under-served populations. We share any excess bounty with Dove Closet, Reach Out, Quilcene Bible Church, the Warming Center and the Winter Shelter. We use "liaison" persons who are familiar and known to the independent camps, to take blankets, coats, and clothes to those camps when individuals cannot come to the Store. We are always ready to share and have a few more organizations in the Tri Area, as well as Quilcene and Brinnon.

Although it takes additional effort to effectively run the Store as it grows, we are cheerfully up for the challenge! Our Store Team is dedicated and growing and doing a fantastic job!

Fini



God
demonstrates
his own
love for us...
ROMANS 5:8



Meet Your 2026 SPRC Members

We would like to introduce you to your 2026 Staff- Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), not because you don't already know us, but to let you know more about our jobs.

The SPRC is charged with maintaining the relationships with our Pastor and staff members and supporting the congregation in its faith journey. We are here to help keep the congregation's faith environment healthy and wholesome, to remain welcoming to diversity and growing in outreach and service. This means that you, as congregants, may bring any concerns to us that affect these issues and that you would like to see improved upon.

We also want to offer programs like the "After Service Movies" that Siochan Deva and Laurie Engelbeck have been organizing as well as studies we may obtain from Cokesbury, (Cokesbury is the UMC's publisher). More about this coming soon.

Our nitty, gritty jobs include staff job reviews, salary recommendations and our favorite-completing reports that are due prior to our Annual Conference. These reports may vary somewhat from year to year, but the basics are the **MILE Report** (Ministry that Matters, Itineracy and Location, Lay Ministry Enhancement, Elimination of Racism), the **Pastoral Support Worksheet** and the **Appointment Advisory Form**.

So here we are, please let us know how we can best serve:



Debbie Dodd



Laurie Engelbeck



Marsha Hamacher



AJ Lavery



Connie Ross, Chair





Donations for the Homeless

This collage of pictures shows the progression from the beginning (above) to the large expansive room that our mission has evolved into (right)! With the inclusion of new shelving, the organizing should become an easier task for these wonderful ladies.

Shown are: Laurel Ankeny, Sue French and Debbie Dodd.

Not to mention Jean Holz who spent much of her time last week putting the shelving (6 large boxes) together!

LOOKS GREAT!!



Volunteers Needed

There are some volunteer opportunities at the church that don't get much attention; however, they are necessary to keep the church humming along without a hitch.

[One such volunteer opportunity is small yet makes all the difference to our worship experience: Fellowship Snacks.](#)



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

You may not notice it; however, the same people are bringing our delightful little fellowship treats each week, as well as doing the setup up and cleaning up.

We need your help!

The treats don't need to be fancy, just a little something for people to enjoy during fellowship time. It could be a batch of banana bread or any kind of sweet bread, cookies, bars, or even a small handheld savory treat!

Please bring your treat by 9:45am, to have time to prep your snack for serving.

Clean up consists of clearing crumbs off the counter, doing a few dishes and clearing out any leftovers—which can be left for the Soup Kitchen to use if desired.

Did you know that there is a sign-up sheet located in the Narthex for fellowship snacks, that is largely ignored and remains empty? Please consider signing up to set up, clean up and provide some small homemade or store purchased treats for fellowship time!

Say yes to enhancing our worship experience in one small way!



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 to raise money for your special group or civic organization?

The final numbers for 2025 are in and we raised \$2,786.00 between the quarterly auction and baking personalized cakes and other baked goods.

January is a new year and a new opportunity to support our missions! Our bakers are ready! The schedule for February is wide open.

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 a worthy cause—Missions!

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

- It was delicious, yummy and beautiful.
- 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!





The winter volunteers are back and in full swing.

1st Saturday: United Methodist Men

2nd Saturday: Lori and Marcel/June

3rd Saturday: Salish Sea Fellowship

4th Saturday: Patti and Ginney

5th 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--2 full crockpot's full. 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 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. You'll love the fellowship and relaxed atmosphere

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



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

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





Treasurer’s Report Year to Date

1/1/2025 – 12/30/2025

Income:

Pledges-loose Plate \$97,054.45*

Earned Income \$51,172.64

Fund Raising \$3,786.00

Total Income \$152,013.09

Expenses:

Apportionments \$16,699.20

Mission \$7,471.56**

Operating \$48,389.88

Program Ministry \$11,770.71

Personnel \$69,967.97

Total Expenses \$154,299.32

Total Profit/Loss (\$2,286.23)

God is
LOVE.
1 JOHN 4:16



* 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 – December 31, 2025

	Amount	#Donations	#Donor
Fund Raising	\$2,510.00	10	8
In Kind donation	\$ 978.94	5	2
Pledges	\$84,979.52	311	31
Clothes/Store	\$3,190.50	39	14
Food Pantry	\$ 6,962.00	18	9
Non-pledge gifts	\$8,826.70	134	27
LA Fire Relief	\$2,125.00	12	12
Missions	\$4,465.00	21	11
Soup Kitchen	\$445.00	5	3
UMCOR	\$662.00	7	5
TEXAS Floods	\$500.00	5	5
Olympic Angels	\$220.00	2	2
Sheila fund	\$3,555.00	19	17
Worship/Music	\$450.00	2	1
Pastor Appreciation	\$100.00	2	2
Technology Fund	\$500.00	1	1
Totals	\$120,469.66	593	

Total distinct donors across all categories 66

2026 YTD: 25 pledges for a total of \$83,321.00



February 2026

BIRTHDAYS

- 3. Debbie Dodd
- 4. John Sweet
- 27. Scott Rosekrans

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

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



LITURGISTS

- 1 John Sweet
- 8 Billie Fitch
- 15 Liz Hazen
- 22 Laurie Engelbeck

COUNTERS

- 1: Lori & Kathi
- 8: Debbie & Connie
- 15: Marsha & Diane
- 22: Lynn & Betty

GREETERS

Ted Ross
Patrick VanCamp



January 2026 LECTIONARY READINGS

<i>February 1</i>	<i>February 8</i>	<i>February 15</i>	<i>February 22</i>
<i>Mic 6:1-8</i>	<i>Isa 58:1-9a</i>	<i>Exod 24:12-18</i>	<i>Gen 2:15-17,3:1-7</i>
<i>Pis 15</i>	<i>Pis.112:1-10</i>	<i>Pis 99</i>	<i>Pis.32</i>
<i>1Cor 1:18-31</i>	<i>1Cor 2:1-12</i>	<i>2Peter 1:16-21</i>	<i>Rom 5:12-19</i>
<i>Matt 5:1-12</i>	<i>Matt 5:13-20</i>	<i>Matt 17:1-9</i>	<i>Matt 4:1-11</i>



FEBRUARY



Sunday 1	MON 2	Tues 3	Wed 4	THUR 5	Fri 6	Sat 7
10:0am Worship 11:15am Fellowship SSF Service 2-4 pm	Spinners 1:30-3:30 NUR	Bells 10:30-12-N Spirit Singers 12:30 S ALPS 1-2:30 Designated Drivers 4:30p L	ALPS 10-12-L ALPS 1-3-L CEC:1-4-CR	UWF 10am Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	CEC 11-2:30pm CR	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
10:0am Worship ⁸ 11:15am Fellowship 4:30-7:00pm SSF Potluck	Spinners 1:30-3:30 NUR ⁹	Bells 10:30-12-N ¹⁰ Spirit Singers 12:30 S ALPS 1-2;30 L Designated Drivers 4:30p L	ALPS 10-12-L ¹¹ CEC:1-4:30-CR ALPS 2-3:30 L	Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR ¹² 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	CEC 11-2:30pm CR ¹³	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm ¹⁴ Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p ~~~~~
10:00am Worship ¹⁵ 11:15 Fellowship SSF Service 2-4 pm	Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 NUR ¹⁶	Bells 10:30-12-N ¹⁷ Spirit Singers: 12:30 S Designated Drivers 4:30p L ALPS 1-2:30-L	ALPS 1-3 L ¹⁸ CEC 1-4:40pm CR Deadline for Newsletter articles –or updates	7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) ¹⁹ AD Council 6:30p Zoom Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR	CEC 11-2:30pm CR ²⁰	General Store-Hours: 10am to 1pm ²¹ Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
10:00am Worship ²² 11:15am Fellowship	Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 NUR ²³ ALPS 1-3pm-L	Bells 10:30-12-N ²⁴ Spirit Singers 12:30 S Designated Drivers 4:30pm L ALPS 1-2:30-L	CEC 1-4:30PM CR ²⁵ ALPS 1-3 L	Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR ²⁶ 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	CEC 11-2:30pm CR ²⁷	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm ²⁸ Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
		SSF: Salish Sea Fellowship				
L= Library CR= Conf Rm NUR= Nursery N= Narthex S= Sanctuary K= Kitchen						

GOD'S HANDIWORK

FEBRUARY 2026

Years ago I had some friends who would invite my son and me to a lake house. We always had a fun time, but my favorite part was at the end of each day when the adults would grab their drinks, take along snacks, and get into the boat. We would motor out to the middle of the lake to watch the sun go down. I still like to step outside and experience the wonder and beauty of God's creation: a crisp, early spring morning; a welcome thunderstorm in the middle of a scorching summer; birds chirping as a gentle breeze softly wisps through the trees; a blanket of freshly fallen snow. The majesty and splendor of God is all around us, and taking it in is always a moving experience for me. That is one of the reasons I love reading the Bible, especially the Psalms. The deep, heartfelt emotions the psalmists express when referring to God's creation is uplifting. Daily life can become so hectic that we neglect to take a moment to immerse ourselves in God's handiwork—visible signs that God is forever present in our lives

Rick Menasco (Upper Rm 2/1/26)

Read Psalm 96:1-6



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

