

CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church

Pastor's Pen

Ten Years After

I'm just finishing up my tenth year here at Community United Methodist Church as your Certified Lay Minister and I can say that the time has gone quickly mainly because I enjoy what we are doing as a church but there are some harsh realities that need to be faced as we move forward.

Ironically, the Pacific Northwest Conference just published a report regarding the state of churches in our conference and, based upon what I've seen and heard, it really isn't surprising. It divides churches into four categories determined by size with the largest being Corporate-Sized Churches, then Program-Sized Churches, followed by Pastoral-Sized Churches, and lastly Family-Sized Churches.

The study compares statistics from 2016 to 2025. By coincidence, I was appointed in 2016 so this survey is pretty relevant and relatable. In 2016 the PNW Conference had 236 congregations with a combined average worship attendance of 17,198. Only one was a corporate-sized church, averaging more than 350 in worship. Twenty-five churches were program-sized with 151-350 in average attendance, 102 were pastoral-sized with 51 to 150 average attendances, and 108 were family-sized churches with 50 or fewer in weekly attendance. I remember that when I got here, we were right at 50 in weekly attendance.

Ten years later the Conference is down to 187 congregations with an in-person average attendance of 9,355, down 7,843, 46%. The corporate-sized church is gone with attendance dropping below the threshold. Eleven program-sized churches remain down from 25. There are 57 pastoral-sized congregations, compared to 102 ten years ago. There are 119 family-sized churches, which is up compared to 108 ten years ago. This increase is attributed to those pastoral-sized churches dropping down to family-sized churches. Of the 119 family-sized congregations, 98 average fewer than 35 in worship which is where we are on any given Sunday.

The report then addresses the difficulty these shrinking churches are facing regarding their sustainability, as in, can they keep the doors open and the staff paid. I can say that we have worked very hard at remaining sustainable. Our pledges do not cover what it takes to keep the doors open and do the ministries that are so important to our faith community, but your Administrative Council has come up with creative ways in which to remain in the black, but it is getting more difficult.

What's difficult is that in spite of us getting smaller our mission field hasn't shrunk. In fact, it's gotten much larger as we work to meet the needs of the vulnerable populations that come to us for help. In spite of these numbers, we remain a healthy church that has deep roots in specific places through our workings with other entities in our community and I believe that we are more relationally connected to our immediate communities than perhaps a larger church can be because we are deeply invested in our neighbors.

It goes without saying that we simply cannot do the same things with less, which means we have to be creative and work smarter. I say it often from the pulpit that I am convinced that we are the church that God needs right now, right here worshipping together as one and actively engaging the mission field as Jesus would have us do.

I'm good for at least another year and I have been talking with our Trustees, our Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and our Administrative Council regarding what we can do with what we have and how we can continue to make our property work for us to help us remain sustainable as a church that is Spirit fed and Spirit led.

Scott

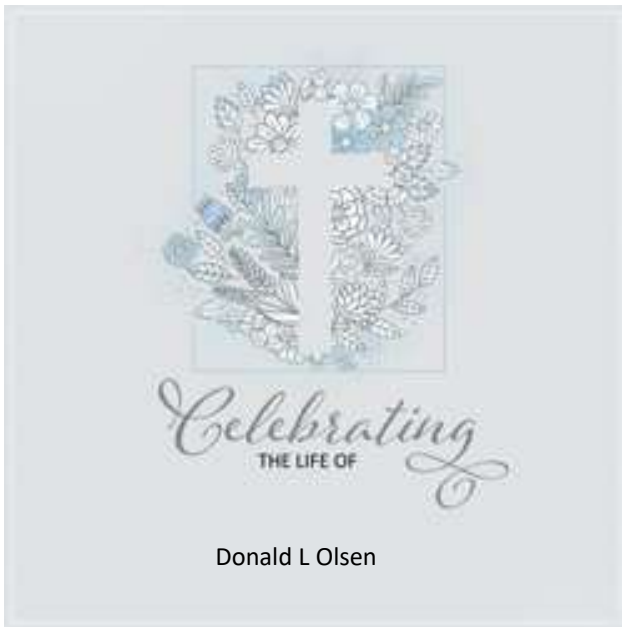
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June 2026

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1
Olsen Memorial	2
Don Olsen Pics of memorial service	3
Fun Pics of church members	4
UWF & Sloppy Joe fund raiser	5
Dessert on Demand	6
Volunteers Needed	7
Soup Kitchen	8
Treasure Report	9
Dessert Auction	10
Financial Reporty	11
Birthdays	12
Calendar	13
Closing thoughts	14



Community United Methodist Church members and especially the United Women of Faith, showed up for our beloved Donald Olsens' memorial service.

It was a celebration of one mans life that touched so many in our church, community, parts of our state, and our own personal lives!

These photos represent some of the decorations, performances and love from us to Don's family.





More photos from Don Olsens memorial service. Don was a retired Firefighter and was honored with a Fire Truck on display at the church.



Beautiful Cupcakes & Oh, So Tasty! By Lori Oberlander




Paying
Tribute



Ted Ross and John Sweet socializing(??) before a Sunday service.



"In The Good Old Summer-Time"

*The joy of reminiscing about
carefree days,
Filled with laughter, games, and
nature's sweet ways.
Good old summer-time, a time
we hold dear,
Moments of happiness, bringing
us cheer.*



Kai Charrier and her mom Brittany waiting for communion, along with Debbie & Jim Dodd, and others.

Kai is our youngest missionary and often helps with Sunday offering. What a blessing she is to our church!





United
Women
in Faith



No Meetings for the Months of
June, July & August

See you in September.....HAPPY SUMMER!!!

You're Invited!

Homemade
Sloppy Joe Lunch
after Church
on June 14th

One of my favorite meals is a healthy version of Sloppy Joe. I made it for the folks at the soup kitchen and was told it was the “best sloppy joe they have ever had”.

As a little break from desserts, we are bringing you a Sloppy Joe lunch after church on Sunday, June 14, 2026, to help support the Missions Budget.

We will be preparing and serving this healthy and yummy version of a Sloppy Joe on hamburger buns with a side dish and a dessert to end this scrumptious lunch with.

Lunch will be on a donation bases and we hope you enjoy the brief break from desserts.

Bring your cash or checkbook and your appetite for this scrumptious lunch to raise money to support our missions.



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?

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--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!

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.



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.



You may not notice it; however, the same people bring our delightful little fellowship treats each week. The same people are setup up and cleaning up too. They need help!

We need you to help with setting up, cleaning up and providing treats. They don't need to be fancy, just a little treat 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!

Treats should arrive around 9:30/9:45 a.m. to have time to prepare your snacks and put them on plates. 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!



Savior's Soup Kitchen



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

Winter is in full swing and I am grateful for the following groups and people for supporting the people we serve each week.

Together, we serve 15-20 people 25-30 bowls of soup each week. We are serving up a friendly face, a warm atmosphere, and a hot meal of soup, bread/muffins and other treats. Thank you for your commitment to serve God's people in need!

1st Saturday - United Methodist Men

2nd Saturday – Lori and Marcel

3rd Saturday – Salish Sea Fellowship

4th Saturday – Patti and Ginny

5th Saturday – Nancy and Friends

If you any questions

contact Lori by text, phone call, or email at 360 620-0809 or Lori@tlobe.com

RECYCLING

Since the county no longer provides free recycling bins, we ask church members with curbside recycling to take the church's recyclables home for disposal. Kindly inspect the storeroom adjacent to the kitchen, as well as the clearly marked recycling bins located in both the sanctuary and office. This will help us avoid the cost of our own curbside service.



Treasurer's Report Year to Date

4/30/2026

Income:

Pledges-loose Plate \$ 42,309.92*

Earned Income \$22,746.90

Fund Raising \$456.00

Total Income \$65,512.82

Expenses:

Apportionments \$6,609.32

Mission \$2,000.00**

Operating \$19,002.37

Program Ministry \$2,439.00

Personnel \$24,701.67

Total Expenses \$54,752.36

Total Profit/Loss \$10,760.46

* Thankyou for your pledges, they are appreciated!

**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.



Silent Dessert Auction

There is still a need to raise much needed funds to continue supporting our four quarterly missions that support organizations that our meaningful to Community United Methodist Church and align with what is important to us:

- Tri-Area Food Bank
- ECHHO (Ecumenical Christian Helping Hands Organization)
- Bayside Housing
- UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

Our first Dessert Auction of the year will be held on March 8th following the service, and we are planning some tasty desserts.

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!

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.



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SCAM ALERT

There was a recent case where a pastor's voice was lifted from an online service and made into a phone call asking for financial assistance to the church that wouldn't have went to the church.

We won't do that. It's best not to answer calls from unknown numbers. Legitimate callers will probably go to your voice mail.

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.

Summary of all donations by category YTD – February 28, 2026

	Amount	#Donations	#Donor
In Kind donation	\$ 153.89	1	1
Pledges	\$38,084.48	123	28
Clothes/Store	\$1,375.00	11	4
Food Pantry	\$2,150.00	9	4
Non-pledge gifts	\$1,275.00	11	6
Missions	\$340.00	5	2
UMCOR	\$120.00	3	3
Worship/Music	\$200.00	1	1
Totals	\$43,798.37	164	
Total distinct donors across all categories		41	



Notice: Kathi will be out of the office from May 22nd to June 10th, returning on June 11, 2026. Thank you to all who will do some "fill " in for me.

June 2026

BIRTHDAYS

- 6. Dale Kelly
- 11. Gerri Shaw
- 15. Stephen Chase

HOSPITALITY



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

COUNTERS

the service!

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

GREETERS

Ted Ross
Patrick VanCamp

LITURGISTS

- 7. John Sweet
- 14. Billie Fitch
- 21: Liz Hazen
- 28. Laurie Englebeck



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.

April 2026 LECTIONARY READINGS

June 7

Gen 12:1-9

Ps.33:1-12

Rom 4:13-25

Matt 9:9-13, 18-26

June 14

Gen 18:1-15

Ps.116:1-2,12-19

Rom 5:1-8

Matt 9:35-10:9

June 21

Gen 21:8-21

Ps.86:1-10

Rom 6:16-11

Matt 10:24-39

June 28

Gen 22: 1-14

Ps.13

Rom 6: 12-23

Matt 10:40-42

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



SUN	MON 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
			CEC:11-2:30-CR Alps:3:30-5pm-L		CEC:11-2:30-CR	General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup
7 10:0am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	8 Spinners1:30-3:30 NUR	9 Spirit Singers 12:30 S Designated Drivers 4:30p L	10 Alps:3:30-5pm-L	11 Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	12 CEC:11-2:30-CR	13 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p ~~~~~
14 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship SSF 4-6pm	15 Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 NUR	16 Spirit Singers: 12:30 S Designated Drivers 4:30p L ALPS 1-2:30-L	17	18 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) AD Council 6:30p Zoom Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR	19	20 General Store- Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
21 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	22 Spinners Group 1:30-3:30 NUR	23 Spirit Singers 12:30 S Designated Drivers 4:30pm L	24 Deadline for Newsletter articles –or updates	25 Rogue Yoga 10am-11 NUR 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library)	26	27 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:30p
28 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship SSF Service 2-4	29 Spinners 1-2:30-NUR	30 Spirit Singers 12:30 S				
		SSF: Salish Sea Fellowship	L= Library CR= Conf Rm NUR= Nursery N= Narthex S= Sanctuary K= Kitchen			

Breaking Down Walls

June 2026

The people of Jericho probably felt safe and confident in their fortified city. What threat was there to fear from nomads who had been wandering around in the wilderness for 40 years? Their marching around the city daily may have seemed strange, perhaps a bit unsettling, but surely great force would be required to bring down such walls.

Like the residents of Jericho, I sometimes think I can keep myself secure behind barriers I have created. Instead of placing my faith in God, I try to maintain the illusion that I am in control and safe on my own. But God is all-powerful and stronger than any physical or emotional wall.

The walls of Jericho fell because the Israelites put their faith in God's power and obediently followed God's instructions. We do not have to keep hiding behind fallible walls of our own creation. Through faith and prayer, being open to God's love and guidance, and studying scripture, we can gain God's protection and peace.

April Bogert, N.Y.

Upper Rm June 7th



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

