

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church

**Pastor's Pen** 

July 2024

## Going Forward

By the time you read this I will have completed my eighth year as your pastor. The time really, for me, has gone by quickly and, as I have said often, being the pastor here has been one of the most rewarding and satisfying things I have ever done and, if you've listened to even a few of my sermons, I have done a lot.

I remember what Daniel Foster, our District Superintendent at the time, said to me when I got the phone call. He said: "God, the Bishop, and I want to appoint you to Community United Methodist Church as their next pastor, and the appointment is in that order." In the back of my mind, I just figured it was the District Superintendent trying to fill a vacancy along with all of the other appointments he had to make, and that the Bishop realized that the position had to be filled and I was available. The talent pool was pretty shallow and besides, I lived just down the road. What could possibly go wrong? What I came to realize as I worked to learn the ins and outs of my new calling, was that God wasn't just looking for a warm body to fill a vacancy and keep the appointments coming. God had a plan, and it didn't involve just me preaching on Sunday mornings. And God, I would learn, was not about to let me do this on my own. There were still some existing members who had some fight left in them and wanted to see their church continue in its role as a light in the darkness. Additional-

ly, God would send us some new people who were looking for a new church home whether they had just moved here or had heard rumors about what we were doing and wanted to see if it was true. I am so grateful for these people, some who have gone on, some who have visited and stayed, and many of our new arrivals who show some promise. And God, knowing how much I like a challenge, through in a pandemic and a denominational split just to make it interesting! We have not only survived, but we have also thrived, and to show that God has a sense of humor, He sent us a banjo player to keep me entertained. (I'm hoping for a fiddle player now.)

So, going forward, where do we go from here? I don't know but I am confident that God wouldn't have brought us through so much if He didn't have a plan for our future as a church here in the Tri-Area. I mean, look at what we have collectively done in the last eight years. We've remodeled the sanctuary and the kitchen, we've painted the exterior of the church, replaced the aging boiler system, converted the parsonage into two income producing rental units, paved the parking lot, created a clothing closet and food pantry, established a soup kitchen, and allowed Jefferson County's first tiny home village to be located in our backyard on church property. And, additionally, during this time we have generously donated tens of thousands of dollars to worthwhile causes locally, around the state, in the country, and around the world.

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And let's not forget that we now livestream our Sunday services into homes as far as the internet will take us to people who want to worship with us and be a part of what is happening here.

So, I say all that to say this: where do we go from here? Going forward what is our calling? I don't know but I am sure that God has a plan and that we just have to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit. Now is not the time to sit back and rejoice that we are still here. Now is the time to prepare ourselves for what is next, and that is where you come in. I need you to hang in there, to keep the faith and to keep doing all that you do. Keep showing up, keep volunteering, keep looking for ways to serve, and keep inviting people to come and check us out. Let's continue to be the somebodies who do something in Jesus' name as we go forward.

**The New Creation.** Change is scary, especially when it involves change within a church setting, believe me I know. As a new pastor I read books on what happens if you try to change the way "we've always done it" to a way that makes so much more sense. One of the stories related how a church split when the new pastor moved the pulpit a few feet to the left from where it had always been. The faction that left even took the pulpit with them and were never heard from again. And that's what the Apostle Paul was dealing with in his letter to the church in Corinth. Even though they had professed their faith in Jesus Christ and had become a part of God's new church they were resistant to change, the change the world needed so very much. They hadn't just broken with Judaism, they were a new creation worshipping the same God through a new covenant. Paul was worried that they had accepted their salvation for naught as they were doing nothing with their new-found faith. And here we are roughly two thousand years later and we are still afraid of change, change that can only make us better, happier, and healthier as a people. Come Sunday as we look closely at what Paul describes as the New Creation and how we should not take it for granted. Your homework is to read 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 and reflect upon how much, any, you have changed in your relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

From Scott's Wednesday emails



Altar Flowers.....



Pat Chase had been out from a fall, she returned in style with this stunning altar arrangement. Welcome back Pat and thank you!



June 9, flowers by Billie Fitch



Don Olsen doing what he does best....helping keep things in good shape and ready to go for us all!  
Don is the best and just the kindest person. Thank you Don, for all you do!!





A few years ago, I was looking for a place to retire and narrowed my choices to the Pacific Northwest and Colorado. My sister-in-law lives on Bainbridge Island, so that made “the Big Move” here less scary. Having both taught elementary music and worked in corporate and personal accounting, I was also eager to be in a more relaxed place than I had traditionally been. I love natural beauty like mountains and water - what could be more beautiful and fit my wish list better than the place where we live here in Washington?

I was born in Bennington, Vermont, to a high school choir, band, and orchestra director, my dad, and his lovely wife and an interior designer, my mom. My life has taken me across the country from Vermont to Indiana (where I grew up) to Oklahoma to California and ultimately, here. I have one son, Michael, who lives in the Chicago area with Leigh, my daughter-in-law, Allison, Adam, and Claire, my grandkids, and Charlotte and Theo, my great grandkids. I love them all dearly and go visit as often as I can.

My husband Tom was an architect with his own practice in the little town of Half Moon Bay on the San Francisco Peninsula and I was a personal accountant for a family that lived in Palo Alto. Our sweet life on the coast was rather rudely interrupted when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in May of 2006. He passed away in November of that year and I was unable to afford those Bay Area housing prices by myself, so when a friend invited me to see her new house in Discovery Bay (CA, not WA), I visited and, to my surprise, was able to buy a house there. I had a longer commute to my office in Palo Alto, but could work at home most of the time and only had to go to the office one day a week.

It was in that area, at Byron United Methodist Church, where I started conducting handbells. Such fun! Byron and Discovery Bay are near Brentwood, CA, and for such a rural area, have a great deal of musical opportunities where I could play flute, sing in a choir, and show off our bell choir to anyone who invited us to perform. Life was again good, but then retirement loomed. I wanted to move away from California where I could buy an affordable house while I was still working. Luckily, my boss agreed to this arrangement!

So, after exploring my options, I chose the Pacific Northwest. With my two little schipperkes Magic and Lola and my friend and housemate Kate in tow, I came up to find my home in Port Ludlow. When I was settled, I decided to go church shopping starting with CUMC. Upon arriving that first Sunday, I headed toward the church when I suddenly realized that everyone else was headed for the grove across the parking lot! Yes, my first Sunday was the summer outdoor Sunday and the musical guests were the Berry Pickers! I decided that if this church was that much fun, I'd stick around to see what else there was here.

I have been blessed to find all the churches where I've worshipped over my lifetime and this one is certainly no exception. Friendly, caring people, inspiring worship, and purposeful activities like the Good Neighbor Project and the General Store, which has become part of my heart. Although I've been a part of some magnificent large churches, small ones are my favorites. I'm so glad I'm here!

# Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup

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## Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup

Our



Snowbirds: Cal & Linda and Ray & Lodema jumped the minute they got back in town—Thank you!!

Thank you to all the volunteers that have provided soup and fellowship for June: Marcell, Lori, Patti C, Lodema, Ray, Cal, Linda and the 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! We receive at least one Thank you for what you are doing every week. We are serving between 30-35 bowls of soup each week.

Many of our guests are taking soup home to a friend or to eat later in the day.

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 have NO openings in July or August.

### Things to Remember:

Bananas

Hard Boiled Eggs

No added Salt

We have NO openings in July or August.

If you would like to sign up, visit the signup sheet in the Narthex. If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Lori at 360 620-0809 or email [Lori@tlobe.com](mailto:Lori@tlobe.com).



SOUP'S  
ON!

# Silent Dessert Auction

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



We had some great homemade Mini Banana Cake, Cornflake Cookies, Jumbo Germain Chocolate Cupcakes, and a delicious Mixed Berry Pie—what could be better than that! Together we raised \$172.00 to help pay for our safe parking lot! The running total raised to date to support making the parking lot safe is \$2,120.00 Thank you everyone for your support.

I have a couple of bakers lined up for July, but I am seeking a couple more. I need more bakers. If you are interested in making some yummy homemade desserts, please call Lori at 360 620-0809 or send an email [Lori@tlobe.com](mailto:Lori@tlobe.com).

In July, you can look forward to at least one homemade fruit pie, a couple of lemon blueberry jumbo cupcakes, and some delicious cookies!

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 creative, we love pies, cakes, brownies, sweet breads—whatever you like to bake, we like to eat!





United  
Women  
in Faith



We will resume meeting in the fall. Please enjoy your summer and we hope to see you all in the fall!

Questions can be directed to:

Pat Chase @360.385.3457 or

Gladys Heinzinger @ 360.385.9049



July



## Seen Around CUMC:

Summer settling in for the long haul

Jean Holtz and Marsha Hamacher and Sue French are just a few who keep the Food Pantry and Clothes closet running smoothly.

Bell Choir practicing for the final performance before Summer Break.

Sheila & Micheal practicing for an upcoming duet

June 9th Sunday was a festival of music. The Bell Choir performed twice, the Spirit Singers performed, Scott and Mark gave us Banjo and Guitar support and Diane added her bass to the mix. Truly a wonderful Sunday

Sweet Treats for the Bake Sale. All funds raised go to the Parking lot payback fund!

Scott weeding and spreading bark to the flower beds. Looks truly amazing!

Remember summer officially starts the 5th around here ;-)

Painting of the Clay Works house and work beginning on bringing the outdoor chapel back into shape for some summer fun. Check out photos in this newsletter.

Church looking so nice with freshly mowed grass and flowers in bloom.

School is almost out, and our renters daughter looks most happy that It is almost summer break.

Don putting new shelves in the Clothes Closet/Food Pantry

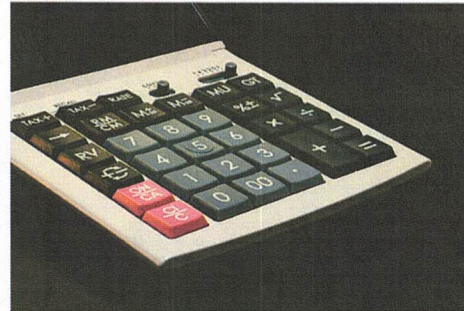
Clay works house received a new coat of paint. Looks so good!







Happy fourth of July, and may God Bless the United States with continued peace and prosperity and let us never forget the words, "In God We Trust"



### Treasurer's Report Year to Date

1/1/2024 – 5/30/2024

#### Income:

Pledges \$40,747.33 \*

Earned Income \$24,265.88

Total \$65,013.21

#### Expenses:

Apportionments \$8,145.60

Mission \$3,900.00

Operating \$25,226.63

Program Ministry \$15,324.39

Personnel \$29,784.74

Total \$82,381.36

Total to Date Profit/Loss (17,368.15)

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



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 May 1– May 31, 2024

Category	Amount	#Donations	#Donors
Missions	\$600.00	2	2
Non Pledge gifts	\$403.00	7	6
Parking lot	\$180.00	4	3
Pledges	\$4,875.00	27	15
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$6,058.00</b>	<b>40</b>	

### Summary of all donations by category 1/1/2024– 4/30/2024

Category	Amount	#Donations	#Donors
Building Maintenance	\$40.00	1	1
Clothes/General Store	\$20.00	1	1
Missions	\$3,950.00	9	6
Non Pledge gifts	\$1,648.00	26	10
Parking lot	\$2,743.00	37	14
Pledges	\$40,765.36	149	28
Quil Sr Table	\$475.50	4	2
UMCOR	\$200.00	1	1
Soup Kitchen	\$65.00	3	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$49,906.86</b>	<b>231</b>	

Total Distinct Donors across all Categories: 49

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



# JULY

	<b>MON 1</b> Alzheimer Support 10:30-noon	<b>Tues 2</b>  <b>Designated Drivers                      4:30</b>	<b>Wed 3</b>	<b>THUR 4</b> 	<b>Fri 5</b>	<b>Sat 6</b> General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
7 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	8	9 Designated Drivers 4:30p	10	11 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting  <b>Rogue Yoga                      10am-1:00pm</b>	12	13 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
14 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship  <b>Dessert Auction after                      church</b>	15	16 Designated Drivers 4:30p	17	18 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) Rogue Yoga 10am-1:pm  <b>**SCOTT @</b>	19  CONFERENCE	20 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p RICHALND**
21 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship	22	23 Designated Drivers 4:30pm	24  <b>Deadline for                      Newsletter                      articles</b>	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	30  Designated Drivers 4:30pm	31			
						

July 2024

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 21 Patty Miller
- 24 Billie Fitch
- 25 Hank Hazen

**HOSPITALITY**



**LITURGISTS**

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

**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!

**COUNTERS**

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

**GREETERS**



**December LECTIONARY READINGS**

July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
2 Sam 5:1-5, 9-10	2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19	2 Sam 7:1-14a	2 Sam 11:1-15
Ps. 48	Ps.24	Ps.89:20-37	Ps. 14
2 Cor 12:2-10	Eph 1:3-14	Eph 2:11-12	Eph 3:14-21
Mark 6:1-13	Mark 6:14-29	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	John 6:1-21

**Being the Somebodies Who Do Something In Jesus' Name**

By Dean W. Cowen

July 2, 2024 The Upper Room

## Lost And Found

Many years ago on a beautiful fall afternoon, I was on a walk with my dad and our dog. The dirt road was bordered by woods on both sides. As the sun set and the temperature dropped, it was time to go home. But our dog suddenly wasn't with us. She had followed the scent of a wild animal and no amount of calling brought her back.

As my tears started flowing, Dad told me to take off my jacket and put it on the ground. We had to go home, but he promised to return to look for her. Later, he found her in the dark, curled up on my jacket. After all these years, I still vividly recall my joy at seeing her bound into the house.

When we have wandered away from God, where do we look for god's love and grace? Maybe we have a special place of comfort and safety to which we can retreat and get back in touch with God, who constantly searches for us. Just as our dog found safety in the scent of my jacket, we can return to a place and time when we experienced God's love for us and find peace.



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](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