

# CREATING CONNECTIONS

Community United Methodist Church



January 2025

## A New Year's Resolution

Well, it's Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup> as I sit here at my computer and write this Pastor's Pen article and wonder what kind of New Years resolution I can make that will improve my life. Eat healthier, lose weight, go outdoors more, get back on the exercise bike, read more books, spend less time on Facebook, give up the guitar? We find ourselves in that time period between our celebration of Christmas where we celebrate the life of the one who came to earth to show us how to live and the new year when we naturally start thinking about what we can do differently, what diet we can go on, what gym we can join, what self-help books we can read. It's the Week of Procrastination. We have the best of intentions, and we will give it a shot knowing all too well that we will fall short of our newly set goal. Take it from one who knows, but kudos to those of you who have actually stuck with it. By now you're thinking where am I going with this? Fair question, thanks for asking. There is always something we can resolve to do better, and we don't have to wait until January first to begin. But if you're looking for a suggestion let me tell you about a resolution idea that Jesus pitched that you can find in Matthew's Gospel.

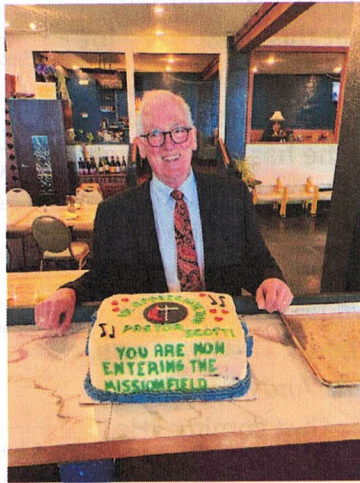
In the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew's Gospel, we are told of an occasion when Jesus was approached by a man who asked him what good thing he must do to have eternal life. Jesus responded: *Why do you ask me about what is good? There's only one who is good. If you want to enter eter-*

*nal life, keep the commandments. When the man inquired as to which commandments Jesus answered: Don't commit murder. Don't commit adultery. Don't steal. Don't give false testimony. Honor your father and mother and love your neighbor as you love yourself.* The man replied that he had kept all these things but wondered aloud what he was still missing. You see, right there we learn that this person is a lot like us. He's trying to lead a good life, doesn't break the law, and obeys the commandments of God but he has this nagging doubt that he's missing something, that there is more to life. Jesus looks him squarely in the eye and says: *If you want to be complete, go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven. And come follow me.* The man didn't see that coming. He was expecting Jesus to tell him that he was a good man and had already done enough. But that wasn't the answer he got, and we are told that in response to what Jesus had said, he went away saddened, because the man, who was obviously well off was afraid he was missing something, that there was something more he should be doing. He didn't feel complete. I find that feeling as something we can relate to. We've spent our entire lives accumulating many things, some useful and some completely foolish and in spite of all we've amassed, we feel as if there is something missing, a box we haven't checked off. What Jesus is pointing out to the man who approached him looking for answers is that he should stop looking inward and start looking outward, help the poor and follow him. Jesus isn't telling him, or us, that we have to sacrifice to the point where it hurts us and impedes our

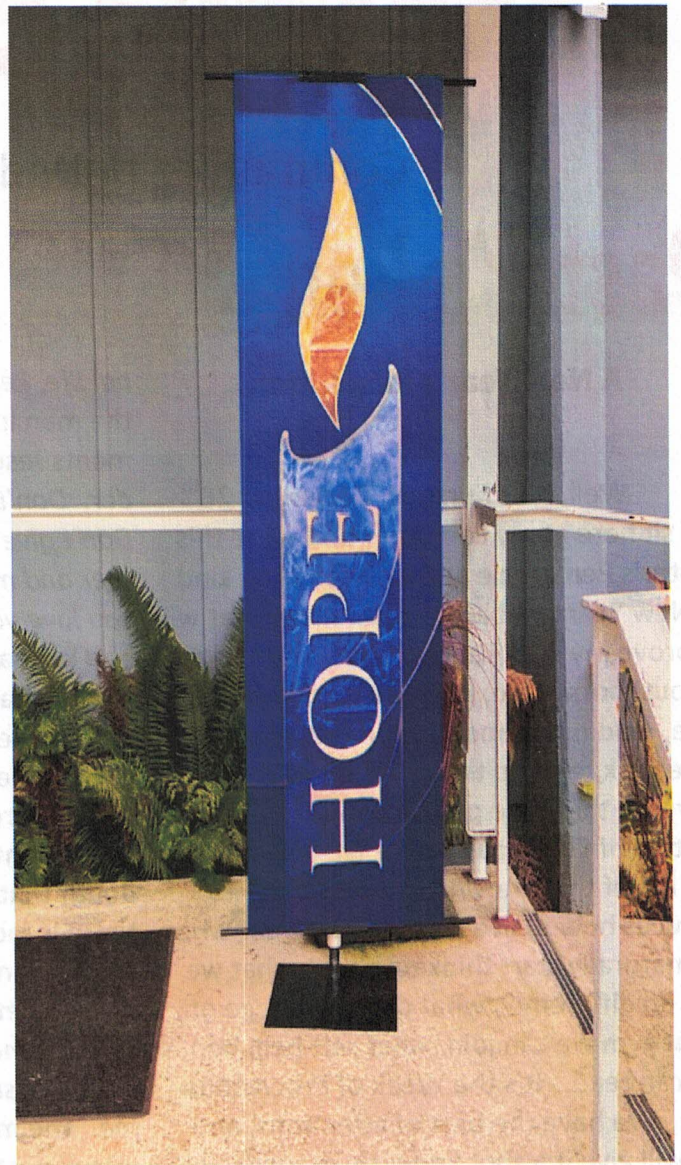
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Us and impedes our ability to support and provide for our families. He's telling us that being a good person, never bothering anyone, never hurting anyone, is all well and good, but if you want to feel complete then you have to get out of your comfort zone, share what you have, see others, and do God's will even when it isn't about you or you get nothing out of it.

So, along with your other feeble attempts at self-improvement for the coming year here's a resolution that Jesus will do all within his power to help you keep: Love God and love your neighbor as you would want to be loved. (Matthew: 22: 37-39) Now that's a resolution we can all work on together.



--Scott



Our new parking lot has become a favorite for many, from the new tenets little boy scooting about on his balance bike to the deer crossings and happy parishioner's, but this poor seagull was not too happy to see our birdbath had dried up, however briefly!

Today, at 29\* it is a mini skating rink! BRRRR



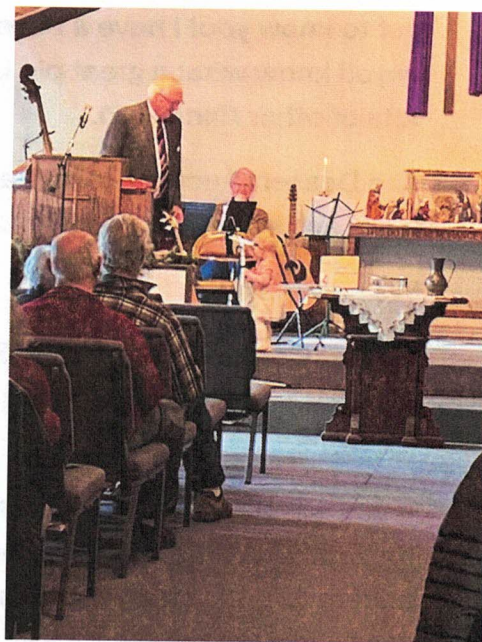


Welcome to the Family of God..

**Dahlia Leemue Hohnbaum!**

We are so happy you joined us and we know you will be a blessing to us all!

Dahlia was baptized Dec 1st in a very special service. Pastor David Valara and Scott performed the baptism. And it was Kai Charrier approved!



Kai has become the churches baby...we all just love how comfortable she has become, even going up to visit the Spirit Singers and Scott, but Teresa is her favorite so far!





# Desserts When You Want Them!

## Our Baker's Are Ready to Bake!

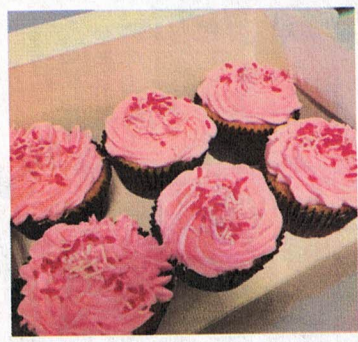
To Date, we have raised almost \$1,800.00 to help pay off the parking lot! Thank you for your orders. I have no orders for January yet, so if you want a special cake or pie the new year or have a special birthday, send me a text, email or phone call (360-620-0809).



In January, we are no longer raising money to help pay for the parking lot remodel. **We are now raising money for our mission's budget line item.**

So far, we have made birthday cakes, cupcakes, simple wedding cakes, bars, and giant cupcakes. I personally have

been having a blast making so many people happy with tasty treats that look great! It is also a great opportunity for me to get to know you! I have a baker, Billie stands by to make pies, we all know what a great pie baker she is and she can make lots of other things too.

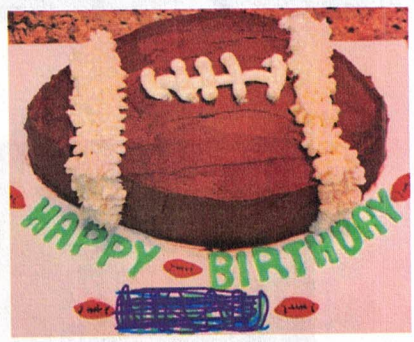


The Dessert Auction Bakers and ready to bake whenever you want and whatever you want.

We can make:

Cakes, Cookies, Cupcakes, Giant Cupcakes and Jumbo Cupcakes. We can also make: Brownies, pies, bread, sweet breads like lemon, banana, and more.

If you want something to celebrate your special occasion, just call Lori and she will coordinate with the volunteer bakers to fulfill your requests.



It's a win, win, win!

You get a sweet treat when you want it, our bakers get to do what we do best, and the church raises money to help pay off the parking lot!

Lori can be reached at 360 620-0809 or [lori@tlobe.com](mailto:lori@tlobe.com).



United Women in Faith



**MEETING DATE; January 9, 2025....please note date change!**

**WHERE: Community United Methodist Church  
130 Church Lane, Pt Hadlock**

**Host: Pat Chase**

**Devotional: Gladys Heinzinger**

**TIME: 10:00 Bring a sack lunch, coffee provided**

**PROGRAM: The Life of Billie Fitch**

**Please Come!**



- \* Bananas
- \* Hard boiled eggs
- \* No added salt



### Saturday Soup Kitchen: Savior's Soup



A special thank you to the Salish Sea Fellowship that meets in our sanctuary for taking the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday through February. Thank you for joining our ministry to serve God's people in need!

**Fun**

We are still serving around 25 to 30 bowls of soup per week.

The people we serve are so grateful for a hot meal. They love the fellowship and relaxed atmosphere! We receive at least one Thank you for what we are doing every week.



Many of our guests are taking soup home to a friend or to eat later in the day. One participant in the Tiny Home Village brings soup back to some of her neighbors that can't get out to get soup—her own ministry. We are so blessed!

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 only one opening in December on December 7.

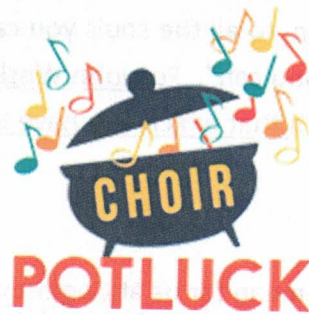


If you would like to sign up, visit the signup sheet in the Narthex. If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Lori at 360 620-0809 or email [Lori@tlobe.com](mailto:Lori@tlobe.com).

#### Things to Remember:

- Bananas
- Hard Boiled Eggs
- No added Salt





**DECEMBER 12, 2024. THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH WELCOMED THE CHORAL BELLES AS THEY PERFORMED SEVERAL CHRISTMAS FAVORITES AND HYMNS. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A POTLUCK OF EPIC SIZE AND DELIGHTS!**

**THE CHORAL BELLES WISH TO THANK THE UWF FOR THE GENEROSITY THEY SHOW THE GROUP EACH YEAR! THIS PERFORMANCE IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CHORAL BELLES SEASON AND THE LADIES LOVE SINGING AT THE CHURCH!**



Pictured above; Teresa Rosekrans, Laurie Engelbeck and Laurel Ankeny.

# Not Too Late to Turn in Your Pledge Card!

## November 2024 Letter to Congregation

Dear friends in Christ,

We have all heard and believe that *“money is an excellent gift of God, answering the noblest ends. In the hands of his children, it is food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, raiment for the naked”*. When John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church said: *“Earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can, we are called to ministry: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and provide drink for the thirsty, he is asking us to “do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can”*. For John Wesley, it was focusing upon what others did not have and how you could lovingly help them with that which you have been blessed. It was about priorities and what really mattered to God the Father.

What does this mean for us at Community United Methodist Church?

It means that we are called to do what we can to help people in need. To help our neighbors however we can.

The good news is that is exactly what we are doing: providing for people in need. We provide everything from canned food, much needed warm clothes, and even pet food for their beloved companions. We also provide hot soup and a safe environment for fellowship. We have taken God’s Words and the words of John Wesley into our hearts!

Can we count on you to provide all you can to continue our ministries in the community? It takes each of us and we can’t do it without you! It takes many hands to do what Jesus and John Wesley has asked of us.

Please consider making a pledge to help continue our ministries in the community. Can we count on you to help keep our church serving God’s people in need by saying yes to doing all that you can. Please say yes to doing all that you can!

Yours in Christ,

Lori Oberlander

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Yes, I want to do all that I can!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

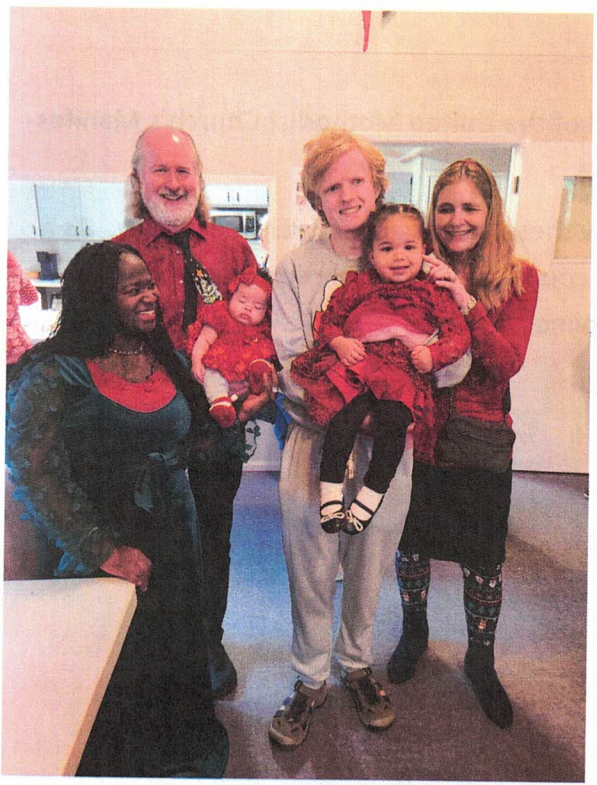
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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.  
Lori Oberlander*



The Hohnbaum families, looking dapper in their Christmas finest! They just happen to have two of the cutest grand-daughters!



Siochain Deva visiting with Don & Judy Olsen. Judy had a bad pre Christmas accident and has been recovering from a broken femur. We sure miss her smiling face in church, but are all so happy she is on the mend!  
Take care Judy, we are all praying for you!



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**

John Wesley's Manifesto

Still Relevant Today

- Reduce the gap between rich and poor.
- Seek to ensure full employment.
- Introduce measures to help the poorest, including a living wage.
- Offer the best possible education.
- Empower individuals to feel they can make a difference.
- Promote tolerance.
- Promote equal treatment for women.
- Create a society based on values and not on profits and consumerism.
- End all forms of enslavement.
- Avoid engaging in wars.
- Avoid narrow self-interest and promote a world view.
- Care for the environment.

It may have been many years since we have read John Wesley, the found of the United Methodist Church's Manifesto—core beliefs—or the most recent United Methodist Book of Discipline.

At the planning meeting last week, there was much discussion about how these values are still relevant today. As a group, we decided that we would write newsletter articles over the next couple of years exploring how each of the core values that John Wesley identified is addressed in our Book of Discipline.

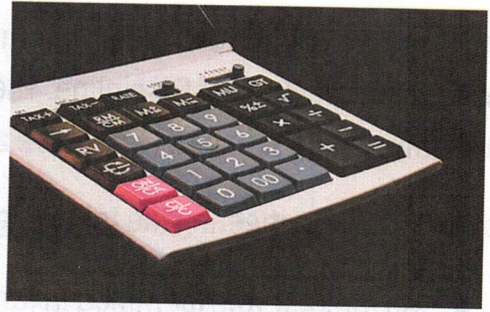
If you feel moved to write an article about the above-mentioned core values as identified by John Wesley, let anyone on the Ad Council Board know.

To read more about the United Methodist Book of Discipline's theological tasks go to:

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/book-of-discipline-105-our-theological-task>

Pray for each of these items as they are still relevant today!





### Treasurer's Report Year to Date

1/1/2024 – 11/30/2024

#### Income:

Pledges-loose Plate \$99,962.69\*

Earned Income \$49,884.86

Total Income **\$149,847.55**

#### Expenses:

Apportionments \$16,291.20

Mission \$8,000.00\*\*

Operating \$49,281.06

Program Ministry \$10,265.13

Personnel \$63,539.80

Total Expenses **\$147,377.19**

Total to Date Profit/Loss **\$2,470.36**

\* 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.



## Planning Session

On December 18 thirteen CUMC members gathered for the purpose of church planning as called for in the Book of Discipline. There was valuable discussion regarding the church's strengths, where we need to improve and where we are going in the future.

At the end of the meeting the following priority outcomes were agreed upon:

- An interest was identified in forming a study/discussion group that would meet regularly utilizing available study materials. It was determined that a survey would be valuable in identifying members' interests and the best time to meet. Be watching for the survey soon. A team of three people was formed to get this going.
- Concern was raised about how the sound system works and the online streaming of the service. More volunteers are being sought who can be trained to run the system. The budget for technology has been increased to cover costs associated with this.
- There were many comments about how the joys and concerns portion of the service is taking so much time and people not being able to hear when people speak out from their chairs. The main suggestion was to strongly encourage people to fill out the form that is available on the chair backs. Also, ushers may collect the forms and take them to the basket on the altar.
- There is a firm that has a system that monitors new people moving into each zip code and they will mail a welcome postcard designed by the church. Research is continuing regarding the viability of this idea.
- There was good discussion on John Wesley's Manifesto. Eight members, so far, have volunteered to write newsletter articles on each item in the Manifesto so be watching for that.

Several other items were discussed that will be addressed in the coming year.

Submitted by John M. Sweet



**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 November 1– November 31, 2024

	Amount	#Donations	#Donor
Missions	\$100.00	1	1
Non Pledge gifts	\$95.00	3	2
Parking lot	\$1,150.00	3	3
Pledges	\$5,585.00	29	17
Clothes/Store	\$411.50	6	4
Food Pantry	\$50.00	1	1
Rent	\$300.00	1	1
Soup Kitchen	\$50.00	1	1

Category	Amount	#Donations	#Donors
Building Maintenance	\$40.00	1	1
Card Income	\$15.00	1	1
Clothes/General Store/food pantry	\$1,853.50	24	9
Missions	\$4,550.00	15	6
Non Pledge gifts	\$3,808.00	62	15
Parking lot	\$6,008.00	63	19
Pledges	\$88,500.36	304	31
Quil Sr Table	\$475.50	4	2
UMCOR	\$1,450.00	3	3
Soup Kitchen	\$389.61	8	4
Rent	\$2,050.00	9	1
Totals	\$99,406.47	436	

**Total Distinct Donors across all Categories: 58**

For 2024, there were 18 pledges turned in for a total of \$70,860.00

For 2025 there are 16 turned in so far for a total of \$68,230.00(11/19/2024)

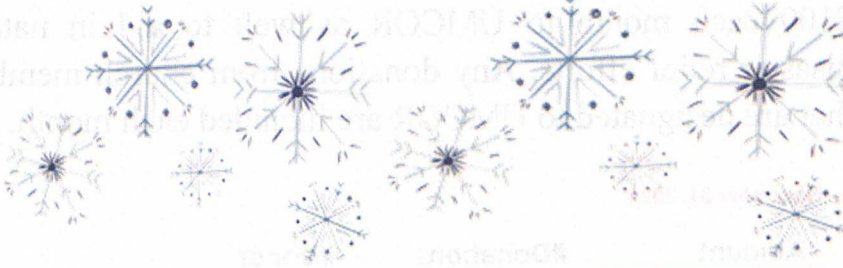


January 2025

**BIRTHDAYS**

**HOSPITALITY**

**OUR PRAYERS**



**ALTAR FLOWERS**

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

**LITURGISTS**

- 5 Laurie Engelbeck
- 12 Billie Fitch
- 19 Liz Hazen
- 26 Laurie Engelbeck

**Birthdays**

31: Kathi VanCamp

**COUNTERS**

- 5: Lori & Kathi
- 12: Debbie & Connie
- 19: Marsha & Diane
- 26: Lynn & Betty

**GREETERS**

Ted Ross  
Patrick VanCamp



- \* 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.



**December LECTIONARY READINGS**

January 5

January 12

January 19

January 26

Isa 60:1-6  
Ps 72:1-7,10-14  
Eph 3:1-12  
Matt 2:1-12

Isa 43:1-17  
Ps 29  
Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17,21-22

Isa 62:1-5  
Ps 36:5-10  
1Cor 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

Neh 8:1-3,5-6,8-10,30  
Ps 19  
1Cor 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:14-21

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

2025



2025

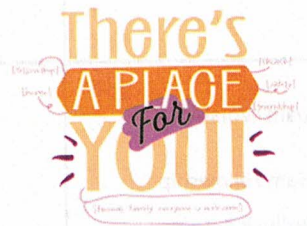
Sunday	MON	Tues	Wed 1	THUR 2	Fri 3	Sat 4
			Office Closed			General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
5 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship SSF Service 1-5 pm	6 Alz Support 10:30-noon	7 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11-12 noon	8 Spirit Singers 10:30	9 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting Rogue Yoga 10am-11	10	11 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
12 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship SSF Potluck 4-7om	13	14 Designated Drivers 4:30p Bell Choir 11-noon	15 Spirit Singers 10:30	16 7-8pm Al-Anon Meeting (Library) Rogue Yoga 10am-11	17	18 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p
19 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship SSF Service 1-5 pm	20	21 Designated Drivers 4:30pm Bell Choir 11-noon	22 Spirit Singers 10:30 Deadline for Newsletter articles	23 Rogue Yoga 10am-11 7-8pm Al Anon meeting Library	24	25 General Store Hours: 10am to 1pm Saviors Soup 10:30-1:00p ALPS class 1:30-4:30pm
26 10:00am Worship 11:15 Fellowship	27	28 Designated Drivers 4:30pm Bell Choir 11-noon	29 Spirit Singers 10:30	30 Rogue Yoga 10am-11 7-8pm Al Anon meeting Library	31	
SSF: Salish Sea Fellowship ALPS Class offered by SSF						

I glanced out my front window, and the street was quiet. It was just another day. Last night, however, was much different. We heard the whistle and pop of exploding fireworks, the cheers of excited children, and the shouting of jubilant well-wishers ushering in the New Year.

For many the start of a new year is a time for resolutions, marking a new beginning and starting with a clean slate. We might give up a bad habit, begin a new exercise regimen, eat healthier foods, mend a broken relationship, or improve some other aspect of our daily life. We do this in the hope of having a happier, better, and more fulfilled life.

Every New Year's Eve reminds me of my own new beginning in 1967 as a teen. My new beginning wasn't a resolution to change one or two undesirable traits but complete repentance, and it transformed my life. The Lord Jesus Christ did all the work. I became a new creation. What joy there is in serving Jesus!

Read Romans 12:1-2



## 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