New Community Church of Union
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November 2026

There is a very interesting little story that takes place in the book of Jeremiah, found in chapter 35. The story is about a family of people called the Recabites. They are a family that has descended from their forefather, Recab, many generations ago. And what is interesting about the Recabites is that they are purposely Nomadic. Recab's son, Jonadab gave the family a decree or command that they were to never build houses, sow seed or plant vineyards, but instead, they must always live in tents.

Now, during the time of Jeremiah's writing, the Recabites find themselves in the city of Jerusalem, not because they have decided to disobey the command of their forefather, but because King Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylonian forces had been destroying the people of the land where they were living so they went to Jerusalem to seek protection (Jeremiah 35:10-11). So now that they are living in Jerusalem, God instructs Jeremiah to invite them to come to one of the rooms in the temple in order to enjoy some wine. (Now, wine would have become quite a scarce commodity during the days of the siege of Jerusalem, so this would be quite an opportunity to enjoy a glass of rare wine!)

There is a problem with this, however. The invitation is a clear temptation for the Rechabites to take an action that is in clear violation, or disobedience, to their forefather's command for the family. You see, Jonadab commanded the family that not only would they never build houses to live in, but also that they would never drink wine.

So there they are, in a room in the temple, seated at tables with large vessels of wine in front of them, having been invited by the prophet Jeremiah himself to enjoy a rare glass of the fruit of the vine. What would they do? It certainly could be interpreted that this was God's will for them. That maybe the family code given by Jonadab was at an end, outdated and in need of an update. They were, after all, now living in a city with houses. Maybe the signs were pointing to taking a drink.

So they respond to Jeremiah with these words, found in 35:6, "We do not drink wine because our forefather Jonadab son of Recab gave us this command: 'Neither you nor your descendants must ever drink wine.'" They stick to the family code. They resist the temptation of feeling privileged to drink a glass of rare wine. They are not going to go against the command of their forefather. They push away from the table and walk away. They act in obedience to the family code.

It is a crazy little story that doesn't seem to really fit with what is going on at the time. And why was Jeremiah inviting them to drink the wine that they knew they should

not drink? Good questions. Thankfully, God gives us a good answer. It is found in Jeremiah 35:12-14,

> Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying: "This is what the LORD lmighty, the God of Israel, says: Go and tell the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem, 'Will you not learn a lesson and obey my words?' declares the Lord. 'Jonadab son of Recab ordered his sons not to drink wine and this command has been kept. To this day they do not drink wine, because they obey their forefather's command. But I have spoken to you again and again, yet you have not obeyed me."

In other words, "This family has obeyed the words of their forefather, who is human, yet you cannot obey the word of God Almighty? Take a lesson from them and obey Me!"

I wish I could be more like the Recabites. Funny how we expect our words to be taken seriously and followed, yet many times we don't treat God's words with the same seriousness and expectation to be followed.

It seems we become forgetful, or proud, or unthinking, and come to believe that we are god, and He is not. Let's learn the lesson from the Recabites – the words of our Father in heaven are to be obeyed… at all times, and in all places.

Sincerely His,

Pastor Michael

NOVEMBER

Home Teams are a wonderful way to enjoy fellowship, prayer, laughter, and learning together. Sign up today and become part of a caring team, where we can grow in faith and encourage one another. For more information or to join a Home Team, contact Jerry Clausen at (360) 490-5251.

OWLS: Older, Wiser, Laughing Seniors

Join us on the last Thursday of every month for fellowship, laughter, and fun! OWLS will not be meeting in November due to the holidays. Our next gathering is Thursday, January 28th at 12:00 PM.

Women's Fellowship November 21st at 9:30 AM and meets monthly on the 3rd Saturday of each month. We will be studying Session 3, *SET APART. Handouts are available in the foyer*. Come enjoy fellowship, encouragement, and time together with other women. For questions, contact Wendy Moye at 503-990-1855 or wendykbmoye@gmail.com.

Women's Lunch will meet on November 27th at 12:00 PM. For questions, please contact Juli McClellan at 360-265-9346. For those who would like to carpool, the group will leave from the church at 11:30 AM. We hope you'll join us for a time of fellowship and fun at El Sarape in Belfair.

Men's Lunch group will meet on Wednesday, November 4th at Noon at the Alderbrook Clubhouse. Come enjoy good food, fellowship, and conversation! For questions, please contact Wayne Elling at 206-714-8434.

Men's Fellowship will meet on October 14th at 9:00 AM in the Youth Building. Come enjoy fellowship, encouragement, and time together with other men. For questions, please contact Wayne Elling at 206-714-8434.

Youth Group

Youth Group is meeting on Friday nights from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. For questions or more information, please contact the church office.

Weekly Prayer Warriors

Are you a Prayer Warrior? Want to help pray over our church family and all the prayer requests with an awesome group of fellow warriors? Join us every Friday morning at 9:30 AM in the Worship Center. Everyone is welcome! Prayer Warriors, unite!

Church Leadership meets for prayer each Thursday at Noon. We encourage our entire church family to pause wherever you are and join us in prayer for our church, its ministries, and our community.

Prayer Medic Team If you would like a team to pray for you or for a specific need, please contact Pastor Michael. We would be honored to pray for you and stand with you in faith.

Ongoing Community Outreach Programs:

Hands For Christ HFC meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9-2 PM, with the next meeting November 18th . Put faith into action by serving our community. We welcome anyone who would like to lend a helping hand, share their gifts, and make a difference through **Christ's love**. Come join us—there's always room for another pair of hands!

Loss of a Loved One/ Grief Support: If you are experiencing the loss of a loved one, for support and encouragement call for an appointment. For more information, please contact Brenda Washburn at 360-490-4839.

Addiction Ministry meets Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM in the Youth Building. If you or someone you know is looking for support and encouragement, please join us.

Hood Canal Food Bank Nonperishable food items can be dropped off in the church office. Your donations help provide food for individuals and families in our community who are in need. Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors!

Hood Canal School Backpack Program Thank you for your continued support of this ministry and the students in our community! Nonperishable food items can be dropped off in the church office. Every donation helps us provide support to local students in need.

Thanksgiving Meals for Hood Canal Schools is scheduled for Nov 19th, 20th for meal prep 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM and Nov 21st from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM for the distribution of the meals. We are requesting volunteers for meal prep. Sign up is in the foyer.

Thanksgiving Baskets for the community need to be turned in to the office by Nov 16th . Please see the instructions and grocery lists in the foyer.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Boxes need to be turned in to the office with your $10 shipping fee by Nov 16th.

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE **Facebook Live** Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	2	3 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	4 **Men's Lunch** 12:00 pm	5 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own)	6 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am **Family Fun Night Drive-in Movie: David** 6:30 pm	7
8 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE **Facebook Live** Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center **Communion**	9	10 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	11 **Governing Board** 2:00 pm	12 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own)	13 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am Youth Group 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	14 **Men's Fellowship** 9:00 am Youth Building
15 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE **Facebook Live** Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	16	17 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	18 **Hands For Christ** 9:00 am-2:00 pm	19 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own) **Hood Canal Thanksgiving Meal Prep 11 am- 2 pm**	20 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am **Hood Canal Thanksgiving Meal Prep 11 am-2pm** Youth Group 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	21 **Women's Fellowship** 9:30 am **Hood Canal Thanksgiving Meal Distribution 11am-12:30pm**
22 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE **Facebook Live** Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	19	24 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	25	26 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own)	27 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am **Ladies' Lunch El Sarape** 12:00 pm	28
29 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE **Facebook Live** Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am	30				Don't forget our neighbors in need! Help support the Food Bank by bringing your nonperishable food donations to the church office. Every donation makes a difference!	