



Sunday Worship Times:
8:15 am online on Facebook
Live
10:30 am in-person service
School-aged children,
Sunday School 9:30 am
Fellowship Time 9:30-10:30 am

New Community Church of Union
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The Anchor: NCCU News

August 2025

We exist to proclaim and promote the gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation and sanctification of all people.

August 2025

I have been thinking a lot these days about the tension between the holy and the human. The words of Scripture command us to be holy. We are to be like God in our thinking, our speaking, and in the way we act. We are commanded to be like Him in all we do. Yet, we always fall short because we are, well... human.

Now, being human doesn't mean that we should sin, or are expected to sin, or are excused from sin. No, our humanity is not a justification for sin. Sin and our sinful actions are never excusable by reason of humanity. That is to say, we can never just slough off sin with a shrug of the shoulders and a comment of, "Well, I am only human." No, that is not acceptable. It never has been, nor should it be.

Sin is always an offense against God and always results in consequence and judgement. Sin is serious enough that Jesus died on the cross because of it. So let us not shrug off sin as a simple and non-consequential act that is merely an unchangeable or unavoidable part of who we are – "I'm only human, after all."

Yes, we are human which means we have a human or sinful nature. We constantly sin because it is in our nature to sin. But let us also remember that we have a new nature, a divine nature that is imparted to us from being united with Christ. When we repented of our sins (and our sinful nature) and received Jesus as our saviour and redeemer from sin, we were made new (given a new nature) by the Spirit who lives in us. Titus 3:5-6 tells us, "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our saviour." Because of Christ, we are holy or set aside unto perfection. Think about that! We are set aside by God for perfection! Perfection in eternity but also set aside to pursue and experience perfection (at least in part) in this life as well!

But you might ask, "How can this be?! How can we experience perfection in this life?" The answer lies in the fact that because of Christ in us, we have a holy nature – the very nature of God living in us. Let me say that again;: we have God's perfect nature now living in us! As a result, *we can be holy. Holiness is possible through Christ's life at work in us. It is through our new nature that we are called to be holy, just as God is holy. So when we say, "I can't help it; I am only human" we need to remember, with equal conviction, that God can help us because we have His nature in us. As I said before, we don't have to sin. We are not forced to sin. The nature of God in us can lead us out and away from sin.*

Yes, there will always be a war between the human nature and the divine nature because they both live in us, but victory over sin is possible and attainable. *We don't have to sin, and we can change and experience more of the perfection of God in our thoughts, words, and actions. Holiness is not just something that we theorize about. Holiness can be lived out as we live in Christ (or perhaps I should say, as Christ lives in us).*

There will always be tension between the holy and the human as we go about our day. But let us remember that we have a choice. We can choose to be holy. We can choose to walk as people who are separated unto the perfection of God. We can choose to live according to our new, divine nature. We are not only human. Don't you believe that. We are more. We are also sharers in the divine nature of God.

Sincerely His,

Pastor Michael



~The August Extra~

What's going on in the next few weeks...more info on each one as we get closer to it in your weekly bulletin.

Hands for Christ is **ON HIATUS UNTIL SEPTEMBER.**

Women's Fellowship, **ON HIATUS UNTIL SEPTEMBER**, Contact Lisa Nelson at: LNELSON169@gmail.com or call 425-495-6537.

If you would like a Prayer Medic Team, please contact Pastor Michael.

Backpack Ministry for The Hood Canal School is **ON HIATUS UNTIL SEPTEMBER.**

Join the church-wide prayer at noon on Thursdays (on your own).

VBS starts August 4 through the 8th. Talk with Ashley Lake to enroll a child.

The Summer Celebration is Saturday, August 9, starting at 2:00 pm. We will have games, food, and music from the local band, No Slack Jack (Dan's band). Music will start at 4:30 pm.

Help us celebrate Gary Larsen's 90th Birthday! Sunday, August 17 @ 2:00 pm. Meet at the Alderbrook GC Wicki-up on Manzanita, and bring a dish to share if you like. Hamburgers, hot dogs, soda and water are provided. (No gifts please!)

Youth Group meets every other Wednesday this month from 6:00-8:00 pm, beginning July 2.

Men's Lunch group meets in the NCCU parking lot at 11:30 am, the first Wednesday of the month. Talk to Wayne Elling for more info.

Women's Lunch will meet the fourth Friday of the month at noon. Ladies, please contact Roxy at 206-293-1276 to get on the list. Carpool from the church, or meet at the restaurant.

Other Community Happenings at NCCU

Mondays: We have the Movement Class with Sue Ullom at 9:30 am. This is not Aerobics or Zumba; it is just some body movement to get your week started.

First & third Mondays: Locals with Littles meet in the Sunday School Building at 10:00 am.

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Loss of a Loved One Grief Support: Talk to Brenda Washburn for an appointment.	Don't forget our neighbors with needs. Donate to the food bank in the office. The food bank has lost funding.				1 Prayer Group 9:30 am	2 Faith & Family at Mariners
3 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live communion Fellowship & Sunday School 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	4 VBS 8:30 am-noon Movement Class 9:30 am Locals with Littles 10:00 am in the Sunday School Building	5 VBS 8:30 am-noon Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	6 VBS 8:30 am-noon Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Summer Celebration Meeting 1:30 pm Men's Lunch Noon	7 VBS 8:30 am-noon Worship Team Practice 9:00 am All Church Prayer noon	8 VBS 8:30 am-noon Prayer Group 9:30 am	9 Men's Fellowship 9:00 am Summer Celebration 2:00-7:30 pm
10 VBS Sunday Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship & Sunday School 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	11 Movement Class 9:30 am	12 Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	13 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Youth 6:00 pm	14 Worship Team Practice 9:00 am All Church Prayer noon	15 Prayer Group 9:30 am Let Roxy know if you are wanting to go to the Women's Lunch.	16
17 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship & Sunday School 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center 90th Birthday Celebration Gary Larsen 2:00 pm @ Wiki-up @ Alderbrook GC	18 Movement Class 9:30 am Locals with Littles 10:00 am in the Sunday School Building	19 Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	20 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Youth 6:00 pm	21 Worship Team Practice 9:00 am All Church Prayer noon	22 Prayer Group 9:30 am Women's Lunch Noon	23
24 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship & Sunday School 9:30-10:30 In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center Baptism 1:00 pm	25 Movement Class 9:30 am	26 Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	27 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Youth 6:00 pm	28 Worship Team Practice 9:00 am All Church Prayer noon	29 Prayer Group 9:30 am	30
31 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship & Sunday School 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center					Backpack Ministry is on Hiatus	Women's Fellowship on Hiatus