

**Sunday Worship Times:**

8:15am  Facebook Live online
9:30am Sunday School
9:30am - 10:30am Fellowship Time
10:30am In-person Service

New Community Church of Union

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Office Hours: Monday, Wed-Fri 9am - 3pm

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September 2026

Last month, I had the opportunity to get together with a group of people who are outside of the church. They neither go to our church nor any other church. I don't normally join them in their gatherings, but this time I thought I would, even though I don't really "fit" with this group.

They are a good group of people, but I don't share in the same vocabulary as they do, nor do I relish in the same stories that they relish in. The stories that build their camaraderie only serve to extend a greater distance between us, and the vocabulary they use is a little (and even very) vulgar and violent for me. No, the language and the regaling of the past are not for me. They are a good group of people, but I don't laugh at what they laugh at, nor do I consume the same beverages that they consume. Their comedic conquests only serve to broaden a greater distance between us, and their alcoholic adventures are too abhorrent for me. No, the beer and bravado are not for me.

They are a good group of people, but I don't really fit in with them at all in the social setting. Every time I join them for one of their gatherings, this becomes more and more apparent to me... and to them as well. You see, I am not like them. I am different, I am strange. I am set apart. I live in a different world than they do, thinking different thoughts, speaking a different language, and taking different actions. Simply put, I am a Christian, and they are not.

It should not surprise me (nor you) that we, as disciples of Christ, are different people than those who are not disciples of Christ. We view the world differently, we treat people differently, and we tell different stories to regale others with. Our lifestyle is different, our life values are different, and our life purpose is different. Because... we are Christians.

It was Jesus who said in John 15:19 "If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you." Did you catch that? Jesus chose us to NOT belong to the world. We are NOT to behave as they behave, value what they value, nor think like they think. We are supposed to NOT fit into the pattern of this world and those who follow the pattern of this world. We are Christians, disciples of Christ. We are NOT of this world, even as Jesus is not of it (John 17:16).

I am glad that I don't fit into that world anymore. It holds no appeal or attraction to me. And even though it can sometimes hurt to not fit, it brings me so much more pleasure to know Christ and to walk in His ways. I much prefer the world of Christ.

So why do I get together with these people outside the church? Well, because they are good people. Yes, they are a good group of people, and, more than anything else, they need to know what I know. They need to know Who I know. They need to know Jesus. They need "misfits" like us to tell them.

Sincerely His,

Pastor Michael



SEPTEMBER



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! Our next gathering is Thursday, September 24th at 12:00 PM. We'd love to have you join us!

Women's Fellowship resumes on September 19th at 9:30 AM and will then meet monthly on the 3rd Saturday of each month. 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 September 25th 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!

Men's Lunch group will meet on Wednesday, September 2nd, 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 September 12th 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 on break. 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 will resume Wednesday, September 16th at 10:00 AM. HFC meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. 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 meets at 3:00 PM on the 2nd and last Monday of each month. If you are experiencing the loss of a loved one, you are welcome to join us for support and encouragement. 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 will resume in September. 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.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Party Join us on September 26th from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM as we gather to fill shoeboxes with gifts for children in need around the world. Come enjoy fun, fellowship, and the opportunity to share the love of Christ with children around the world! Please **RSVP** to the office **by September 19th** so they have enough food! Teresa & Archie Araujo: 81 E Grey Wolf Rd, Shelton. **Please remember that each box filled requires \$10.00 to cover mailing costs.**

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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!		1 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	2 Men's Lunch at noon	3 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own)	4 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am	5
6 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center Communion	7	8 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	9 Governing Board 2:00 pm	10 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own)	11 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am	12 Men's Fellowship 9:00 am Youth Building
13 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	14 Loss of a Loved One Grief Support 3:00 pm	15 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	16 Hands For Christ 10:00 am	17 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own)	18 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am	D Women's Fellowship/ Kick Off 9:30 am Youth Building Don't forget to RSVP for Shoebox Party
20 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center	21	22 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	23	24 Leadership Prayer at Noon All-Church Prayer Noon (on your own) OWLS 12:00 pm	25 Prayer Warriors 9:30 am Ladies' Lunch 12:00pm	26 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Party 11:00 am-1:00 pm
27 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live Fellowship 9:30-10:30 am In-person service 10:30 am	28 Loss of a Loved One Grief Support 3:00 pm	29 Office Closed Worship Team Practice 9:00 am Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm	30			