



Sunday Worship Times:
8:30 am & 10:30 am
Sunday School 10:30am
Soul Church Friday 7:00pm

New Community Church of Union
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The Anchor: NCCU News

July 2019

Pastor's Message

Note: this month's message is brought to you by a guest writer

Let Freedom Ring! Every July 4th, people across America celebrate Independence Day—marking our success of 1776 in throwing off unwanted mastery by the British monarchy. Our ruler was across the Atlantic, a great divide, and had no practical knowledge of colonial life in America; how could we subject ourselves to the leadership of a king who didn't even know us?

Fast forward two hundred forty-some years, and I'm focused on freedom rather acutely right now. I'm five weeks into recovery from two broken bones in my ankle, subject to a cast and orders from my orthopedist not to put any weight on my foot. I so want to rebel against his empirical decree: "But you don't know me! I need to walk, run, hike, drive—what do you mean I've lost my freedom on your say-so?" Despite my initial tantrum, I do realize my doctor has my health and welfare in mind when he directs me to let the bones heal despite the loss of freedom and independence it brings.

Without the distraction of summer fun, I've had time to ponder how I might offer praise and thanksgiving for my broken ankle. Paul exhorts us in Ephesians 5:20 to give thanks to God for everything. God wastes nothing—do you realize that? He certainly does not consider several weeks in a cast to be a wasted opportunity for my growth. I like to tend to other people, to help them be successful in meeting goals or to obtain what's needed, or to care and empathize when they are hurting. But I hate to ask for help for myself; that's an imposition, and I don't want to put others out. Well, when you can't walk on your own two feet, you have to let others walk for you. God has been showing me these last weeks that it's okay to be vulnerable, it's okay to fail and ask for help, it's okay to let others fuss over and care for and love me just because I'm me and not because there's something I can do for them in return. It's been quite the lesson, surrendering to the love expressed by others in their care for me. It's brought me freedom I didn't have before.

Don't we go through that experience with Jesus? Like the early Americans did with the English king, we may view Christ as being too far away, as one who wants to oppress us while not knowing anything about who we are, or our hopes and dreams. So we rebel in order to hold our freedom tightly—the freedom to go our own way instead, the freedom to pursue pleasure unrestricted, the freedom to focus on self, the freedom to be Number One. At some point, though, we become aware that we are actually left enslaved and alone by pursuit of these "freedoms." The good news is that Christ *does* know us, and He loves us even while we still rebel—while we're willfully independent and insisting on being free in the world. He waits patiently for us simply to accept the love He expresses through His care for us, and the eternal freedom He gives us when we reject the mastery of sin. It is only when we surrender to the King of Kings that we become truly free.

Sincerely His,

Sherrie Brittig



Free for all kids 5 years & up!

July 29—August 2, 9a-1p AND
Sunday, August 4 both services,
PLUS BBQ after church.

Join us for Bible stories, games, crafts,
and singing.

LUNCH provided.

Call 360-898-7855 to register.

Join us for
Mariners Faith & Family Day
Mariners vs Detroit
Saturday, July 27, 2019
TMobile Field, Seattle
Sign-up sheets will be
in the foyer.

Golf Fun Event

Please plan to play in our
1st Annual Golf Fun Event,
coming Thursday, August 15
at 1:00 pm. Join us for ham-
burgers at the Wikiup after
golf! Contact Wally Good to
sign up!



*Our Purpose:
Anchored in God's Love, we exist to promote and proclaim
the gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation and
sanctification of all people*

July 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Haircut Fundraiser Kay Shin 360.801.2662	2 Quilters on break until September	3	4 NCCU Office Closed	5 NCCU Office Closed Soul Church 7p	6
7 Worship 8:30 & 10:30a <i>Communion</i> Sunday School 10:30a	8	9	10 EBoard 6:30p Transformative Prayer 7p	11 Feed the Hungry 4:30p AA Meeting 5p	12 Bakers 9a Prayer 9:15a Soup for the Soul 6p - 6:45p Soul Church 7p	13
14 Worship 8:30 & 10:30a Sunday School 10:30a 12:00—3:00p Church Picnic @ Wikiup	15	16	17 Transformative Prayer 7p	18 HCIC Board Mtg 10:30a AA Meeting 5p	19 Prayer 9:15a Soul Church 7p	20 Men of Integrity 9a - 10a
21 Worship 8:30 & 10:30a Sunday School 10:30a	22	23	24 Transformative Prayer 7p	25 AA Meeting 5p	26 Bakers 9a Prayer 9:15a Soup for the Soul 6p - 6:45p Soul Church 7p	27
28 Worship 8:30 & 10:30a Sunday School 10:30a	29 VBS 9a—1p Loss of a Loved One 2p-4p	30 VBS 9a—1p	31 VBS 9a—1p Transformative Prayer 7p	1 VBS 9a—1p	2 VBS 9a—1p	