



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

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The Anchor: NCCU News

May 2023

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

May 2023

Prayer. It's a word that brings out many emotions in us, doesn't it? Emotions like guilt: because we know we haven't prayed enough this week. Shame: because we know we fell short of praying last week. Tiredness: because prayer is something we do at the end of a long day of work or play, and we often just fall asleep. Defeat: because of the many times we have determined that we are going to pray more often, but instead fall far short of our goal. Discouragement: because we feel like God is not listening. Encouragement: because we took time to pray and felt like God was listening. Doubt: because we are not sure that God will answer our prayer. Joy: because God showed up and answered our prayer! Peace: because we just spent time with God. You can probably add a few more emotions to this list as well.

The fact is, prayer is not as easy as we think it should be, nor does it come to us as something that we naturally end up doing. Prayer can be work. Prayer can be inconvenient. Prayer can be challenging. It is hard to pray, or, I should say, it is hard to pray consistently and continually. Do you find this to be true as well? And do you wonder why it is this way? I do.

It seems strange that communicating with God so often feels like a task instead of an opportunity, a blessing, or a reward. I am not sure exactly why that is, and I am sure that more goes into the answer than I can give in this article, but I wonder if a large part of that stems from the fact that I believe that I am in control of my world, and I don't want to give that up. You see, every time we come to God in prayer, we are communicating to Him that we need help, and that we need His presence and power to do for us that which we cannot do on our own. Prayer is humbling. Prayer is submitting. Prayer is acknowledgment of weakness and of falling short of being able to order the circumstances of our lives. Prayer says, "God, I can't do it. God, I can't take it. God, I can't make it. I am not good enough or powerful enough on my own. God, I am merely Your creation. God, I need You; You are God, and I am not."

For us humans, who trend toward pride and self-sufficiency, these words are hard to say and admit to. Yet, why? Why not recognize the Creator of the universe? Why not seek the One who has the power to control and change the circumstances of life? Why not seek the One who loves to give, the One who loves to love? Why not spend time with the only One who knows what is going to happen before it happens and has the ability to determine how it ends? Why do we consider our pride greater than God's goodness and blessing to us? It doesn't make much sense, yet we do it anyway.

Prayer — we love to be prayed for but have a hard time praying. Prayer — we know its value but spend it so little. Prayer — something we all struggle with, yet something so necessary. May we learn to be more active pray-ers — no matter how we feel.

"Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always." — 1 Chronicles 16:11

Pastor Michael



~The May Extra~

Who: Women's Fellowship
What: Baby Shower for Care Net
When: May 6, 10:00 am
Where: NCCU foyer

Join us at the May 6th Women's Fellowship meeting for our Second Annual Baby Shower for Care Net Pregnancy Center. Donate baby clothes, formula, diapers, and other baby items for newborns to 2-year-olds. (unwrapped)
Refreshments provided.
All the ladies at NCCU are invited.

Games with Gary will be on hiatus until further notice.

Hands for Christ will be working on projects the month of May, then on hiatus until September.

There will be no Sunday School during the summer: June 18-September 3. Sunday School will resume on September 10.

Other Community Happenings at NCCU

Join NCCU on Saturday, May 13 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, when The Hood Canal Improvement Club hosts The Community Market. There will be arts and craft vendors, NCCU's own Hallelujah Fudge, an outdoor flea market, and the NCCU Café will be serving food. So come on down to support the vendors, our community and our church.

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

Friday 9:30 am: Are you a Prayer Warrior? Want to help pray for all the prayer requests with an awesome group of other warriors? Just show up at 9:30 am on Friday mornings in the Worship Center. Everyone is welcome. Prayer Warriors unite!

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Ongoing Food Bank Donations in the foyer</p>	1	<p>2 Transformative prayer 11:00 am contact Ron Wood</p> <p>Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm</p>	<p>3 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Facebook Live</p> <p>Hands for Christ 10:00 am-1:00 pm Sunday School Building</p>	4 Worship Team 6:00 pm	5 Prayer Group 9:30 am	<p>6 Women's Fellowship Baby Shower for Care Net 10:00 am</p>
<p>7 Communion Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 am Fellowship Time 9:30-10:30 In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center</p>	8 Loss of a Loved One 3:00 pm-4:30 pm office	<p>9 Transformative prayer 11:00 am contact Ron Wood</p> <p>Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm</p>	<p>10 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Facebook Live</p>	11 Worship Team 6:00 pm	12 Prayer Group 9:30 am Community Market set-up	<p>13 Men's Fellowship 9:00 am</p> <p>Community Market 10:00 am-4:00 pm</p>
<p>14 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 am Fellowship Time 9:30-10:30 In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center</p>	15	<p>16 Transformative prayer 11:00 am contact Ron Wood</p> <p>Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm</p>	<p>17 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Facebook Live</p> <p>Hands for Christ 10:00 am-1:00 pm Sunday School Building</p>	18 Worship Team 6:00 pm	19 Prayer Group 9:30 am	20
<p>21 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 am Fellowship Time 9:30-10:30 In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center</p>	22	<p>23 Transformative prayer 11:00 am contact Ron Wood</p> <p>Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm</p>	<p>24 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Facebook Live</p>	25 Worship Team 6:00 pm	26 Prayer Group 9:30 am	27
<p>28 Worship 8:15 am ONLINE Facebook Live</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 am Fellowship Time 9:30-10:30 In-person service 10:30 am Worship Center</p>	29 Loss of a Loved One 3:00 pm-4:30 pm office	<p>30 Transformative prayer 11:00 am contact Ron Wood</p> <p>Addiction Ministry 6:00 pm</p>	<p>31 Prayer with Lola 10:00 am Facebook Live</p>			