

Hood Canal Community Church

Loving God and Loving our Neighbor

Hood Canal Community Church has chosen to focus on the word “Love” in our mission statement. When Jesus was asked what the most important law is, He responded this way: And He (Jesus) said to him, **“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”** (Matthew 22:37-40)

Loving God

- We love God because of the gospel. To love God is to love truth. Love and truth go hand in hand.
 - We love God because He first loved us. The beauty of the gospel is that we do not love God in order to get His love in return, rather, we love God as a response to His love for us.
- We love God with ALL...
 - We love God with all that we are. Our emotions, our intellect, and our devotion.
- We love God by loving ...
 - Our church family. Throughout the New Testament, believers are encouraged to view each other as members of one family. Therefore, HCCC values building relationships.
 - Worship. Worship isn't just singing songs or listening to sermons. It's an active expression of laying down pride, fear, and self-centeredness. A church that worships sincerely shows love for God by submitting to His will.
 - Discipleship: HCCC takes Jesus' command to “Go and make disciples” seriously. Discipleship is more than Bible studies or programs. It's a living, active way for the church to express our love for God by teaching others to follow Jesus.
 - Building His kingdom and not our own. Church isn't about “us”. We aren't focused on fame or numbers or a brand identity. HCCC has the same mindset that John the Baptist had: “He (Jesus) must increase, but I must decrease.” (John 3:30)

Loving our Neighbor

- God has placed HCCC in the wonderful little town of Hoodsport. Our flourishing desire is to make Christ known to our neighbors.
- Who is my neighbor? When Jesus was asked this question, He told the story of the good Samaritan. (Luke 10:30-37) Our neighbor is the person God has placed in front of us who needs to hear the “Good News”. It could be someone from one of our local businesses. It could be someone who just needs a helping hand. Our neighbor is anyone God puts in our path.
- Loving my neighbor with truth and love: Jesus was full of grace and truth (John 1:14). HCCC does not water down the gospel or avoid hard truths to make people comfortable. True love is being willing to be misunderstood for the sake of our neighbor’s soul. Truth isn’t just telling someone what’s wrong, but it’s pointing them to freedom and healing found in Jesus.

Acts 1:8

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

We love Hoodsport (our Jerusalem)

- While the great commission tells us to “go and make disciples”, there are many people in our own backyard who are lost, dead in their sins, and in need of salvation.
- Our church loves to engage our neighbors by prayerfully seeking opportunities to demonstrate and declare the gospel of Jesus to those we encounter.

We love Mason County (our Judea and Samaria)

- Our goal is to reach our extended community with the love of Jesus. We recognize that loving our Judea and Samaria is beyond our church building and our people but being on a broader mission embracing and reaching those outside of our comfort zone.

We love the nations

- Loving the nations means stepping into God’s global mission and sharing His heart for all people, tribes and languages. HCCC supports long term missionaries and multiple mission organizations. Our long-term goal is to help young people in our church to see missions as a calling, not an option.