

# March 11, 2026

## Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

541-386-2608 [hrcchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hrcchurch@gmail.com)

<https://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.org/> and on [Facebook](#)

**Sunday Worship Time**

10:30am

**Church Administrative Assistant**

Sable Duback

**Minister**

Rev. Alicia Speidel

[aliciaspeidel@gmail.com](mailto:aliciaspeidel@gmail.com)

Office hours 9am-12pm or as needed



## Sunday Worship

**9:30 Adult Lectionary Preview**

**10:30 Worship**

**Link to Worship on March 01- [Facebook](#)**

**Link to Worship on March 08- [Facebook](#)**



Sharon & Gordon Cook

Bev Carpenter

Natasha & Penny

Lee Repp

Bud Harris

Lauree Winfield

Emerson family

Tyler Luna

Williford Family

Hansen Family

Rich Nichols

Sue Merry

\*Prayers for healing and recovery for Sue Merry; Barb Ritoch's sister, as she is currently in the hospital battling kidney and liver infections.

\*Prayers for James Gaffney for healing and recovery as well; as the screw placed in his left hip has broken and he needs major surgery to get 7 replacement screws and a plate put in.

Please email any prayer requests to [hrcchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hrcchurch@gmail.com) or call our office at 541-386-2608.



Steve Galon- 02

Laurie Crosswhite- 05

Nick Kenyon- 08

Jerry Sawyer- 09

Katie Ritoch- 23

Rod Parrott- 26

Sharon Smiley- 28

Sable Duback-31

Katie Smiley- 05

Ed McCarger- 07

Suze Nigl- 08

Kailey Speidel- 19

Lindamay Woosley- 23

Keith Clymer- 27

Kathy Holmson- 28

## A Fresh New Look for Our Entryway!

You may have noticed a warm change to our building's exterior this week! Our front doors have received a fresh coat of paint in a classic brown finish, replacing the previous look with something a bit more timeless and inviting.

This update is part of our ongoing efforts to keep the property looking its best and think the new earthy tone adds a touch of elegance to the facade—we hope you love the new look as much as we do!



### *Lenten theme: Signposts to Easter*

*There is the opportunity to gather at Rod and Mary Anne's home on Tuesday, March 24 @ 7pm to share about signposts in your life. This time is to learn more about each other as we share a piece of our personal stories.*

*There are six openings and rides are available if needed.*

Our annual meeting of Women's Ministries centered on a review of 2025 activities and financial report, budget planning for 2026, and distribution of excess funds. New to the budget for this year are contributions to Week of Compassion and laundry services for the unsheltered and otherwise in need; in addition, it was agreed that the annual Christmas luncheon will be underwritten by Women's Ministries in appreciation of all those who, through their volunteering, make possible the income of Women's Ministries. A copy of the 2026 budget is posted on the bulletin board.



Excess funds (from 2025 income and an old savings account whose purpose no longer exists) were distributed to the Sunshine Club, \$1,500; Helping Hands (abuse shelter), \$500; FISH , \$1,000; Week of Compassion, \$500; a mutual aid fund of Gorge Ecumenical Ministries helping those with immigration status anxiety with transportation, \$500; The Next Door, \$500; and HRVCC projects—painting the thrift shop and a contribution toward a new church sign at Indian Creek Road, \$5,000. One of the contributions is being made in honor of Suze Nigl for her leadership of the thrift shop.

A request: Ladies, please pick up an Interest Finder sheet on the table by the pastor's office door, fill it out and return it there to help plan the year's activities.



We continue to walk this road of thriving and discovering what it means. We are currently learning about the proposed mission statement and values statement. These statements have been available to pick up at the church. There have also been opportunities to ask questions about these statements to the Thriving Team.

This is all in preparation for the community meeting on Sunday, March 22 to approve these statements. Then we will celebrate them and share them widely with the wider community. These are important steps in the life of this church as we continue to answer the question who is God calling us to be in this time and in this place.

## *Sunrise Service*

April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 am

Join us at the Beacon Rock State Park upper picnic area as we celebrate our risen Lord with praise, worship, and scripture.

To join us with your guitars and voices, please call 360-772-0863.

Hosted by Skamania Community Church.



*There will be a meeting on March 22 following worship to discuss the church's proposed new mission statement and values statement.*

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through the Lenten season. We are halfway to Easter Sunday when we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. We are halfway to focusing on the Alleluias, Christ is Risen! We are halfway there. And yet, being halfway means we still have to take many more steps. These steps are not the easiest as we focus on the difficult steps that Jesus took, on the pain he endured, on the betrayal and separation. There is an intense journey up ahead of us.



So we must continue walking. We must take in the ups and downs. We must know there is more to observe and experience. We must demonstrate our faithfulness to move forward. It is an important part of our journey.

Pushing forward is often the case in life, whether we are talking about the Lenten season or another season we are in. It's about moving forward knowing there is community around us. Community to uphold, love, care for and walk with. Rely on your community as you walk the road in front of you. Share with them and see them as partners along the journey. Because even Jesus had partners along the journey.

~Pastor Alicia

*March is a month of transition.* Winter begins to lose its grip, the days stretch a little longer, the ground begins to soften, and what looked lifeless slowly reveals signs of new growth.

March reminds us that growth often begins unseen beneath the surface. But God is always at work.

Let's march forward in faith- planting, watering, and trusting Him for the fruit of tomorrow.



# Church Calendar

## Wednesday March 11

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift Shop open

## Thursday March 12

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Saturday March 14

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift Shop open

## Sunday March 15

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

## Tuesday March 17

10:00am Women's Bible Study

## Wednesday March 18

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift Shop open

## Thursday March 19

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Saturday March 21

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift shop open

## Sunday March 22

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

**Community meeting following Worship!**

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

## Tuesday March 24

10:00am Women's Bible Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Wednesday March 25

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift shop open

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

## Thursday March 26

8:00am Men's bible study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Saturday March 28

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift shop open

## Sunday March 29

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

### Serving Sunday March 15, 2026

**Elder this week** Jerry Sawyer

**Communion prep** Joanie Logan

**Coffee hour** Judy and friends

**Deacon** Sue + Woody

### Scriptures for Sunday March 15, 2026

1 Samuel 16:1-3

Psalms 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

### Serving Sunday March 22, 2026

**Elder this week** Jennifer Stager

**Communion prep** Joanie Logan

**Coffee hour** Carol and friends

**Deacon** Jackson Speidel

### Scriptures for Sunday March 22, 2026

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalms 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

