

# March 25, 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 15- [facebook](#)**

**Link to Worship on March 22- [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 had major surgery to get 7 replacement screws and a plate put in. He is on bedrest/minimal movement for the next 4-6 weeks.

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

## 🌸 Easter Lily Dedications 🌸

We are accepting orders for Lilies to be displayed during our Easter Sunday Service.

These lilies are available for \$25 each and are a wonderful way to celebrate the season while honoring/remembering someone special to you.



### How to Participate

To place your order, please follow these steps:

1. Let us know using the sign-up sheet located on the table directly outside Pastor Alicia's office.
2. Fill out the details: Be sure to clearly print the name of the person you are honoring or remembering.
3. Submit payment: Please either give your payment to Pastor Alicia, or slide it under the office door in an envelope stating what it's for.

**Deadline:** Please ensure all information is submitted by Thursday, April 02, so that we can include all dedications in the Easter bulletin. :)

Thank you for helping us make our Easter celebration truly special!

## 🐣 Help Us Get Ready for Easter!

We are gearing up for our annual Easter Egg Hunt and need your help to make it a success for the kids! There are two ways you can get involved:

### 1. Candy Donations Needed

We are looking for donations of individually wrapped candy that will fit inside a standard plastic egg.

- **Where to Drop Off:** Please place your donations in the box under the table in the Narthex.
- **Deadline:** We are collecting candy from now until Palm Sunday morning.



## 2. The Great Egg Stuffing Event

Many hands make light work! Join us immediately following the service on Palm Sunday to help stuff all the collected candy into our eggs.

**Quick Tip:** We have a ton of eggs to fill, so even 15 minutes of your time makes a huge difference!



This past Sunday, March 22 the proposed mission statement and values statements were approved by a consensus after worship. It is exciting to now share those statements. Soon a new banner will be created to reflect this mission statement as well as sharing these statements with the wider community. And everyone is welcome to memorize them as we share about our faith community and how it is responding to God's call at this time in this place.

### Mission statement:

Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through service, stewardship & generosity

### Values statements:

Welcoming with warmth and respect  
Worshipping God with thanksgiving  
Caring relationships

Community partnerships  
Outreach without borders

# *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.

What does it mean to be a faith community? It means to live out one's faith together as one body, emulating the teachings of Christ, loving as God loves, and listening to the movement of the Holy Spirit. It means coming together when someone is in need, having patience when change is present and extending grace when needed.

We are always called to live in these ways. One way right now is by surrounding James Gaffney and his family as he recovers from major hip surgery. His recovery entails his mom Sable, our church's office administrator and custodian, to be present with him the majority of the time for the next month or so. This means office hours will look very different, newsletters may be delayed or postponed and emails and calls may have a longer response time, in addition to other changes that may arise.

Please be aware of these differences as we offer the support and love we are called to offer to James, Sable and all of their family. If you have an urgent need over the next few weeks, please reach out to me as we navigate this time together.

Also, if you would like to provide a meal or gift certificate for their family, please let me know. We would love to extend the meals schedule to help even more.

~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.



## Pastor's message



AND LET US NOT  
GROW WEARY  
OF DOING GOOD,  
FOR IN DUE SEASON  
WE WILL REAP,  
IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP.

GALATIANS 6:9



## 2026 Easter Special Day Offering

On March 29 and April 5, we invite you to participate in our annual Easter Special Day Offering. This year's theme, "This Day: When

Love Answers," encourages us to reflect on the resurrection promise and how God's love brings hope to our world today.

### What Your Offering Supports

The Easter Offering provides critical funding for the General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your generosity directly impacts:

- **Higher Education:** Supporting our colleges, universities, and seminaries as they shape future leaders.
- **New Church Ministry:** Helping to plant and nurture new faith communities across the United States and Canada.
- **Global Ministries:** Partnering with international organizations to provide relief and spread a message of peace worldwide.
- **Care and Compassion:** Funding ministries that serve the most vulnerable in our society.

### How to Give

You can contribute to this special offering during our services on Palm Sunday (March 29) or Easter Sunday (April 5).

- **In-Person:** Use the special "Easter Offering" envelopes found in your bulletin.
- **Online:** Visit our website and select the "Easter Special Day Offering" from the drop-down menu.



**Maundy Thursday Soup Supper & Tenebrae Service on April 2 @ 6pm in the fellowship hall.**

**Come enjoy a meal together followed by a journey with Jesus as he makes his final steps to Easter Sunday.**

**Please sign up with Pastor Alicia or the church office so we can get a head count.**

## Help Our Easter Cross Bloom!

One of our most beloved traditions is the flowering of the cross on Easter morning. We invite you to be a part of this beautiful transformation as we celebrate the Resurrection on April 5.

We encourage everyone—children and adults alike—to bring fresh-cut flowers from your garden or a local shop to the service.



## Easter Breakfast Hosted by Our Youth!

Before we gather for our festive Easter service, come and enjoy a delicious morning meal prepared and served with love by our youth group!

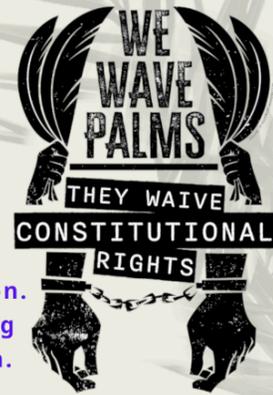
*Feed the hungry. Care for the sick.  
Welcome the stranger. -Matthew 25*

# 29 MARCH PALM SUNDAY PATH

**2 PM PROCESSIONAL**

**From Jackson Park  
to Mercado Guadalajara  
on the Heights in Hood River.**

We will gather for a brief celebration before beginning our procession.  
For those unable to walk the 3/4-mile path, we encourage carpooling  
to the end, where we will join the Sunday Somos Inmigrantes action.



2,000 years ago, Jesus entered into Jerusalem on a donkey - an image reflecting his just, humble leadership and care for those in need. This Palm Sunday, we join faith communities across the US as we gather for a time of communal prayer and public witness recognizing that Christ, not Empire or kings, is the source of peace, justice, harmony, and love.

Spirit of Grace, ELCA/UMC - Bethel Congregational, UCC - Riverside Community, UCC  
Saint Mark's Episcopal - Hood River Valley Christian, Disciples of Christ  
Zion Lutheran, ELCA The Dalles

# Church Calendar

## Wednesday March 25

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

## Thursday March 26

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Saturday March 28

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

## Sunday March 29 Palm Sunday

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

**Easter Egg stuffing following Worship**

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

## Tuesday March 31

10:00am Women's Bible Study

## Wednesday April 01

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

## Thursday April 02

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

**6:00pm Maundy Thursday Soup Supper & Tenebrae Service**

## Saturday April 04

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

## Sunday April 05 Easter Sunday

### Gathering for FISH

**9:30am Easter Breakfast provided by Youth**

10:30am Worship

**Easter egg hunt following Worship**

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

## Tuesday April 07

10:00am Women's Bible Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Wednesday April 08

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

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

## Thursday April 09

8:00am Men's bible study

1:30pm Chimes practice

## Saturday April 11

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

## Sunday April 12 Second Sun. Recycling

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

### Serving Sunday March 29, 2026

<b>Elder this week</b>	Carol Sabins
<b>Communion prep</b>	Joanie Logan
<b>Coffee hour</b>	Betty Osborne
<b>Deacon</b>	Sue and Woody

### Serving Sunday April 05, 2026

<b>Elder this week</b>	Rod Parrott
<b>Communion prep</b>	Judy Hiatt
<b>Coffee hour</b>	Jennifer Stager
<b>Deacon</b>	~Pass trays~

