



# Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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[www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com](http://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com)

and on Face book

## November 26, 2024

### Sunday Worship Time

10:30am Worship

### Minister

Rev. Alicia Speidel 541 601-1949

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

### Church Administrative Assistant

Kathy Holmson office hours 10am-1pm or as needed

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

**Website:** [www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com](http://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com)

**Saturday November 30 – 10:00am Help is needed for decorating the church!**

## Coming up at HRVCC



Saturday Nov 30

10:00am Decorate the church for Advent (helpers needed!)

### Sunday Dec 1

**10:30am First Sunday in Advent**

Thursday Dec 5

5:00pm Women's Christmas Dinner at China Gorge

Saturday Dec 7

7:00pm Community Choir Christmas Concert here

### Sunday Dec 8

**10:30am Second Sunday in Advent**

Congregational meeting to vote on 2025 Officers & Budget

Friday Dec 13

7:00pm CGOA Concert here

### Sunday Dec 15

**10:30am Third Sunday in Advent**

HRVCC Youth/Children's Christmas play  
followed by "Christmas Treats" coffee hour

Saturday Dec 21

6:00pm Longest Night

Service of remembrance at Down Manor

### Sunday Dec 22

**10:30am Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Tuesday Dec 24

7:00pm Christmas Eve service for all ages

## Sunday Worship

**9:30am Adult Sunday School**

**10:30am Worship**

### LINKS:

Sunday Worship Nov 24 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/1956567564824782>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider  
Stacey Jubitz  
Glenn Grannemann

Sharon & Gordon Cook  
Doris Lewis

Vicki White  
Tedra Turner

Martha Hathaway  
Alicia Speidel

Leslie Hidle shares that her sister Susan Collins Stebner passed away November 14, 2024. Susan was born December 13, 1949 and was baptized in 1962 at Hood River Christian Church (the town church). Please keep Leslie and the rest of Susan's family including daughter Sara Stebner Stelter, sister Carol Collins Pajala, Susan's grandchildren, and the many extended family members and friends who loved her in your prayers.

### **Pastor Alicia's CaringBridge link:**

[https://www.caringbridge.org/site/8ab75554-48b5-11ef-8f3d-f317ddd1b8ef?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=web&utm\\_content=copylink\\_leftmenu\\_php](https://www.caringbridge.org/site/8ab75554-48b5-11ef-8f3d-f317ddd1b8ef?utm_source=share&utm_medium=web&utm_content=copylink_leftmenu_php)

**Another Thank You** to **Debbie Medina** for the donation of a bountiful wine basket that was given away in a raffle at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner. Mary Kummer's daughter was the lucky winner!

**The Secret Place** a daily devotional for December, January, February is available in the narthex. Suggested donation, \$2.

**Retirement Coming** After 26 years of faithfully serving as the church's business administrator, Kathy Holmson is ready to retire. Her dedication and commitment has been amazing and will be recognized in the near future.

We are in the search process for someone to fill this role. If you know someone who might be interested in applying, please reach out to Pastor Alicia. It is a part time position of approximately 20 hours per week. Qualifications include experience with computer use, accounting, Windows, PowerPoint and Quickbooks. Thank you!



### **Collecting for FISH Food Bank on December 1**

Bring non-perishable food, basic toiletries, pet food; and cash or checks to support FISH Food Bank help people who are food insecure in our community.

### **November Donation Theme for FISH Food Bank**



Donations for FISH may be dropped off in the lobby at church any time.

*Watch for the December Donation Theme for FISH Food Bank in a future newsletter.*

**NOVEMBER DONATION THEME**

**BAKER'S BASKET**

Baking mix-all types  
Brown sugar  
Sugar  
Salt  
Vanilla extract  
Nuts-all varieties  
Cinnamon/nutmeg/allspice...  
Honey  
Cocoa powder  
Chocolate chips  
Shredded coconut  
Condensed milk

 **FISH Food Bank**

**2025 Slate of  
Church Officers, Elders, Deacons, Trustees**  
**To be voted at Congregational Meeting on December 8, 2024**

<b>Terms are for 2 years</b>	<b>Term ends 2025</b>
Chair of the Board	Woody Eskildsen
Vice Chair	Jennifer Stager
Secretary	Suze Nigl
Treasurer	Carla Bailey

**ELDERS**

<b>Terms are for 2 years</b>	<b>Term ends 2025</b>	<b>Term ends 2026</b>
	Jennifer Stager	Gerald Sawyer
	Chrystal Akin	Thelma Warnock
	Carol Sabins	Rod Parrott
		Suze Nigl

**Elder Emeritus**

Dot Swyers    Judy Hiatt    Fred Duckwall

**DIACONATE SERVERS**

<b>Terms are for 2 years</b>	<b>Term ends 2025</b>	<b>Term ends 2026</b>
	Jan Behrmann	Betty Osborne
	Otto Behrmann	Scott Crosswhite
	Chance Cheuvront	Laurie Crosswhite
	Sable Duback	Wes Bailey
	Jennifer Stager	
	Woody Eskildsen	
	Sue Eskildsen	

**COMMUNION PREPARERS**

<b>Terms are for 2 years</b>	<b>Term ends 2025</b>	<b>Term ends 2026</b>
	Barb Ritoch	Judy Hiatt
	Leslie Hidle	
	Joanie Logan	
	Margaret Strasser	

**TRUSTEES**

<b>Terms are for 3 years</b>	<b>Term ends 2025</b>	<b>Term 2026</b>	<b>Term ends 2027</b>
	Woody Eskildsen	Wes Bailey	Betty Osborne
			Chrystal Akin
			Judy Hiatt

**HRVCC 2025 BUDGET**

<b><u>Projected Income</u></b>	<b><u>2024 Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2025 Budget</u></b>
	209,800	217,800
<b><u>Expense</u></b>		
Administration	10,000	10,950
Christian Education	400	400
Membership	650	1,400
Personnel	147,489.18	153,925
Property & Grounds	21,507.20	21,250
Worship	2,550	1,600
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>182,596.38</u></b>	<b><u>189,525</u></b>
Projected Outreach 10% of Giving	20,980	19,420
Net Profit		8,855

***A detailed copy of the proposed 2025 budget is available.***





## Celebrating 60 Years of Faith and Friendship!

More photos from the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hood River Valley Christian Church on November 17<sup>th</sup>.







## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Stories

***Sharing more of the wonderful stories and memories we received from some of our current and former HRVCC members.***

### **Cindy Winfield**

We moved to Hood River in 1963 when I was 5 years old. Every Spring I am very thankful for the blooming fruit trees when we arrived. It was so beautiful my parents decided this was where my dad would take the job offer. His boss invited our family to attend the Valley Church on Barrett Rd. I can remember crawling under the pews while they had the meeting about the upcoming merger between the two churches.

I grew up in the new Hood River Valley Christian Church. Sunday School, being baptized, Youth group activities (favorite going to the Shakespearean Festival), great potlucks where we have the best cooks, and getting married here. The Church has always been friendly, welcoming and family to me.

### **Leslie Melby**

These are my memories at Valley Christian Church and then at Hood River Valley Christian Church. I was very young when I started going to church with my family. Our whole family, mom, dad, my brothers and I attended. My brothers and I were all baptized in the church. My brothers and my dad sang in the choir. I had many friends and remember many weddings at the church. One of my best friends was Robin Steager. We used to sit together during church. One of our ministers was Dowell Callas. His daughter was very nice. Then Leo Horner who had 4 children. Jill was in my class.

I was really busy with school so I didn't get to church very often. When I graduated in 1964, I went off to college in LaGrande and didn't make it home very much.

My grandmother was also a member of the Valley Christian Church for a long time. She passed away in December of 1965. She was a good friend of Erma Ellis who wrote all the minutes leading up to the joining of both churches.

On November 25th, 1966, my first husband Jan Anderson and I were married by Rev. Glen Adsit. It was the first large wedding in the new church. Glen didn't think there would be many guests coming since it was on Thanksgiving weekend and raining hard. He was amazed that the church was overflowing. We were still in college and moved back to Hood River after Jan graduated. He was a teacher at Mid Valley and a coach at the high school. We had two children, Danelle in 1969 and Michael in 1971. Jan was killed in a car accident in June of 1979.

A few years after Jan passed away, Reed Melby and I were married by Rev. Jack Naff in the church in 1982. Both of my children were married in the church. Danelle in 1990 and Michael in 1993. They were baptized in the church.

After we retired we got more involved with the church. Working in the thrift shop, holding several offices in the women's ministry. Reed was a Deacon and an Elder. I was also on the committee to choose the next minister. We chose Alicia and she has been with us since.

We are snowbirds now, living here in the summer and going to Yuma, Arizona for the winter.

# Church Calendar

## Wednesday November 27

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet  
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open  
7:00pm Wednesday prayers for our church

## Thursday Friday November 28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday Church office closed

## Saturday November 30 **Helpers Needed!**

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop  
10:00am Decorating Church for Advent

## **Sunday December 1 First Sunday in Advent**

9:30am Adult Sunday School  
10:30am Worship  
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship

## Tuesday December 3

10:00am Women's Bible Study  
4:00pm TOPS group

## Wednesday December 4

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet  
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open  
7:00pm Wednesday prayers for our church

## Thursday December 5

7:00am Men's Study Vista Room  
1:30pm Chime Choir practice  
5:00pm Women's dinner at China Gorge

## Saturday December 7

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open  
7:00pm Christmas Concert,  
Mid Columbia Community Choir

## **Sunday December 8 Second Sunday in Advent**

### **Congregational Meeting, voting on 2025 Church officers and Budget**

9:30am Adult Sunday School  
10:30am Worship  
11:30am Congregational meeting  
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship

## Tuesday December 10

10:00am Women's Bible Study  
4:00pm TOPS group

## Wednesday December 11

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet  
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

## **Scriptures for Sunday Dec 1, 2024**

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

## **SERVING Sunday December 1, 2024**

**Elder this Week** Chrystal Akin  
**Communion prep** Leslie Hidle  
**Coffee Hour** Jennifer and friends  
**Deacons** **Servers**

*Thank you to our deacons for serving  
communion as needed each week*

## **Scriptures for Sunday December 8, 2024**

Malachi 3:1-4  
Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

## **SERVING Sunday December 8, 2024**

**Elder this Week** Jerry Sawyer  
**Communion prep** Leslie Hidle  
**Coffee Hour** Barbara Ritoch & friends  
**Deacons** **Servers**

*Thank you to our deacons for serving  
communion as needed each week*