



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com

and on Face book

December 20, 2023

Sunday Worship Time

10:30am Worship

Minister

Rev. Alicia Speidel 541 601-1949

aliciaspeidel@gmail.com

Church Administrative Assistant

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

hrcchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com



Sunday Worship, December 24 - Savor Love

10:30am Worship Savor Love

Special music: Margaret Marshall and Mary Anne Parrott, piano duet



Christmas Eve, December 24 – Savor the Story

7:00 p.m. Family Service

Sunday Worship December 31 - Carol Sing Sunday

10:30am Worship

Christmas Eve Offering 7:00pm Service

The 7:00pm Christmas Eve Offering is received for Hood River Emergency Voucher Program which provides vouchers for food, fuel, and lodging to travelers who may find themselves stranded in our community.

The program also provides assistance with utilities or rent for community members who are in need.

The Emergency Voucher Program operates through Gorge Ecumenical Ministries.

LINK:

Sunday Worship Dec 17 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/736225904612579>



WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATIONS

A reminder: Church meetings or Thriftshop days may be cancelled if winter weather causes hazardous driving conditions. In general, if local schools have cancellations, church activities may also cancel. Cancellations may also be shared on KIHR Gorge Radio, if possible. Call your group leader before you venture out.



Advent Schedule

Hood River Valley Christian Church 2023 Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

10:30am Sunday, December 24 - Savor Love
Special music: Margaret Marshall and Mary Anne Parrott

7:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service – Savor the Story

10:30am Sunday, December 31 - Carol Sing Sunday

10:30am Sunday, January 7 - Epiphany
Reader's theater presentation of
"The Other Wise Man"

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider Gaffney	Sharon & Gordon Cook	Lauree Winfield	Vicki White
Katy White	Stacey Jubitz	Bonnie McCollister	David Nash
Fred Duckwall	Linda Thomas	Suze Nigl's niece Trisha	John Nigl
Frances Henne	Glenna McCargar	Barbara Frazier's friend Julie	

Peace for our world.

Results of Congregational Meeting vote on 2024 Slate of Officers and 2024 Budget

25 yes, 0 no. The 2024 Slate of Officers and 2024 Budget pass. Thanks to all who voted.



The Pastor's COLUMN

As Christmas quickly approaches with the festivities, the decorations, the to do lists and visits with family and friends, it is important to remember that the holiday season is not easy for everyone. In fact, for many it is a difficult time of year filled with varying emotions. Emotions such as sadness, anger, depression and hurt are present. There are also feelings of grief and loss. Maybe we are experiencing this or maybe someone close to us is. What's important during this time is to recognize the differences that are there. To recognize them within ourselves and in others.

In addition, we also need to offer space for those emotions and experiences to be present. We have to acknowledge them and offer the support that is needed to ourselves and to others. We are to come together and hold one another this time of year, no matter what rises to the surface or sometimes is just under the surface. It is about living out the hope, peace, joy and love in ways where all are given the opportunity to just be. May we do this as we keep journeying to greet the Christ child with every piece of ourselves.

Alicia

Christmas Cards



Hood River Valley Christian Church 2023 Christmas Greetings from the Congregation

Merry, Merry Christmas. Have a blessed holiday season.

Barbara Ritoch

Wishing you Hope, Peace, Joy and Love during this Christmas Season and throughout the year. Otto and Jan Behrmann

Christmas blessings to all and bright possibilities in the new year.

The Holmsons

*Peace begins with us despite the world's situation. Peace and joy for
Christmas is my wish for you.*

Thelma Warnock

Many blessings to all for a wonderful holiday season.

Bob and Mary Kummer



Peace to all and blessings. Dot Swyers

We savor our friends, as the season.

Happy Jesus's birthday!

Rod & Mary Anne Parrott

Wishing for a wonderful Christmas for all! Joanie Logan

May the Joy of Christmas be with each of you throughout the year.

Judy Hiatt

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas – Joan Lage

Many blessings to our church family during this special time of year.

Love Geoff, Alicia, Kailey & Jackson





POINSETTIAS GIVEN

People have purchased poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. Poinsettias are used for decorating the sanctuary until Christmas Eve and may be taken home after the service.

Name

- Dianne Hayes** in memory of **Larry Hayes, Darrell and Lucille Troxel, George and Anna Hayes, and Brian Hammel**
- Margaret Marshall** in memory of **Ned Marshall**
- Judy Hiatt** in memory of **Chuck Hiatt, Lee & Minnie Hiatt and Gladney & Berenice Hamilton**
- Jim and Jennifer Stager** in memory of **Ted & Gladys Arthur, Bob & Leona and Marilyn Stager**
- Dot Swyers** in memory of **Delmer Swyers and Michael Smith**
- Rod & Mary Anne Parrott** in memory of **Ralph & Evelyn Helseth, Floyd & Doris Parrott**
in memory of **Nancy Krieg, Beverly Thomas, Doris Jensen**
- Joanie Logan** in memory of **Lingren and Meyers family**
- Bill & Virginia Sheppard** in memory of **Margie Routson & Jerry McNerney**
- Bob & Mary Kummer** in memory of **Bill & Celeste Carmichael, Henry & Pauline Kummer, Bill & Diann Kummer**
- Marlene & Keith Clymer** in memory of **Juanita Clymer & Delores Roberts**

Second Sunday Recycling



During the holidays there probably will be extra opportunities to save up for Second Sunday Recycling, January 15. Think presents wrapped in bubble wrap or shipped in styrofoam. Disposable plastic cups are usually marked #6. If a string of Christmas lights goes kaput, bring those too (in January). You get the idea. Check your Second Sunday Recycling schedule for what to bring in January and to hold until February. Thank you, HRVCCers, we have a reputation now with the Gorge Sustainable Project as an excellent partner.

Mary Anne

Church Calendar

Wednesday December 20

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

Thursday December 21

7:00am Men's Bible Study
6:00pm Longest Night Service
@ Down Manor

Saturday December 23

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

Sunday December 24

Fourth Sunday in Advent SAVOR LOVE

9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship
7:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service

Tuesday December 26

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

Wednesday December 27

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet
Thriftshop closed

Thursday December 28

7:00am Men's Bible Study

Saturday December 30

Thriftshop closed

Sunday December 31 Carols Sunday

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

Scriptures for Sunday December 24, 2023

Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

SERVING Sunday December 24, 2023

Elder this Week	Wes Bailey
Communion prep	Kathy Holmson
Coffee Hour	Carol & friends
Deacons	Serving Team #1 Woody & Sue Eskildsen

Scriptures for Sunday December 31, 2023

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

SERVING Sunday December 31, 2023

Elder this Week	Suze Nigl
Communion prep	Barbara Ritoch
Coffee Hour	Betty & friends
Deacons	Serving Team #2 Jennifer Stager, Kailey Speidel, Rylee Akin

Staff Vacations

**The church staff will be taking time off December 25-January 1, 2024.
The church office will be closed.
No newsletter December 27.**