

February 11, 2026



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

541-386-2608 hrvcchurch@gmail.com

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

Sunday Worship Time

10:30am

Minister

Rev. Alicia Speidel

aliciaspeidel@gmail.com

Church Administrative Assistant

Sable Duback

Office hours 9am-12pm or as needed

Sunday Worship

9:30 Adult Lectionary Preview

10:30 Worship

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



Sharon & Gordon Cook

Carol Sabins

Lee Repp

Vestena Emerson

Vicki White

Ken Hansen

Hopkins Family

Bev Carpenter

James Gaffney

Bud Harris

Tyler Luna

Williford Family

Rich Nichols

Natasha & Penny

Lauree Winfield

Gladys Sawyer

*Please hold Lauree and Bill Winfield in your thoughts and prayers as Lauree had a stroke recently. Prayers for rest and healing as they settle into Hawks Ridge.

*Prayers for Natasha Decker and her baby Penny who was recently born at 2 lbs 12 oz. Prayers for quick healing and recovery as they navigate this hospital stay.

*Prayers for healing for Gladys Sawyer as she had surgery to repair her shoulder earlier this week.

Please email any prayer requests to hrvcchurch@gmail.com or call our office at 541-386-2608.



Frances Henne- 05

Jan Behrmann- 06

Jessykah Lopez- 06

Mary Finley- 10

Eli Phelps- 13

Bob Tallman- 23

Lauree Winfield- 26

Mary Kummer- 27

Thank you to the many hands that made hosting the regional board this past Friday and Saturday possible. Your willingness to make food, set up, clean up and welcome the board members was greatly appreciated. As Troy Sybrant, the regional board moderator, said, "Thank you for your hospitality." Yes indeed. Thank you for being you. Thank you for creating a welcoming space and warmly engaging with the board. You light was definitely shining.

Pastor's message



~Pastor Alicia

Thanks to a generous donation and women's ministries, the church has new front doors that are ADA accessible. So with a push of a button they will open. Now this is only after that feature has first been engaged inside by someone. This means if the doors have not been engaged and the button is pushed, they will not automatically open. Please be mindful of this, making sure it has been engaged before pushing the button.

In addition, the interior doors are also new. These changes were needed and are wonderful. Come check them out and see how they will aid us as we continue in our ministry.



Anthony. Discussion will be Wednesday, March 4, at 2:00 at the Parrott home.

See Rod if you are interested in a copy of the book.



The church's book study group is reading the fascinating *The Elephant Whisperer* by Lawrence Anthony

THE ELEPHANT WHISPERER

My Life with the Herd in the African Wild



LAWRENCE ANTHONY
WITH GRAHAM SPENCE

Volunteer Help needed

Snack section help- for Friday distribution. You can come in and stock the section Thursday anytime or Friday before 2:00. This position will include training and needs to be a detail orientated person.



Rosauers pick up M, W, F.- May include heavy lifting, and will need a person with a covered truck, van, or larger vehicle. My Goal is to have several committed people that are willing to work and communicate together if they need to be gone. Help pick up each others shifts so to speak.

Warehouse extra help - Tuesday and Thursday afternoon to take in donations/date check/restock into warehouse, etc

Shopper backups all shifts. Desk backups all shifts

1-2 At Large people per distribution - to work during distribution, restocking the store, helping with carts, bags, veg, fruit, cooler, warehouse etc. M 2:45-5:is, W 8:45-10

Freezer help during distribution Monday 2:45-5:00 ish, W 8:45-10:00 ish,

*** if you are interested or know of anyone who might be wanting to help send them my way.***

Cascade Locks - need extra set up and distribution volunteers. The 4th Tuesday and Wednesday of each month.

Church and Rotary Groups to help with distributions

February

9,11,13 HR Alliance

16,18,20 St Mark's

23,25,27 Rotary

**** All volunteer shoppers Please arrive **before 2:45**. We need to conduct an informational walk through the store before every distribution time.**

**** Please adjust your times to possibly being at FISH until the last client has gone through the store. If for some reason you have to leave at 5 please let me know. We have been very busy with afternoon distributions lately and have had to stay later than normal. Thank you for your help with this.**

**** Also if you stock the store please see me when you arrive or before you leave. There are some changes to stocking the store that need to be gone through with every stocking person. Thank you!**

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Food is a human right, and everyone deserves to have nutritious, culturally desirable food. We affirm the worth and dignity of all people and serve our communities with respect and strive to move closer toward food security.

--

Sarah Benson, Volunteer Coordinator

FISH Food Bank

Pantry: 1130 Tucker Road, Hood River, OR 97031

Mail: 1767 12th Street, #147, Hood River, OR 97031

Phone: 541.386.3474

Cell: 541.806.1636



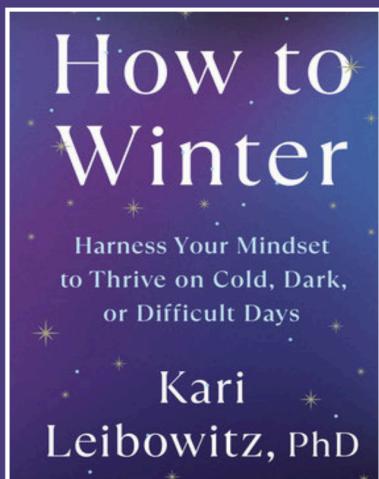
Lenten theme: Signs to Easter

Lent is a significant 40-day season of spiritual preparation, prayer, fasting, and repentance leading up to Easter, focusing on Jesus's sacrifice and resurrection by commemorating His 40 days of trial in the wilderness. It starts on Ash Wednesday, marked by ashes symbolizing mortality, and traditionally involves the three pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (charity) to foster self-discipline and draw closer to God, ending before Easter Sunday.

Join us at 6:15 pm at Down Manor for our Ash Wednesday Service.

**HOOD RIVER COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT &
GORGE HAPPINESS PRESENT:**

Book Club & Community Circle



**Every 1st and 3rd
Tuesday
from 11:30-1:00 PM**

**December 2
December 16
January 6
January 20
February 3
February 17**

Attend when you can!

CONNECTION + MEDITATION + DISCUSSION

WITH EMILY MARTIN



HOOD RIVER LIBRARY READING ROOM

502 State Street
541-386-2535
www.hoodriverlibrary.org



WWW.GORGEHAPPINESS.ORG

Please purchase ahead of time or get a copy of the book from the library to read along with the group (library copies will be available to borrow during our first meeting on Dec 2).

No need to read anything from the book before our first meeting. We will read and discuss a few chapters every 2 weeks.

Each circle includes:

**~ Time for connection and reflection
~ Mindfulness Meditation
~ Time for book chapter discussion
Come as you are--even if you haven't read the chapter! We want to sit in community circle with you. Attend when you can.**

Questions? Contact Emily Martin

503-358-1949



February 15 and collated for the business meeting.

A week before that will be a Valentine Visitation on Friday February 13. The emphasis on visitation will have three parts—join one, two, or all three!

10:30 - greeting card making with Laurie Crosswhite

12:00 - lunch

1:00 - visiting shut-ins and others in groups of 2 or 3

You will also have the opportunity to help with the day by providing food for lunch or clean up, calling shut-ins ahead to schedule a visit, or driving for the afternoon calling. Sign up on the sheet on the table in the Narthex.

If you have questions, see Mary Anne.

Pop up board meeting, Sunday, February 15 immediately following worship for a mission statement and values statements recommendation from the Thriving Team.



Weather-Related Cancellations

A reminder: Church meetings or Thriftshop days may be cancelled if the weather causes hazardous driving conditions. If local schools have cancellations, church activities are likely cancelled as well. Call your group leader before you venture out.

We need volunteers to help drive the bus to pick up our friends at Down Manor and bring them to church for Sunday worship.



If you can help, or need a ride, please use the sign up sheet on the table outside Pastor Alicia's office to let us know :)



We need official greeters to welcome people as they arrive for worship on Sunday mornings.

The responsibility of a greeter would be to stand near the front doors beginning at 10:15am with bulletins in hand to warmly greet those who enter. If you are interested in doing this, please use the sign up sheet outside Pastor Alicia's office.

Thank you!



Join us on February 13, 2026 for Dutch Bros giveback day!

On February 13, stop by Dutch Bros in Hood River OR The Dalles to grab your favorite drink! The Dutch Bros Foundation will donate \$1 from every drink to support the work done at the Hood River Valley Adult Center! Please spread the word and invite your friends and family to sip for a cause.

Join us for a Financial Literacy workshop, geared to older adults. We'll focus on different types of financial exploitation, tips for recognizing scams, and strategies for avoiding identity theft.

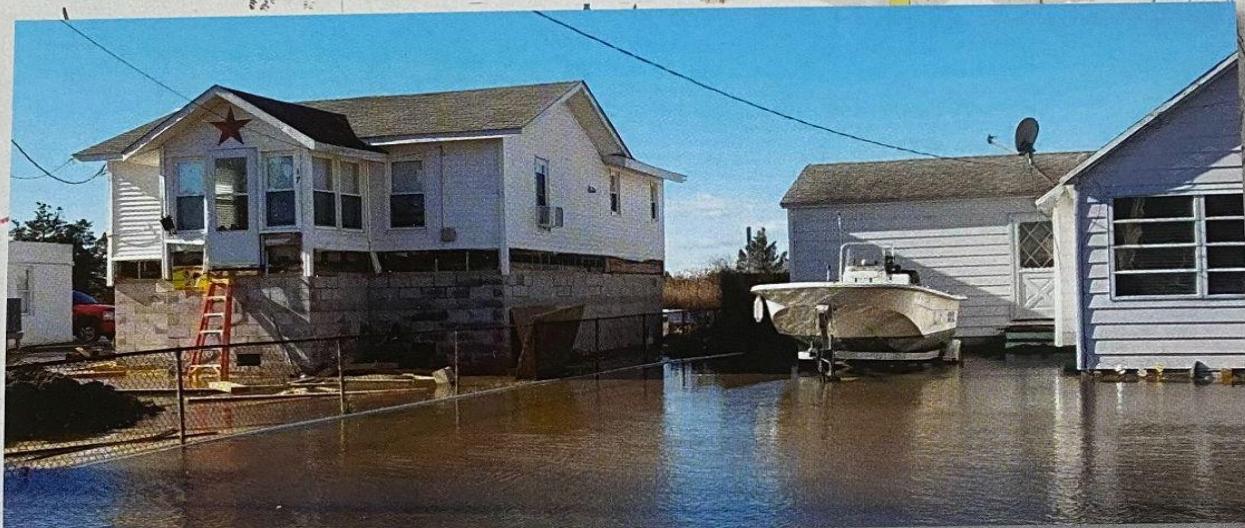
WHEN: Thursday February 12 @ 10:00am

WHERE: Hood River Valley Adult Center

COST: Free & Open to the public



A NEW WAY ELEVATING HOMES & HOPE



On October 29, 2021, Somerset and Dorchester counties experienced Maryland's worst tidal flooding in 50 years — in many places, water levels were at or higher than Hurricane Sandy (2012). This kind of massive flooding creates immediate and long-term health threats to flood survivors and to their homes. The influx of bay water carried contaminants and wreaked havoc on plumbing and electrical systems, and left homes susceptible to the growth of mold and mildew.

The 2021 storm was unnamed and undeclared by federal agencies, and received minimal media coverage. Few people knew the storm even happened, let alone where to find the resources and networks needed to help survivors move toward recovery. But the Eastern Shore Long-Term Recovery Committee was there. Having formed after Hurricane

Sandy, the ESLTRC was able to stand back up quickly when needed in 2021.

Following Phase One (rebuilding 10 destroyed homes) the ESLTRC imagined new ways to respond to survivor families seeking help. In spring 2024, Week of Compassion entered into a new partnership with the Eastern Shore Long-Term Recovery Committee. This partnership agreement provides salary support for the ESLTRC Disaster Recovery Coordinator as they move into Phase Two operations: a tidal flood recovery and mitigation project, aiming to use volunteer labor to elevate 100 homes that flooded in 2021 and are at risk of repeat flooding in Somerset

Story originally shared March 2025. Additional details and photos follow a recent Week of Compassion partner visit. See the 2026 Special Offering theme video "A NEW WAY" for more! WeekOfCompassion.org/2026

and Dorchester Counties. The intention is to make homes healthy and safe, to “reduce the risk of repetitive damage, provide better stewardship of funding entrusted to us, and improve the quality of life for surviving families.”

Two of the poorest counties in the state of Maryland, Dorchester and Somerset residents live primarily in HUD-owned public housing; almost half the population of Crisfield MD (Somerset Co) lives in supported housing units. In response to this need, the ESLTRC stepped into Phase Three of their work – partnering with the city of Crisfield to build new affordable homes on previously abandoned lots and making homes affordable and available to new homeowners. Crisfield Mayor, Darlene Taylor, celebrates the way relationships nurtured over the last decade have made possible the development of this multi-phased approach. She emphasizes “those are things that only come from long-term partnerships.”

With the increased intensity and frequency of storms, the strategy – to not repair homes without also elevating them – has gained not only notoriety, but also support from the community to make lasting changes. The people of the Eastern Shore value the long-term recovery effort and the significant mitigation component.

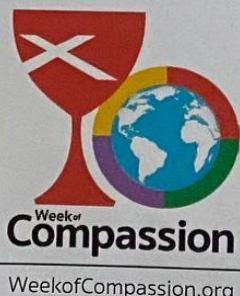
This intersection of socioeconomic status and climate vulnerability is



where the resources and creativity of Week of Compassion, our partners, and community-driven response meet. Coming alongside climate-vulnerable communities like the Eastern Shore is a significant shared priority among ecumenical partners and local leaders.

Mayor Taylor notes, “When the ESLTRC came in, from the beginning, they built relationships of trust in our community... The vulnerable in our community are often overlooked, but one of the things the ESLTRC was so good at was making sure those who were most in need... were the ones who actually received services. What we have now is a whole new paradigm, a new trust model.”

This is where Week of Compassion is eager to engage – relying on ecumenical connection and innovative local leadership to find **A NEW WAY** makes the program successful, and most importantly, provides tangible hope and new possibility for survivors right in their own communities.



WeekofCompassion.org

SPECIAL OFFERING 2026 FEBRUARY 15 - 22

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

Church Calendar

Wednesday February 11

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

Thursday February 12

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

Sable out of office February 13 & 16

Saturday February 14

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

Sunday February 15

Special Offering February 15-26

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

Pop-up Board meeting following Worship!

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

Tuesday February 17

10:00am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday February 18

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

6:15pm Ash Wednesday Service at Down Manor

Thursday February 19

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

Saturday February 21

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

Sunday February 22

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

Tuesday February 24

10:00am Women's Bible Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

Wednesday February 25

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

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

Thursday February 26

8:00am Men's bible study

1:30pm Chimes practice

Saturday February 28

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

Sunday March 01 Gathering for FISH

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

Serving Sunday February 15, 2026

Elder this week

Carol Sabins

Communion prep

Barb Ritoch

Coffee hour

Judy and friends

Deacon

Jackson

Scriptures for Sunday February 15, 2026

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 2 or 99

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

Serving Sunday February 22, 2026

Elder this week

Rod Parrott

Communion prep

Maggie Strasser

Coffee hour

Carol and friends

Deacon

Sue and Woody

Scriptures for Sunday February 22, 2026

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

