



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com

and on Face book

April 24, 2024

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



SIMPLICITY SALE Saturday April 27 9:00am-3:00pm

Furniture*Art*Books*Kitchenware

*Sports Equip*Toys*Linens*

Craft Supplies* & MORE!

Funds from this annual sale support Church Summer Camp program
for HRVCC youth.

Drop off donations in Fellowship Hall by Friday April 26.

Sunday April 28

9:30am Adult Sunday School in Vista Room

10:30am Worship

11:30am Coffee and visiting

Special Music
Chimes

LINKS:

Sunday Worship April 21 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/801392024758440>

About Church Giving

Online Giving To donate online to Hood River Valley Christian Church, go to
<http://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com/donate/> and make a donation

Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement App

on your Smartphone or tablet. A onetime gift can be made or you can set up online giving on a regular basis. **USPS Mail** You can also give to Hood River Valley Christian Church by mailing a check to: HRVCC 975 Indian Creek Road, Hood River, OR 97031

In the Sanctuary For offerings and tithes, there is a deposit box at the entrance of the sanctuary, inside the double doors. Offerings may be dropped off at any time. Thanks to Geoff Speidel for installing the locking deposit box last month.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider Gaffney
Katy White
Suze Nigl's niece Trisha
Tedra Turner

Sharon & Gordon Cook
Bonnie McCollister
Barbara Frasier's friend Julie
Bernie & Emily Krager

Lauree Winfield
Stacey Jubitz
The Wirt Family

Vicki White
David Nash
Doris Lewis

Pray for peace where there is war.

Our thanks to Bruce Holmson who has been cleaning up the church grounds and busy making repairs to the church irrigation system--figuring out the irrigation schedule for our property and those of our neighbors who are also on the schedule (it's harder than you'd think!)

Thank you, Bruce!



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*

Praying for how the Spirit is leading is hard to do. Praying and then waiting for the Spirit's guidance isn't always our cup of tea. Praying and taking the time to listen for direction is challenging. It requires patience. It entails perseverance. It means sitting in the in-between, unknown space, where answers aren't falling from the sky and to-do lists aren't being created. There isn't brainstorming or visioning occurring. There aren't tasks being given. It's all about praying.

So, how are you doing with praying for this faith community? How has it been? Have you stuck with the commitment to pray as the invitation was given three weeks ago? Are you holding space for the members of this faith community, for the activities in the building, for the ministry that is happening? And are you holding space for what may emerge next, for the new possibilities, for the ways our ministry may be expanded and deepened? Are you simply praying?

I encourage you to keep at it because prayer is the first step. We have to open ourselves to the Spirit's leading and see what arises. We have to live a life in response to the Spirit. We have to give it our everything. So, keep praying. Keep lifting up this faith community. Keep seeing the movement that is happening. Keep remaining dedicated to the Spirit. And keep praying throughout the week, especially on Wednesdays at 7pm. We are to be in a state of prayer as one body for this church body.

Alicia

Each Wednesday at 7:00pm we are asked to pray for our church.



Ways to engage in prayer for this faith community:

- *Go through the church directory, praying for every individual listed there.
- *Pray for the various small groups: women's Bible study, men's Bible study, youth group, children's worship and wonder, chimes, quilters, church board, program council, women's ministries and others.
- *Pray for the outreach this church is engaged in.
- *Pray for the staff.
- *Pray for the individuals and groups who enter the church building and grounds.
- *Visually move through each area of the church, stopping to pray for the ministry that occurs in that area and the people who pass through it.
- *Pray with a scripture passage or a particular reading or a song or an image.
- *Pray for possibility and the Spirit moving in ways already known and in ways yet to be discovered.
- *Select a scripture passage (maybe Jeremiah 17:7-8) to use lectio divina with the following steps:
 1. Sit quietly and center yourself
 2. For the first reading, simply read the passage.
 3. For the second reading, read the passage more slowly and listen for the word, phrase or image that stands out.
 4. For the third reading, attend to what is going on inside of you when you hear the word, phrase or image that stood out for you.
 5. For the fourth and final reading, contemplate the way God is present to you and how God may be leading you in response to what you were paying attention to.
 6. Give thanks to God for this time of prayer.



May 5 Collecting for FISH Food Bank

FISH, our local emergency food bank, needs our donations—non perishable food, hygiene supplies, pet food, and monetary donations (through the Oregon Food Bank, food can be purchased for our food bank at discounted bulk prices and monetary donations go further.)

Our church collects for FISH the first Sunday of each month. Thank you to the children of the church who collect our offerings during worship—or items may be dropped off in the shopping cart in the lobby at any time.

Currently, FISH needs the following items:

Cooking oil (olive or vegetable)	Brown Rice	Ready to eat meals		
Coffee	Jelly or jam	Sugar	Salt	Condiments
Oatmeal (low sugar)	Cereal	Granola Bars		
Canned Fruit	Canned Peppers	Soup/Stew/Chili		
Gluten free items				

Clients at FISH also appreciate any personal care items (soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.) Also pet food. *Thank you.*

Helping Our Community



How our church supports programs and agencies in our local community.

A portion of what we give through our church offerings is distributed to the following in our local Hood River community:

Adult Assistance

\$1000	The Next Door, Inc. programs for parents and families
\$1000	Helping Hands Against Domestic Violence

Children Assistance

\$500	Children's Advocacy Center
\$500	The Next Door, Inc. programs for foster children
\$500	Books for Kids Columbia Gorge, HR

Elderly Assistance

\$1000	Meals on Wheels
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Disabled and Challenged

\$500	ARC of the Mid Columbia
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Food and Shelter

\$1000	MCCAC Shelter Program
\$200	Gorge Ecumenical Ministries (supporting membership)
\$1000	Hood River County Christmas Project

Emergency Assistance

\$1000	HRVCC Help A Neighbor Fund
\$1000	Hood River Emergency Vouchers

Checks are distributed twice a year (50% of the above amounts each check).



In addition, we support FISH Food Bank by collecting cash and checks, non-perishable food, and other items each month. In 2023, Hood River Valley Christian Church members gave over \$3,600 and hundreds of pounds of food to FISH Food Bank.

Church Calendar

Monday-Friday April 22-26
Set up Simplicity Sale

Wednesday April 24

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

Thursday April 25

7:00am Men's Bible Study
1:30pm Chime Choir practice
5:00pm Piano teacher rehearsal

Friday April 26

7:00pm VOCI Concert here

Saturday April 27

Thriftshop closed
9:00am-3:00pm Simplicity Sale

Sunday April 28

9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship
11:30am Elders meet
2:00pm VOCI Concert here
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship

Tuesday April 30

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

Wednesday May 1

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

Thursday May 2

7:00am Men's Bible Study
1:30pm Chime Choir practice

Saturday May 4

9:00am-3:00pm Thriftshop open

Sunday May 5 FISH Food Bank Sunday

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

Tuesday May 7

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

Wednesday May 8

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

Scriptures for Sunday April 28, 2024

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

SERVING Sunday April 28, 2024

Elder this Week Suze Nigl
Communion prep Leslie Hidle
Coffee Hour Carol & friends
Deacons **Servers**

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

Scriptures for Sunday May 5, 2024

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 Joah 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

SERVING Sunday May 5, 2024

Elder this Week Chrystal Akin
Communion prep Kailey Speidel
Coffee Hour Jennifer & Friends
Deacons **Servers**

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

VOCI Concert "Our Shared Humanity"

Friday, April 26 7:00pm

Sunday, April 28 2:00pm

at Hood River Valley Christian Church