

February 04, 2026



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

541-386-2608 hrcchurch@gmail.com

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

Sunday Worship Time
10:30am

Church Administrative Assistant
Sable Duback

Minister
Rev. Alicia Speidel 541-601-1949
aliciaspeidel@gmail.com
Office hours 9am-12pm or as needed

Sunday Worship

9:30 Adult Lectionary Preview

10:30 Worship

Link to Worship on January 18- [Facebook](#)

Link to Worship on January 25- [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	

*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.

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



Frances Henne- 05

Jessykah Lopez- 06

Eli Phelps- 13

Lauree Winfield- 26

Jan Behrmann- 06

Mary Finley- 10

Bob Tallman- 23

Mary Kummer- 27

Part of our front yard looks quite different these days. Back in the middle of December, while Kailey and Jackson were home on their own, and the big windstorm hit the valley, the 100 foot spruce in our front yard split at the base causing it to fall (away from our house thankfully), covering the entire highway and touching the other side of the embankment. It was intense and not at all what anyone was anticipating at 2 in the morning.

Now the tree and its branches have all been moved from our yard and burned, leaving an open area with still lots of debris. The question is now what do we do with that space. Do we build a pond and fountain? In our dreams. Do we just add barkdust? Do we get creative with this new opportunity for landscaping? There is definitely the possibility for many different options. It's landing on which one is best at this moment in time.

Sometimes determining what is best is difficult to do, no matter what the issue at hand is. Weighing the pros and cons or even just creating a list of options is a lot. Still that's often what we are called to do. We have to make decisions. We have to land somewhere. We have to move forward. So bring on the creativity, bring on the dreaming and bring on the decision making. Something will come.

~ Pastor Alicia



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

The church's Thriving Team met this past Sunday to brainstorm a mission statement and values statements. After great ideas and conversation, both have been created. The next step is presenting these statements to the board at a pop up board meeting on Sunday, February 15. Following that discussion and vote, these statements will be presented to the congregation for discussion and a vote.



This is an exciting time as the hard work this faith community has engaged in continues to lead the way. We are responding to God's call in this time and in this place. Please keep lifting up this church body in prayer as we move forward in faithful and faith filled ways.

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 let Pastor Alicia or Sable know.

Then a schedule will be created. Thank you!



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

2,4,6 Riverside

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

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.



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

On Friday, February 6 and Saturday, February 7, our church will be hosting the Regional Board. The Regional Board is composed of clergy and laity from all over our region, Oregon and Southwest Idaho. On Friday evening at 6pm we are invited to join them for dinner catered by a local taco truck, fellowship and a tour of the church (no, you don't have to take the tour). This is a time to get to know this leadership group, to learn more about what's happening in our region and to ask questions.

Then on Saturday morning the Regional Board will have their official board meeting in the fellowship hall from 9am-3pm. We will be providing lunch during their meeting thanks to Mary Anne and her team.



Please come to welcome the Regional Board and say thank you for the work they are doing.

For the next few weeks (or so) the Men's Group will be meeting on Thursdays at 8:00am, rather than 7:00am.

We will let you know when they return to 7:00am meets!



The women's annual meeting will be after worship on February 22. One of the happy duties will be to distribute \$10,000 in surplus funds! In order to smooth that process, all women are invited to pick up a sheet with details and space to make suggestions for organizations to which we can contribute. *These sheets will be collected by 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.

2025 INCOME AND EXPENSE SUMMARY

TOTAL INCOME \$247,810

EXPENSES

ADMIN	\$15,035
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$254
MEMBERSHIP	\$1855
PERSONNEL	\$152,731
PROPERTY & GROUNDS	\$26,799
WORSHIP	\$942
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$197,616

NET INCOME BEFORE OUTREACH \$50,194

OUTREACH EXPENSE \$19,277

NET INCOME 30,917



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 let Pastor Alicia or Sable know! :)

Second Sunday Recycling reminder

We accept:

Clear clamshells Opaque clamshells

Plastics with numbers in the identifying triangles: #1, 2, 4, 5, 6 (include even if number is too small to read)

Plastic film (soft, pliable) Plastic wrappers (non-pliable, like candy wrappers)

Plastic straws	Plastic lids	Liquid pumps	Prescription and
medicine bottles	Styrofoam	Small electronics—phones, laptops, etc.	



All items need to be clean and dry. Watch the newsletter for occasional clarifications or changes. A few copies of this list will be available on the narthex table if you'd like to take a reminder home. We will not collect money to pay for the recycling, as before, because the church's membership in the Project covers the cost.

If you have questions, ask Mary Anne Parrott.



DUTCH BROS
Coffee

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



Tackling Hunger: Join the 2026 Souper Bowl of Caring

This Sunday, February 08, millions of people across the country will gather to watch the Super Bowl. But while many of us enjoy a day of food and fellowship, nearly 1 in 8 people in our own community may be wondering where their next meal will come from.

The Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 with a simple prayer at a South Carolina church; this initiative has raised over \$220 million for local charities since then.

The concept is simple: Small Gifts, Big Impact. We are asking everyone who is able to bring one dollar and/or one non-perishable food item (like a hearty can of soup) to service on Super Bowl Sunday.

Where does it go? 100% of our collection will go to FISH food bank. Every penny will go directly to helping our neighbors in need.

How to Participate:

- **Bring it: Drop your dollar and canned goods in the soup pot in the Sanctuary.**
- **Donate online by scanning this QR code:**



**SCAN TO
DONATE**

Church Calendar

Wednesday February 04

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

Thursday February 05

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

Friday February 06

6:00-9:00pm Regional Board meeting

Saturday February 07

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

9:00am-2:00pm Regional Board Meeting

Sunday February 08- Recycling

9:30am Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

Pastor Alicia Out of Town February 09-11

Tuesday February 10

10:00am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday February 11

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

Thursday February 12

8:00am Men's Study

1:30pm Chimes practice

Saturday February 14

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

Sunday February 15

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

1:30pm Chimes practice

Wednesday February 18

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

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

6:15pm Ash Wednesday Service at Down Manor

Thursday February 19

8:00am Men's bible 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

Serving Sunday February 08, 2026

Elder this week

Jennifer Stager

Communion prep

Maggie Strasser

Coffee hour

Judy and friends

Deacon

Sable + Layla

Scriptures for Sunday February 08, 2026

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)

Psalm 112:1-9 (10)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)

Matthew 5:13-20

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

