



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com

and on Face book

February 21, 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



Sharing Our Paths for Lent

Lent is the solemn 40-day period from Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14 this year) to Easter when we prepare spiritually for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It can be a time of fasting or self-discipline, such as giving up something of importance. Let's take a different approach! Besides what we may opt to give up, let's also think about what we savor about Lent or what we may choose to add during Lent.

You'll find a flipchart and markers in the narthex (no names necessary) to share your thoughts.

Thanks, everyone!

Lenten Project Supports Summer Needs of the Houseless ***collecting small items at the church***

During the Sundays of Lent—February 18 through March 24—we will be collecting small items helpful to houseless residents in in our area this summer. **Four specific things are requested: refillable water bottles, small containers of sunscreen, lip balm, and non-perishable, individually wrapped snacks.** You will find a large decorative sack in the narthex in which these items may be placed. Thanks for helping neighbors out in a small, but meaningful way.

Sunday Worship

9:30am Adult Sunday School

10:30am Worship, with Children Worship & Wonder

LINKS:

Sunday Worship February 18 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/2168866220114257>

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider Gaffney
Katy White
Suze Nigl's niece Trisha
David Nash

Sharon & Gordon Cook
Stacey Jubitz
Barbara Frazier's friend Julie

Lauree Winfield
Bonnie McCollister
The Wirt Family

Vicki White
David Nash
Skip Swyers

Please pray the McCargar family as Glenna died February 20. Please keep Ed, their sons Kelly and Morgan, and Glenna's many friends in your prayers. No decisions have been made about services for Glenna at this time.

John Nigl his recovering from knee surgery February 19.

Thank You

Rev. Speidel and Friends at Hood River Valley Christian Church

Thank you for being among Week of Compassion's Top 100 giving congregations in 2023 and for establishing a Circle of Compassion fund this year. We are grateful for your partnership in serving the needs of communities worldwide.

With gratitude,

Matthew Cahill Week of Compassion Board of Stewards



The Pastor's COLUMN

A Time of Loss The past month and a half has been very heavy for our community, our church, my family and me. It has been filled with losses. Unexpected losses, heartbreaking losses, losses of all ages, local losses, distant losses. It has been challenging to say the least to hold all of the different losses. Challenging to accept those losses, challenging to come to terms with them, challenging to face how it will look different going forward.

For me personally as I have walked this road I have found myself holding other people, sitting with deep emotion, crying and living in shock. It has not been easy. I have wanted and needed to put aside my lists and responsibilities and just be. To be in the pain. To be in the heartache. To be in the moment.

There are times when we need to live in this way because there really is no other way. We have to have grace with ourselves and with our emotions. Let me repeat that (because I know I need to hear it). We have to have grace with ourselves and with our emotions. We have to know the feelings we hold are what need to be tended to first. We have to heal ourselves. So, yes, it has been a heavy month and a half AND there is the gift of grace to just be as we continue to walk together.

Alicia

Notes from Women's Ministries

Brief Women's Ministries Meeting on Sunday Since the weather prevented many women from attending the annual meeting last Sunday, a shorter version will be held this **Sunday, February 24**, after worship. Last Sunday's decisions will be reviewed and other decisions made. All women are encouraged to attend.

Articles on Earth Care Needed A resource is needed for Earth Sunday, April 21, and your help is solicited to prepare. Pastor Alicia is collecting short clippings from newspapers and magazines on the topic of Earth care—problems needing to be solved, ideas and resources for doing the solving, etc. These clippings need to be short—approximately 2-4 (newspaper-sized column) inches and likely will be just a key part of a larger article; photocopies are acceptable. Place them in the basket by Alicia's office door no later than April 7.



~ GIFTS TO LIVE ON ~

[Jesus] looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them, for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."
Luke 21: 1 - 4, NRSVue

Week of Compassion Special Offering February 18-25

Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. For nearly 80 years, Week of Compassion has pursued its mission, working with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, toward the vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

Each year in February, congregations across the United States and Canada collect a **Special Offering for Week of Compassion**. While many congregations choose to collect their offering during this designated week, the offering truly fuels Week of Compassion's work and witness throughout the whole year!

Funds received through the offering enable Disciples to respond to disaster when it occurs, because Week of Compassion works with partners to immediately provide grants for urgent needs like emergency supplies, water, shelter, and food. The February Special Offering is set aside for congregations to lift up and celebrate this important work that we do together - not just in domestic and international disaster response, but in refugee and immigrant response, and sustainable development funding around the world.

THANK YOU!

Hood River Valley Christian Church's 2024 Collection

raised:

\$715 and 50 lbs. of food

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 11, 2024

Alison Reese
Alison Reese
Executive Director
Tackle Hunger: Home of the
Souper Bowl of Caring

Thank you for donating to Souper Bowl of Caring on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11.

What we collected was delivered to FISH Food Bank, our local emergency food pantry.

For more information about FISH:
<https://www.fish-food-bank.com/>

Music at Hood River Valley Christian Church on Sunday February 25, 2:00pm...

Presented by Columbia Gorge Toyota and Honda
and the Columbia Gorge Orchestra Association

Chamber Music

On a Winter's Day

Join us for the re-scheduled
afternoon of beautiful
chamber music

Sunday | **FEBRUARY 25** | 2 pm



No ticket required
Donations accepted at the door

Hood River Valley Christian Church
975 Indian Creek Road | Hood River

Church Calendar

Wednesday February 21

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open
5:00-9:00pm Master Gardeners

Thursday February 22

7:00am Men's Bible Study
1:30pm Chime Choir practice
6:30pm CGOA practice

Saturday February 24

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open
9:00am-12:00pm Master Gardeners

Sunday February 25

End Week of Compassion

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

Monday-Thursday Feb 26-29

Pastor Alicia out of town

Tuesday-Thursday Feb 27-29

Kathy Holmson out of town

Tuesday February 27

10:00am Women's bible study
4:00pm TOPS group

Wednesday February 28

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

Thursday February 29

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

Saturday March 2

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open
9:00am-12:00pm Master Gardeners

Sunday March 3

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

Tuesday March 5

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

Wednesday March 6

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open
5:00-9:00pm Master Gardeners

Scriptures for Sunday February 25, 2024

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

SERVING Sunday February 25, 2024

Elder this Week Jennifer Stager
Communion prep Joanie Logan
Coffee Hour Carol and friends
Deacons **Servers**
Thank you to our deacons for serving communion as needed each week

Scriptures for Sunday March 3, 2024

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1st Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

SERVING Sunday March 3, 2024

Elder this Week Carol Sabins
Communion prep Joanie Logan
Coffee Hour Jennifer & Friends
Deacons **Servers**
Thank you to our deacons for serving communion as needed each week

Staff Schedule

Feb 26-29 Pastor Alicia out of town
Feb 27-29 Kathy Holmson out of town