



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

541-386-2608 hrcchurch@gmail.com
www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com

and on Face book

December 13, 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 December 17 Third Sunday in Advent

10:30am Worship with Children and Youth Christmas Program

Special Coffee Hour December 17

11:30am Savory & Sweet Bites Christmas Refreshments coffee hour This gathering is a different spin on our Christmas dinner. You are invited to bring a favorite hors d'oeuvres or sweet Christmas item to share for coffee hour. We will gather in fellowship hall after the Children & Youth Christmas program.

LINK:

Sunday Worship Dec 10 <https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=search&v=7255155334529899>



Winter

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. Be careful out there!

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.



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

Sunday mornings, 10:30

December 17 - Savor Joy
Special music: Chimes Choir
Children and Youth program
Annual meeting of the congregation
Christmas Savory & Sweet Bites

December 24 - Savor Love
Special music: Margaret Marshall and
Mary Anne Parrott

Sunday, December 24 – Savor the Story
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service

December 31 - Carol Sing Sunday

January 7 - Epiphany
Reader's theater presentation of
"The Other Wise Man"

Special Events

Wednesday, December 13 - 5:00 p.m. Women's
Christmas Dinner Stonehenge Restaurant

Thursday, December 21 – 6:00pm
The Longest Night service at Down Manor

December 17 - 10:30 a.m.
Children and youth Christmas program
Annual meeting of the congregation
Christmas Savory & Sweet Bites
and a visit from You-know-Who

Christmas Cards



Sign our All Church Christmas Card

Send your Christmas greetings to friends at church in our church newsletter. Forms are on the table in the lobby.

- **Write:** Your name & Christmas greeting and put it in the basket on the table.
- **Sent greetings by email, too** hrvchurch@gmail.com
- **Donate:** You save money for cards & postage by sending your Christmas greetings to church friends this way, so drop a donation in the basket with your greeting.
- **Donations go to:** HRVCC Help A Neighbor Fund.

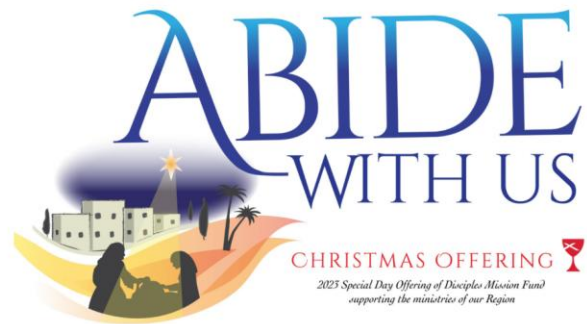
Christmas Greetings will be published in the December 20 newsletter

Christmas Offering

**Received in most congregations
on December 17 & 24, 2023**

Our gifts support the work of regional ministries this Christmas. Your regional ministry works to:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new



The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our regions.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider Gaffney
Katy White
Fred Duckwall
Frances Henne

Sharon & Gordon Cook
Stacey Jubitz
Linda Thomas
Glenna McCargar

Lauree Winfield
Bonnie McCollister
Suze Nigl's niece Trisha

Vicki White
David Nash
John Nigl

Barbara Frazier's friend Julie
Peace for our world.

The Secret Place a daily devotional for December, January, February is available in the narthex. Suggested donation per copy, \$2.



The Pastor's COLUMN

Where is the time going? How often do we ask that question? The answer is often as we get older. Although Kailey just asked it this week as she realized she only has a few months left of her high school career. How crazy is that? Very, very crazy. And that's how time goes. It moves. It changes. It keeps going whether we like it or not.

What we have to do is do our best to live in the moment, to savor (I'm going to use this word for as long as I can) life. To savor God, our faith, family, friends, the world around us. And to savor it with hope, peace, joy and love because it is Advent after all. We have to reflect on those candles we light every Sunday and apply them to our daily lives.

So for today, how are you able to savor hope, peace, joy and love? How are you able to live hope, peace, joy and love? How are you going to make hope, peace, joy and love a reality? The opportunities are endless, so let's all make this our path as we continue to journey to greet the Christ child. **Alicia**

**2024 Slate of
Church Officers, Elders, Deacons, Trustees
To be voted at Congregational Meeting on December 17, 2023**

Terms are for 2 years

Chair of the Board
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

Term ends 2025

Woody Eskildsen
Jennifer Stager
Suze Nigl
Carla Bailey

VOTE
**Annual congregational meeting is
December 17, 2023**

Voting on
2024 Slate of Officers and
2024 Church Budget

Terms are for 2 years

ELDERS

Term ends 2024

Suze Nigl
Thelma Warnock
Gerald Sawyer
Rod Parrott

Term ends 2025

Jennifer Stager
Chrystal Akin
Carol Sabins

Terms are for 2 years

DIACONATE SERVERS

Term ends 2024

Betty Osborne
Linda Meyers
Rylee Akin

Term ends 2026

Jan Behrmann
Otto Behrmann
Chance Cheuvront
Sable Duback

Terms are for 2 years

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Term ends 2024

Kailey Speidel
Mary Finley

Term ends 2025

Barb Ritoch
Leslie Hidle
Joanie Logan

Terms are for 3 years

TRUSTEES

Term ends 2024

Chair Gary Hidle
Judy Hiatt
Betty Osborne

Term ends 2025

Woody Eskildsen

Term ends 2026

Wes Bailey

HRVCC 2024 BUDGET

<u>Projected Income</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>	<u>2024 Budget</u>
	205,200	209,800
<u>Expense</u>		
Administration	9,200	10,000
Christian Education	400	400
Membership	750	650
Personnel	145,961	147,489.18
Property & Grounds	22,507	21,507.20
Stewardship & Finance	200	
Worship	1,350	2,550
Total Expenses	<u>180,368</u>	<u>182,596.38</u>
Projected Outreach 10% of Giving	21,000	20,980
Net Profit		6,223.62

A detailed copy of the proposed 2024 budget is available.



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

Church Calendar

Wednesday December 13

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open
5:00pm Women's Christmas Dinner,
Stonehedge restaurant

Thursday December 14

7:00am Men's Bible Study
10:00am Mary Anne's Christmas Songs
1:30pm Chime Choir practice

Saturday December 16

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

Sunday December 17 Third Sunday in Advent

SAVOR JOY

9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship
with Children & Youth Christmas program
11:30am Savory and Sweet Bites fellowship
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship

Tuesday December 19

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

Wednesday December 20

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

Thursday December 21

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

Scriptures for Sunday December 17, 2023

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8

SERVING Sunday December 17, 2023

Elder this Week	Jerry Sawyer
Communion prep	Kathy Holmson
Coffee Hour	Joanie & Katelyn
Deacons	<u>Serving Team #3</u> Betty Osborne, Tatum Wyatt

Scriptures for Sunday December 24, 2023

Samuel 7:1-11; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 8-11

Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

SERVING Sunday December 24, 2023

Elder this Week	Suze Nigl
Communion prep	Leslie Hidle
Coffee Hour	Carol & friends
Deacons	<u>Serving Team #1</u> Woody & Sue Eskildsen

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.*