



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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

and on Face book

November 8, 2023

Sunday Worship Time

10:30am Worship

Interim Minister

Rev. Holly Greenidge 503 381-8027

hollygreenidge@gmail.com

Church Administrative Assistant

Kathy Holmson office hours as needed

hrcchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com

Pastor Alicia returns from Sabbatical

**WELCOME
BACK!**

Pastor Alicia returns from her sabbatical (Geoff, Kailey and Jackson, too!) and rejoin us in worship on November 12. In addition to a special worship service, we'll gather together for a buffet luncheon to celebrate her return following worship.

The menu for the day includes chicken, salads, baked beans, fruit and veggies, with pie and ice cream for dessert.

Don't miss this special day at church!

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30am Adult Sunday school classes, Raiza Spratt Guest Preacher

10:30am Worship Special music Chime Choir

11:30am Buffet luncheon, celebrating Pastor Alicia's return

LINK:

Sunday Worship Nov 5 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/192492353899406>

A Celebration of Life for Nancy Krieg will be Friday November 17 at 2:00pm here at the church. There is a signup sheet in the lobby if you would like to bring cookies, veggies/fruit, cheese & crackers or sandwiches for the reception following the service. Or you may contact Barbara Ritoch grammybarb65@yahoo.com.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider Gaffney
Katy White
Fred Duckwall

Sharon & Gordon Cook
Stacey Jubitz
Linda Thomas

Lauree Winfield
Bonnie McCollister
Suze Nigl's niece Trisha

Vicki White
David Nash
Jared

Frances Henne is in Portland for rehabilitation after having a series of small strokes last week. Frances is making good progress and hopes to be home soon. Cards may be sent to her PO Box 269, Hood River, OR 97031.

Thank you friends for the wonderful sampler of Hood River Valley apples and pears, coffee and preserves. And for many nice cards. Your kind words of appreciation also mean so much.

This sabbatical time has been busy and required a lot of attention to detail from me, but thanks to the preparation work by the Sabbatical committee and Pastor Alicia, the top quality work Laurie Crosswhite always does in maintaining our building, and the help of our elders and our many church volunteers who lovingly care for our people, church, and programs, and the leadership of Interim Pastor Holly Greenidge, it's gone smoothly. (Mostly—there were a few things I forgot!)

We have also been blessed with excellent guest preachers during the sabbatical who brought a variety of messages on the Sundays they were here.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness, Kathy Holmson

Christmas Décor and More Sale

The Christmas Sale was a huge success. I am so grateful for all of the help I received this year. I am truly indebted to my Thrift Store helper Grace Poulsen, who with her Dad and two missionaries, Sister Peterson and Sister Fredley from the LDS Church, brought all the items upstairs to the Fellowship Hall - they were amazing.

Our **set-up** elves, Laurie Crosswhite, Barb Ritoch, Margaret Strasser, Leslie Hidle, Jerry and Gladys Sawyer and their granddaughter, Everest, moved and shoved tables and boxes to accommodate all that had been donated to the Thrift Store during the past year - it was awesome!!!

Our **sale** elves, Barb Ritoch, Melissa Crosswhite, Jodi Wyatt, Tatum Wyatt, Cindy Biddle and Joan Lage kept things moving and were great ambassadors for our visitors. In the lobby were our local artisans and greeters...Bev Carpenter with her beautifully- sewn gifts and Lauree and Bill Winfield with prepackaged bulbs from their Garden Club. Thank you one and all - it was truly a blessed day. Suze

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER The winner of the handmade quilt is Nita Applegate.

Getting Ready for Advent



Advent

Advent Booklet Advent, the season of anticipation and waiting, is just 4 weeks away, beginning of December 3. Now preparations begin. We will be printing a booklet about savoring memories of Christmas. Everyone is invited to submit a favorite story, recipe, or remembrance for inclusion. A colorful form will be available on the narthex table next Sunday; they need to be brought back the following week, by November 21st.

Christmons repairs Other early activities include a small task force of about 3 persons who would like to repair the christmons for the sanctuary tree during the week of November 26; date TBA. See Mary Anne Parrott to volunteer.

Poinsettias to "deck the hall" will be for sale on November 19 and 26.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project If you are interested in filling some, please have them filled and delivered to me **BEFORE November 12th** and I will deliver them to Covenant Church for you. Or if you would like to give cash to cover some of the shipping, it would be very much appreciated. Thank you in advance! Mary Kummer

SABBATICAL NEWS

What are we savoring? Every Sunday during the sabbatical there will be a time at the end of worship to write down the answers to the questions "What did you savor today? What did you savor in worship, in the life of the church, in this faith community?"



INTERIM MINISTER Pastor Holly Greenidge has done a wonderful job as our interim minister during Alicia's sabbatical and with Alicia's return, Holly's time with us comes to an end. Our thanks to Holly for being with us during this time.

Pastor Holly's contact information is:
phone 503 381-8027
email hollygreenidge@gmail.com

Raiza Spratt, preaching November 12



As part of the General Ministries of the Disciples of Christ in the United States and Canada, Raiza Spratt helps to equip congregations in collaborative partnerships to prepare and respond to disasters.

Disciples of Christ welcomes all to a life of service, hope and wholeness in a fragmented world and these are some of the guiding principles that Raiza uses when developing opportunities to serve for volunteers. Raiza is the Disaster Response Organizer for Week of Compassion where she witnesses transforming hope and shares the stories of what is possible when we do things together as a community. Because we, together, can transform suffering into hope.



Be in prayer During sabbatical you are invited to be in prayer. Pray for the congregation. Pray for the ministries of the church. Pray for Pastor Alicia. Pray for Geoff, Kailey, and Jackson. Pray for yourself. Pray that all will "savor" this time as we learn, grow and deepen our faith. This is a time to be intentional in our prayer lives.

Second Sunday Recycling November 12



**Protecting
God's World**

What to bring:

#2, #6 Plastic caps with a number
Plastic caps without a number (separated)
Plastic straws & liquid pumps
Foam trays containers, blocks, coolers
Misc small electronics, laptops, cell phones, wires, Christmas lights. And a small donation to help cover the cost. Next Recycling day is December 10.

Book Discussion Group Meets

The Book Discussion group has scheduled its next meeting for **Wednesday, November 15, at 7:00pm** at the home of Jan and Otto Behrmann. The chosen book is *TheBandit Queens* by Parini Shroff. New participants are welcome to the reading group. Rod Parrott has more information.

Time to put snow tires on soon!

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FISH Food Bank November 2023 Coordinators Newsletter

The leaves have fallen, and the weather has changed, we are definitely heading into winter. This is the time of year I start worrying about our unhoused clients, The lack of resources and the lack of a warm place to shelter is very hard on all clients. I have been having conversations with several of our women clients who are houseless. One of the individuals we help is going into her 3rd winter living in her car, another one is her second year and another this is the first time for the one.

What I find about these individuals is how resourceful they have become when having to deal with being houseless. The one client who is going into her third winter explains how the car stays warmer if you don't open the doors, so you go outside as little as possible. This year she connected with an older gentleman who asked if she would cook for him, he would share his food. I am hoping she will be able to have a warm place to stay at least part of the time. I am very worried about the lady who this is her first time to be houseless. She has not been able to connect with any resources and has no idea how to navigate this winter.

For whatever reason these individuals are not comfortable going to the warming shelter. Also, for whatever reason then now have no family support system to help them navigate their situation. Many of their friends are in the same situation they are, they seem to come up against brick walls in getting help.

These are just 3 of the clients that I have gotten to know that are houseless but I know there are many others. One gentleman told me the other day he really hated the wet weather coming. I asked if he had a tent and he said no "he just had a tarp to cover his area." The tarp doesn't do a very good job of keeping out the wet or cold. The other night one young lady was very distraught, because she was losing her apartment lease and had no idea what she was going to do.

The good part is we can help in a small way by providing food for these individuals. To help accommodate the houseless individuals we keep individual serving foods, foods that do not require heating and easy to eat foods on hand for these individuals. I helped one client the other night who was living in his car, he basically didn't want to shop in the main food area, he just needed the special "homeless" foods. He only has a cooler to keep food cold plus he had food allergies, so finding food he could eat was a challenge. This is not an uncommon situation.

I do want to caution all the FISH volunteers to use your own best judgment if you decide to give clients money. Do not feel obligated to give them money, it is not something we want to get started on a regular basis. Thanks for all you do, keep up the good work. One of our houseless individuals told me the other day that everyone is so nice to her and to each other. She said, everyone is always talking and laughing with each other. She found it a warm and accepting environment.
Happy Thanksgiving!

Billie Stevens
FISH Food Bank

Thanksgiving Turkey

Our clients are very excited that in November we are offering every family a turkey that can be used for Thanksgiving. They are not just getting a turkey breast by a whole turkey. Not only is it great to help families be able to celebrate the holidays, but it is also a great source of protein and can be used for many meals. The FISH Food Bank makes it a priority. They are not donated, instead FISH purchases the turkeys.

Helping FISH Food Bank During the Holidays

There are several ways you can give a little extra during the holidays for the FISH Food Bank:

Rosauers Hunger Bags: Rosauers advertises: "Together We Can **Bag Hunger**. Help our local food banks re-stock their shelves for the holidays. Purchase pre-bagged groceries to food those in need." If you are shopping at Rosauers, just pick up a bag and take it to the checkout stand. There are two levels of bags, a \$10.00 bag, and a \$15.00 bag. This campaign is a very important way for us to fill our shelves for this holiday season.

Safeway Turkey Bucks: At the Safeway store you can purchase **Turkey Bucks**, which will provide holiday meals for those in need. Look for Turkey Bucks at our Safeway checkout stand through November 28th. There are \$10 and \$5.00 Turkey Bucks.

Full Sail Brewing-Communi-Tuesday: Full Sail Brewing is partnering with FISH throughout the entire month of November, they will be donating a portion of the proceeds from both their beer and food sales to FISH Food Bank. Full Sail is open daily from 11:00 AM to 9 PM. Their address is 506 Columbia Street, Hood River.

Mt Hood Meadows "Provide to Ride": On December 12, receive a free lift ticket with your "**Provide to Ride**" donation to the FISH Food Bank. To receive your free ticket for that day, bring at least one of the following items:

*24 cans of food

*2 hams

*\$40 donation (made by purchasing a \$40 lift ticket online for the date of December 12, 2023).
\$35 of every \$40 lift ticket sold online for that day will be donated to FISH.

*Look for the Meadows tents to donate.

To find out more about this go to Mt. Hood Meadows website and look for "Provide to Ride."

Verizon (TCC Wireless) "Rock the Pantry": The local Verizon Company will be helping at the Hood River FISH Food Bank on Wednesday, November 8. They have 8 employees who will help during distribution. In addition to volunteering their time they are also doing a food drive and will donate the food to FISH. It is always fun to have guest volunteers helping. Once they worked at the food bank they are able to better appreciate the work we do.



Now it is Winter...Time to Review Weather Policy for FISH

Every year we need to discuss what will happen if the weather turns really naughty. The general rule is that the FISH Food Bank **does not close** unless the roads are totally treacherous and impassable. You know Hood River County folks are hardy souls and a little snow or ice does not seem to stop them from getting food. In fact, it is a lot like the grocery stores when the weather is

bad, everyone goes to stock up. Clients tend to come no matter what the weather is like.

So, if the weather is bad:

-Keep in contact with me to make sure the Food Bank will be open.

-Let me know if you are having trouble getting people to work.

-Plan a head and have a couple of volunteers on standby that are not bothered by driving in bad weather.

-Know that the food bank probably will not close unless absolutely necessary. But we do not want **any volunteer** to come to FISH that is not comfortable driving on the roads. So, make sure they know if they are not comfortable driving to let me know.

-The key factor is communication. Please call/text me if there are any questions about whether the food bank will be open. My phone number is 541-490-5109.

Happy Thanksgiving!

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Church Calendar

Wednesday November 8

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

Thursday November 9

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

Saturday November 11

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop

Sunday November 12

Second Sunday recycling

9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship
11:30am Buffet luncheon
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship

Tuesday November 14

10:00am Women's Bible Study
3:00pm TOPS group

Wednesday November 15

9:00am-Noon Quilters meet
9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop
7:00pm Book Group at Behrmann's home

Thursday November 16

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

Friday November 17

2:00pm Nancy Krieg Celebration of Life

Saturday November 18

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop
9:00am-4:00pm Quilters Guild, fellowship hall

Sunday November 19

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

Tuesday November 21

10:00am Women's Bible Study
3:00pm TOPS group

Wednesday November 22

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

Thursday-Friday November 23-24



THANKSGIVING

**Thanksgiving
Church office closed**

Scriptures for Sunday Nov 12, 2023

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

SERVING Sunday Nov 12, 2023

Elder this Week	Sharon Smiley
Communion prep	Joanie Logan
AV Tech	Chance & JJ
Coffee Hour	Barbara & friends
Deacons	<u>Serving Team #2</u> Jennifer Stager, Rylee Akin

Scriptures for Sunday Nov 19, 2023

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

SERVING Sunday Nov 19, 2023

Elder this Week	Wes Bailey
Communion prep	Leslie Hidle
Coffee Hour	Frances's Team
Deacons	<u>Serving Team #3</u> Betty Osborne, Tatum Wyatt