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# Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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[www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com](http://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com)

and on Face book

## October 9, 2024

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### Sunday Worship Time

10:30am Worship

### Minister

Rev. Alicia Speidel 541 601-1949

[aliciaspeidel@gmail.com](mailto:aliciaspeidel@gmail.com)

### Church Administrative Assistant

Kathy Holmson office hours 10am-1pm or as needed

[hrcchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hrcchurch@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com](http://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.com)

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## Sunday Worship

**9:30am Adult Sunday School**

**10:30am Worship**

### LINKS:

Sunday Worship Oct 6 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/928481842642206>



**Adult Sunday school class** Come learn more about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination. Rod Parrott will be teaching 9:30-10:15am in the Vista Room. Newcomers and old hands are equally welcome. Coffee is available.



**Protecting  
God's World**

## Second Sunday Recycling October 13

What to bring:

Clear clamshells

Plastics with recycling triangles marked #1, #5,

Medicine bottles

Unused medications for safe disposal

Plastic film -- bags, bubble wrap, mailers

### Notes:

Items must be clean and dry

If number in triangle cannot be read, bring it anyway

If you bring items for recycling, please also bring a cash contribution to cover cost

### Mark your calendars!



## Christmas Décor and More Sale at Hood River Valley Christian Church

**Saturday, November 2, from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

Deck the halls early and be ready for Christmas ahead of time!

Donate your extras and plan now to shop at the annual Pre-Christmas Sale at Hood River Valley Christian Church. Helpers are needed.

# TRUNK or TREAT!



**Thursday, October 31, 4:00pm**  
**Join the fun in the church parking lot**  
**invite family, friends, neighbors**

**Volunteers are needed** Come in a costume and host a booth by decorating your trunk/car and handing out candy. This event is for the entire community, so many decorated cars would be fantastic. Please sign up if you can be a Trunk or Treat host!

**Got extra candy?** If you have extra candy you'd like to share but won't be decorating your own "trunk", drop it off in the kitchen and the "trunk hosts" will pass it out.

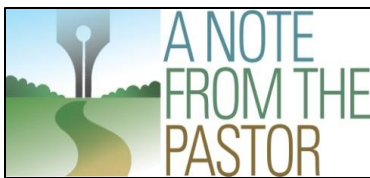
## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Layla, JJ & Rider	Sharon & Gordon Cook	Stacy	Vicki White
Katy White	Bonnie McCollister	Stacey Jubitz	Doris Lewis
Suze Nigl's niece Trisha	Barbara Frasier's friend Julie	Lloyd Frasier	Tedra Turner
Emily Krager	Alicia Speidel		

**A note from Shar Wilkins** I wish to express my sincere thank you for all of the prayers, calls, text messages, and cards I received while I was in the hospital recently. It was a very unexpected long stay for me, and it was so nice to know my friends back in Hood River were thinking of me. I am doing fine now, and we are continually monitoring my health. Thankfully, Shar

**People across the Southeastern US** who have been devastated by the Hurricane Helene disaster, and those who now face Hurricane Milton. Week of Compassion is responding. If you would like to give to disaster relief, go to: [WeekOfCompassion.org/give](http://WeekOfCompassion.org/give), designated Hurricane 2024. Thank you.

**Laundry Love Thank You** Thanks to all contributors of quarters for the Laundry Love program. Last week there were seven persons or families with an average of 2-3 loads each. For drying, the total came to about \$25.00. So you can see how helpful your contributions are!



**I love the fall.** I love the changing colors of the leaves. I love the crisp mornings. I love pumpkins, corn stalks and all of the fall decorations. I love lighting candles in the evenings. I love the coziness that comes. I simply love this time of year.

Yes, I love aspects of the other times of the year too, and I really love the fall. Cuddling up on the couch with a blanket and a fire roaring in the fireplace. Watching football (let's not talk about some of the Niners games this year though). Wearing sweatshirts and cozy clothes. There's so much to love.

Which season of the year do you love? What about it do you love? How does it make you happy? Sometimes we just need to sit and think about what makes us happy because we need that moment to smile, to breathe, to focus on something else. So, do exactly that. Think about what brings you joy and then hold onto that feeling, letting all of the other challenging feelings melt away. Or at least try it for a moment or two. I know I'm going to as I look at the vibrant colors on our snowball bush.

**Alicia**

**Alicia's CaringBridge link:**

[https://www.caringbridge.org/site/8ab75554-48b5-11ef-8f3d-f317ddd1b8ef?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=web&utm\\_content=copylink\\_leftmenu\\_php](https://www.caringbridge.org/site/8ab75554-48b5-11ef-8f3d-f317ddd1b8ef?utm_source=share&utm_medium=web&utm_content=copylink_leftmenu_php)



## Regional Women's Retreat

The regional women's retreat will be Saturday, October 19, at Murray Hills Christian Church in Beaverton, from 9:00-4:00. Workshops include Emotional Intelligence, Praying on Color, and Meditation, with time to go to all three. Mary Anne Parrott has more information.

## Operation Christmas Child Boxes

Mary Kummer is collecting the following items for the shoebox project. **Bring these items to the church by October 13.**

The following items are needed (new items please)

### **Especially needed**

**Scissors—safety style for kids both left and right handed**

**Journals or Steno pads (small enough to fit in a shoe box)**

**Also needed--**

T-shirts (no advertising) child size S M L XL

Flip flop shoes

Socks all sizes

Handtowels – not too thick Washrags

Tooth brushes and covers

Pencil sharpeners

Crayons or colored pencils Water paint sets

Books for children 2-4 years old (small enough to fit in a shoe box)

Small water bottles

Small toys

Bars of unscented soap

### **PLEASE DO NOT BRING:**

*Liquids, toothpaste, candy, military or war toy type items, Barbie or Ken type fashion dolls.*

*Please remove items from boxes as many countries have no way to dispose of packaging.*

## Mark your calendars!



## Christmas Décor and More Sale at Hood River Valley Christian Church

**Saturday, November 2, from 9:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

Deck the halls early and be ready for Christmas ahead of time!  
Plan now to shop at the annual Pre-Christmas Sale at Hood River Valley Christian Church.

**Help is needed moving sale items to fellowship hall and setting up before the sale and help is needed doing sales the day of the sale.**

**If you can help with this very fun event or would like more information, please talk to Suze Nigl.**



## **Celebrating 60 Years of Faith and Friendship!**

### **Stretching & Growing**

Over the years, HRVCC has been home to a wide variety of groups and organizations – among the most familiar, **the quilters' group**. For more than 90 years (beginning at the original Valley Christian Church), the quilters have sewn and tied hundreds of beautiful quilts for sale, on contract and to give to others in special recognition. When the new building wing was completed in 1976, they met in a large room on the lower level designed specifically for their work. Then in 2002, the Quilting Room moved to a refurbished room in the classroom wing. If you're at the church on Wednesdays, they love to share their work as well as coffee and cookies - a must for every quilting session!

Since 1976, the **Christian Women's Fellowship Thrift Shop** has offered gently-used, reasonably-priced, good-quality clothing, housewares, home goods, toys, books and more to serve the needs of those in our community. Many items are often donated in support of families in need or in emergency situations. The shop is open on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, is staffed by volunteers, and every dollar supports both local and global outreach programs.

For many years, the church-sponsored **Boy Scout** Troop #383 used space in the church for meetings and activities. Leaders of this troop were Joe Moore, Russ Paddock and Chuck Hiatt. Building space was also used in the early 2000s for a church-sponsored Boy Scout Troop #372 led by Mitch Hicks and Win Winfield. For several years in the 1990's, **Campfire** groups met in the building.

From 2000 to 2006, HRVCC rented classroom space to **Shepherd of the Valley Christian School**. They eventually merged with the Baptist Christian School to become Horizon Christian School, which moved to their newly-constructed Pacific Avenue campus in 2006.

Under the direction of former Pastor Linda Presley, the **PIT Youth Center**, which operated during the years 2006-2014, served as an after-school youth center offering snacks, games, homework help and community service projects. The PIT was a collaborative effort with the Hood River Commission on Children and Families, Faith Connections and HRVCC. Primary funding for the PIT came from state and federal grant monies for youth.

Our congregation's policy has always been to make our building available (for a nominal donation) to organizations that benefit our community. Among them are Alcoholics Anonymous, Cub and Boy Scouts, Campfire, Jazzercise, Hood River County Extension, New Parent Services, Gorge Ecumenical Ministries, Hood River Art Club, Multicultural Youth Group, Diamond Fruit Credit Union, Sweet Adelines, Tsuruta Sister City Program, Japanese-American League, Asamblea Apostolica (Spanish-speaking congregation), Master Gardeners, Mid-Columbia Writers' Guild, The Next Door, Inc. and TOPS.

Our building is frequently used by Columbia Gorge Orchestra Association, VOIC Choir, Mid Columbia Music Teachers. Currently, the Spanish language church Esperanza y Vida (Hope and Life) meets on Sunday afternoons and since 2023 Kiddie City daycare uses many rooms in the building to provide quality daycare for families in our community.

***Invitations to the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on November 17 have been sent out. We may have missed some folks who might like to come. If you know of former church members, family members or friends to invite, please pick up an invitation to share with them.***



## **FISH Food Bank October 2024 Coordinators Newsletter**

Fall is here so the nights are cooler, the leaves are starting to turn colors, and fruit is coming off the trees. For most of us when the signs of fall come, our thoughts turn to things such as putting away hoses, raking leaves and cleaning gutters. But for many of our clients, especially the those who are houseless their thoughts are totally different.

In talking with our clients, it becomes obvious that their big concern is "how am I going to stay warm during the cold winter months?" One of our regular clients is living in his truck, which no longer works and he no longer has a place to park the truck. His focus is trying to purchase a new working vehicle and finding a warm place to stay. This gentleman is a little different from many of our unhoused as has a job and when he is not working, he is out picking up trash along the roadside. But winter is weighing hard on his mind.

The other day I met a new client who moved here from North Carolina. This individual is battling cancer and has a young son who is on the autism spectrum. She moved to our area with her young son and her parents. However, this lady and her son are currently living in their vehicle and her parents have a campervan. She knows they are not prepared for our cold winters. Not only is she looking for housing, but she also needs winter clothing, especially for her 9-year-old son who is growing like a weed. Even with the obstacles in her life she has very positive attitude and is impressed with all the services Oregon has to offer.

Then there was the lady who works for Center for Living, and her job assignment is helping individuals recently released from prison. She was shopping for an individual who has recently been released from incarceration. The state is paying for this individual's housing for one month, so I asked, "where he will go after that" and she just shrugged her shoulders and said, "a tent?" So, he will become another homeless person with no resources. Unfortunately, he has nothing; no containers to cook in, no can opener or utensils. FISH was able to provide him with lots of food for the time being. It felt good to know we could help him in a small way. But the big question is where will he live during the cold months and how will he stay warm?

Another new client is on the opposite side of the spectrum. She is a young nursing student and was looking for a little food assistance. This is the second student to sign up as a client this month. What stands out about this young lady was during registration I asked the question about where you are living. She burst into tears as she had just become unhoused. I didn't ask any questions, but we did talk about some living alternatives. Right now, she is staying with a friend.

When I sign up a client and they are unhoused I will often ask what their plans are for the winter. In talking with one young man, I asked the usual question about his plans for the winter. He really had not given it much thought, I asked about the warming shelter, and he wondered if they were taking a waiting list. This is just a little snapshot of what our unhoused clients worry about when the leaves start turning their beautiful fall colors.

Hope you are enjoying fall, so far it has started out very nice.

Billie Stevens  
FISH Food Bank  
541-490-5109



**Few Open Volunteer Spots For FISH Food Bank** FISH Volunteers are amazing, every month over 150 different volunteers donate over 1100 hours to help families and individuals in the Mid-Columbia who need food assistance. The plus side of volunteering is not only do you know you are helping individuals who are food insecure, but you are also feeding your own heart. All of us need a little help sometime in our lives, and it just feels good to give to those who need a little hand up.

While we have hundreds of wonderful volunteers, all volunteers have other things going on in their lives. Consequently, that sometimes leaves a few open spots where volunteer help is needed. If any of these spots sounds like something you might like to do, please contact me, at FISH.

**Hood River FISH Site:**

**Monday Afternoon Distribution:** Because of the increased number of clients, it helps to have a couple extra people who are willing to shop with clients, in addition to the assigned church or organization. Currently, we could use 1 or 2 more individuals who are willing to come weekly to help clients shop. This is between about 2:45 PM to 5:00 PM. Every week, or a couple of times a month.

**Wednesday Morning Distribution:** The Wednesday morning distribution is becoming more popular. Several of the current shoppers will be gone for the winter, and others have had a job change. We are looking for individuals who would like to shop with clients. This is between 9:00 AM and 10:00 AM.

**Cascade Lock Site:** distributes twice a month. They can always use a few extra hands.

**Third Wednesday of the month:** food is delivered to Cascade Locks for the next weeks distribution. Help is needed unloading the truck and putting food away. The truck arrives around 9:00 AM and it usually takes about one hour. Does require being able to lift food boxes.

**Fourth Tuesday of the month:** a second food delivery comes from a commercial business. While this is a smaller load, help still needed in unloading the truck and to put the food away. The truck usually arrives around 10:30 AM and it takes about 1 hour. It does require being able to lift food boxes.

**4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday and the Saturday following the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday:** help is always needed at the Cascade Locks distribution on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday and the Saturday following. Various positions are available. Wednesday distribution is from about 2:00 PM to 6:00PM, Saturday is from 11:00 AM to Noon.

**Parkdale FISH Site** Parkdale site can always use substitute volunteers to help with the distribution on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. This is from 4:00PM to 6:00PM.

**FISH Volunteer Reminder:**

FISH is proud of the food we provide to our clients; we feel we offer good quality and nutritionally sound food. It looks so good that at times, we would like to take it home to try. But in our agreement with the Columbia Gorge Food Bank, all donated products must go to the clients. This means that even if an item looks good, volunteers should not “sample” our products by taking them home. The rule is: All donated products are intended for program recipients only and may not be used for agency operations, staff or volunteer consumption, volunteer recognition, fundraisers, events or additional programs such as thrift stores. The only exception is if the food is going to be discarded, so instead of putting it in the garbage volunteers can take it home. For example, the bread that is left on Friday night or a product that is not labeled.

**Hood River Site Afternoon Volunteer Schedule:**

Sept 30, Oct 2-4	Shepherd of the Valley
<b>October 7-9-11</b>	<b>Hood River Valley Christian</b>
October 14-16-18	Immanuel Lutheran Church
October 21-23-25	Rotary
October 28-30 Nov 1	Mid-Columbia Unitarian Fellowship
November 4-6-8	Riverside Community Church
November 11-13-15	Hood River Alliance
November 18-20-22	St. Marks
November 25-27	Rotary

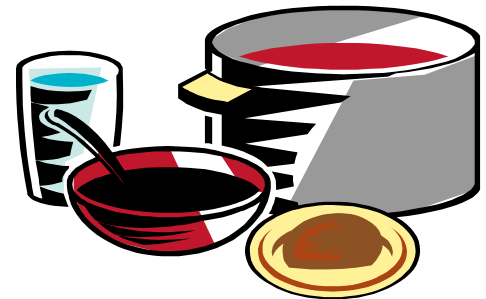
Please remember we need at least 3 individuals who will help shop, and if possible, someone to help at the registration desk.

**“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.

**Columbia Gorge Food Bank  
Empty Bowls Event**

The Columbia Gorge Food Bank in The Dalles, is inviting all to their 2024 Empty Bowls event on Friday, October 18. This event celebrates and supports the work of the Columbia Gorge Food Bank, the Regional Food Bank for Sherman, Wasco and Hood River counties. At this event, they will share a meal, stories, and community time while learning about hunger relief efforts in the Gorge.



**When:** Friday, October 18, 2024

Doors open at 5:00 PM, Program begins at 6:30 PM

**Where:** Columbia Gorge Food Bank Warehouse, 3525 Crates Way, The Dalles

**Cost:** \$50.00

Your ticket includes appetizers, soup, dessert, and a hosted bar with beer/wine/nonalcoholic drinks.

**Music** by Chic Preston and Tim Mayer

Tickets can be purchased on line at: [auctria.events/CGFB\\_Empty\\_Bowls\\_2024](https://auctria.events/CGFB_Empty_Bowls_2024)

# Church Calendar

## Wednesday October 9

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

## Thursday October 10

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

## Saturday October 12

9:00am-3:00pm Thriftshop open

## Sunday October 13 Recycling Sunday

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

## Tuesday October 15

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

## Wednesday October 16

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

## Thursday October 17

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

## 5:30pm Church Board meets

## Saturday October 19

9:00am-3:00pm Thriftshop open

## Sunday October 20

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

## Tuesday October 22

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

## Wednesday October 23

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

## Scriptures for Sunday October 13, 2024

Job 23:1-9  
Psalm 22:1-15  
Hebrews 4:12-16  
Mark 10:17-31

## SERVING Sunday October 13, 2024

Elder this Week Suze Nigl  
Communion prep Mary Finley  
Coffee Hour Barb & friends  
Deacons Servers

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

## Scriptures for Sunday October 20, 2024

Job 38:1-7, (34-41)  
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
Mark 10:35-45

## SERVING Sunday October 20, 2024

Elder this Week Chrystal Akin  
Communion prep Leslie Hidle  
Coffee Hour Judy & friends  
Deacons Servers

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

## HRVCC 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, RIGHT AFTER WORSHIP!

Mark your calendars now! You won't want to miss it!  
Invitations will be sent in October!