



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

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

and on Face book

October 11, 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



October is Stewardship Month

October worship services feature a focus on our stewardship.

Please return pledge cards by October 29.

Workshop on Prayer – October 15 Guest Preacher Rev. Ruth Fletcher will again lead a workshop on October 15 when she is our preacher. It will be about Contemplative Prayer, for about an hour beginning after the coffee hour. Those attending will have the option of a light lunch.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

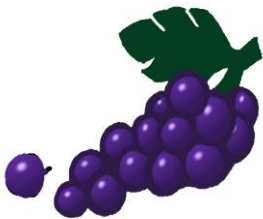
9:30am Adult Sunday school classes, nursery available

10:30am Sunday Worship

Special Music Piano Duet
Margaret Marshall
and Mary Anne Parrott

LINK:

Sunday Worship Oct 8 <https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/1446617939516245>



Women, Wine, and The Word

Wednesday October 11, 4pm at Stave and Stone at the vineyard Women are invited to join for a time of fellowship to talk about a scripture passage centered around women.

Gather at Stave and Stone Winery at the Vineyard (3827

Fletcher Dr, HR). Come grab a beverage (non-alcoholic or alcoholic beverages are available) and a snack while we share how the passage intersects with our lives. Invite friends from outside the church, too. Pastor Holly can tell you more!

hollygreenidge@gmail.com

Halloween Trunk or Treat!



Tuesday, October 31 @ 4-6pm
Join the fun in the church parking lot

If you can host a "trunk" space, please talk to Betty Osborne or Jodi Wyatt
If you can bring extra candy for handing out, drop it off in the church kitchen.

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

Sharon & Gordon Cook

Lauree Winfield

Vicki White

Katy White

Stacey Jubitz

Bonnie McCollister

David Nash

Suze Nigl's niece Trisha

Jared

The family of Bev Thomas who died September 29. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Nancy Krieg died October 6. The family plans to have a celebration of life service after Pastor Alicia returns.

Kathy Holmson will be out of town October 23-24 No newsletter October 25.

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?"



Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project

It is time to fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. 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

News from the Book Discussion Group

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 *The Bandit Queens* by Parini Shroff. New participants are welcome to the reading group. If you would like to join in reading this book, and would like a copy of the book ordered, please let Rod Parrott know.



October's Second Sunday Recycling was successful with about six yard waste bags full of plastic. One bag contained the wrappings on the new fellowship hall chairs, and a partial bag was full of lids and caps sorted by **Jackson Speidel**. Thanks to all participating. Check the November list for what to prepare for November 12.

The Gorge Sustainability Project where we take our recycling reminds us that that items must be clean and dry, and with a few exceptions (like bag for produce, etc), all items must have the recycling triangle. If the number is too small to read, bring items anyway.

SABBATICAL NEWS



INTERIM MINISTER While Pastor Alicia is on sabbatical, Pastor Holly Greenidge will serve as interim minister. Holly will lead worship on September 10, September 24, October 8, October 22 and November 5. Every Sunday Holly is in worship, she will also be present for pastoral visits, meetings, questions and discussions on that Monday or Tuesday. Make sure to reach out if you have a need or simply want to get to know her better.

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

If you have a need or concern while Pastor Alicia is away, please reach out to our Interim Minister Holly Greenidge, one of our elders, Kathy in the church office, or a member of the sabbatical committee (Mary Anne Parrott, Betty Osborne, Suze Nigl, Sharon Smiley and Wes Bailey).



Rev. Ruth Fletcher, preaching October 15

Ruth Fletcher nurtures positive transformation in individuals and systems through teaching and spiritual leadership. Throughout her life, she has trained leaders, facilitated personal growth retreats, accompanied congregations through change, encouraged imagination, keynoted conferences, preached and led worship, coached pastors, and designed processes for systemic revitalization.

Ruth is an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She received her Doctor of Ministry degree from the School of Theology at Claremont and has authored resources regarding peace education, congregational discernment, and the role of the eldership in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Her most recent book is entitled *Thrive: Spiritual Habits of Transforming Congregations*.

Workshop on Prayer Ruth Fletcher will again lead a workshop October 15 when she is our preacher. *It will be about Contemplative Prayer, for about an hour beginning after the coffee hour. Those attending will have the option of a light lunch.*



October 22 Jelani Greenidge (Holly's husband) guest musician

Jelani is a passionate communicator with a desire to inform, inflame and inspire. Currently, he serves in a full-time role as missional storyteller for the Evangelical Covenant Church, but he's also a writer, speaker, worship musician, hip-hop emcee/producer, and stand-up comic. Jelani loves playing video games and watching NBA basketball. He and his wife Holly dwell in leafy Portland with Rosie, their robot vacuum cleaner.



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.



FISH Food Bank October 2023 Coordinators Newsletter

At least twice a year I like to touch base with all the volunteers to let you know how much you are appreciated by the FISH Food Bank organization. Each year we have about 600 different volunteers give their time and effort to the FISH Food Bank. We could not help the families in our community without the wonderful help of all the volunteers. Every volunteer is important, and each job is essential in making our organization run. We continue to receive compliments on how positive our volunteers are and how efficient our food bank runs. That is because of all your help, Thank You!

October is going to be the month of change. The weather has definitely moved from summer to fall. Plus, at the FISH Food Bank we have an even bigger change. Marianne Brevard has decided to move from her position of Director of Operations to that of Special Projects Coordinator. Because the food bank has changed so much over the last 10 years, the FISH Board decided to create a new position, Executive Director, who will take up many of the duties the FISH Board have been doing.



Introducing Jacqueline Carey Jacqueline became the first ever Executive Director of the FISH Food Bank. We are excited to have Jacqueline in this position. She comes to FISH with many years of working in the private sector with the restaurant industry. She is a long-time resident of Hood River and brings many years of experience to this position.

Please join me in wishing Marianne Brevard much success in her next adventure and welcoming Jacqueline to FISH. Jacqueline is not exactly new to FISH as she started as a FISH volunteer at the beginning of summer, then accepted the position of substituting for Marianne when she was on vacation during the summer. When you are at the food bank, please introduce yourself to Jacqueline, as she is anxious to get to know all our wonderful volunteers.

The FISH Board is excited about this new position, as FISH has grown exponentially over the years. Think back to the little site on Pine Street and how 15 clients meant a big night. Last Friday night Hood River FISH served 57 clients. Cascade Locks served around 55 clients in just one week. Our budget has grown, so has the number of employees and volunteers, and just securing food is a big job. It is important to be able to manage all these aspects, so the move to an Executive Director was just a natural next step. We are looking forward to the new changes in the FISH family.

Billie Stevens

What's Happening At FISH? I was expecting the normal drop in client numbers for September, as people move on when the weather gets colder, and the harvest starts winding down. But while there were a few days with a lower number of clients in September, there were plenty of days with high numbers. At some distributions we are registering up to 10 new families. The plus side of this is we are helping many people who are food insecure in our area.

I always find it fascinating talking to the FISH clients. Everyone has a story to tell. This month I have seen many smiles and some disappointments. I find it heartening that at least two different clients told me on Friday that they had applied for jobs that week and hoped not to have to use our services much longer. I will often ask unhoused clients what their plans are for the coming winter, and I was excited when one lady reported she signed a rent lease that day, so she will no longer be houseless. One young, unhoused client reported she had a good day because she was able to cook her food and not burn it. She said it actually tasted good. Sometimes you have to take the small wins in a day.

While most of our clients are positive and very thankful for our help, I still worry about them. There was the gentleman who used his last dollar to get to Hood River and said he was headed to Parkdale to pick fruit. I gently reminded him that they are almost done picking fruit. (One of our wonderful volunteers, quietly slipped him a few dollars so he had bus fare.) Or I worry about the client who is living in his car, but it is not just the man but also a female and young child. Then there is the client that thought he was going to walk to California, made it to Dee and decided his legs were not going to take him that far. He returned to Hood River and was excited because he got a tent.

This year we have been able to serve many of the farm workers in the area. This is an area we have wondered why we were not able to reach. So, we saw it as a positive that we were able to help farm worker families. Many of these individuals have limited English speaking skills. I have no Spanish speaking skills, but I still enjoy "shopping" with these clients. A smile goes a long way and I always get a laugh when we get to the fresh pears and ask if they would like some. Since they are picking and eating pears all day long, they don't want to take any home. I was talking with a group of young Hispanic men who were waiting to shop, I told them I could guess the one thing they would not want, pears. They all laughed and agreed!

Volunteer Spots Available At FISH FISH Volunteers are busy active people who love to travel. Winter is especially favorite time for volunteers to leave the area. Unfortunately, there are also times that our volunteer's health does not allow them to do their volunteer duties. Consequently, while some volunteers are off having fun or recuperating, there are volunteer spots that we need to fill. If you would like to fill in for our traveling or recuperating volunteers, please contact me.

Some of the areas where we can use help:

***Pick up food from Rosauers or Safeway.** This happens at about 8:00 to 8:30 AM and requires a large car/van or pickup truck. The bins you pick up can be heavy, Hood River site.

***Shopping with the Clients on Wednesday morning.** 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM. You will walk with the clients as they select their food choices, reminding them of the number of items they can select, take groceries in the bags and help take the food to the car Hood River site.

***Wednesday mornings, helping in the fruit and vegetable area.** Helping sort the food that comes from donations and getting the food ready for distribution. Because we shop on Wednesdays, we need to get this started early. About 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Hood River site.

***Helping clients shop during the evening distribution at the Hood River site.** This is either on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday afternoon. Distribution starts at 3:00 PM and ends at 5:00 PM on Monday and Friday and 5:30 PM on Wednesday. Spanish language is always a plus but not required. Also, we can also use someone to help take the groceries to the cars.

***Helping at the Hood River registration desk during distribution.** This is for some Monday's and some Friday's from about 2:45 PM to 5:00 PM. Some computer skills are helpful but not required.

***Driving the FISH Box truck to Cascade Locks from Hood River,** to deliver food on 3rd Wednesday, leave about 9:00 AM and be back to Hood River by 10:30ish. In addition to driving, you would assist in helping unload the truck. Also on the 4th Wednesday of the month. You would leave around Noon, then up unload the food and return.

***Helping unload the food truck at the Cascade Locks site.** This is on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Truck arrives about 9:30 AM. Does require being able to lift food boxes.

***Helping at the Cascade Locks distribution**, on the 4th Wednesday and the Saturday following the 4th Wednesday. 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 can always use substitute volunteers** to help with the distribution on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. This is from 4:00PM to 6:00PM.

If you would be interested in helping with any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Billie Stevens by either email; fish_vc@gorge.net or call/text at 541-490-5109.

Shout Out to Cardinal Glass A special thank you to Cardinal Glass for sponsoring a challenge to the community during the August Families in the Park event to raise funds to assist food insecure families of the Gorge. Cardinal Glass offered to match up to \$1000 each week for the money donated to FISH Food Bank during the month of August. Cardinal Glass was able to match \$5,000 to the \$20,103 donated in August. Thus because of their efforts the total donated dollars to purchase food in August was \$25,500. ***Thank you, Cardinal Glass, for helping families who face food insecurity each month.***

On A Personal Note Many of you have worked with and know Lorinda Hoffman who was the Hood River Site Manager and Operations Manager for almost 10 years. With her organizational skills, she helped design the current Hood River sites shopping and warehouse areas. Lorinda and her husband Don have decided to leave Hood River and move to Wyoming. I would like to wish them much luck on there move and thank her for her many years of working with the FISH Food Bank. Lorinda will be missed but she has left her mark on Hood River FISH Food Bank! The moving van will be here in about 2 weeks.

Church Calendar

Wednesday October 11

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

Thursday October 12

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

Saturday October 14

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop

Sunday October 15

9:30am Adult Sunday School
10:30am Worship
11:30am Workshop with Ruth Fletcher
11:45am Youth group meets with Melissa
3:30pm Hope and Life church worship

Tuesday October 17

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

7:00pm Church Board meets

Wednesday October 18

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

Thursday October 19

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

Saturday October 21

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop

Sunday October 22

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

Monday-Tuesday October 23-24

Kathy Holmson out of town, no newsletter Oct 25

Tuesday October 24

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

Wednesday October 25

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

Scriptures for Sunday October 15, 2023

Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

SERVING Sunday October 15, 2023

Elder this Week	Chrystal Akin
Communion prep	Leslie Hidle
AV Tech	Laurie
Coffee Hour	Frances & friends
Deacons	Serving Team # 1 Woody & Sue Eskildsen

Scriptures for Sunday October 22, 2023

Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

SERVING Sunday October 22, 2023

Elder this Week	Suze Nigl
Communion prep	Barbara Ritoch
AV Tech	Woody Eskildsen
Coffee Hour	Carol & friends
Deacons	Serving Team # 2 Jennifer Stager, Rylee Akin