

April 16, 2025



Hood River Valley Christian Church Newsletter

541-386-2608 hrcchurch@gmail.com

<https://www.hoodrivervalleychristianchurch.org/> and on Facebook

Sunday Worship Time

10:30am

Minister

Rev. Alicia Speidel 541-601-1949

aliciaspeidel@gmail.com

Church Administrative Assistant

Sable Duback

Office hours 10am-1pm or as needed

Sunday Worship

9:30 Adult Lectionary Preview

10:30 Worship

Link to Worship on April 13:

<https://www.facebook.com/100064940580441/videos/1016891313205043>

*Prayer
Requests*



Glenn & Donnamae Grannemann

Sharon & Gordon Cook

Doris Lewis

Vicki White

Tedra Turner

Stacey Jubitz

Ken Hansen

Jason Galon

Vestena Emerson

Thelma Warnock

Anse Hopkins

*Pray for health & rehabilitation for Anse Hopkins as she starts rehab after her Hospital Stay.

*Pray for the family of David Nash as they navigate this difficult time.

*Pray for Glenn, he has been put on hospice as of last week.

*Pray for perseverance for Thelma Warnock following her recent stroke.

Please email any prayer requests to hrcchurch@gmail.com or call our office at 541-386-2608.



Contribute to Our Floral Cross! We invite you to bring flowers from your garden or a local shop to help us create a beautiful floral cross for Easter Sunday Your contribution will add to the beauty and symbolism of this meaningful display.



Sharlene Wilkins- 04/03
 Katelyn Logan- 04/11
 Pastor Alicia Speidel- 04/13
 Carly Wyatt- 04/20
 Doug Massingil- 04/20
 Chrystal Akin- 04/21
 Barbara Ritoch- 04/21
 Anse Hopkins- 04/24
 Layla Gaffney- 04/28
 John Nigl- 04/29

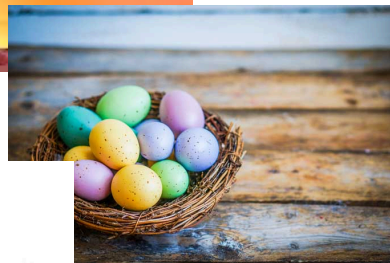
Come to the Maundy Thursday service on April 17 @ 6pm for scripture readings of Jesus' last steps, lighting of candles, communion and hymns. The service will begin with a soup supper.

Can you help provide food? Needed are two crocks of soup for 15-20 people. The sign-up sheet is on the entryway table.



On Easter morning come enjoy breakfast provided by the youth in the church Fellowship Hall at 9:30am.

Yummy pancakes, eggs, sausage and fruit will be ready. Donations support the youth.



An easter egg hunt will take place for children and youth after worship.

Order Easter Lilies for \$17 Each



We are taking orders for Easter lily plants for the sanctuary. Order yours now—signup sheet and an envelope for cash (checks payable to HRVCC) are in the lobby. Please deposit payment in the envelope.

Lilies will be available to take home with you after Easter Sunday worship.



Wonder: The Inside Story

Supporting general ministries of the Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ). Received in most congregations

Luke 24:1-12

Sunday, April 13 & 20, 2025

or two alternative Sundays in your congregation

At the break of dawn, the women came to the tomb, expecting to find the body of Jesus. Instead, they were met with an empty grave and messengers who proclaimed, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!" (Luke 24:5-6).

Astonishment. Awe. *Wonder.*

Inside the tomb, the story changes. Inside the sacred witness of the community gathered to prepare the body of Christ, disciples are moved to wonder. The resurrection fills us with the same wonder that gripped the first witnesses of the empty tomb. It is the wonder of love stronger than death, of hope that defies despair, of a risen Christ whose presence transforms the world.

On Easter, we gather as one body, across many places, cultures, and languages, to celebrate and live inside this wonder together. Through the Easter Special Offering, we respond to the miracle of resurrection by sharing Christ's boundless love in tangible ways. Your gifts support ministries that proclaim that Jesus is alive and active, from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth:

- Health and social service ministries that offer care to those in need.
- Mental health resources to support pastors and congregations.
- New worshipping communities gathering in diverse languages and styles.
- Leadership development programs raising up new voices for the church and world.
- Chaplains in hospitals and the military providing spiritual care across the globe.
- Stewardship education to nurture a spirit of generosity.
- Global mission partnerships supporting communities facing conflict and climate challenges.
- Gatherings like the General Assembly, where the church comes together in faith and purpose.
- And so much more...

Just as the disciples ran in wonder to see the empty tomb, we too are called to run toward the work of resurrection—bringing healing, hope, and new life into the world. This Easter, let us respond to the wonder of the risen Christ by investing in ministries that make Christ's love known.

The Easter Offering supports these general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):

Center for Faith and Giving, Obra Hispana, Communication Ministries, Christian Unity and Interfaith Ministry, Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Disciples Home Missions, Disciples Women, Disciples Overseas Ministries (Global Ministries), Higher Education and Leadership Ministries, National Benevolent Association, National Convocation, New Church Ministry, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples, Office of the General Minister and President, and Treasury Services.

Please give generously to the Easter Offering on Sunday, April 13 and 20 or two alternative Sundays in your congregation using the giving envelopes or online at disciplesmissionfund.org/give.



The Oregon and SW Idaho Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) invites you to summer camp 2025!

This summer, our region is offering two exciting opportunities for our children and youth to gather together in community for fellowship, spiritual growth, and FUN!

Elementary Camp!

For children who have completed grades 1-5, we are offering camp the week of July 21-25, 2025. This camp will be held at the beautiful Suttle Lake camp near Sisters, Oregon and is an ecumenical camp with our Methodist and Episcopalian friends. The camp theme will help us recognize that we are linked by love. Music, art, games, conversations, time in nature and more will help our campers with their exploration.

Cost is \$588. A \$50 deposit is due at time of registration. If you register by May 5th, you'll receive a \$25 Early Bird Discount. Camp scholarships are available through many local congregations. If you are needing a scholarship or have other questions about this camp, please contact Rev. Sara Staton at revsarastaton@gmail.com Please find Poster with Registration Links [HERE!](#)

Middle/High School Camp!

For youth who have completed grades 6-12 we are offering camp the week of August 4-8, 2025. This camp will also be at Suttle Lake camp near Sisters, Oregon. The camp theme will be centered around that there is always room at the table! In fact, the table is crowded! Worship, games, small group discussions, outdoor activities and more will fill the week. Join us at summer camp this year to find your seat! Cost is \$450. If you are

needing a scholarship or have other questions about this camp, please contact Alicia Speidel at aliciaspeidel@gmail.com or Kimberly Roberts at administer@redrockchristianchurch.org
Please find the Registration Form [HERE!](#)

CHURCH YOUTH - PLEASE DO NOT PAY FOR CAMP! THE MONEY To PAY FOR CAMP WILL COME OUT OF THE HRVCC YOUTH FUND.

Volunteers Thrive at Camp, Too



Kailey, Abi and Suttle Lake campers

People are at the heart of our mission in Camp and Retreat Ministries - loving people, serving people, and connecting people. We want everyone at our sites to experience God's love, to revel in wonder at God's creation, and build community rooted in faith.

Leading camps, maintaining expansive natural sites, and hosting large groups require many hands and hearts working in concert. One of those people is 18-year-old Kailey Speidel, a volunteer counselor at Suttle Lake Camp.

Volunteers like Kailey create magical and inspirational moments for campers. While engineering those moments for campers, something divine happens for the doer. Volunteers leave camp with a deep sense of accomplishment, new friends and experiences. We hope all our volunteers are fulfilled and blessed by their service.

Kailey and all our counselors share their time for the kids and the joy of camp life. They ensure each camper feels welcomed, supported, and loved at camp. As a former camper herself, she knows how exciting and sometimes scary it can be for campers to be away from home for the first time. She loves watching her campers step out of their comfort zone to embrace challenges, make friends, and learn new skills. "Seeing the campers change was super rewarding. Knowing that I played a little part in all that makes my heart so happy," Kailey said.

Kailey greatly appreciates the bonds and support system she's built with the other counselors. When she was unsure or nervous, her fellow counselors believed in her and were always willing to help. "My co-counselors made me so much more confident in who I was, and I will forever be grateful for that," shared Kailey.

Kailey is looking forward to returning to Suttle Lake in Summer 2025 for more counselor adventures on her faith journey to wonder, love, and justice.

"I love the campers and the people who work at Suttle Lake. I always feel peaceful and joyful when I am at Suttle Lake. I've missed being in the mountains with all of my favorite people, and I can't wait to be at camp again," Kailey said.

Volunteers Power this Ministry



217 VOLUNTEERS
SERVED IN 2024



128 LEADERSHIP
VOLUNTEERS



OVER 7,000 HOURS
SERVED BY VOLUNTEERS



2024 MINISTRY IN ACTION



14,317 Total
Guests Served



344 Retreat
Groups Served



5,724 Youth
Campers Served



80 Paid
Employees



230 Congregations
Served



118,037 Meals
Served



**Camp
Magruder**

Join Us for the 80th Anniversary Celebration
of Camp Magruder!

We're marking this special occasion with a joy-filled anniversary weekend at Camp Magruder. This is your chance to reconnect with camp friends, relive cherished memories, and create new ones.

Expect classic camp activities, meaningful worship, delicious meals in Carrier Lodge, and plenty of time to reminisce and dream about the future of Camp Magruder.

When: May 24, 2025

Where: Camp Magruder

Who's Invited: Everyone who loves Camp Magruder—past campers, staff, families, and friends!

Register to let us know you're coming:

www.gocamping.org/campsession/13253456



2025 Registration is Open!

Children and Youth camps,
Adult retreats and Family camps are
waiting for you!

Find your adventure at
www.gocamping.org/campsessions.

"Love flows from
God and links us all
together."

(from the 2025
curriculum)



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The Pastor's COLUMN

Thank you, thank you, thank you for making my birthday extra special this past Sunday. Thank you for singing happy birthday to me with the brass quintet (wow!), for the heartfelt cards, for the gift card and gifts, for the beautiful flowers, for the yummy cake and for surrounding me in love. It was a wonderful morning on a lovely day filled with sunshine.

It was also the beginning of Holy Week, a week filled with intense ups and downs. It's a week we need to walk through to arrive at the resurrection. It's a week where we are to fully feel what comes, embracing the journey. We are to work towards that spiritual hydration, knowing spiritual hydration is there for each of every one of us. Bring on the resurrection and Easter Sunday.

~Pastor Alicia



The Final Stretch: Holy Week

As the season of Lent draws to a close, we stand at the threshold of Holy Week, the most sacred time in the Christian calendar. This final week is a profound journey, inviting us to walk alongside Jesus in his final days, from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem to his glorious resurrection.

Holy Wednesday: April 16th, 2025

Also known as Spy Wednesday, this day traditionally recalls Judas' agreement to betray Jesus. It's a somber reminder of human frailty and the cost of betrayal. Some churches may hold a Tenebrae service on this evening, a unique and moving liturgy characterized by the gradual extinguishing of candles, symbolizing the darkness descending upon Jesus and the world.

Maundy Thursday: April 17th, 2025 SOUP SUPPER AND TENEBRAE SERVICE 6PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

This day commemorates the Last Supper, the final meal Jesus shared with his disciples. Key observances include the Mass of the Lord's Supper, during which the institution of the Eucharist is remembered, and often the ritual washing of feet, symbolizing Jesus' humility and call to service. The altar is typically stripped bare at the end of this liturgy, signifying the abandonment of Jesus and the beginning of his Passion.

Good Friday: April 18th, 2025

Good Friday is a day of deep mourning and reflection on Jesus' crucifixion and death. It is a day of fasting and abstinence for many Christians. Services often include readings from the Passion narratives, the veneration of the cross, and a solemn liturgy with no celebration of the Eucharist. The focus is on the immense sacrifice Jesus made for humanity.

Holy Saturday: April 19th, 2025

This is a day of quiet anticipation. The church remains somber, the altar bare. It is a day of waiting at the Lord's tomb, reflecting on his descent into the realm of the dead and awaiting his resurrection. In the evening, the Easter Vigil, the most important liturgy of the Christian year, takes place. This powerful service includes the blessing of the new fire and Paschal candle, readings tracing salvation history, the baptism or welcoming of new members, and the joyful celebration of the Eucharist, proclaiming Christ's victory over darkness and death.

As we move through this Holy Week, let us open our hearts to the profound mystery of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. May this journey deepen our faith and prepare us to celebrate the joy of Easter Sunday on April 20th, 2025, with renewed hope and gratitude.

Church Calendar

Wednesday April 16

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift shop open

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

Thursday April 17

7:00am Men's study Vista Room

***6:00pm Soup supper & Tenebrae Service
in Fellowship Hall**

Saturday April 19

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

Sunday April 20- Easter Sunday

9:30am Easter breakfast put on by children and youth.

10:30am Worship

11:30 Easter Egg hunt for children and youth.

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship.

April 21-24 Pastor Alicia out of town.

Wednesday April 23

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

Thursday April 24

7:00am Men's study Vista Room

Saturday April 26

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

Sunday April 27

9:30am Adult Lectionary Preview

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope and Life Church worship

Tuesday April 29

10:00am Women's bible study

Wednesday April 30

9:00am-12:00pm Thrift shop open

9:00am-12:00pm Quilters meet

Thursday May 01

7:00am Men's study Vista Room

Saturday May 03

9:00am-12:00pm Thriftshop open

9am-3pm SIMPLICITY SALE

Sunday May 04- Gathering for FISH

9:30 Adult lectionary study

10:30am Worship

4:00pm Hope And Life Church Worship

Serving Sunday April 20, 2025

Elder this week	Jennifer Stager
Communion prep	Barb Ritoch
Coffee hour	Judy and Friends
Deacon	Betty O

Scriptures for Sunday April 20, 2025

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalm 118:1-2;14-24

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43

John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

Serving Sunday April 27, 2025

Elder this week	Carol Sabins
Communion prep	Maggie Strausser
Coffee hour	Carol and friends
Deacons	Otto and Jan

Scriptures for Sunday April 27, 2025

Acts 5:27-32

Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150

Revelation 1:4-8

John 20:19-31