Youth pastor submits resignation

Catherine Davis will wrap up seven years of service in July 2012

At the close of services on Sunday, April 29, Pastor Steve Grace read a letter of resignation he received from Youth Pastor Catherine Davis. She plans to finish the school year and remain through the youth’s summer schedule which concludes at the end of July. Her letter reads:

Dear Steve, Governing Board and Church Family,

It is with a sad and thankful heart that I am writing this letter to submit my resignation as youth pastor at Hood River Alliance Church. During my seven years here, Hood River, and more importantly, the people here, have become my home and family and I am incredibly sad to be moving on from here. At the same time, I am overwhelmingly thankful to have been allowed the opportunity to serve our church family here. Thank you so much for allowing me into your

...continued on page 7

Retreat challenged men to set the pace

Local pastors called men to lead by example

Over 40 men from Hood River Alliance journeyed to central Oregon for the 12th annual Summit to Summit men’s retreat, April 13-15. Young Life’s Washington Family Ranch is part of a 100-square-mile slice of the desert near Antelope, surrounded by the John Day River, fossil beds, whimsical rock formations, dry sage, and endless blue sky.

Our men joined 200+ campers from some 23 Gorge-area churches for the largest gathering ever. We were treated to stirring worship, lively small group discussions, and challenging teaching from four local pastors, including our own Steve Grace.

This year’s theme, “Setting the Pace,” focused on 1 Timothy 4:12, “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in...continued on page 7
his summer I have been given the opportunity to pull away for a time of sabbatical rest and re-creation. Pastoral sabbaticals find their origin in the concept of “sabbath.” In the scriptures, sabbath meant a few different things. First, it meant rest from work. In Genesis 1 and 2 we learn that God rested on the seventh day from all the work he had done. Later in scripture he commands his people to follow his example and to keep a sabbath in order to rest their bodies, minds and souls. Another sabbath practice in scripture was to allow land to lie fallow every seventh year. This kept it from being depleted and resulted in greater harvests when it was planted once again.

The third sabbath practice the Bible describes has to do with the Year of Jubilee. Every fifty years, the Jewish people would forgive debt, not charge rent, and not harvest crops; instead, they would celebrate and offer sacrifices to God out of love and devotion.

Sabbatical is a time of renewal where, instead of giving out, one has the opportunity to rest and be refilled. I’m thankful our fellowship has a sabbatical plan built into our policy for pastoral care, and I believe that after eight years of serving here at Hood River Alliance, the church and I will greatly benefit from this experience.

My plan is to focus on the five following areas of my life: relationships, spiritual life, intellectual growth, physical health and emotional well being. In the course of life and ministry, all these areas can suffer from lack of attention. My hope is that spending three months intentionally focusing on these areas would fill me up and prepare me for another long season of ministry here at Hood River Alliance.

My sabbatical will take place for three months, July through September. During that time, Holly and I will be doing some traveling to catch up with extended family. We also plan to visit other churches to experience their worship and learn from their best practices. Additionally, we will spend time around our home reading, reflecting and spending time with our children.

We are really excited about the amazing opportunity and look forward to seeing how God will meet us as we purpose to spend an extended time with him.
Are we giving Steve Grace a three-month vacation?

Carefully planned sabbatical will benefit both pastor and congregation

by Dan Armstrong, Elder

Part of our responsibility as a Governing Board is to guard our pastor, keep him accountable, and support him in leading the church. Under the guidance of the elders and in accordance with our Employee Policy and Procedures, we are encouraging Pastor Steve to take a sabbatical this summer. You might be wondering, is that just a vacation? What does it mean?

A sabbatical is a carefully planned period of time in which a pastor is granted time away from his normal ministerial responsibilities for study, spiritual formation, and renewal. A sabbatical provides the change of scenery which prevents routine from becoming rut. It nourishes enrichment and prevents stagnation by reinvigorating body, mind, and soul.

The pastor’s profession and duties, unlike many secular jobs, draw from the inner being. Without care, a draining will occur. Hence, the sabbatical is not passive “do nothing” time, but a time of intentional replenishment, traditionally giving attention to four areas of life. Pastor Steve’s sabbatical plan, which he submitted to the Board in April, covers these areas.

The Physical
What will be the pastor’s plan for rest, exercise and diet? How will he sharpen and hone his body that God uses for ministry? How will the pastor carry these plans beyond the sabbatical into a new discipline during future ministry?

The Relational
The nature of ministry is that it is intense and prolonged, often resulting in the neglect of relationships—be they immediate family, extended family, friendships, or colleagues. What will be the pastor’s plan for giving renewed time and attention to his wife and children, or long-unvisited extended family, good friends or significant colleagues?

The Intellectual
As in every field of study, pastors too have areas of special interest and specific skills they want to enhance. A reading plan, a study plan, or attending a theological/ministerial update or workshop will usually be a part of the pastor’s sabbatical.

The Spiritual
Presiding at worship is not the same as worshipping. Researching Christian literature and writing a message is not the same as spending time in personal devotions. Praying with and for and in front of others is not the same as walking and talking alone with God. The opportunity to worship (often in a variety of settings and styles) with his spouse and children, brings a flood of comfort, relaxation, and joy the rest of us take for granted.

“I go to prepare a place for you. I will come again... that where I am you may be also.” (John 14:2-3) This scripture, while certainly speaking of heaven, also speaks another truth: that a leader has to first go himself where he wishes to take his followers. If he hasn’t been there himself, he cannot successfully take anyone else there. One of the things happening when a pastor takes a sabbatical is that he is “going” for the purpose of “preparing a place” to take his congregation. He must first go himself where few have personally gone—wading into deeper spiritual waters, discovering new intellectual territory—in order to be able to return and take us there.

As we “let go,” our joy will be watching God prove himself faithful among us with a great summer of new experiences. We send Steve and Holly off with our wishes for a wonderful sabbath season and many blessings to tell us about upon their return.

Dan Armstrong, one of our seven elders, is a retired pastor who has himself taken a sabbatical, as well as served in interim ministries for pastors on sabbatical.
No VBS this year (*GASP!* *)

We are taking a rest from the summer program as we pursue plans for an exciting new thing!

Our church will not be hosting a Vacation Bible School (VBS) program this year. (Insert “gasp” here.) This decision has been absolutely steeped in prayer!

I would like to share with you our reasons, along with an exciting new vision the Lord has given us for Children’s Ministry. First, please know how much we love VBS! It is a dynamic program and we love the blessing of providing it to the community and to the children of our church. In the last few years, our community has really stepped up to the plate and is doing a fabulous job in providing various local VBS programs.

The one thing in my mind that has always been a bit of a drawback to VBS, is that we impact so many in such a short time—five awesome days of Bible learning, fun and decisions for Christ are made—but then it ends. We are now feeling the Lord would have us take the next step and go deeper with our kids, and the children of this community. Our vision is to do this by providing a mid-week program during the school year! We plan to begin in January 2013.

What will it look like?

Much like the vision and passion we have for regular consistent teachers, we desire the opportunity to bless kids with consistent learning, fun and discipleship long-term. We will do this in a VBS-ish kind of way, beginning as a group in the sanctuary with music, worship and more. Then we’ll break into smaller age groups, each with a regular leader, where we will do more intentional Bible learning, play games, eat yummy snacks and build relationships!

The salvation of each child is our primary goal, but it doesn’t stop there! We must teach and disciple our children to learn how to live for Jesus their whole lives long!

Please join us in praying for this program. Pray for God’s anointing, for leaders, and for clear vision! We have an amazing church leadership here that fully supports this program. Lots of people are already excited and committed! We invite you to come alongside Children’s Ministry to help us bring Jesus to this community! Wahoo!!

Jonah Ministries offering summer camp deals

In the absence of a summer program at our place, I contacted Jeff and Beki Duke (who own Jonah Ministries in Trout Lake, WA) to see if they might be able to help. They provide a whole range of Christian camps for grades 1-12. They have graciously offered a special discount to HRAC attenders — half price on any 2012 Jonah Ministries summer camp! Register online at www.campjonah.com. Enter code: HRAC. You may contact them at jonah@campjonah.com or call (509) 395-2900.

A new face in the nursery

Monique Bricker joins Children’s staff as Nursery Coordinator

No, it’s not another baby—although we see plenty of those new faces every week! It is our pleasure to introduce Monique Bricker who joined our Children’s Ministry staff in March, mainly to oversee our busy nursery. We are serious about providing excellent care for our littlest attenders, so Monique’s role in managing the nursery is crucial and needed. In the fall of 2010, we cared for an average of 3-4 babies each service; this April (2012), that average had climbed to 10-11.

Monique (and her entire family) has served in Children’s Ministry for many years. She has been a weekly Sunday school teacher, a faithful substitute teacher, and dedicated volunteer for all things “Children’s Ministry.”

“Kaylene and I are so excited to have Monique as a wonderful addition to our team,” said Children’s Director Karola Aleckson. “With ‘three strands,’ it now feels complete!” Monique’s responsibilities will also include general Children’s Ministry business along with a place on the CM leadership team.

Monique has been married for 19 years to Dale Bricker, one of our elders who is also a devoted nursery volunteer. The Brickers have three girls, Ansley (15), Elizabeth (13) and Kate (6).
In the last year, men of the church have been involved with a number of hands-on projects—and they are not slowing down! This fall, men at the November monthly Men’s Breakfast diverted from their normal activities and hosted a work party up at Jonah Ministries in Trout Lake, WA. The year-round Christian camp facility is owned by Hood River Alliance active attenders Jeff and Beki Duke who have offered it numerous times for the church’s use. It was the site of a youth retreat last spring, our church family campout last summer, as well as the Men’s Advance retreat in the fall.

Seventeen guys showed up the morning of Saturday, November 12, and, after a breakfast prepared by Jonah staff, made themselves busy with several projects around the camp. They sheet-rocked a classroom (shown at right), started framing for the new Camp Store, removed old paint from the Bus Barn, helped Jeff with winterizing activities and other small jobs.

“It was a great day for doing some service work up at Jonah Ministries,” said Mark Brown. “It felt good to bless Jeff and Beki.”

The December breakfast included a canned food drive for FISH Food Bank. During the winter, men installed sound panels in the youth center, hung new light fixtures in the sanctuary, and remodeled the area behind it. They updated the Fellowship Hall with new paint and molding, and installed wainscoting in the Preschool Room. They have done basic repairs, fencing, and landscaping. Most recently, they set all the posts for the fence around a new playground site (see above).

The next Men’s Breakfast is Saturday, June 9 at 8:00 a.m. All men are invited to come enjoy a meal followed by a brief devotional time. Afterward, those who can stay will be doing more work on the playground site.
Prayer Ministry will miss Pattons

Couple has modeled steadfast faith and shared their wisdom

The Hood River Alliance Prayer Ministry team would like to acknowledge and thank Dan and Janice Patton for their leadership over the past years in prayer ministry here. Janice is retiring from the school district and relocating to Ellensburg, WA to be with Dan who is a principal for the school district there. We will greatly miss the Pattons, but know that our loss, is the Ellensburg community’s gain!

They have been an integral part of this church body in their steadfast leadership, modeling and teaching (see Janice’s article on page 11).

Dan and Janice, we bless you with all of God’s goodness and favor in your continued journey with our faithful Lord and Savior. We love you, Pattons!

We will honor the Pattons at the Prayer Team Breakfast on Sunday, June 3 in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30 a.m. prior to first service. Join us as we bless the Pattons and send them off with our prayers. Tina Graves will share a teaching and Teri Bryant will bring a charge for the team.

Tina Graves will oversee Sunday AM youth program

On March 11, we welcomed Tina Graves to our part-time staff as Youth Discipleship Coordinator. Her role is focused mainly on providing students and families who attend Sunday mornings a place to grow and belong. Her responsibilities include leading the program which meets during second service in the Youth Center. Tina teaches the large-group portion of the session (which averages 30 students per week), and oversees the nine volunteer staff who lead the gender- and grade-specific small groups that follow.

Tina is no stranger to education. She teaches math at Hood River Valley High School and at Columbia Gorge Community College. She has been part of our Women’s Bible Study teaching team, and heads up a weekly community group for young adults ages 18-25.

“Over the years, Tina has shown a real heart for our church and for youth, specifically,” said Pastor Steve Grace.

She currently serves as a member of our Governing Board, and has been active in missions. Most recently she spent a year in Jordan as a missionary. On the flip side, this teacher is also a student at George Fox University, pursuing a seminary degree in Spiritual Formation. Welcome aboard, Tina!

New church sign installed

Scout completes sign as part of Eagle project

Adam McCaw, 15, stands with the sign he and fellow boy scouts from Troop 282 installed at the corner of Rand Road and Montello Avenue. They also posted smaller signs at our parking lot entrances and by the church office. Adam worked for a year to complete the sign project as part of the requirements to achieve rank as an Eagle Scout. The process included submitting church staff-approved designs to the city, obtaining permits, constructing the frame, and installing the finished product. Thanks for your hard work on this great addition to our campus, Adam!
Youth pastor resigns  
continued from page 1

homes and lives of course the lives of the students here. You are an incredible church that loves Christ and others amazingly well and it has been an honor to minister alongside the people here. God has used this period in my life to continue to grow and form me, and I believe that He is calling me on to the next chapter of my life in His service.

Living the Call Together,  
Catherine Davis

Catherine was introduced to Hood River Alliance Church in 2004 by her college roommate, Nicole, whose father, Mike Ballah, was our youth pastor at the time. We had just hired Steve Grace as our new associate pastor. That fall, Catherine came to intern with Mike for eight months. In 2006, the pint-sized church kid from Canada known for her willingness to step out and try new things took on a huge job when Mike retired and she came on board as our full-time youth pastor.

She and Jesse Larvick (who joined the staff as a second youth pastor in 2007) led an incredible team of adult volunteer staff who share the task of loving on kids and building bridges to Jesus. When Jesse moved from youth pastor to associate pastor in 2009, Catherine continued to effectively manage the ministry, always recognizing with gratitude the amazing support and contribution of her dedicated youth staff and interns.

In addition to ably connecting with and serving middle and high school students over the years, Catherine has also proved to be a gifted teacher of God’s Word in our pulpit. We have benefitted from her knowledge, spiritual depth, and encouragement.

The average length of time a youth pastor serves a church is 18 months. We have been blessed and privileged to have Catherine with us for seven growth-filled years. Please pray for Pastor Steve and the Governing Board as they seek God’s direction for our next steps in this transition. Also lift up our youth volunteers and the many students who will miss Catherine so much.

Summit to Summit retreat  
continued from page 1

conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” Men of all ages were challenged to keep their lives in sync with their words, to love as Christ loved, to trust fully in the gospel of grace, and to seek purity as a lifelong pursuit.

There was plenty of opportunity for rest and relaxation, and we took full advantage of it! During the day, men engaged in a number of activities, including whiffle ball, hiking, mountain biking, riding a huge zipline into the lake, and enjoying the indoor climbing / skating / gymnasium sports center. There is already excitement buzzing for next year’s retreat, scheduled for April 12-14, 2013. Pre-register now to save your spot at the lowest possible cost. Call the church office for details. Men, we look forward to seeing you there!

More baptized!

We were excited to celebrate with another batch of folks who were baptized on Sunday, February 5. The ensemble of those making a public statement of their faith in Jesus Christ included four guys from a growing men’s weekly fellowship group dubbed “The Boat.” About a dozen men stood in a line at the front of the sanctuary as witnesses in solidarity with their friends. In the water, Gary Fisher helped Associate Pastor John Blosser do the dipping.

After his own baptism, Joe Lucas had the privilege of assisting Pastor John in baptizing Joe’s twin sons, Jordan and Julian, age 11. Blake Willis, 9, ranked as the day’s youngest participant. Pastor John hoisted him up so the congregation could see Blake during charges given by his mom, Joyce Willis, and aunt, Tina Graves.

Youth Pastor Catherine Davis introduced Emily and Makenna, two girls from our youth group who wanted to make their faith known. The baptism concluded with Lee Moore, 77, who came to faith in the last year and beamed with joy as his son, Mike Moore, read a charge. Steve affirmed Lee’s willingness to step into an uncomfortable situation in order to obey Christ. Thank you, Jesus! Bring us MORE!

Moore baptized  
Pastor Steve Grace (right) prepares to baptize Lee Moore (center), with the help of one of Lee’s sons, Steve Moore. Lee’s granddaughter Juliana (Steve’s daughter), 6, snaps photos in the background.

Order of Baptism

FIRST SERVICE
Brian Hoffman  
Loren Ayles  
Aaron Weseman  
Joe Lucas  
Jordan Lucas, 11  
Julian Lucas, 11  
Blake Willis, 9

SECOND SERVICE
Emily Leslie, 15  
Makena Carter, 17  
Lee Moore
Summer soaking time will meet at waterfront

Ladies, plan now to be a part of Watered in the Word, a slow-down time of worship and soaking in scripture which will meet on Wednesday evenings for seven weeks beginning Wednesday, July 11, at 6:30 p.m. This year we plan to meet by the waterfront. Watch for more info coming soon!

Women to swap fashions

For Women only (please, no children)—Come for a fun time of sharing and relaxation with other women at a “Fashion Swap” on Friday, June 15, from 6-8 p.m. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. You will receive a ticket to participate when you drop off your clean, gently used items that day from 4:00-5:45 p.m. Those without tickets will be allowed in at 7 p.m. Questions? Call Graciela (541) 380-1490.

Wrapping up 1 Corinthians

■ THURSDAYS, 9 AM FELLOWSHIP HALL

Come for teaching and discussion. Childcare is always provided. Remember you can listen to lessons you’ve missed on our website. We will meet through Thursday, June 7, when we’ll wrap up our season. Afterward, we’ll enjoy a potluck brunch together. Bring your favorite item to share!

• Nursery care
• Busy Bees Class (2-3’s)
• Preschool Class (4-5’s)

CHURCH IN THE PARK!
Community Worship Service returns Sunday, July 22

■ 10:00 a.m., Jackson Park

This will be the third year hundreds of Christians from area churches have gathered in Jackson Park to worship as ONE CHURCH. Don’t miss it!

Please carpool and bring lawn chairs.

For Men

Men’s group meets early Thursdays

6:00 - 7:00 a.m., Pastor’s Office

Pastor Steve Grace leads a men’s study on Thursday mornings. Subjects vary. All men are welcome. Come check it out.

Young adults meet Sunday PMs

Tina Graves leads a community group for young adults (ages 18-25) at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday nights at the home of John and Emily Blosser (3889 Fairview Dr., Hood River). Come by some time. To find out more, call Tina at (541) 806-4415, or… just show up!
Support and Recovery

“My grace is enough for you...”
— 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Folks finding help, healing at CR

Program offers safe place to get real and deal with your “stuff”

Celebrate Recovery (“CR” as it’s fondly known) continues to have a steady group of attenders on Tuesday nights, reports Recovery Ministries Director Lud Tolbert. Recently they added two new open share men’s groups, one for those struggling with chemical addiction and the other for those battling anger and a critical spirit.

Aside from Tuesday meetings, CR also has step studies which meet separately and allow people to work through the program more in depth. These closed groups take 9 months to a year to complete. “One women’s step study has just completed,” Lud said, “and two others are meeting now—one for women and one for men.” He expects some new ones in the fall.

Several involved with CR have shared honestly from our platform about the “junk in their trunk” and the recovery God is working out in their lives through their involvement in CR.

Lud, who led a sexual addiction recovery group at our church for about ten years before we implemented the CR program here, says he feels privileged to be a part of the work God is doing to change people’s lives through CR. “It’s a blessing to watch it happen in others,” he says, “but really, the Lord’s not done with me yet, either.”

Several from Hood River will attend CR Summit in California

Each year, Saddleback Church (the birthplace of Celebrate Recovery) in Lake Forest, California hosts the Celebrate Recovery Summit, an international conference featuring three days of training, fellowship and fun. A delegation of about 11 of our CR folks plan to attend this year’s event on August 8-10. They will hear from Pastor John and Cheryl Baker, the founders of CR, as well as Drs. Henry Cloud, John Townsend and many more gifted speakers. For more information, call Lud at (541) 308-5339 or visit www.saddleback.com.

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered program designed to help those struggling with addictions or destructive habits, or suffering the wounds of past hurts, to find healing and freedom. We meet every week (no exceptions). We start at 6:15 with dinner together, then go into a time of worship, followed by either teaching or a testimony, and open share groups. We cap it all off with fellowship afterward. Within this close community, we are finding a place to celebrate God’s healing power in our lives as we work our way along the road of recovery.

There’s a place for YOU at Celebrate Recovery!

ADULT MINISTRY

Community Groups

Connected yet?

We have lots of places for you to plug in!

www.HoodRiverAlliance.org
(541) 386-2812
New members welcomed

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to the following new members of our fellowship:

On Nov. 6, 2011:
- Olive Dorn
- Lee Moore
- Steve Moore

On January 22, 2012:
- Les and Patti Henry
- James Kreiser
- Carol Neuhart-Hoye
- Larry Tolbert
- Alan Wiebe

If you are interested in becoming a member of our church, call the office at (541) 386-2812 to find out when the next Roots 101 class will be offered.

Dedicated Pete and Mathea Valentine brought their son Lincoln (born 6/9/11) forward on Sunday, October 23, to dedicate him to the Lord. Along with them were their daughter Sierra (6), and son Chaz (4). As Pete held him, Lincoln’s attention remained firmly fixed on Pastor Steve Grace while he spoke about the Valentines’ desire to bring up their children in a godly home. Impressed by the tot’s unwavering focus, Steve told the congregation: “Some of you could learn from this guy!” He took Lincoln and held him up “Lion King style,” then led the church body in a prayer for wisdom, protection, and blessing over the Valentine family.

Families dedicate babies to the Lord

Several families participated in a Baby Dedication on Sunday, January 15. Pastors John Blosser and Pete Tegeler joined Pastor Steve on the platform, sharing the privilege of praying for and with these children and their families:

- **Grayson Lee Foster** (born 1/5/12)  
  Parents: Eric & Amber Foster

- **Kellen Thomas Goss** (born 11/11/11)  
  Parents: Steve & Gretchen Goss

- **Gavyn Ortiz Hanshaw** (born 12/13/11)  
  Parents: Cody & Jamie Hanshaw

- **Gracyn Rayn Hanshaw** (born 11/29/08)  
  Parents: Cody & Jamie Hanshaw

- **Isaiah Michael Ingersoll** (born 6/8/11)  
  Parents: Mike & Heather Ingersoll

- **Oliver Daniel Reiss** (born 8/15/10)  
  Parents: Daniel & Nicole Reiss

- **Amelia Claire Leming** (born 11/18/11)  
  Parents: Robb & Audra Leming

If you are interested in dedicating your child during one of our services, please contact a pastor or call the church office at (541) 386-2812.

“...” —3 John 4
When you can’t see God’s plan...

■ In difficult times, it is important to persevere in prayer and keep your focus on Jesus

by Janice Patton, Prayer Ministry Co-leader

Have you been praying for a situation for a long time and there seems to be no change? Maybe that situation has even gone from bad to worse and you are beginning to doubt the power of prayer. In Mark 11:22, Jesus simply tells His disciples, “Have faith in God.”

In prayer, we need to keep our focus on God and His sovereignty. Discouragement comes when our focus shifts away from God to a desired outcome. When we experience difficult, unexpected circumstances, or face those chronic situations that bring affliction to our souls, we need to keep our eyes on Jesus, not the waves swirling around us. God is calling us to a deeper faith in Him and to persevere in prayer through those times.

The prophet Jeremiah records God’s words: “‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” (Jeremiah 29:11)

When your life is a mess, or things happen that don’t make sense, you can focus on this promise: God has a marvelous plan for you that you cannot even imagine! The place He has you now is only a stepping-stone to the next piece of His plan. Like a puzzle, you can’t see the whole picture with only a couple of pieces in place.

Consider what Jennifer Kennedy Dean says in Live a Praying Life: “Don’t put a period where God puts a comma.” For example, think of that Saturday when Jesus was in the tomb. The situation for the disciples went from bad to the worst possible—Jesus died! But what looked like a forever defeated end actually became the ground from which eternal victory emerged. This was part of God’s sovereign plan.

The circumstances we face now are part of the process God is using to produce His desired outcome in our lives and bring about His plans for us. When you put your faith and trust in Him, He will direct your path. Romans 8:28 gives us this promise: “We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose.” (Rom)

We serve an almighty, powerful God who loves us so much that He gave up his Son so we could be set free from sin and death. God is worthy of our love, faith, and trust! So keep praying, keep your focus on God, have faith in Him, and wait expectantly for His marvelous work in your situation. “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)

HOW?

How do you keep your eyes on Jesus when the stormy seas surround you?

■ When you get anxious or afraid, call upon the Lord. (Matthew 14:30)

■ Meditate on God’s promises. Here are a few:
  2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Nahum 1:7; Hebrews 2:18; Psalm 138:7; Psalm 55:22; Psalm 46:1-3

■ Realize there is purpose in the storm.
  
1. Recount times in the past when God has brought you through a different time of testing. Think about how God used that time to grow your character, trust and faith. (James 1:2-3)

2. Remember that Jesus sent the disciples into the storm. God also sent the Israelites to a location where their backs were against the Red Sea. This was purposeful, for God to show His power to deliver.

3. If you are in a stormy time, realize God is in the midst of the storm with you. (Isaiah 41:13)

4. Know that at God’s appointed time, the storm will end. (1 Peter 5:6-7)
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To Benefit Our Youth Programs

The 9th Annual
DICK DUCKWALL
GOLF CLASSIC

2012

Saturday, June 16
Indian Creek Golf Course
Teams of Four, all levels welcome!
To register, visit HoodRiverAlliance.org.

CONTACT US

Office Hours: Mon & Fri—8 a.m. - noon
Tues-Thurs—8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: (541) 386-2812
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Website: www.hoodriveralliance.org

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Steve Grace . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Senior Pastor
John Blosser . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Associate Pastor
Pete Tegeler . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Worship Pastor
Catherine Davis . . . . . . . . . . . . . Youth Pastor
Tina Graves . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Youth Discipleship Coordinator
Karola Aleckson . . Director of Children's Ministry
Kaylene Baker . . . . . Children’s Ministry Assistant
Monique Bricker . . . . Nursery Coordinator
Janet Holste . . . . Secretary/Ministry Assistant
Teri Bryant . . . . . . . . . . . . . Administration
Lud Tolbert . . . . Recovery Ministries Director
Teri Bryant / Dan & Janice Patton . . Prayer Ministry

GOVERNING BOARD:

Dan Armstrong (Elder)              Cory McCandliss*
Dale Bricker (Elder)               Jim Pennington (Elder)
John Brunk (Elder)                 Joe Rinella (Elder)
Tina Graves*                       Doug Rovianek (Elder)
Kurt Harter*                       Bob Spotts (Elder)
Amanda Holste*

*Member-at-Large

See this issue in COLOR... on our website!

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Slam and a dunk!

At right, John Brunk gets into the swing of things at Summit to Summit men’s retreat during a pick-up game of whiffle ball. On the far right, Chris Pedrotti (left) and Pastor Steve Grace assist with lake baptism—in the dark. See more about the weekend starting on page 1.

Photography by Doug Miller