HERITAGE COMMUNITY CHURCH *NEWS!*

November / 2026



Pastor's Corner…
Thanksgiving – More Than a Day, It's a Way of Life!



November is here, and with it comes one of my favorite times of the year – Thanksgiving! It's a wonderful season filled with family gatherings, delicious food, football games, and, of course, the annual challenge of figuring out how to eat just one more piece of pumpkin pie!

But Thanksgiving is about so much more than turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie. It's about remembering how good God has been to us, recognizing His blessings, and developing a heart of gratitude that lasts long after the leftovers are gone.

The Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, ***"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."***

Notice that Paul doesn't say to give thanks for every circumstance, but **IN** every circumstance. There's a big difference! Life isn't always easy. Some of us have experienced loss, disappointment, illness, financial challenges, or unexpected difficulties this past year. Yet even in those moments, we can find reasons to be thankful because God has promised never to leave us or forsake us.

Gratitude doesn't mean everything in life is good. It means recognizing that God is good, even when life is difficult.

As I reflect on this past year at Heritage Community Church, my heart is overflowing with thanksgiving. What a blessing it has been to watch God bring people together, build friendships, answer prayers, and create a church family where people genuinely care for one another. We've celebrated baptisms, welcomed new families, watched ministries grow, and experienced God's faithfulness in so many wonderful ways.

And I'm especially thankful for YOU!

I'm thankful for those who arrive early to prepare for worship, those who greet people with a warm smile, those who teach our children, those who lead our ministries, those who faithfully pray, and those who quietly serve behind the scenes. I'm thankful for your generous giving, your willingness to help, and your commitment to making Heritage a place where people feel welcome, loved, and encouraged.

May you have a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with love, laughter, meaningful memories, and the joy of knowing how deeply God loves you.

Happy Thanksgiving Heritage Family!

With a thankful heart,

Pastor Darcy

“Blessed Beyond Measure”

New Sermon Series Begins November 8th



Have you ever stopped to consider just how blessed you really are? Sometimes we’re so busy thinking about what we don’t have that we overlook the incredible blessings God has already given us!

This November, join us at Heritage for our new ***Thanksgiving sermon series, “Blessed Beyond Measure.”*** Together, we’ll discover how to recognize the blessings we often overlook, appreciate God’s amazing grace, find hope even in life’s difficult seasons, and learn what it means to be a blessing to others.



Whether life is going wonderfully or you’re walking through a difficult season, there’s always a reason to be thankful. We may not have everything we want, but in Christ, we have more than we deserve!

Coffee & Fellowship begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by Worship at 10:00 a.m. Let’s celebrate God’s goodness and discover the joy of living with a grateful heart. Bring a friend and we’ll count our blessings together.

Faith, Freedom, and the Responsibility to Vote



As Christians, we have been blessed with many freedoms, including the privilege of choosing those who represent us in government. We also recognize that freedom comes with responsibility. With such an important election approaching, we want to encourage everyone to prayerfully consider the importance of participating in the democratic process.

Christians hold deep convictions about the sanctity of human life, the importance of marriage and family, religious liberty, and the founding values of our country, and we must vote diligently on or before **November 3rd** to help protect these freedoms.

Scripture talks extensively about the freedom that we experience in Christ. We were once enslaved to our sins, but we are now children of God. Many people around the world do not get to have a say in the way their country is run. But the government our ancestors established has a different set up. The fact that the pilgrims came to America to seek freedom to worship God in the way that they desired, reveals how important freedom was to them.

Although we must trust the Lord in His sovereignty with whoever is in the Oval Office, the House, the Senate, and the Supreme Court, we have a valuable role to play. We have the choice to vote.

Paul said, ***“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavey.”*** Galatians 5:1.

Your voting requires prayer, wisdom, careful examination of the facts and a willingness to consider the character, integrity, and positions of those seeking to lead. Micah 6:8 reminds us of what God requires: ***“To act justly and***

love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." These are timeless principles worth remembering as we consider the direction of our country. ***Please remember to vote!***

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD!



Every Sunday, ***HCC's Children's Ministries*** provides infants, toddlers, and grade-school children with a safe, welcoming environment where they can learn about Jesus through age-appropriate Bible Lessons, videos, activities and crafts. Parents may check in their children before the worship service, with school-age children being dismissed to Kids Church following the worship portion of the service.

Heritage Youth gives students in sixth grade through high school a place to belong, build friendships, have fun, and grow in their relationship with Christ. Through food, activities, Bible lessons, and honest discussion, our young people are being encouraged to become ***"Rooted in Faith. Ready for Life."*** Heritage Youth meets every other week in the Event Center on Sundays from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.



Please pray for our children, youth, families, and ministry volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Hannah Loose our Children's Coordinator (360-880-8829) or our Youth Coordinators, Chelly Nachatilo (360-388-1631) and Sharlene Arras (360-269-3411).

The Living Christmas Pageant Postponed to 2027

We have been excited about bringing the Living Christmas Pageant back to our community this Christmas. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, we have made the difficult decision to postpone the pageant until December 2027.

This additional time will give us the opportunity to properly organize, restore, and prepare the sets and costumes, recruit volunteers, and make the necessary arrangements to bring this wonderful tradition back to our community.

Our vision remains the same—to share the true meaning of Christmas with hundreds of families throughout Lewis County through the beautiful, living story of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday Men's Bible Study—*Building Christian Character*



Men Growing Stronger in Faith Together!
Every Wednesday / 6-7 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Museum

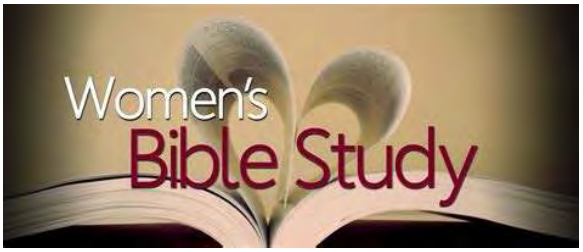
Men, are you looking for an opportunity to grow in your faith, build meaningful friendships, and become the man God has called you to become? Then we have a place for you!

Our Wednesday Men's Bible Study is underway, and we invite all men to join us as we explore the important subject of Christian character. Together, we're discovering what God's Word teaches about integrity, courage, humility, faithfulness, self-discipline, and living a life that honors Christ.

Let's face it—being a godly man in today's world isn't always easy! We all face challenges, responsibilities, and decisions that test our character. That's why we need God's Word and the encouragement of other men. Our weekly gatherings provide a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere where we can study Scripture, ask questions, share experiences, enjoy a few laughs, and encourage one another in our daily walk with Christ.

We would love to have you join us!

Ladies Bible Study—The Place to be on Wednesdays



Ladies, you are warmly invited to join us this fall for a Bible study each Wednesday at Gerry and Rachelle Bryson's home to grow in God's Word and enjoy meaningful fellowship.

Each gathering will include a relaxed sharing time focused on what you are personally gleaning from the daily passages, along with encouragement, fellowship, and prayer together. This is designed to be a meaningful and uplifting fall experience centered on God's Word and community.

Two meeting times are available, 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., making it easier to find a time that works with your schedule. Each gathering offers an opportunity to study Scripture, ask questions, pray together, and build encouraging friendships with other women.

Even if you are unable to commit to being there every Wednesday, you are still encouraged to come whenever you can. This Bible Study is open to all women who desire to grow in their faith and spend time in God's Word together.

Whether you have studied the Bible for many years or are just beginning, you will be warmly welcomed. Bring your Bible, invite a friend, and join us on Wednesdays as we learn, grow, and encourage one another in faith. **For further information, please contact Rachelle at (360) 269-6008.**



Heritage Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Good Food. Great Friends. Real Fellowship!

Men of all ages are invited to our **November Men's Breakfast on Saturday, November 14th, at 9:00 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Museum.**

Our Heritage Men's Fellowship Breakfast is more than just food. It's an opportunity to step away from our busy schedules and to strengthen friendships, to fellowship, meet new people, and enjoy the company of other men who share a common faith.

There is no formal agenda, no pressure, and you don't have to know anyone to feel welcome. Just come as you are, pull up a chair, and enjoy a morning of food, friendship, and fellowship.

Whether you're new to Heritage or have been part of our church family from the beginning, we'd love to have you join us! And don't come alone, invite your son, grandson, neighbor, or a friend. You never know how much a simple invitation might mean to someone.

After all, some of the best friendships begin over a cup of coffee, and some of the best conversations happen around a breakfast table.



HERITAGE THANKSGIVING POTLUCK

Good Food. Great Friends. Grateful Hearts.
Tuesday, November 17th at 12:00 Noon
Veterans Memorial Museum

Join us on Tuesday, November 17th, at 12:00 noon for a wonderful afternoon of delicious food, warm fellowship, laughter, and thanksgiving at our ***Heritage Thanksgiving Potluck.***



There's something special about gathering around the table with friends who have become like family.

Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish, side dish, salad, or dessert to share and come ready to have a wonderful time together. Whether you're a regular attendee or joining us for the first time, there is always a warm welcome and a place at the table for you.

As we celebrate this season of gratitude, let's remember some of life's greatest blessing aren't things at all—they're the people God places in our lives.

Don't be alone! Invite a friend or neighbor to join you. Afterall all, good food tastes even better when it's shared with good friends!

We look forward to celebrating our *Heritage Thanksgiving Potluck* with you!

Heritage Forward Update: Another Step of Faith



The ***Heritage Forward Vision*** is to establish a permanent home for Heritage Community Church. While there is still much work ahead, every step brings us closer to seeing our dream of new church facilities become a reality,

Our next important step in acquiring the property next to the museum is completing an archaeological study. This study is an evaluation of the property to determine whether there are any historical or culturally significant artifacts that need to be identified and protected before development can begin. The process typically begins with reviewing historical records, maps and previous findings in the area.

This is an important part of the property evaluation and approval process. Our prayer is that the study will be completed successfully, with findings that allow us to move forward with acquiring the land and developing our future church home. Thanks to your faithful generosity and commitment to the future of ***HCC,*** our Heritage Forward Building Fund has grown to over $250,000! What an incredible blessing! Every gift, large or small, represents faith in what God is doing and a commitment to reach generations with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As we take this next step, we ask our entire church family to join us in prayer. Pray for a favorable archaeological study, wisdom for those guiding the process, continued financial provision, and God's direction as we move forward.

The ***Heritage Forward Vision*** continues to move ahead as we prayerfully prepare for the future home of ***HCC.*** Important work is taking place behind the scenes, including planning, property evaluation, necessary studies, and consideration of the financial steps required for future facilities.

We are grateful for continued financial growth, including a ***$25,000 increase in the Heritage Forward Building Fund*** **in October.** Every gift helps move us closer to the day when we can have a permanent place for worship, children's and youth ministries, fellowship, outreach, and service to our community.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS GATHERING

"WRAPPED IN HIS LOVE"



The greatest gift of Christmas isn't wrapped in paper—it's wrapped in God's love.
Saturday, December 5th / 10:00 a.m.
Location: Holiday Inn Express / Cost: $15.00

Ladies, Christmas is just around the corner, and we have something special planned just for you! You're warmly invited to our **Heritage Women's Christmas Gathering—** ***"Wrapped in His Love."*** On Saturday, December 5th, at 10:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Express in Chehalis.

Christmas is a season of beautiful decorations, wonderful traditions, and thoughtful gifts. But the greatest gift we will ever receive didn't come wrapped in colorful paper or tied with a ribbon. It came wrapped in God's amazing love through the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Join us for a delightful morning filled with **Christmas joy, friendship, laughter, creativity, and spiritual encouragement!** Together, we'll create a beautiful winter-themed arrangement with festive splashes of Christmas color--something special to take home and enjoy throughout the holiday season. We will also share an inspiring Christmas devotional reminding us of God's incredible love and the true meaning of Christmas.

Mark your calendars now and invite your daughters, mothers, sisters, neighbors, and friends! This is a wonderful opportunity to slow down during the busy Christmas season, enjoy time together, and celebrate the greatest gift of all.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center or on the church website: www.heritagecc.church.

Come ready to create something beautiful, make wonderful memories, and leave with your heart encouraged by the love of Christ!



Heritage Christmas Program

December 20th[th] 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 20th, and join us for a joyful celebration of the birth of our Savior. Heritage Church will present two identical Christmas services at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Our Heritage Christmas program will feature the Heritage Christmas Cantata, participation by our children, special Christmas music, and beloved carols. Together, we'll celebrate the hope and joy that came into the world with the birth of Jesus.

Everyone is invited to enjoy Christmas fellowship and refreshments between the services. It will be a wonderful time to visit with friends and share the joy of the season.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to share in the meaning of Christmas. Choose the service time that works best for you and come celebrate with your Heritage church family.

Choir members: Please check with Rick Sundstrom for scheduled rehearsal times.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TITHES & 0FFERINGS

Your Faithful Giving Makes Ministry Possible!



Every week, lives are being touched through the ministries of Heritage Community Church. Children are learning about Jesus, young people are growing in their faith, people are receiving prayer and encouragement, families are finding a place to belong, and our church is reaching into the community with the love of Christ.

These ministries are possible because of the faithful generosity of God's people. **Giving is more than meeting a budget—it is an act of worship and an investment in God's work.** Every gift helps support worship, children and youth ministries, outreach, missions, pastoral care, facility expense, and the many other ways Heritage serves people throughout the year.

You may give through the offering box at the back of the worship center, online at **www.heritagecc.church**, or by mailing your gift to the church. Gifts for our future facilities may be designated for the **Heritage Forward Building Fund.**

Thank you again for your faithful and generous support. Together, we are building a strong church, reaching our community, and creating a legacy of faith for generations to come.

Look What God Has Done!

Copies of Heritage Community Church's **2025-2026 Annual Report are available at the Welcome Center.** The report celebrates the many ways God has blessed our church during the past year and includes ministry highlights, special events, financial information, and reports from our Ministry Teams.

Please pick up a copy and take time to see how God has worked through the faithful praying, giving, and serving of our church family. We have much for which to be thankful, and much to look forward to as we begin another exciting year of ministry together!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS THIS SUNDAY!

Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

