

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Adult Forum follows fellowship time

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday with Pastor Colleen Nelson. The theme will be "No One Is Left Out." After the service will be a time of fellowship and coffee, followed by Adult Forum.

### Sermon based on book of Isaiah

ELGIN — "God's Secret for Us" will be the sermon given by Gerald Hopkins Sunday at the Elgin United Method-

ist Church, based on Isaiah 61. The service will begin at 11 a.m. and will be followed by fellowship, treats and coffee.

### Faith Lutheran offers Enterprise Bible study

LA GRANDE, ENTERPRISE — The sermon at Faith Lutheran Church Sunday will be from Mark 7:31-37. In these verses, Jesus was in a populated area and performed healing miracles, and the great news of his work was proclaimed zealously. The service will be

at 10 a.m. in La Grande and 2 p.m. in Enterprise.

On Thursday, a Bible study in Enterprise will be held at 11 a.m.

### Fall Sunday School Kick-off celebrated

LA GRANDE — Sunday at 8:45 a.m. First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will celebrate their Fall Sunday School Kick-off in the narthex with refreshments. The teacher will be introduced and the youth will be promoted. During the 10 a.m. worship service,

Pastor Ray's message will be "What Does YOUR Cross Mean?" Drawn from Galatians 6:12-16, the message will explore the meaning of the cross. There will be a no-host lunch at the Smokehouse Restaurant at 11:45 a.m. after the worship service.

### Topic of wisely investing in biblical principles explored

LA GRANDE — Saturday at the La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church, Pastor Mike's message, "I Was

Afraid & Hid Your Money," will be about how to wisely invest in biblical principles. The service begins at 11 a.m.

### Pastors return from sabbatical

LA GRANDE — The congregation of First Presbyterian Church in La Grande invites the community to welcome Pastors Keith and Laura Hudson back from their summer renewal sabbatical at the 9:30 a.m. worship service. The pastors will be sharing travel adventures and presenting

a sermon, "Show and Tell Time." Fellowship will follow the service.

### Take advantage of vocational settings

LA GRANDE — La Grande's Church of the Nazarene offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m. and a worship service at 10:30 a.m. The message this week, "Work as Worship," will be taken from Ephesians 6:5-9. The message will explore vocational settings as a "hothouse" for learning and growth in Christlikeness.

## Giving honor to whom honor is due is a principle of life

"Giving honor to whom honor is due" is a principle of life that is communicated in many places and many different ways in God's word. One such place is in Romans 13:7, in a context that is addressing our response to authorities in our lives, specifically authorities in civil/government service such as law enforcement or the military.

In God's economy of greatness and honor, the focus is stated to be on those who serve not those who seek to be served or get what they can for themselves according to Mark 9:35. True service often involves real sacrifice. You have not sacrificed until you have really suffered. People who die or who are permanently injured on the battlefields for freedom have truly paid a high price and are worthy of honor. People who have laid their lives on the line and even lost their lives in service are worthy of our honor, recognition and respect. People who bravely put themselves in harm's way on a regular basis because of their willingness to make the world and their community a better place deserve to be our heroes. There are those who suffer the psychological scars and challenges of traumatic events due to their service and have truly sacrificed their peace and tranquility in life so they could help others. A high price has been paid by many for our comfort and freedoms.

According to the Officer Down Memorial website, this year alone 98 law enforcement officers



**FRANKLIN HUMBER**

have been killed in our country in the line of duty to their communities. According to the Fire Rescue 1 website, this year 62 firefighters have given the ultimate sacrifice in the line of their duty of service across our nation. According to the Honor the Fallen page of the Military Times website, you will find that 23 military personnel have given their lives during active duty deployment in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn so far this year. However, since those military campaigns have begun, more than 15,000 lives have been lost. The public service of these brave men and women have truly "cost them everything" and they are worthy of respect and honor for their service and sacrifice.

Sept. 11 is known as Patriot Day as we remember the attacks on our nation 17 years ago and all those who were lost that day and in the battles that have resulted from that attack. At Summerville Baptist Church, we will recognize this Sunday, Sept. 9, as Patriot Sunday. We will remember the sacrifices of that day not only in civilian casualties but also all the first responders who lost their lives attempting to rescue others and the many who have died since then as a result of injuries and chemical

lung damage from the fallen World Trade Center Towers. It is important for us to respect the true sacrifices of those who serve, to honor their service they gave and to remember their loved ones who are still without their presence.

I, personally, am thankful for those who are willing to suit up in uniforms, don badges and serve our communities and our nation. I would like to encourage all of my fellow citizens to show their respect to those who do and have valiantly served for our safety, protection and well-being as Americans. Take time to express your appreciation when you see someone in a uniform of service. If you are a person who prays, pray when you hear a siren sounding from an emergency vehicle going to meet a need in our community. Pray also for the families and department personnel of those who died in the line of duty. Their loss is still being felt every day by the empty place left in the lives of their loved ones.

I realize there are bad apples in every profession even in these departments of public service. But a few bad apples doesn't make every public servant worthy of disrespect. How many of us have a bad apple or two in our family line? Do you want to be judged by others for the bad apple in your family? Let's give honor to all those who serve honorably in the honorable professions of public service.

## We choose our own path, the rest is in God's hands

I had a serious conversation the other day with a middle-aged man and we talked for a couple of hours about God. I've known him for years and we've had these discussions before, but I noticed he has become stronger in his opinions — which, by the way, are based on atheism. He is a likeable person, hard worker, great husband and popular. He is also a very talented artist and sculptor and concentrates much of his artwork on the dark world of the supernatural. He has studied Greek mythology and loves any type of art about this subject. He is also very much into modern superheroes or any type of figure or being that has special abilities and powers. He collects books, posters, paintings, sculptures, comic books and creates incredible statues of these creatures and has a waiting list of people around the world who want to purchase his work. I'm glad he is successful but of course concerned that he will not consider the one who has all power and authority and is the creator of all things.

I know from our past conversations he was not raised with any type of religious instruction or influence and never even entered a church until he was married in one. He loves history, has read about spirituality and has come to the conclusion that religion has always been used as a way to calm the masses and distract them from the discouragement and suffering of being controlled by tyrannical governments. To be honest, I've not known that many atheists and, as a Christian minister, find it disturb-



**LIVING ON PURPOSE**  
DR. BILLY HOLLAND

ing to hear people say they believe God is nothing more than a figment of the imagination. He says that everything we see and know came from nothing and the Bible is just a storybook filled with fables and legends. He is also strongly convinced we are not spiritual beings and there is no such thing as an eternal life after this one. Of course, in between all of these statements, I spend a considerable amount of time explaining what the Bible says all the while realizing I am using a resource that he does not consider reliable. Even though he has made up his mind against the Almighty, I also have faith and believe that with God no situation is hopeless and anything is possible.

I understand that God has given every person the free will to believe whatever he or she wants — and we can see people have definitely taken him up on that. In today's world, it's becoming more common to hear people say the Bible is not true and the thousands of gods and religions in the world are all the same. I've walked with the Lord for much of my life and have come to the realization that we cannot change someone's mind. We can relay God's message and demonstrate his character; we can pray and confess that God will intervene, and we can hope the Holy Spirit will influence and persuade an individual to consider turning to Christ, but the rest is in God's hands.

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Services This Week</p>				
<p><b>IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201 www.imblerchristianchurch.org</p> <p><b>Sunday Services</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>	<p><b>First Christian Church</b> (Disciples of Christ) 901 Penn Avenue 963-2623 lgdisciples@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Worship</b> 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>~Join us at The Lord's Table~</p>	<p><b>SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> A Vision for Us</p> <p>Sunday Services: Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes 9:45 AM Children's Church &amp; Worship Service 11:00 AM Family Worship Service 6:00 PM</p> <p>Wednesday: Prayer Mtg, Children's Bible Club, Youth Group 7:00 PM</p> <p>A church for your whole family Visit us at <a href="http://summervillebaptistchurch.org">summervillebaptistchurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Amazing Grace Fellowship</b> 1316 T St., La Grande, OR 541-568-4567 Sunday 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>2 Cor 12:9 My Grace is sufficient for you.</p> <p>IS 40:31</p>	<p><b>GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> LCMC 667 N. Main in Union "We are called to Serve" Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am Pastor Carl Seelhoff Phone: 541-786-0447 grace.lutherancove@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR</p> <p><b>NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 390 E. St., North Powder, OR</p> <p>JOIN US... Catch the Spirit! Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder</p>	<p><b>ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES</b> La Grande - Our Lady of the Valley 1002 L Avenue Saturday 5:30 pm Mass Sunday 10:00 am Mass Weekdays 8:00 am Mass Union - Sacred Heart 340 South 10th Avenue Sunday 8:00 am Mass No Weekdays Elgin - Saint Mary's 12th and Alder Sunday 12:30 pm Mass No Weekdays</p>	<p><b>VALLEY FELLOWSHIP</b> 963-0340 507 Palmer Ave (just east of city pool) Sunday Worship 10:02 am Come and share in a time of worship, prayer and the study of God's word with us. Worship includes communion on Sunday. www.valleyfellowship.church Email: vfchurch2@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>LaGrande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 109 18th Street • 963-3402 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> "OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS" 1612 4th Street - 963-2498 Pastor Al Trachsel lgumc@conl.com www.lgumchurch.org Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon <b>Worship 10:00 am</b> Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am • Nursery provided •</p>
<p><b>La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church</b> A Place where hope is found in Jesus Join us in Fellowship &amp; Worship Every Saturday 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study/Fellowship 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service 2702 Adams Avenue, La Grande • 963-4018 Pastor: Mike Armayor www.lagrande22adventistchurchconnect.org Learning for Today and Eternity Little Friends Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390 La Grande Adventist Christian School Christian Education K-8th Grade 963-6203</p>	<p><b>FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 1812 1st St. La Grande Pastor Dave Tierce • 541-605-0215 We use the King James Version Bible Sunday School - 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday Evening Bible Study - 3:00 pm (Effective June 10) Wednesday Evening - 6:30 pm "Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures" www.flmbclagrande.com</p>	<p><b>Zion Lutheran Church</b> (an ELCA church) 902 Fourth Street, La Grande, OR (541) 963-5998</p> <p>9:30 am - Worship 10:30 am - Fellowship &amp; Refreshments 11:00 am - Classes Pastor: Rev. Colleen Nelson www.zionlagrande.org</p>	<p><b>Union Baptist Church</b> 1531 S. Main St., Union 541-562-5531 www.unionbaptistoregon.org Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am Sunday Night 6:30 pm Thursday AWANA 6:30 pm Knowing, Loving and Proclaiming Jesus Christ</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> SIXTH &amp; SPRING, LA GRANDE 541-963-3911</p> <p>LOWING God SHARING Life SEEKING Truth LEARNING Faith Building Together On Christ Alone</p> <p>Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p>