

HIGHLIGHTS

Service focuses on significance of Mary anointing Jesus' feet

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church's Saturday service begins at 11 a.m. Pastor Mike will continue the journey through the gospel book of Matthew. This week the focus will be on Jesus' experience of Mary anointing his feet and its significance.

SHINE Preschool Board meets after service

LA GRANDE — The sermon this Sunday at Faith

Lutheran Church will expound on Mark 9:38-50. In these verses, we are taught that God desires caring action to be done for all people, no matter who they are. According to verse 40: "For one who is not against us is for us." The service begins at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a SHINE Preschool Board meeting.

First Christian Church celebrates fifth Sunday

LA GRANDE — "Come Be Baptized" will be the theme for the Fifth Sun-

day message in song and scripture at the La Grande First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) beginning at 10 a.m. The choir will sing two special numbers.

The women of the church are busy making noodles, in preparation for the Nov. 3 church bazaar.

International peacekeeper gives message

LA GRANDE — International Peacemaker Fabienne Jean from Haiti and her interpreter, Cindy Correll, will be preaching

at Sunday worship, beginning at 9:30 a.m., at the La Grande First Presbyterian Church. Fabienne and Cindy will also offer a presentation after worship. The community is welcome to come and learn about the work of church partners in Haiti.

Zion Lutheran celebrates Pastor Colleen Nelson

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday with Pastor Colleen Nelson, who is retiring. Follow-

ing the service there will be a celebration honoring the pastor, with fellowship, refreshments, music tribute, local foods dinner, a program, and special activities.

On Tuesday, the Quilters will meet at 9 a.m. at the church.

Pastor Al Mortimer's final sermon concludes series

LA GRANDE — Sunday school starts at 9:15 a.m. at the La Grande Church of the Nazarene, followed by a worship service at 10:30. Pastor Al Mortimer

is retiring from the Nazarene denomination after an illustrious and determined career of proclaiming the truths of the gospel. His final message will conclude the Armor of God series from Ephesians 5:16-20, enlightening us with the importance of the helmet of salvation, the shield of faith, the sword of the spirit and the covering of prayer.

That evening there will be a retirement celebration for Pastor Al in the fellowship hall. All are invited to drop in beginning at 6 p.m.

'As far as it depends on you, live at peace'

Have you noticed lately that conflict and disagreement are more abundant than unity? Though the average person would give peace as the answer to what they would like to have more of, we are bombarded with an environment that is filled with arguing, strife and criticism. It seems that some people actually enjoy fighting and bickering as a challenge to see how many disputes and quarrels they can instigate and win. Wouldn't the world be such a happier place if we could all just get along and try to focus on what is good instead of being constantly disparaging and judgmental?

In Philippians 4:8, Paul states, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

The writer realized that our minds are highly vulnerable to receive and express negative influences and is trying to explain that we would be much more calm and content if we could learn how to be



LIVING ON PURPOSE
DR. BILLY HOLLAND

less condemning and more optimistic. I know, some of you strongly disagree.

So, as we are surrounded by an ocean of disagreements, who has the wisdom and authority to know what is right and wrong? Every political, philosophical and religious group on the planet will step forward and acknowledge they possess the absolute truth, which has now increased the confusion beyond comprehension.

As the world ponders about universal correctness, we are hearing more about how truth is relative to each individual. This suggestion proclaims there is no such thing as absolute truth but rather is a personal conclusion. On the other side of the fence, we find that Christians believe that Jesus Christ is the absolute truth, the purpose and meaning of life, and the Bible has been given to mankind as our spiritual compass and instruction guide. Of course, there are many who will disagree.

Are Christians commanded to enter into this battle of arguing

and strife? If Jesus were here today, would he be an outspoken, aggressive political activist? I don't think so. As a follower, I'm convinced we are called to demonstrate his character more than we are commanded to tell everyone how they should live. Christians are encouraged to promote unity, as we read in I Peter 3, "Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult," also in Romans 12, "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

Why is this important? Because when Christians climb into the ring to fight against something they disagree with, they are exchanging their spiritual authority for a destructive attitude of carnality that can easily develop into resentment and hatred. We are tempted to disregard God's warning about wrestling against flesh and blood — unfortunately, our arrogance would rather get ugly on the battlefield than go to war on our knees. Whether a Christian or not, our fleshly nature is filled with denial and vicious emotions, but of course many

would disagree.

The gospel is relaying the love story about Jesus being born, dying on a cross and rising from the dead. This message is all about God offering to transform a conscience and redeem a soul for those who decide this is really what they want. So, instead of Christians arguing, criticizing and harassing people about their views and lifestyle choices, we should just quietly demonstrate the character of Christ and pray we will follow only what he is telling us to say and do.

This includes letting go of the idea that we are somehow going to persuade or convince everyone to dedicate their lives to God. I will make a statement here some might consider a little on the pessimistic side: the majority of people on this earth will never accept Jesus Christ or come together in unity with those who do.

Christians believe God is everyone's judge, has all the answers and is the only one who can give us the peace, joy and contentment we are searching for. However, yes, you guessed it, the majority of people on this planet disagree.

Read more at billyhollandministries.com.

Hopeline created to help battle teen suicide

By Wyatt Stayner
The Columbian

Beginning in November, Clark County teenagers will have a new mental health outlet.

The Hopeline, which debuts Nov. 1, is a faith-based 24/7 suicide prevention hotline that was started by Mike Miller, Dr. Ray Brady, Dr. Mark Pelletier, Taylor Peters, Jamie Kingsbury, Rob Lloyd and Rhea Brightmon. The group of seven serves as the Hopeline's advisory committee, and combines backgrounds in working with youth through churches, call centers and other community engagement areas. The Hopeline number is 360-768-3322.

Work on the Hopeline started in the summer of 2017 and has involved putting together a phone system, answering system and recruiting and training volunteers on how to handle calls from suicidal teenagers. The Hopeline has 28 advocates who will answer calls. The next step is to build to 60 advocates.

"We are here to listen and provide hope," Brady said. "We're not going to preach. We're not going to moralize. We're not going to pray with them unless they want us to. We're not going to spout scripture. We're not using

this as an evangelistic tool. We're using it as a tool for hope."

Calls will be directed to the advocates' personal phones, since there won't be a physical call center. Advocates will be placed into teams and work in either two six-hour shifts per month, or one 12-hour shift per month. Each team will work a week per month, with each advocate taking his or her own shifts over that week, and working under a supervisor and clinical director.

Advocates will have a binder with a flow chart and resources to assist them as they work through the calls. Miller said they expect calls to center on depression, sexual assault, bullying, domestic abuse, pregnancy and homelessness. The calls can be anonymous, but if an advocate determines the teen is possibly suicidal, they will ask for contact information.

The Hopeline technology allows for advocates to patch in other people, such as supervisors, on the calls. The phone system supports having as many as four lines in on a call at once. If there's an imminent threat to a caller's life, Miller said the supervisor would be patched in, and would likely reach out to emergency services.



Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

Services This Week



<p>IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH 440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201 www.imblerchristianchurch.org</p> <p>Sunday Services 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>	<p>First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 901 Penn Avenue 963-2623 lgdisciples@gmail.com</p> <p>Worship 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>~Join us at The Lord's Table~</p>	<p>SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH A Place for You</p> <p>Sunday Services: Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes 9:45 AM Children's Church & 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 summersvillebaptistchurch.org</p>	<p>Amazing Grace Fellowship 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>GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 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>COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR</p> <p>NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 390 E. St., North Powder, OR</p> <p>JOIN US... <i>Catch the Spirit!</i> Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder</p>	<p>ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES 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>VALLEY FELLOWSHIP 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: vfcchurch2@gmail.com</p>	<p>LaGrande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 109 18th Street • 963-3402 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS" 1612 4th Street - 963-2498 Pastor Al Trachsel lgumc@eoni.com www.lgumchurch.org Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon Worship 10:00 am Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am • Nursery provided •</p>
<p>La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church A Place where hope is found in Jesus Join us in Fellowship & 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>FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 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>Zion Lutheran Church (an ELCA church) 902 Fourth Street, La Grande, OR (541) 963-5998</p> <p>9:30 am - Worship 10:30 am - Fellowship & Refreshments 11:00 am - Classes Pastor: Rev. Colleen Nelson www.zionlagrande.org</p>	<p>Union Baptist Church 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>First Baptist Church SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE 541-963-3911</p> <p>Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p>