

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Bible study held Thursdays in Island City

UNION — Union Methodist and Grace Community Lutheran Churches will worship together Sunday to praise God with a worship service at 10 a.m. Pastor Carl's sermon title will be "Why Is There a Church?" Adult Bible study will begin before the service at 9 a.m. Fellowship will follow the service.

Thursdays at 10 a.m. Pastor Carl leads a discussion on heaven at the Men and Women's Bible Study at Urban Vines in Island City. The community is invited to attend.

### Church Council meets on Sunday

LA GRANDE — A person with healthy humility is a joy to be around. It is important to remember who we are in comparison to God. Sunday's sermon at Faith Lutheran Church in La Grande will be from Mark 10:27 and will expound on all things being possible with God. Following the 10 a.m. Divine Service will be the monthly Church Council meeting.

### Zion members serve dinner to students

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship Sunday

at 9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee will follow the service.

The ZLCW Bible Study will meet at Zion at 9:30 a.m. and a non-denominational Bible study will be held at 6:15 p.m., both on Tuesday. Zion members will serve the dinner at the Eastern Oregon University K-House at 6 p.m. Thursday.

### St. Peter's offers Sunday Morning Prayer

LA GRANDE — St. Peter's Episcopal Church in La Grande will offer Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. Sunday. A fellowship and coffee hour will follow the service. Centering Prayer will be

held on Tuesday and Morning Prayer on Thursday, both at 8:30 a.m. in the chapel. A gathering of quilts for Hurricane Florence victims will be between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Quilts may also be brought to the church office on Sunday.

### Youth participate in Saturday's service

LA GRANDE — The youth will lead the church service Saturday at the La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church. The service will begin at 11 a.m.

A Prophecy Seminar will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays in the church seminar room. Seating

is limited but the public is invited to attend. Each attendee will receive a complimentary King James Bible, a study guide for each subject and a binder to organize the guides for easy reference.

### Pastor appreciation potluck follows service

LA GRANDE — "Who Likes Sinners, Anyway?" is the message Pastor Ray Smith will share Sunday at First Christian Church in La Grande (Disciples of Christ). The text will be Luke 18:9-14 where a Pharisee and a tax collector are praying. The worship service will be at 10 a.m., followed by a pastor

appreciation potluck dinner honoring Pastor Ray and his wife, Wendy.

### Submissions

Churches and faith-based groups are encouraged to submit Highlights for the Spiritual Life page by 4 p.m. Tuesday for publication Friday. Submit by email to news@lagrandeobserver.com (with Highlights in the subject line), by fax to 541-963-7804, or by hand to the office.

## Prayer leads to spiritual awakening, fulfillment of God's promise

When we consider the word "revival," specifically within the Christian faith, we think of a series of evangelistic meetings with the intention to increase interest in God. If we look more closely, we notice being revived is the act of being restored and renewed back to a former place. Similar words that are associated with being revived are "reinvigorate," "revitalize," "refresh," "restore," "energize," "rejuvenate," "regenerate" and "stimulate." Within the context of our spiritual life, we see that a personal revival is a positive experience that convicts us to rearrange our priorities in order to give God a higher place in our life. This stirring of the soul brings a fresh awareness and rekindles the desire to follow the Lord with a renewed zeal and deeper commitment.

If we once had a genuine and exciting relationship with God but now for some reason have drifted away, our intimacy with him can be restored by humbling ourselves and calling upon him. We do not need to attend a church meeting in order to repent or draw closer to Christ — we only need a passion and determination to be with him.

Through the years, there have been some very powerful spiritual movements recorded



**LIVING ON PURPOSE**  
DR. BILLY HOLLAND

in places other than America such as China, Korea, India, Brazil, Nigeria and Indonesia. These movements have generated enthusiastic interest in Christ and the Bible and have helped spread the gospel into areas where individuals were introduced to Christianity for the first time. One such example of a rich outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the U.S. was the New York City revival of 1857. Theologians and historians agree this revival changed the minds and hearts of many people and helped establish a spiritual awareness at a time when the awareness of God was declining. There are several names that refer to this manifestation such as Fulton Street Revival, Union Prayer Meeting, Third Great Awakening and Layman's Prayer Revival. The years leading up to 1857 were defined by tremendous economic development as the United States was reaping a bountiful harvest of prosperity. As wealth became the focus, materialism became an obsession. Unfortunately, the younger generation was growing up without a reverential respect for God and were also becoming captivated by

the love of money.

With church attendance falling, many congregations moved out into the suburbs to accommodate their remaining members. However, one church in Manhattan decided to stay in the inner city and make themselves available to those who lived in the downtown areas. They hired a man named Jeremiah Lanphier as a minister and missionary to lead this evangelistic vision, and he proved to be a man of prayer and an effective and convincing speaker. Lanphier had a burden for souls and immediately began to visit homes, distribute Bibles and tracts and preach the gospel. It was a slow start but after finding peace in his personal prayer time, he began to sense that God was directing him to begin a daily time of prayer for all who felt the need to find some quiet time with the Lord. He advertised and invited men and women to slip into the church and focus on God and to call upon his mercy for a great spiritual awakening even if it was only for five minutes.

That very year, there was a terrible economic disaster that caused many people to lose their businesses. Banks closed and more than 30,000 people lost their jobs in New York City alone. There was

also much tension over social issues as talk of a Civil War was growing stronger. Before long, the prayer meetings had become so large the church could not hold the crowds, so new ones were started in other churches and public buildings around the city. According to eyewitnesses, within a few months it was estimated more than 10,000 people were attending these daily gatherings — and it did not stop in New York, as a great wave of excitement began sweeping across the country in places like Cleveland, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

A simple prayer grew into a nationwide revival that became one of the greatest spiritual movements since the reformation. It's estimated that in 1858-1859, one million people were converted from a population of less than 30 million.

God promises in 2nd Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

I am grateful for this promise. Many today have become distracted, and we are once again in need of a spiritual awakening.

## Indian temple priests turn back women

By Ashok Sharma

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Dozens of Hindu priests on Friday joined conservative protesters to block women of menstruating age from one of the world's largest Hindu pilgrimage sites, defying a ruling from India's top court to let them enter.

The priests threatened to stop rituals and prayers in the Sabarimala temple in southern Kerala state if women ages 10-50 tried to enter the shrine.

"We have decided to lock the temple and hand over the keys and leave. I stand with the devotees. I do not have any other option," said Kandararu Rajeevaru, the head priest.

Two young women, a journalist and an activist, were forced to turn back after they reached the temple precincts under a heavy police escort.

Kadakampalli Surendran, a Kerala state minister, said the temple was not a place for activism and the government was not responsible for providing security to activists. He implied that authorities initially thought the two women were genuine devotees but at the end refused to enforce the court ruling to let them enter.

The minister's statement came despite the fact that the state government, run by the Communist Party of India (Marxist), vowed to implement the Supreme Court's ruling.

The two women were met with protests from the priests who sat on the steps leading to the temple, clapping and chanting religious hymns. Hundreds of police had set up a security ring as the two women trekked 5 kilometers (3 miles) to the temple complex.

Hundreds of protesters have blocked the entry of women of menstruating age since the temple reopened on Wednesday following the Supreme Court's ruling on Sept. 28 that says equality is supreme irrespective of age and gender.

The temple will remain open for five-day monthly prayers until Oct. 22.

Protesters vowed to file a petition with the Supreme Court next week seeking a review of the ruling. They say the celibacy of the temple's presiding deity, Lord Ayyappa, is protected by India's Constitution, and that women of all ages can worship at other Hindu temples. Some Hindu figures consider menstruating women to be impure.



## Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches



### Services This Week

<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 10:00 a.m.</b></p> <p>~Join us at The Lord's Table~</p>	<p><b>SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> <i>A Blessing for All</i></p> <p>Sunday Services: Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes 9:45AM Children's Church &amp; Worship Service 11:00AM Family Worship Service 6:00PM</p> <p>Wednesday: Prayer Mtg. Children's Bible Club, Youth Group 7:00PM</p> <p><b>A church for your whole family</b> 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><i>2 Cor 12:9 My Grace is sufficient for you.</i></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... <i>Catch the Spirit!</i> 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 <b>Union - Sacred Heart</b> 340 South 10th Avenue Sunday 8:00 am Mass No Weekdays <b>Elgin - Saint Mary's</b> 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 <i>Come and share in a time of worship, prayer and the study of God's word with us.</i> Worship includes communion on Sunday. www.valleyfellowship.church Email: vfchurch2@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>La Grande 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@eoni.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>La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church <i>A Place where hope is found in Jesus</i> 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 <i>Learning for Today and Eternity</i> 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 <i>We use the King James Version Bible</i> Sunday School - 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday Evening Bible Study - 3:00 pm (Effective June 10) Wednesday Evening - 6:30 pm <i>"Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures"</i> www.flmbcagrande.com</p>	<p><b>Zion Lutheran Church</b> (an ELCA church) <b>ZION LUTHERAN</b> LA GRANDE</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 <b>Knowing, Loving and Proclaiming Jesus Christ</b></p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> SIXTH &amp; SPRING, LA GRANDE</p> <p>541-963-3911</p> <p>Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p>