The Observer

Annual voters meeting held at Faith Lutheran

LA GRANDE — The sermon this week at Faith Lutheran Church in La Grande will be based on Mark 13:1-13. In these verses Jesus identifies that there will be man-caused and naturalcause turmoil, but these "are but the beginnings of the birth pains" (verse 8). Jesus also provides direction to be on our guard and endure as we receive his promises of salvation. The Divine Service begins at 10 a.m.

Following the service will be

Faith's annual voters meeting with a provided sandwich bar.

There will be a 10 a.m. service on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22.

Pastor explains the truth about **Thanksgiving**

LA GRANDE — "The Truth About Thanksgiving" will be the message of Pastor Ray Smith at the La Grande First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 10 a.m. Sunday service. He will reference Matthew 13:1-9 and Psalm 126:6. The Elders and Diaconate will have their annual meeting following worship.

Youth lead Saturday's service

LA GRANDE — The 11 a.m. Saturday service at the La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church will be led by the congregation's young people.

Pastor Mike's prophecy seminar continues on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. in the church seminar room. The series is open to the public. Attendees will receive a complimentary KJV Bible and

a study guide for each subject.

Prepare for an unknowable future

HIGHLIGHTS

LA GRANDE — The La Grande First United Methodist Church will celebrate the 26th Sunday of Pentecost at 10 a.m. Pastor Al Trachsel's message, "Preparing for an Unknowable Future," will be drawn from Mark 13:1-8, 24-32. In these verses, the Disciples ask Jesus when the end of the world is going to be. Jesus says that nobody knows except God. The sermons will explore how we are to prepare for an unknowable future.

'Thankoffering' held during Zion service

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship Sunday at 9:30 a.m. A Thankoffering service for women of the ELCA will be held during the service. Fellowship and coffee will follow the service.

Housing Matters Union County will meet at Zion at noon Monday, and lunch will provided. On Tuesday the Quilters will meet at

Submissions

Churches and faithbased 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.

Some gave all, and all gave some

Though I did not serve in L the military, I am very appreciative of those who have. I'm very proud of my son, a Marine who spent time in Japan and Thailand. He has a master's degree and served with Homeland Security and is now working as a police officer at a veterans hospital. Neither my father nor his dad were soldiers, but on my mother's side of the family, it is quite a different story. My maternal grandfather fought in World War I and was in France. He was injured in the war and, according to my mom, was never the same. I can barely remember him as a child but do recall a few details. When we would visit, he would greet us at the door making meow sounds like a cat and then he would always peel and slice apples and set them on the coffee table. I ate the apples and laughed at his meows. His wife, my grandmother, passed away when I was even younger. They had seven children, three boys and four girls, and my mother was the baby. Like many families during that time period, all three sons were eventually enlisted in the military. However, I thought it was even more unique how the father and each son was a soldier in a different war. The dad served in World War I, the oldest son was in Japan during World War II,



LIVING ON **PURPOSE** DR. BILLY **HOLLAND**

in action died in 1950, eight years before I was born. I vaguely remember the other two uncles and now realize they both suffered terribly from PTSD.

I wish I had been old enough to speak with these family members about their military experiences. My mother can recall a few memories and recently I contacted the department of military affairs and requested some of their official documents. I received a few things, much of which was difficult to read, but some of the records had been destroyed in a fire at the National Personnel Records Center Archives in 1973. My mom had been very close to the brother who never returned and was convinced that he was her mother's favorite child. His nickname was Kenny and he worked a part-time job before he went to the war. My mom remembers he would give her 10 cents every Saturday to buy candy, which she really looked forward to. He would also buy his mother flowers every week and she would sit them on the kitchen table. My mom also remembers the day when military representatives knocked on their door and told her mother that her son had been killed. She ran through the house wailing and screaming, "No,

please no!" over and over. My mother said it was a terrible time and she can recall her mother going to bed and staying there for weeks.

I currently have the privilege to volunteer as a chaplain at a veterans' health care facility, and it is truly an honor to spend quality time with the many fine men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces. I teach Bible studies and lead worship services and am on call whenever a resident becomes seriously ill and am present with the family whenever someone passes away. I've come to accept that many veterans who need constant medical care do not have family or friends to visit them, Many of the older ones have outlived everyone, but it's still sad to walk into a room and not see any pictures or greeting cards. I'm also a chaplain for a small honor guard team that presents memorial services for military veterans. I open and close in prayer and sing the national anthem on occasions.

I encourage you to set aside some time and visit a veteran. They would appreciate it very much and I promise you will also be blessed beyond words. Veterans Day not only remembers those who served our country in the past but also recognizes those who continue to serve today. We share a sincere gratitude to all who gave some, and to some who gave all, to preserve our freedom.

From bicycle to social movements, the changing role of chaplains in the US

By Wendy Cadge and Michael Skaggs

Brandeis University More and more institutions across the United States are hiring chaplains and other spiritual care providers. Some are places that have long employed chaplains, but others may come as a surprise.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for example, recently installed a new chaplain. Various police departments are adding additional chaplains, as are horse racing tracks. At the same time, chaplaincy positions continue to exist in the U.S. House and Senate.

Given the growing numbers of Americans who describe themselves as atheistic, agnostic or "nothing in particular," this can appear puzzling.

Why is chaplaincy growing when institutional religious affiliation is on the decline?

History of chaplaincy

The presence of chaplains in American institutions goes back to the Revolutionary War, when they served the American military, Chaplains helped perform many rituals and were present for patriotic ceremonies and events. Military chaplains have long been uniformed, noncombatant, commissioned officers with rank.

Later, prisons and hospitals came to employ them to provide spiritual care. In federal prisons, chaplains provide a ministry to prisoners, along

with support for behavior modification.

In earlier eras, chaplains, like the American population in general, were overwhelmingly Protestant, Catholic or Jewish. They mostly cared for people from their own faith traditions.

Changing role

These traditional roles are changing. In our research we have come across some unique examples of organizations and people providing support to individuals and communities in a variety of situations.

Allay Care Services, a newly launched venture, for example, provides chaplains who, for a fee, help individuals and families clarify their wishes at the end of life and prepare the necessary legal documents. While religious leaders have long worked around these issues, Allay links chaplains to people they do not know. The work takes place by phone.

Chaplains provide care for weary travelers. Donna Mote at Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport is just one chaplain among those working in over 170 countries who provide support to people they see mostly once as they pass through that busy space. At the New England Seafarers' Mission in Boston, chaplain Steve Cushing, greets the foreign-born staff of container and cruise ships every week.

Chaplains are currently deployed with every Red Cross

disaster team in the United States and with many fire departments across the country. In these and other examples, they are present with people in crisis and help connect them to other resources. Mote and Cushing, for example, help travelers transfer money to their families, shop for basic necessities or even call home.

While some of the people chaplains serve have relationships with local clergy, growing numbers do not. This means that chaplains are, in many cases, the only theologically educated people that these members of the public have a connection with.

Religious studies scholar Winnifred Sullivan describes chaplains today as "secular priests" or "ministers without portfolios." Their work, increasingly called "spiritual care," she argues, is understood by many as required by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Chaplaincy without religion?

What is most interesting is the presence of chaplains in places not typically thought to be "religious."

For example, chaplains are increasingly present in social movements including Occupy, Black Lives Matter and Standing Rock, They provide a steady presence to protesters grappling with existential questions amid deep tensions that characterize such situations.

the second son was killed in

Korea, and the youngest son

served in the Vietnam era.

The uncle who was killed

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches



SUMMERVILLE

IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201 www.imblerchristianchurch.org

Sunday Services

9:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Worship Service

COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR

NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JOIN US... Catch the Spirit! Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder

390 E. St., North Powder, OR

La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church

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.lagrande 22 adventist church connect.orgLearning for Today and Eternity Little Friends Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390 La Grande Adventist Christian School

Christian Education K-8th Grade 963-6203

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

901 Penn Avenue 963-2623 lgdisciples@gmail.com

> Worship 10:00 a.m.



~Join us at The Lord's Table~

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

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

BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes

9:45AM Children's Church & Worship Service 11:00AM Family Worship Service

Prayer Mtg, Children's Bible Club, Youth Group 7:00PM

A church for your whole family

Visit us at summervillebaptistchurch.org 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, rayer and the study of God's word with us Worship includes communion on Sunday www.valleyfellowship.church

Email: vfchurch2@gmail.com No Weekdays FIRST LANDMARK Zion Lutheran MISSIONARY BAPTIST Church CHURCH

ZION

(an ELCA church) 902 Fourth Street, La Grande, OR (541) 963-5998

9:30 am - Worship 10:30 am - Fellowship & Refreshments 11:00 am - Classes Pastor: Rev. Colleen Nelson

www.zionlagrande.org

Amazing Grace Fellowship

1316 T St., La Grande, OR 541-568-4567 Sunday 10:30 a.m.

> 2 Cor 12:9 My Grace is sufficient for you.



109 18th Street • 963-3402

Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

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

GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

LCMC667 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

LA GRANDE UNITED "OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"

1612 4th Street – 963-2498 Pastor Al Trachsel lgumc@eoni.com

Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon Worship 10:00 am

www.lgumchurch.org

Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am · Nursery provided ·

SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE



541-963-3911

Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA



