

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Crossroads Community Church welcomes new pastor

LA GRANDE — Crossroads Community Church is hosting an installation service for the congregation's new pastor, Rev. Tim McCart, at 4 p.m. Dec. 9. The community is invited to join them as they formally welcome him to the church and to La Grande. There will be a reception following the service, which will be held at 601 Jefferson.

### Quilters meet Tuesday at Zion

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church of La Grande will worship at

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

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

### Pastor to interview Leo Castillo during Saturday service

LA GRANDE — During the 11 a.m. Saturday service at the La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church, Pastor Mike will interview Leo Castillo, "World Gone Crazy" local radio talk show host. Castillo will share how he was able to overcome the most challenging part of recovery after being struck by a vehicle while working as a

surveyor.

Pastor Mike's prophecy seminar, which is open to the public, continues on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the church seminar room. Each attendee will receive a complimentary KJV Bible and a study guide for each subject.

### Candle of Hope kicks off Advent

LA GRANDE — First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in La Grande will celebrate the first Sunday of Advent with the lighting of the candle of Hope at the 10 a.m. service. Pastor Ray Smith's message, "Christ, the Coming One," will refer to Matthew

11:2-6 and Isaiah 53:1-9. The annual Christmas dinner will take place immediately following worship.

### Church hosts food pantries, plans toy giveaway

COVE — The first Sunday of the month is Communion Sunday at the Cove Methodist Church. The service will begin at 9 a.m. and be led by Rev. Ernest Smith. The Methodist table is open to all who wish to participate. Scripture readings will be from Jeremiah and Luke. A coffee fellowship follows the service.

During the week, the church hosts Cove's Fresh

Food Alliance every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., offering free perishable food to the community. The church also hosts the Cove Food Pantry on the fourth Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. On Dec. 15, the Toys for Kids giveaway will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the church basement.

### Advent theme hymn at Faith Lutheran is 'What Child Is This?'

LA GRANDE — This Sunday the sermon at Faith Lutheran Church in La Grande will use Luke 19:28-40 during the 10 a.m. service. In these verses, some of the people got it

right as they praised Jesus a "the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest" (verse 38).

The theme hymn for Faith's midweek Advent services this year is "What Child Is This?" The services will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 5 with the message "The Child Who Is Zechariah's Hope." Each Wednesday, there will be a 5:30 p.m. soup supper followed by an Advent service.

Faith Lutheran Church's women's group, called Koinonia, is having its annual bazaar tomorrow, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering great gift ideas and delicious treats.

### Daily Words of the Buddha

Just as a tree, though cut down, sprouts up again if its roots remain uncut and firm, even so, until the craving that lies dormant is rooted out, suffering springs up again and again.  
— Dhammapada 24.338

One who, while oneself seeking happiness, does not oppress with violence other beings who also desire happiness, will find happiness hereafter.  
— Dhammapada 10.132

Who gives, one's virtues shall increase; Who is self-curbed, no hatred bears; Who so is skilled in virtue, evil shuns, And by the rooting out of lust and hate And all delusion, comes to be at peace.  
— Digha Nikaya 2.197

— www.pariyatti.com

## Time does not slow down for anyone

Growing older is like a train rolling down the track, and no matter how many botox injections, vitamins or hair plugs, we cannot stop the reality of our mortality. There is nothing wrong with trying to look young, and dieting and exercise is always part of a healthy and positive lifestyle, but the hourglass contains only so much sand. As the days keep ticking away, we are reminded not to put off until tomorrow what we can do today because we are not sure how many tomorrows we will have. If you have thought about helping someone or have a desire to say or give them something, do not fall into the "someday" excuse and never do it. If you feel a burden to write a letter, make a call, invite someone to dinner or ask someone to forgive you for something you did or said, by all means, do it today. Delay is a sure way to miss a golden opportunity.

There are certain aspects that I miss from my youth like being free from worries, along with having boundless energy and vitality. Now that I'm



**LIVING ON PURPOSE**  
DR. BILLY HOLLAND

older, my sight is not as clear, I get winded more easily and sometimes I cannot remember people's names. I love to take naps, and when I watch "Jeopardy," the answers are given before I can even think. Then there are the mistakes I wish I could forget. I realize it does no good to live in regret, but I cannot help but wonder what could have been. I recall being more occupied with the present than concerned with the future, and I can only imagine how much more I could have done if I knew then what I know now. Yet God has always been there for me, and all in all, even without winning the lottery, I'm happy with where I am in my journey. Sure, we dream about what we could do with large amounts of money, but then we snap back into the real world and realize the most important meaning of life is our personal relationship with God. As it says in Matthew 16: "For what is

a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" I am not rich by any means, but I am also not poor and there again is the compassionate and amazing grace of our heavenly father.

As you and I face the prospects of growing older, we will ask ourselves questions like "What should I be doing now to prepare for a time when I cannot take care of myself?" Along with these practical decisions are also considerations for our spiritual life that speak bluntly and boldly to the deepest recesses of our heart. Truth does not intend to be mean or cruel but desires to awaken us to the possibilities of purpose. The fact is, without change, we will be then what we are now. If you are not becoming a person of faith, love and kindness now, you will not be that type of a person then. If you are a negative and grumpy person now, you will not suddenly become a positive and generous individual then. If you are not learning, growing,

praying and developing an intimate personal relationship with God today, you will not walk with him then. We will change when the agony of conviction to be transformed becomes greater than the apathy and contentment to stay the same.

Charles Bancroft wrote these encouraging words: "God loves the aged. He gives them greater visions than the young. He puts words of wisdom on their tongue and keeps His presence ever by their side, from dawn to dusk, and on through eventide. God helps the aged. Within their home, his spirit dwells. Their mellow hearts are touched like chiming bells. He calms their fears, then worries disappear because they know his help is always near. God keeps the aged. With hearts of gold, and silver tinted hair, and earnestness, and greater faith in prayer. He keeps them as a shepherd guards his sheep, till in his fold they gently fall asleep."

Read this article in its entirety at [billyhollandministries.com](http://billyhollandministries.com)

### Season of Advent begins

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word "adventus" meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians.

During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

— www.umc.org



## 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> A Church for You</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>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 <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 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>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><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>Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p>