

HIGHLIGHTS

Set your clocks ahead, don't miss worship service

LA GRANDE — First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in La Grande will observe the first Sunday of Lent with Pastor Ray Smith's message, "Control or Repentance," coming from Luke

13:1-9, the story of the fig tree. Congregants are reminded to set their clocks ahead one hour, to begin Daylight Saving Time, so they don't miss the 10 a.m. worship service.

Jesus used God's word to defeat temptation

LA GRANDE, ENTERPRISE — The sermon at Faith Lutheran Church this Sunday will expound upon Luke 4:1-13. In these verses Jesus was led into the desert and fasted for 40 days only then to be tempted to "command this stone to become bread." Jesus defeated the temptation using the same tool that he has give us: the word of God. Services are at 10 a.m. in La Grande and 2 p.m. in Enterprise.

The theme of Wednesday evening's Lenten service will be "Behold the

Man Jesus Christ Who Prays." The Wednesday service is held at 6:30 p.m., preceded by a soup supper at 5:30 p.m.

Sermon continues exploration of good/bad news of Christ's death

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church will have an 11 a.m. service on Saturday. Pastor Mike will continue exploring the death of Christ and the good and bad news his death means for the living and the dead. Easily overlooked is that God did not spare his own son from death, so that the world would have eternal life for the choosing.

Guest will portray Mary Magdalene in special service

ELGIN — The Elgin United Methodist Women

will be leading the 11 a.m. service at the Methodist Church on Sunday. The special service will feature Kate Loftus of Lostine, portraying Mary Magdalene. The service will be followed by fellowship, treats and coffee.

Fellowship potluck follows Union service

UNION — The Union Methodist and Grace Community churches will celebrate the first Sunday of Lent with a special worship service beginning at 10 a.m. Pastor Carl's sermon, "Jesus Makes a Choice," is taken from Mark 4, which tells of Jesus being tempted by the devil. Adult Sunday school begins at 9 a.m. A fellowship potluck will follow the service.

Transportation is available for all church activities. Every Thursday at 10 a.m., a Bible study is

held at The Urban Vine in Island City.

Neighbors Together meets Monday at Zion

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship Sunday at 9 a.m. followed by a time of fellowship. Adult forum continues at 10:30 a.m.

On Monday at 5:30 p.m., Neighbors Together meets at Zion. Zion's evening Bible study meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Ruth Zemke's. A non-denominational Bible study group meets at Zion Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m.

St. Peter's celebrates lifesaving work worldwide

LA GRANDE — On the first Sunday of Lent, St. Peter's Episcopal Church in La Grande will celebrate Holy Communion

at 11 a.m. The congregation will also be observing Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday, a day of remembering and supporting lifesaving work worldwide.

At 6 p.m. Sunday, the book club will meet in the parish hall.

What does spirituality mean to you?

LA GRANDE — The Observer is seeking comments from community members on spiritual matters. If you would like to share how you experience spirituality, email news@lagrandeobserver.com or call Observer Editor Cherise Kaechele at 541-963-3161. Ongoing monthly columns and one-time submissions will be considered. Columns are generally 500-600 words and include a photo of the writer.

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.

God's word is 'nourishment for the soul'

Most of us have heard that the Bible is a road map for this life. I have not only listened to messages like this but have spent much of my life proclaiming it. Nonetheless, just because we believe something is true and are thoroughly convinced this is the path we should take does not mean that we will always follow it.

Take for example, we realize that eating right and daily exercise would be extremely beneficial to our health, but we seem to be experts of procrastination by consistently putting off until tomorrow what we should be doing today. I'm also guilty of this and then I walk around beating myself up from the condemnation of not doing what I know I should do.

This is just one area that some of us struggle with among the vast subjects of opportunities that we face every day. So, what do we say when we know there is nothing more important than God's word and still refuse to study it? The same is true with prayer, as we all know there is nothing more powerful and yet many times we choose to put it off.

The reason why the Bible is so important to the human



LIVING ON PURPOSE
DR. BILLY HOLLAND

race is because it's basically a reflection of who God is and a personal letter from him that explains what he wants from us. It contains true stories and words of divine wisdom that can strengthen, encourage and lead us into his will.

Learning and understanding the word of God illuminates our mind and opens our spiritual eyes so that we can see more clearly how to not only live an abundant life, but to also give him the honor and glory that he deserves.

Since God is the creator of all things and has uniquely designed you and I, we should be grateful and consider him worthy to receive our deepest love and adoration. The concept of absorbing God's holy truth is a crucial part of the process of knowing him personally and opens the door for us to live in the awareness of his presence.

The Bible stands or falls as a whole. If a newspaper were routinely discovered to contain errors, it would be quickly discredited. It would make

no difference to say, "all the errors are confined to page three" or "many of the stories we publish are probably not true." For any publication to be reliable in any of its parts, it must be factual throughout.

Why would we waste our time reading something that is fabricated? In the same way, if the Bible is inaccurate when it speaks of everything from geology to genealogy, why should it be trusted? It is either a trustworthy resource, or it is not.

It's clear to see who is behind all of this negative publicity as the devil is against God and commonly referred to as the enemy of our soul. He also understands the potential spiritual power that can be generated when someone reads and applies God's word.

This kingdom of darkness is aggressively working around the clock to prevent anyone from discovering the secrets and mysteries that God intended for us to know. The devil realizes that if the spiritual principals within the Bible can be dismissed and discredited as fictional fables, the possibility for salvation and victorious living are diminished.

R.C. Sproul is quoted as

saying, "It is fashionable in some academic circles to exercise scholarly criticism of the Bible. In so doing, scholars place themselves above the Bible and seek to correct it. If indeed the Bible is the word of God, nothing could be more arrogant. It is God who corrects us; we don't correct him. We do not stand over God but under him."

I feel so strongly about the importance of absorbing God's word that last year I went into the studio and recorded an 80-minute CD where I narrate more than 100 encouraging and inspiring Bible passages. I realize it's challenging for many people to sit and read, so I've made this resource as an enjoyable alternative that anyone can listen to, relax and soak in God's truth.

It has beautiful background music and is filled with scriptures about faith, healing, hope and peace. I would be glad to send this out free to anyone who is interested. As Billy Graham said, "Let us encourage all believers to feed on God's word — it is nourishment for the soul."

Read more at billyhollandministries.com.

WORDS OF THE BUDDHA

www.pariyatti.com

One is one's own protector, one is one's own refuge. Therefore, one should control oneself, even as a trader controls a noble steed. (Dhammapada 25.380)

Let go of the past, let go of the future, let go of the present, and cross over to the farther shore of existence. With mind wholly liberated, you shall come no more to birth and death. (Dhammapada 24.348)

A person with good eyes, encountering a treacherous, uneven place, would try hard to avoid it. A wise person, in the world of life, should avoid evil deeds. (Udana 5.43)

Good is restraint in the body, in speech, in thought. Restraint everywhere is good. The monk restrained in every way is freed from all suffering. (Dhammapada 25.361)

For one who mindfully develops boundless loving-kindness Seeing the destruction of clinging, the fetters are worn away. (Itivuttaka 1.27)



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 Vision for Tomorrow</p> <p>Sunday Services: Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes 9:45AM Children's Church & 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 summervillebaptistchurch.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: vfchurch2@gmail.com</p>	<p>La Grande 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>9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Fellowship & Refreshments 10:30 am - Classes Pastor: 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</p> <p>SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE</p> <p>541-963-3911</p> <p>Building Together On Christ Alone</p> <p>Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p>