

HIGHLIGHTS

Air ambulance pilot is guest speaker

LA GRANDE — The Seventh-day Adventist Church in La Grande will have local air ambulance pilot Brian Scarbrough as a guest speaker at the 11 a.m. Saturday service. His presentation will be "The Grip of His Grace: A Story of Royalty," a message of hope and encouragement.

Special services feature guest speaker from Kosovo

LA GRANDE — Trinity Baptist Church in La Grande is hosting a guest speaker for three special services next week. Hasan Bytyqi — who now serves as a leader at the Baptist Church in Richland, Washington — was born in

Kosovo and through a visiting missionary came to receive Jesus, which changed his life. He will speak at 6 p.m. April 12 and April 13, and at the regular Sunday service at 11 a.m. April 14. Anyone who would like to visit with Hasan before the April 13 service may make an appointment by calling 541-910-5787.

Women invited to Spring Friendship Luncheon Saturday

LA GRANDE — As the La Grande First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) celebrates the fifth Sunday of Lent with worship at 10 a.m., Pastor Ray Smith will reference John 20:19-31, when Jesus meets with his disciples after his resurrection.

The Christian Women's Fellowship will host its annual Spring Friendship Luncheon at noon April 6 in the church fellowship hall. "A Song of Spring" is the theme for the program.

Lenten supper and service to be held

LA GRANDE — The sermon this Sunday at Faith Lutheran's 10 a.m. service will use Luke 20:9-20. These verses are set in the later part of Jesus' ministry. He shared a parable in which the tenants of a very good situation said concerning the landlord's son: "This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours" (Luke 20:14). After the service is the First Sunday Potluck followed by an

elders' meeting.

On Wednesday, the Lenten service's sermon will be "Behold the Man Who Thirsts." Jesus continually thirsts for the righteousness of humankind that is obtained through his grace. A soup supper is served at 5:30 p.m. with the Vespers service at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor tells of 'Talented Bridesmaids'

LA GRANDE — The First Presbyterian Church in La Grande will worship together at 9:30 a.m. Sunday. Commemorating the fifth Sunday in Lent, Pastor Laura Hudson's sermon about "Talented Bridesmaids" will be based on Matthew 25. A fellowship time will follow the service.

Cove Methodist service includes Communion

COVE — The Cove Methodist Church's Sunday worship service will begin at 9 a.m. The Reverend Lisa Payton from the Baker United Methodist Church will provide the message and serve Communion. The United Methodist Communion Table is open to all. Fellowship with treats, coffee and juice will follow the service in the fellowship hall.

The Cove Food Pantry will be open from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. April 27 at the church. The church also hosts Cove's Fresh Alliance, offering free perishable food to the community, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays.

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.

Monday at 5:30 p.m., Neighbors Together meets at Zion. The Evening Bible Study gathers at 7 p.m. Monday at Cathy Lease's residence.

St. Peter's offers Morning Prayer service Sunday

LA GRANDE — St. Peter's Episcopal Church will celebrate the Fifth Sunday in Lent with Morning Prayer at 11 a.m. Coffee and fellowship will follow in the parish hall.

Be grateful for heaven, but remain focused on God

I cannot imagine a more optimistic and exciting thought than going to heaven and spending an eternity with God. For those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their savior, this divine promise is a wellspring of joy which confirms that our trials cannot be compared to the glory that awaits us.

We should be inspired to fasten this covenant vow to our bathroom mirror so that every morning we can be reminded of God's love and rejoice for the opportunity to not only know him in this life, but to worship and adore him forever.

The fundamentals of our spiritual salvation can be described as God's infinite compassion intervened as a rescue mission of mercy in order to save us from our sin. Martin Luther, a "German theologian and religious reformer who was the catalyst of the 16th-century Protestant Reformation," according to www.britannica.com, is quoted as saying, "I would not give one moment of heaven for all the pleasures and riches of the world, even if it lasted for thousands and thousands of years."

Our daily routines are filled with distractions. For most of us it's hard to keep up, but even with the stress it's important to remain



LIVING ON PURPOSE
DR. BILLY HOLLAND

aware of a higher reality. If we only think about the next life when we attend funerals, we are missing a part of our relationship with God that can keep us excited and rejuvenated with joy.

Spending time alone with the Lord was never intended to be an occasional experience or a last resort, but rather to be a constant connection as we strive to understand and obey his instructions. Walking in God's presence as a lifestyle is intended to not only transform our spirit, but to also renew our mind and prepare our heart with the anticipation of meeting him face to face. Titus 2:13 reminds us, "Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."

One of the blessings of being a follower of Christ is choosing to live with a sincere attitude of peace and hope. We've heard people talk about going to their happy place and actually our creator desires to abide and communicate

within the conscience of those who love him and who choose to honor him as the Lord of their life. However, being attentive to his voice will not come naturally or without serious determination.

Spiritual awareness and intimacy is realized when his desires become our highest priority. Many do not comprehend that as Christians our allegiance is to king Jesus and our citizenship has been transferred from this natural world to the spiritual reality of his kingdom.

This concept of yielding and abandoning our will has everything to do with devoting our life to following the blueprints he has drawn for us. Psalm 14:2 says, "The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand and seek God."

As we consider the life after this one, it's normal to become excited about our heavenly home. How encouraging it is to imagine that many of our loved ones, our new name, our new body, our inheritance, and citizenship, along with crowns and rewards, are all a part of our glorious future. How wonderful to know that heaven will be filled with endless praise,

everlasting joy, perfect peace and contentment without darkness, discouragement, pain or sorrow.

We are only passing through this world and the only thing we will take with us when we leave is an account of how we lived. It's sad but true that everyone is not concerned with their destiny and let us include that no one will enter because they are good or deserve it.

We are graciously given eternal life when we repent, confess, obey, and receive Christ as our Lord who willingly paid our ransom.

Billy Graham is quoted as saying, "I will not go to heaven because I am a preacher. I'm going to heaven entirely on the merit of the work of Christ. The most thrilling thing about heaven is that Jesus Christ will be there!"

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born-again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you," (1 Peter 1:3-4).

Read more at billyhollandministries.com

WORDS OF THE BUDDHA

www.pariyatti.com

Heedfulness is the path to the Deathless. Heedlessness is the path to death. The heedful die not. The heedless are as if dead already. (Dhammapada 2.21)

Conviction is a person's highest wealth. Dhamma, when well-practiced, brings bliss. Truth is the highest of tastes. Living with discernment, one's life is called best. (Sutta Nipata 1.184)

By effort and heedfulness, discipline and self-mastery, let the wise one make for oneself an island which no flood can overwhelm. (Dhammapada 2.25)

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

Services This Week

<p style="text-align: center;">IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH</p> <p>440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201 www.imblerchristianchurch.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday Services</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">First Christian Church <i>(Disciples of Christ)</i></p> <p>901 Penn Avenue 963-2623 lgdisciples@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship 10:00 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~Join us at The Lord's Table~</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A Vision for the World</i></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 style="text-align: center;">A church for your whole family Visit us at summervillebaptistchurch.org</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 390 E. St., North Powder, OR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JOIN US... <i>Catch the Spirit!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH SERVICES</p> <p>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</p> <p>Union - Sacred Heart 340 South 10th Avenue Sunday 8:00 am Mass No Weekdays</p> <p>Elgin - Saint Mary's 12th and Alder Sunday 12:30 pm Mass No Weekdays</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">VALLEY FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>963-0340 507 Palmer Ave <i>(just east of city pool)</i></p> <p>Sunday Worship 10:02 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Come and share in a time of worship, prayer and the study of God's word with us.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship includes communion on Sunday. www.valleyfellowship.church Email: vfchurch2@gmail.com</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church <i>A Place where hope is found in Jesus</i></p> <p>Join us in Fellowship & Worship Every Saturday 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study/Fellowship 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service</p> <p>2702 Adams Avenue, La Grande • 963-4018 Pastor: Mike Armayor www.lagrande22adventistchurchconnect.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Learning for Today and Eternity</i></p> <p>Little Friends Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390</p> <p>La Grande Adventist Christian School Christian Education K-8th Grade 963-6203</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p>1812 1st St. La Grande Pastor Dave Tierce • 541-605-0215 <i>We use the King James Version Bible</i></p> <p>Sunday School - 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Sunday Evening Bible Study - 3:00 pm (Effective June 10) Wednesday Evening - 6:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures"</i> www.flmbclagrande.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Zion Lutheran Church <i>(an ELCA church)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">ZION LUTHERAN</p> <p>902 Fourth Street, La Grande, OR (541) 963-5998</p> <p>9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Fellowship & Refreshments 10:30 am - Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor: www.zionlagrande.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Union Baptist Church</p> <p>1531 S. Main St., Union 541-562-5531</p> <p>www.unionbaptistoregon.org</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am Sunday Night 6:30 pm Thursday AWANA 6:30 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Knowing, Loving and Proclaiming Jesus Christ</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">First Baptist Church</p> <p>SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE</p> <p>541-963-3911</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Building Together On Christ Alone</i></p> <p>Sun. 8:45 AM - Bible Classes Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">CALVARY CHAPEL</p> <p>1433 Jefferson Ave. 963-5884</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contemporary Worship Expositional Teaching</p> <p>Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m. <i>Studying The Book of Romans</i> Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m. <i>Studying The Book of Revelation</i> Wednesday Night Youth - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tune in to Calvary Radio 88.1 CSN</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amazing Grace Fellowship</p> <p>1316 T St., La Grande, OR 541-568-4567</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 10:30 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2 Cor 12:9 My Grace is sufficient for you.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">IS 40:31</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH <i>L.C.M.C.</i></p> <p>667 N. Main in Union <i>"We are called to Serve"</i></p> <p>Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor Carl Seelhoff Phone: 541-786-0447 grace.lutherancove@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">La Grande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>109 18th Street • 963-3402</p> <p>Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH <i>"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"</i></p> <p>1612 4th Street - 963-2498 Pastor Al Trachsel lgumc@eoni.com www.lgumchurch.org</p> <p>Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am • Nursery provided •</p>