The Observer

Pastor talks about Jesus' 'Two Parades'

LA GRANDE — The First United Methodist Church will celebrate Palm Sunday at 10 a.m. Pastor Al Trachsel's sermon will be "Two Parades."

The La Grande congregation is hosting a special service at 7 p.m. on Good Friday to be joined by First Presbyterian, St. Peter's Episcopal, Zion Lutheran, First Christian and New Hope churches. The service is open to the community.

Christ's triumphal entry remembered

LA GRANDE, ENTER-PRISE — Faith Lutheran Church will hold a divine service at 10 a.m. in La Grande and 2 p.m. Enterprise. Each Sunday service will begin with the Procession of

Jesus Christ's entry into Jerusalem.

Faith Lutheran will have a Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 p.m. on April 18 and a Tenebrae Good Friday service at 6:30 p.m. April 19, both in La Grande.

Choir sings special music on Palm Sunday

LA GRANDE — First Christian Church of La Grande will celebrate Palm Sunday with a palm recessional following Pastor Ray Smith's message, "The Decision." The choir will present special music.

A Maundy Thursday light dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. April 18 in the Fellowship Hall, followed by worship at 6:15 p.m. Congregants are invited to participate in a Good

Palms in remembrance of Friday service at the United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. April 19.

Transportation available to Union Methodist activities

UNION - The Union United Methodist Church will be joined by the Grace Community Church 10 a.m. for a Palm Sunday service. Pastor Carl will deliver his sermon, "Arrival of the King." Fellowship will follow. Adult Sunday school will begin at 9 a.m.

There will be a Good Friday service at 7 p.m. on April 19. Transportation from La Grande is available for church activities.

First Presbyterian Church celebrates Passion Sunday

GRANDE LA congregation The of the La Grande First Presbyterian Church will celebrate Palm/Passion Sunday with a procession of palms and seasonal scripture readings during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. A fellowship time will follow the worship.

HIGHLIGHTS

On Good Friday, the congregants are invited to join an ecumenical service at p.m. at the United Methodist Church.

St. Peter's and Zion **Lutheran share Communion service**

LA GRANDE -Peter's Episcopal Church and Zion Lutheran Church will celebrate a joint Palm Sunday service with Communion at Zion, beginning at 9 a.m.

During Holy Week, St. Peter's will host a Maundy Thursday agape meal at 6 p.m. April 18, along with the traditional "Stripping of the Altar" observance. Parishioners are asked to bring a simple plate of fruit, vegetables, crackers or bread to share. St. Peter's will join the United Methodist Church La Grande at 7 p.m. April 19 for a Good Friday service.

Message expounds on Jesus' journey

COVE - The Cove Methodist Church will worship Sunday at 9 a.m. Mary Cloutier will share an entry message, "It's All About the Journey." Fellowship time with treats, coffee and juice will follow.

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

Guest speaker preaches at joint **Zion service**

LA GRANDE Zion Lutheran Church Grande La will worship Sunday 9 a.m. Holy Communion will be served at the Palm Sunday service and guest speaker Paul Teyler of Tigard will give the message. Members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church will be joining, and a time of fellowship will follow the service.

Housing Matters Union County will meet from noon to 2 p.m. Monday. Quilters will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday. The Zion congregation has been invited to attend the Good Friday service at 7 p.m. at La Grande's United Methodist Church.

Go directly to the source to find what is truly worth believing

With all the different religions of the world clamoring for people's attention, it can be confusing what truth is and what is worthy of believing. Different religions offer different destinations and different ways of getting there. Many of them also have a different definition of who the deity is, a different name for their god or the many different gods they worship. They also have different explanations as to who their savior is, even if they still call him Jesus. They have different explanations as to their eternal destination, what it is like, and what it is

Although some say all religions are the same and get you to the same place, if you take the time to weigh the evidence based on a bit of research, you will see that this is not accurate. Even among religions called "Christian" there are far too many differences to say they are all the same. Some say you must earn your way to eternity with God by keeping certain commandments or rules of their religion yet others



Pastor Franklin Humber **SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

say it is a combination of personal faith and good works that is the ticket into heaven. Still others say it has nothing to do with you at all because God makes the decisions predetermining who goes to heaven and hell.

Personally, I like to settle matters of theology and truth by going to the originator of it all: God. I do the same thing when it comes to matters of life and nature. None of us were around when everything got started here on the orb of matter, or when the first human began to practice faith in the Almighty God. We only have books of data to go from and everyone looks at that data from their own personal bent of perception. However, I believe God was around when all of this was originated, because he alone is the originator of it all. The confusion comes in when people try to

push their agenda. This is what we still have going on in media, politics and, sadly enough, in religion.

What does God say about these matters when you just let him speak to you from his word? One reference that is worth examining to get God's perspective is in Romans 5. Here he says the problem of sin and its effects of sickness, disease, destruction and death began by one man disobeying God. That one man was Adam, father of the human race. Therefore, we are all impacted by the effects of sin, and we commit sins of our own that make us guilty as sinners before God. It also says that the solution to our sin is offered freely to the same group of all who are affected by sin. In verse 18, God clearly states that just as all are affected by sin unto condemnation, so too can all be affected unto justification by his gift of righteousness to cleanse our sinfulness.

God calls it a gift. The last time I checked on the definition of a gift, it was clear you do not do anything to earn it. God also uses the word

"grace," which by definition means unmerited favor. Not only is it not earned, it is not deserved. God also explains this gift of righteousness and forgiveness is offered by only one source, and that is his son, Jesus Christ.

So, there is salvation in no other name or person other than Jesus Christ, the only son of God, which is also what Acts 4:12 states. He is the only one who left heaven and came to Earth in human form in order to pay the debt of death for our sins. He alone arose from the dead victorious over death, sin and the grave to offer us his victory for our victory. He also alone is righteous because he is God, so he can give us God's righteousness to make us right with God eternally. As God in the flesh, he is Lord of heaven, so he alone can gift an authorized claim deed to a home in heaven.

God also makes it clear in Romans 5 that his grace is enough all on its own, and nothing more is necessary. Verse 17 describes it as abundant grace overflowing to the need, and in verse 20 it is described as abounding more than sin did. Its effect goes beyond the effect of our sin, and there is nothing we can or need to add to God's grace. The word "receive" as stated in verse 17 makes it clear there is one thing we must do to benefit, and that is receive it. Receiving a gift is not work on our part. It is more like a submission to the offer, an expression of appreciation for the thoughtfulness, and an acceptance of the kindness shown by the giver and provider of the gift. As far as the means by which we receive all of this, that is covered clearly in the beginning of the chapter. Verses 1-2 state this justification and grace is benefited from and received by faith in Jesus

This is what the originator of faith and of mankind has to say on the matter. I realize it is not what most of the religions of the world are telling us, but it is what God says. You must make your decision for yourself, but you also end up with the

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches **Services This Week**

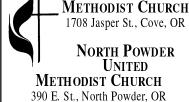
IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

Sunday Services

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Worship Service 10:00 a.m. COVE UNITED



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

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

CALVARY CHAPEL

1433 Jefferson Ave. 963-5884 Contemporary Worship **Expositional Teaching**

Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m. Studying The Book of Romans Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m. Studying The Book of Revelation Wednesday Night Youth - 6:00 p.m

Tune in to Calvary Radio 88.1 CSN

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 No Weekdays

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

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.

∠ IS 40:31

SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

11:00AM

6:00PM

Sunday Services: Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes Children's Church & Worship Service Family Worship Service

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

A church for your whole family

Visit us at summervillebaptistchurch.org

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

Zion Lutheran Church



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

9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Fellowship & Refreshments 10:30 am - Classes

www.zionlagrande.org

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



Union

Baptist Church

1531 S. Main St., Union

541-562-5531

www.unionbaptistoregon.org

Knowing, Loving and Proclaiming

Jesus Christ

9:45 am

11:00 am

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

Sunday School

Sunday Night

Morning Worship

Thursday AWANA

109 18th Street • 963-3402

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

outcome of your decision.

First Baptist Church

SIXTH &

SPRING, LA GRANDE 541-963-3911



Building Together On Christ Alo Easter Worship, Sunday, April 21st 1st service: 9:00 am- 10:15 am Cinnamon rolls: 10:15 am- 10:45 am 2nd service: 10:45 am- 12:00 pm

Kids program both services

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 ·