

HIGHLIGHTS

Young people conduct Saturday service

LA GRANDE — The 11 a.m. Saturday service at the La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church will be conducted by the youth. They will present a play reflecting that how we relate to others is actually the way we are treating God.

Special worship service includes marriage vows

UNION — This Sunday, Grace Community and Union Methodist churches will celebrate God’s word together with a special worship service beginning at 10 a.m. Pastor Carl’s sermon title will be “Covenant of Marriage.” During the service, a couple

from the church will take their marriage vows. A celebration for the couple will follow the service. Adult Bible study begins at 9 a.m. Transportation is available for all church activities.

Housing Matters meets Monday at Zion

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship at 9 a.m. Sunday. Following the service, there will be a time of fellowship and coffee, and a semi-annual congregational meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m.

On Monday, Housing Matters Union County will meet from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church. Lunch will be provided.

The Quilters will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday at Zion, and Tuesday evening a nondenominational Bible Study group meets at 6:15 p.m.

Koinonia women’s group has brunch meeting tomorrow

LA GRANDE — The sermon at Faith Lutheran in La Grande during the 10 a.m. Sunday service will expound on John 16:12-22. In these verses, Jesus is preparing his disciples for his departure, which will be accompanied with sorrow. However, through faith, they and all believers will be seen by him again and “hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you”

(verse 22). The monthly Church Council meeting follows the Divine Service.

Tomorrow, Faith Lutheran Church’s women’s group, called Koinonia, will have its monthly meeting at the Flying J. This brunch meeting begins at 10 a.m.

LDS Sunday school lesson looks at ‘Inner Self’

LA GRANDE — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints’ Sunday School lesson, “The Inner Self,” will be a discussion and review of the past two weeks of the topics covered in the “Come, Follow Me” curriculum. The “desires of the heart” and the Savior’s arrival in Jerusalem will be

areas of focus for the upcoming week of May 20-26 and is based on Matthew 21-23, Mark 11, Luke 19-20 and John 12. A video depicting the triumphant arrival of Jesus Christ in Jerusalem (and many other topics) can be viewed at www.ChurchofJesusChrist.org/media-library/video/final-events?lang=eng&_r=1.

Sermon focuses on Jesus as shepherd

LA GRANDE — Pastor Ray Smith will speak about “The Shepherd” at the La Grande First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) during the 10 a.m. worship service. His message Sunday will refer to 1 John 3:1-2 and John 10:11-18.

The curse of Eden will not be present in heaven

I have a few antique clocks, and for those who are somewhat familiar with these fascinating machines, you also know what a frustration they are to keep running.

Recently, I was having problems with a grandfather clock, and after a few weeks I was being exposed for my lack of knowledge and ability when it comes to working on them. I can do some tweaking and occasionally I’m rewarded with a bit of luck, but more often than not I turn to an older gentleman who lives in my community and I depend on his expertise.

In this particular situation, he had already made two house calls and it still would not run consistently, then he said something during his visit that caused to me think about what makes us tick, (pun intended). He made a comment about how these mechanisms were so delicate and sensitive that even the tiniest mis-



LIVING ON PURPOSE
BILLY HOLLAND

alignment can prevent the entire apparatus from operating correctly. We can identify how the human body is similar to these complex contraptions and how vulnerable and fragile we really are and only by God’s mercy and grace are allowed to function as well as we do.

I’ve had my share of illness, and I’m sure you have too. With life being a never-ending classroom of searching and developing, there are a couple of things we can keep in mind as we continue moving forward.

I believe in prayer, positive faith confessions and learning how to be an optimistic thinker. This may not guarantee our miracle, but it can certainly keep us on the right path.

When walking our dog, I take advantage of this quiet time to talk to God about everything I can

think of including my health and well-being. I’m convinced when we speak God’s word openly, we are absorbing his hope and healing power into our mind, soul, and body: “For (his words) are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh” (Proverbs 4:22).

I’m not presenting some kind of hokey magical formula, but when practicing the presence of God in sincere faith, this becomes a legitimate spiritual principal that can generate contentment within our mind and soul. His abundant promises are filled with light and life, and all that he desires from us in return is a humble and sincere submission to his will. God is truth, and he declares that no matter the size of mountain we may face or what type of furnace we might be thrown in, he loves us, wants the best for us and will always be with us.

It’s true we are blessed, but the Lord does not

promise a perfect, pain-free life. We understand that after the fall of mankind in Eden, everything, including our health, has been plagued with a curse.

I’m reminded about this when I look at my yard and see that no matter how hard I battle against the weeds, they continue to irritate me. Vehicles rust and wear out, our decks, fences, and porches rot away, and everything is designed to decay, but it’s simply a reality of the natural world.

There is nothing wrong with doing everything we can to improve our health and our appearance, but at the end of the day, we must face the sobering fact that our body is also designed to be temporary.

Exercise, dieting, and cosmetic surgery are great, but like the old clocks that run faithfully for many years, there comes a time when the parts wear out. Yes, there will be seasons of aches and pains, and for

some, there will be serious issues that will require a larger amount of trust and assurance, but whatever may come, may we be committed to devoting our best years to obeying and serving our Lord.

For those who are in Christ, we can be excited to know this curse will not be present in heaven. Darkness and evil will be defeated and everything will be perfectly transformed including our brand-new bodies that will last forever. Let us appreciate all the good times we have enjoyed, and when the end of our pilgrimage finally arrives, we can be filled with confidence and excitement as this life was a brief yet glorious opportunity to know God and that our future includes continual joy and perfect health for all eternity. ■

Ask for the free CD with more than 100 encouraging Bible passages at www.billyhollandministries.com.

Words of the Buddha

Through conviction one crosses over the flood. Through heedfulness, the sea. Through persistence one overcomes suffering and stress. Through discernment a person is purified. (Sutta Nipata 1.186)

There is no more worldly existence for the wise one who, like the earth, resents nothing, who is firm as a high pillar and as pure as a deep pool free from mud. (Dhammapada 7.95)

Well done is that action of doing which one repents not later, and the fruit of which one reaps with delight and happiness. (Dhammapada 5.68)

www.pariyatti.com

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
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

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

NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
390 E. St., North Powder, OR

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

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
A Place for You
Sunday Services:
Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes 9:45AM
Children’s Church & Worship Service 11:00AM
Family Worship Service 6:00PM
Wednesday:
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, prayer 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
Pastor:
www.zionlagrande.org

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

CHURCH Service DIRECTORY

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
1531 S. Main Street, Union 541-562-5531
www.UnionBaptistOregon.org
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Thursday AWANA 6:30 pm
Birthing, Building and Being the Body of Christ

LaGrande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
109 18th Street • 963-3402
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church
SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE
541-963-3911
Sun. 9:00 AM - **Worship**
Sun. 10:30 AM - Exploring the Bible
Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA

LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
“OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS”
1612 4th Street – 963-2498
Pastor Al Trachsel
lgumc@conl.com
www.lgumchurch.org
Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon
Worship 10:00 am
Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am
• Nursery provided •