

HIGHLIGHTS

Creationist gives free presentation Sunday

IMBLER — The Imbler Christian Church invites the community to a special free presentation by Russ Miller of Creation, Evolution and Science Ministries on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 6 p.m. The mission of Miller's organization is to "confirm biblical truth and expose misinterpretations of God's creation." Learn more at www.creationministries.org.

This Sunday is the church's monthly worship night. The free event begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all.

Nazarene Church hosts women's luncheon

LA GRANDE — Sunday school will begin at 9:15 a.m. at La Grande's Church of the Nazarene. During the 10:30 a.m. worship service, Pastor Kevin Goss will finish the "Name Above All Names" series with a message from Hebrews 13:9-16 titled "The Outsider." Jesus lived his life in the margins; there was nothing mainstream about him, yet he gives us an entirely new place to belong.

The Women's Winter Luncheon will be Saturday, Feb. 22, at 11

Submissions

Churches and faith-based groups are encouraged to submit Highlights for the Spiritual Life page by 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication Thursday. 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.

a.m. in the church fellowship hall. Lunch will be a potluck of soup, salad, bread and dessert. The theme is "Stitched Together" and the event will feature an assortment of vintage sewing machines and quilts. Those who attend are asked to bring something for the potluck if they are able.

Congregants invited to ecumenical Ash Wednesday service

LA GRANDE — St. Peter's Episcopal Church in La Grande will celebrate Holy Eucharist at 11 a.m. Sunday. Pastor Roberta Smythe will officiate. Coffee and fellowship will follow the service.

The First Presbyterian Church has invited congregants to attend a pancake supper at 6 p.m. and ecumenical Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Presbyterian Friendship Center.

Choir presents 'Praisin' His Name' medley

LA GRANDE — Pastor Shari Eggleston's message at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Sunday will be "Pray Like This," referring to Luke 11:1-13. The choir will sing the "Praisin' His Name" medley. The service will begin at 10 a.m. The church will provide the food for a soup and dessert social immediately following worship.

New youth program broadcast transmitted worldwide

EASTERN OREGON — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will hold Ward Conferences in the Enterprise Ward, John Day Ward and La Grande's Young Single Adult Branch on Sunday. Stake Presidency members will be speaking. Members of the congregation will be the speakers for the

Sacrament meeting in all other locations. The second hour will be Relief Society and Priesthood meetings.

Sunday afternoon, a worldwide new youth program's broadcast will be transmitted at 3 p.m. for all youth. The event will be hosted by Dallin Oaks, First Counselor in the First Presidency.

The "Come, Follow Me" lesson for the week of Feb. 23-Mar. 1 will be on the Book of Mormon, 2 Nephi 26-30.

To learn more about family history work, watch the RootsTech 2020 free sessions on Feb. 26-29 at www.rootstech.org. The event will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, and many of the sessions will be transmitted worldwide.

Transfiguration reveals Jesus' divine nature

LA GRANDE — The message at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday will be a sermon on the transfiguration of Jesus, based on Matthew 17:1-9. These verses recount when his divine nature was shown on a mountain to three of his disciples. The service begins at 10 a.m. in La Grande.

There will be a soup supper at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 26, in La Grande, followed by an Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m. The imposition of ashes will mark the beginning of Lent, the 40 days before Easter.

Lunch provided at Housing Matters Union County meeting

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church in La Grande will worship at 9 a.m. on "Transfiguration of Our Lord" Sunday. Holy Communion will be served and Pastor Roberta Smythe will officiate. A time of fellowship follows the service.

Housing Matters Union County will meet Monday, Feb. 25, from noon to 2 p.m. at Zion. Lunch will be provided.

The ZLCW Bible study will meet Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 9:30 a.m., also at Zion.

On Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26, the congregation is invited to a pancake meal at 6 p.m. at the Presbyterian Friendship Center, followed by an ecumenical worship service at 7 p.m.

— Observer staff

Keep your face pointed to the sun

We all have problems occasionally, and there are times when we feel like we've been punched in the gut. I felt like this a couple months ago when one morning I went into my office to start the day and my computer would not wake up. I realize that a hard drive failure is not the worst thing that could happen, but for someone who writes several hours a day, it's discouraging to say the least.

As I grow older, I want to be more grateful for my blessings and this includes the hope of good health. My good friend who is being treated for lung cancer is still sending out his morning updates and always closes with a series of positive affirmations such as "Attitude for gratitude" and

"Live within the light." I know he is being shown precious wisdom as he travels through his journey and he's quick to testify about his appreciation for each day. I'm not sure who said it, but it's so true to consider: "When some things go wrong, take a moment to be thankful for the many things that are going right."

Within our observations, we realize that in comparison with others who are dealing with serious problems, many of our troubles and disappointments are small. Even more amazing, there are a few individuals that have not only been able to adapt to devastating situations but have gone on to excel and achieve astounding accomplishments. One of these special cases



LIVING ON PURPOSE
BILLY HOLLAND

is Helen Keller (1880-1968), who was blind and deaf yet grew up to become a world-famous inspirational author, political activist and relentless crusader for the rights of the disabled. She was a highly sensitive truth seeker who took great delight in sharing her passion for knowledge and spirituality.

Helen was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama, and for her first year and a half of her life she was just like any other child. However, at the age of 19 months, she became ill with what many suspect was scarlet fever or perhaps meningitis. The Keller family doctor did not believe she would survive, but after several days, her fever subsided and everyone was relieved. Unfortunately, as little Helen recuperated, they were saddened to discover the illness she had left her blind and deaf. Medical tests confirmed she

could not see any light or objects, and her ears could not conduct sound at all. To have a small glimpse of the world in which she lived, close your eyes and put your fingers in your ears. It is truly difficult to imagine living with no sight or sound.

As shown in the movie "The Miracle Worker," Helen's tutor Anne Sullivan poured water over her hand while spelling the word on her other palm. Helen is quoted, "It was as if I had come back to life after being dead! I understood what my teacher was saying, that the cold liquid that was rushing over my hand was water; and that it was possible for me to communicate with other people by these hand signs. It was a wonderful day, never to be forgotten." Another important person in her life was a man named John Hitz, whom Helen respectfully called "the foster father of my soul." He introduced her to the religious teachings of Emanuel Swedenborg and this ignited her spiritual hunger to know more about God and the Bible.

Helen Keller was the first deaf and blind person to earn a college degree, from Radcliffe, no less, from which she graduated cum laude in 1904 with a bachelor of arts degree. She was also nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. In 1999 her name appeared on Time magazine's list of the 100 most important figures of the 20th century, alongside such iconic figures as Albert Einstein, Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King and the Wright brothers.

One of Keller's many famous quotes is: "Keep your face to the sun and you will never see the shadows." So how did Helen become such a strong force of optimism and positive energy? She learned to accept her limitations with grace and even joy, because within her heart she knew they had a purpose and that, in fact, her life could be made all the richer not despite them but because of them.

William "Billy" Holland is the founder of an independent Christian ministry in central Kentucky.

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

	<p>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>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Services This Week</h3>	<p>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>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></p> <p>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</p> <p>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>LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH <i>"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"</i></p> <p>1612 4th Street - 963-2498</p> <p>Pastor Taylor Gould lgumc@eoni.com www.lgumchurch.org</p> <p>Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon</p> <p>Worship 10:00 am Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am - Nursery provided -</p>	<p>GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH <i>The Place</i></p> <p>62848 Philynda Loop in Island City</p> <p><i>"We are called to Serve"</i></p> <p>Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am</p> <p>Sunday Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Pastor Carl Seelhoff Phone: 541-786-0447 grace.lutherancove@gmail.com</p>	<p>Amazing Grace Fellowship</p> <p>1316 T St., La Grande, OR 541-568-4567</p> <p>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: right;"><small>IS 40:31</small></p>
<p>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</p> <p>Pastor: Mike Armayor www.lagrandeor.adventistchurch.org</p> <p><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>FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p>1812 1st St. La Grande</p> <p>Pastor Dave Tierce • 541-605-0215</p> <p><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><i>"Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures"</i></p> <p>www.flmbclagrande.com</p>	<p>Zion Lutheran Church <i>(an ELCA church)</i></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>Pastor: Roberta Smythe www.zionlagrande.org</p>	<p>UNION BAPTIST CHURCH 1531 S. Main Street, Union 541-562-5531</p> <p>www.UnionBaptistOregon.org</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am Thursday AWANA 6:30 pm</p> <p><i>Birthing, Building and Being the Body of Christ</i></p>	<p>First Baptist Church</p> <p>SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE</p> <p>541-963-3911</p> <p>Sun. 10:00 AM - Worship Sun. 8:45 AM - Exploring the Bible Wed. 6:15 PM - AWANA</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Building Together On Christ Alone</small></p>
<p>CALVARY CHAPEL 1433 Jefferson Ave. 963-5884</p> <p>Contemporary Worship Expositional Teaching</p> <p>Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m. <i>Studying The Book of Galatians</i> Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m. <i>Studying The Book of Joshua</i> Wednesday Night Youth - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Tune in to Calvary Radio 88.1 CSN</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>La Grande</i> 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>St. Katherine's Catholic Church</p> <p>Fr. Thomas Puduppulliparamban 301 E Garfield Enterprise</p> <p>Mass Schedule</p> <p>Sundays: St Pius X, Wallowa - 8:00 am St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 10:30 am</p> <p>Saturdays St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 5:30 pm</p> <p>Weekdays St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 8:00 am (Monday - Thursday and First Friday) <i>All are welcome</i></p>	<p>SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH <i>A Blessing for You</i></p> <p>Sunday Services:</p> <p>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>