

HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor shares ‘Hidden in Plain Sight’
LA GRANDE — The La Grande Church of the Nazarene will worship together online at 10:30 a.m. Sunday on YouTube and via Facebook. This week, Pastor Kevin Goss continues the “Better Together” sermon series with a message from Ephesians 3:1-13 titled, “Hidden in Plain Sight.” Just because God works in mysterious ways does not mean he is purposefully trying to keep us in the dark. In fact, just the opposite is the case. God seeks to make himself known to us and will cease at nothing to do so. It will be through the things we can see that we will behold the things we can’t see.

Zion Lutheran online service posted weekly
LA GRANDE — Links to an online worship will be posted on Zion Lutheran Church’s website

Submissions
Churches and faith-based groups are encouraged to submit Highlights for the Spiritual Life page by 4 p.m. Tuesday for publication Thursday. Submit by email to news@lagrandeobserver.com (with Highlights in the subject line).

and Facebook page on Saturday. The Zion Council has decided to cancel in-person worship until May 31. To submit offerings, mail them to the church at 902 Fourth St., La Grande, 97850.

Saturday livestream includes message and children’s story
LA GRANDE — The La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church will livestream Saturday beginning at 11 a.m. at <https://youtu.be/kbIBG6XpJC8>. Ms. Marilyn will give a children’s story and Pastor Mike will follow with a message. Most of us cringe at the thought of ingesting meat

such as dogs, cats, and bats and are not surprised when we hear that deadly diseases are carried by these animals. Has God warned us about certain animals for our consumption? Saturday’s teaching will focus on a strange story about the apostle Peter and his stranger vision and its application to us especially during this pandemic.

St. Peter’s offers online worship
LA GRANDE — Links to St. Peter’s Episcopal Church’s online worship for Sunday will be posted on St. Peter’s Facebook page on Saturday. St. Peter’s will not worship in person until May 31 at the

earliest. In the meantime, offerings can be mailed to St. Peter’s at P.O. Box 1001, La Grande 97850.

Testimony can bring about a mighty change
NORTHEAST OREGON — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints’ “Come, Follow Me” lesson for the week of May 4-10 is on Mosiah 11-17 in the Book of Mormon and covers the powerful testimony of Abinadi in front of King Noah’s court and how it brought about a mighty change in the life of Alma, even though it cost Abinadi his life.

The first Sunday of the month traditionally is fast Sunday, and members of the church are encouraged to fast for two meals and donate the value of the meals, or more, to help those who stand in need of financial assistance.

Church members are encouraged to share their testimonies with family members and with others and continue to minister to one another with phone calls and other means of virtual contact to ensure needs are being met, while continuing to follow social distancing guidelines

Faith Lutheran posts message on the Good Shepherd
LA GRANDE — La Grande’s Faith Lutheran Church is posting the weekly sermon on its website, www.lgfaithlcms.org. The message this week will be based on John 10:1-10. This is the beginning of the Good Shepherd chapter of the Bible. Jesus explains in verse 4 that “the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice.” Not only does Jesus the Good Shepherd know his followers well — his followers know him well. Jesus is revealed to us in holy scripture. In scripture is where people learn his voice.

Inwardly we are being renewed day by day through the grace of God

Suppose a social worker interviews 50 people from a fine apartment building. He asks each person if he or she is dealing with any sort of affliction. We would expect a “yes” from most if not all of them.

Others might add a material affliction: a lost job combined with an empty emergency fund, hail damage to a car or a flooded basement.

Yet another group might contribute examples of psychological affliction: a failed marriage, an alienated child, the stress of an abusive or narcissistic boss.

Affliction comes to us all in one way or another over time.

Nobody escapes, including those who appear to have it made.

The classic sufferer, Job of the ancient biblical account, knew about humanity’s pervasive afflictions. Chapter 5, verse 7, asserts: “Yet man is born to trouble as surely as sparks fly upward.” And consider a

New Testament sufferer, the Apostle Paul, who shared with the Corinthian church in 2 Corinthians 11:23-29 a catalog of his many sufferings for the gospel: shipwreck, beaten by robbers, in peril of being murdered, and on several occasions confinement in jail or under house arrest for months for no good reason.

What enabled Paul to successfully fend off gloom, self-pity and despair when so many afflictions settled on him?

He shares his secret in the same epistle: “Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory which outweighs them all” (2 Corinthians 4:16-17).

Note the ways in which Paul reduces fear and supports the certainty of victory whether in life or in death.

He sets, side-by-side, two processes that Christians experience at the same time.

One is that time is taking its toll on all of us and we are “wasting away.” This sobering reality is visible to each of us as birthdays mount into multiple decades.

But Paul adds that, at the same time, inwardly

we are being renewed day by day. The anniversaries that tick off our years also can deepen our character and our lives in Christ and awaken our awareness of a radiant future.

The Apostle Paul faced his afflictions bravely and with strength — with a transcendent view not only of the current world but also of the world to come.

His words and example encourage us to do the same — enabled by the abundant grace of God.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
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bishop emeritus of the Free Methodist Church of North America. For more of his writings, go to justcallmepastor.wordpress.com.



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Position 3 – Board of Directors
Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative

I ask for your vote so that I may continue to serve the members of the cooperative in order to achieve affordable and reliable power for our communities. As our communities are experiencing difficult times due to current events, having an experienced and knowledgeable board is essential for keeping services to its members cost effective and dependable.

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

Services This Week

La Grande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 109 18th Street • 963-3402 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.	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~	SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH 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	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	CALVARY CHAPEL 1433 Jefferson Ave. 963-5884 Contemporary Worship Expositional Teaching Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m. Studying The Book of Galatians Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m. Studying The Book of Joshua Wednesday Night Youth - 6:00 p.m. Tune in to Calvary Radio 88.1 CSN
COVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1708 Jasper St., Cove, OR NORTH POWDER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 390 E. St., North Powder, OR JOIN US... <i>Catch the Spirit!</i> Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder	St. Katherine’s Catholic Church Fr. Thomas Puduppulliparamban 301 E Garfield Enterprise Mass Schedule Sundays: St Pius X, Wallowa – 8:00 am St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise – 10:30 am Saturdays St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise – 5:30 pm Weekdays St Katherine of Siena, Enterprise – 8:00 am (Monday – Thursday and First Friday) All are welcome	LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH “OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS” 1612 4th Street – 963-2498 Pastor Taylor Gould lgumc@conl.com www.lagrandeumc.org Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon Worship 10:00 am Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am - Nursery provided -	GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH The Place 62848 Philynda Loop in Island City “We are called to Serve” Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am Phone: 541-568-4230 grace.lutherancove@gmail.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
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.lagrandeor.adventistchurch.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 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	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: Roberta Smythe www.zionlagrande.org	1531 S. Main Street, Union 541-562-5531 UNION BAPTIST CHURCH 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	First Baptist Church SIXTH & SPRING, LA GRANDE 541-963-3911 All services have been temporarily cancelled. Live-streaming Sunday mornings at 10:00 am. People can watch at: lagrandefbc.org