

HIGHLIGHTS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

LA GRANDE — Faith Lutheran Church's sermon this week will proclaim that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus, who is the compassionate and merciful Lord. Humankind does well to recognize that Jesus has "all authority" by paying close attention to his Word.

We are encouraged to approach Jesus as he has demonstrated his compassion and mercy for us.

Faith's annual yard sale has been postponed from the beginning of June to later in the summer. Announcements will be made when public health regulations allow the event.

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LA GRANDE — St.

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)

Peter's Episcopal Church will not hold in-person worship until June 14 at the earliest.

Links to an online worship for Sunday will be posted on St. Peter's Facebook page on Saturday. Offerings may be mailed to the church at P.O. Box 1001, La Grande 97850.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church will continue to worship virtually until June 14 at the earliest. Links to an online worship

service will be posted on Zion's website and Facebook page on Saturday. Offerings may be mailed to Zion at 902 Fourth St., La Grande 97850.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

NORTHEAST OREGON — This Sunday is Fast Sunday and members are encouraged to fast and pray for a resolution to racism, strife and this pandemic that has disrupted our lives. Members are reminded

to petition the Lord for the safe return to places of worship and gather as a group. In the meantime, members are to gather as families and to share testimonies of Jesus Christ and study his gospel while keeping the Sabbath Day holy.

The "Come, Follow Me" lesson for the coming week is based on Alama 8-12,

which is found in the Book of Mormon. The lesson covers the inspiring story of Alma and Amulek as they join together to preach in Ammonihah and teach the plan of redemption by which all people can return to live with our heavenly father.

In light of recent events, Russell M. Nelson, presi-

dent of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, shared a message June 1 on his social media accounts about racism and a call for human dignity.

He reminds us of the creator's call for each of us to abandon attitudes of prejudice. Visit <https://newsroom.churchofjesuschrist.org> to read his message.

A very present help in trouble

We are not even halfway into the year and our nation has already suffered more stress and tribulation than I have ever seen. As if the pandemic was not enough, we are now seeing an insurrection of hatred and violence — and we still have an election ahead of us.

I would imagine that most of you watch the news and, to be honest, I probably absorb a little too much. Some evenings, my mind is so hyped-up and distressed with worry that I end up turning and tossing in my sleep. Thank God I can ask him to forgive me and to flood my mind and heart with his peace. The Holy Spirit has been given to help guide us and also to bring assurance and contentment. In fact, one of his titles is "comforter."

Calling on God in times of crisis, whatever the situation may be, is such a blessing for our soul. Psalm 46:1 is a beautiful promise that we can embrace as a secure pillar within our spiritual foundation: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." We can rest in his endless love and hope when we choose to live in his presence.

Each week I look to the Lord to provide inspirational and positive thoughts, and I believe we need this now more than ever. I've often thought that no one really needs other people repeating how the nation and the world is in such a hopeless condition. However, it's always encouraging and refreshing to hear the good news that Jesus gave his life so that all those who would believe in him could be spiritually saved.

If we really want to help make the world a better place, we can use our energy to pray, and we can also become determined to demonstrate the nature and character of Christ in our daily walk. As light drives away the darkness, love drives out hate. I hear so many conversations about the fear of anarchy and the failure of government that my head hurts. The answer is

Jesus! Short and simple. It does not really matter what anyone thinks except God. He is the only one I want to listen to because he is perfect truth and the exemplary solution for everything. If every person would fall on their face and repent and cry out to him and obey his voice, we would have genuine

love and peace.

Whatever we might face from this time forward, the word that I sense is "urgency." We should have an urgent agenda to make sure all is well with our soul. Is a great spiritual awakening in the world coming? I do not know, but I do know there can be an outpouring of God's spirit within the hearts of those who want to be filled with God. If there were ever a time to develop a daily lifestyle of prayer, it is now.

The truth is we cannot remove evil from the world. Prayers are powerful, but we cannot transform those who are filled with hatred nor change the terrible mess we are in. However, God can! What happened to the world? Humans refused to love and obey God. Another short and simple conclusion. Unfortunately, Satan has influenced many to embrace evil. Yes, God can change and deliver anyone, but they must surrender their will and invite him to make them into a brand-new creation.

Repentance and holiness is the way to walk in God's wisdom, peace and joy.

Our environment is emotionally charged, and it's easy to be drawn into the chaos. May we listen intently to the Holy Spirit and follow his guidance, remembering to examine our thoughts and be cautious with our words. James 3 declares how the tongue can be evil and filled with deadly poison. Sadly, we are seeing this all around us. So many dangerous assumptions and empty opinions. "Help us, O God."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Ordained minister and chaplain William "Billy" F. Holland Jr. is the founder of an independent ministry in central Kentucky.



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WWW.TREASUREVALLEYSTEEL.COM

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

Services This Week

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~

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

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

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

LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"

1612 4th Street - 963-2498
Pastor Taylor Gould
lgume@comi.com
www.lagrandeumc.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am-Noon
Worship 10:00 am
Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:00 am
- Nursery provided -

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

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

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

LaGrande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

109 18th Street • 963-3402

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

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

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

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

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

