

WALLOWA

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accommodate up to 50 patients," she said. "We have been planning for an event like this for months and will be ready for whatever the situation in Union County brings. We have staffing plans in place to ensure our community continues to get the care they need."

Wallowa Memorial has a cooperative agreement with Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande that includes support with personal protective equipment, supplies and other equipment needs, Pace said.

Another source of help is the Oregon Health Authority, which serves as the public health department for the region. The OHA is responsible for contact tracing — tracking potential sources of infection transmission — in the state.

"The outbreak in Union County should be a wake-up call and reminder to practice precautions that are known to prevent outbreaks, including avoiding large gatherings, wearing masks while in public, washing your hands often, staying home if you are sick and practicing proper physical distancing," Pace said.

TRACING

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immigration status or bank account information.

After the interview, the contact tracer likely will ask the close contact to self-quarantine for 14 days. Those who are symptomatic should undergo testing and seek medical care if necessary. The CDC also encourages contact tracers to direct those in self-quarantine to social services for assistance during isolation.

"Self-quarantine of close contacts exposed to COVID-19 prevents transmission to others

and is critical to the success of case investigation and contact tracing efforts," the CDC's website states. "Self-quarantine requires that a contact remain in a specific room separate from other non-exposed people and pets in the home, and ideally with access to a separate bathroom."

Once contacts self-quarantine, daily monitoring will occur through communication with local health authorities. This means people in quarantine should email, call or text local health officials with daily updates regarding their health and symptoms. If symptoms begin

to occur, health officials will urge the person to get tested.

Step four closes out the contact's case when the 14 days are up. People who remained asymptomatic are free to return to life as usual. Those who developed symptoms but tested negative need to remain in self-quarantine for another test.

Scams to look out for

The Oregon Department of Justice issued a notice to be wary of scams where people pretend to be contact tracers.

According to the alert, people receive emails and

text messages with links to fraudulent websites. Clicking on the link may download software onto a device, giving scammers access to an array of your personal and financial information.

The Center for Human Development, La Grande, said it is possible their calls will come through as an unknown number. However, the tracer will leave a message for a contact to call back. The Oregon Health Authority has issued reminders that a caller will not ask for Social Security numbers or bank account information during their tracing investigation.

U.S. virus outbreaks stir clash over masks, personal freedom

By Terry Tang, Ken Moritsugu and Lisa Marie Pane

Associated Press

PHOENIX — When the coronavirus flared in China this week, the country canceled flights, suspended reopenings and described the situation as "extremely grave." But with cases rising in some U.S. states, officials have balked at requiring people to wear masks.

In the United States, which has the most confirmed cases and deaths in the world, authorities wrestled Wednesday with balancing demands for constitutional rights and personal freedom with warnings from health officials that being lax will have deadly consequences.

China responded to a new outbreak in Beijing by scrapping more than 60% of its flights to the capital, canceling classes and strengthening requirements for social distancing. It was a sharp retreat for the nation that declared victory over COVID-19 in March.



Photo by John Raoux/Associated Press

A TSA worker, right, checks a passenger before entering a security screening Wednesday at Orlando International Airport in Orlando, Florida, where Gov. Ron DeSantis stated Tuesday that 52% of airport employees tested positive for COVID-19. But Phil Brown, CEO of Orlando International Airport, said in a statement Wednesday that last week's rate of positive cases from the 500 workers tested last week was only 0.4%.

"This has truly rung an alarm bell for us," Party Secretary Cai Qi told a meeting of Beijing's Communist Party Standing Committee.

China's actions follow

about 137 new cases, a fraction of the number some U.S. states see each day. In Arizona, more than 1,100 people visited emergency rooms on Tuesday alone with positive or suspected

cases. Alabama also is running out of hospital space, stirring impassioned debate over a mask requirement. Other states that haven't mandated face coverings, like Texas and Florida, are

seeing infections soar.

With masks becoming a political symbol, Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden has taken aim at President Donald Trump's approach to the pandemic.

"Donald Trump wants to style himself as a wartime president. Unlike any other wartime leader, he takes no responsibility, he exercises no leadership, now he has just flat surrendered the fight," Biden said Wednesday.

Biden has worn a mask at public events, while Trump hasn't, even on occasions such as touring auto factory floors when they are required. Aides say Trump thinks they're unflattering and that wearing one projects weakness.

The mask debate is playing out nationwide, notably in hard-hit states where face coverings have become a political and cultural debate.

Hundreds of medical professionals signed a letter urging Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey to require them. On

Wednesday, the Republican said the state will allow local governments to make policies on masks.

Ducey, who wore a mask to a news conference but took it off before speaking, said counties had vastly different rates of infection.

"For some things, a statewide directive or executive order works very well," he said. "If you have 12 or 13 counties that say 'pound sand' on an executive order ... it's a self-defeating executive order."

Ducey has resisted new restrictions on businesses, saying it would be up to mayors to enforce use of masks and attributing Arizona's surge in cases to increased testing. The state has been doing more tests, which can yield more cases, but health experts say a better way to see if more people are getting sick is to look at the percentage of positive tests. When that percentage rises, it means the outbreak is worsening — not just that more people are getting tested.

Brown requires people in seven counties to wear masks indoors

By Sara Cline

Associated Press

SALEM — Gov. Kate Brown announced Wednesday that residents in seven of Oregon's counties will be required to wear masks at indoor public spaces as COVID-19 social distancing restrictions are tentatively eased.

Multnomah County, the state's most populous, is among the counties where people will be required to wear masks indoors.

Brown also gave the go-ahead to four counties to enter a new reopening phase, including Multnomah, home to Portland, which had been the only county that had not yet

entered phase 1.

These announcements come as the state continues to see a spike in cases. As of Wednesday's case count, the total number of people who have tested positive for coronavirus in Oregon is 6,218.

In addition, one more person died from the disease, raising the state's death toll to 183.

Last week Brown issued a statewide pause on all county applications to move into a new reopening phase, in order to give health experts "time to assess what factors are driving the spread of the virus and make adjustments to our reopening strategy."

After an analysis of the growth of new cases, hospitalizations and results of contact tracing, Brown approved Marion, Polk, and Hood River counties to implement phase 2 of the state's reopening plan and Multnomah County begin phase 1 Friday.

"While Multnomah County has seen an increase in new cases recently, the county has not experienced an uptrend in new hospital admissions, and overall hospitalizations remain well within capacity," Brown said about the county, which was the only Oregon county that had not yet reached phase one.

However, residents in all

four counties approved to move into the next phase, in addition to Clackamas, Lincoln and Hood River counties, will be required to wear face covering while in public indoor spaces beginning June 24.

Up until now, the governor had determined what counties could enter a new phase on a county by county basis. However, that is changing.

Some counties will now be grouped together as regional units for reopening decisions.

The tri-county area — Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas counties — will be treated as a single unit Marion and Polk Coun-

ties, which each include parts of Salem, will also be treated as a unit going forward.

"Both of these regions include a highly-connected urban area, making it difficult to monitor the disease based solely on the contours of county jurisdictional lines," Brown said.

As a result of these decisions, the entire tri-county region will remain in phase 1 for at least 21 days, beginning June 19. After that, the regional unit will become eligible for phase 2 if they meet requirements.

"I know this impacts communities and businesses in Clackamas and Washington counties,"

Brown said. "But, as we reopen our state, we must recognize how interconnected the metro area is."

Statewide, Oregon has seen a rise in confirmed COVID-19 cases in recent days following the outbreak in Union County and an outbreak at a seafood processing plant in Newport, a city in Lincoln County.

Brown said that over the next week the Oregon Health Authority will closely be monitoring case data across the state.

"If hospitalizations spike too rapidly, if the capacity of our health care system is threatened, we will be forced to revert to stricter rules," Brown said.

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



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

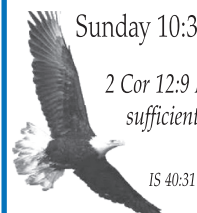
Birthing, Building and Being the Body of Christ

LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"
1612 4th Street - 963-2498
Pastor Taylor Gould
lgume@eoni.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



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 sumervillebaptistchurch.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