

SPIRITUAL LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

Ecumenical Good Friday service features dramatic reading, music, prayer, drum and dance

LA GRANDE — An ecumenical worship service on Good Friday, April 15, begins at 6:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church. The gathering features a dramatic reading of the Passion Story with music, prayer, drum and dance. The service is sponsored by the La Grande United Methodist, Zion Lutheran, First Presbyterian, First Christian and St. Peter's Episcopal churches. The public is invited to attend.

He is risen — celebrate Christ's resurrection

IMBLER — The Imbler Christian Church on Easter Sunday, April 17, will celebrate Christ's resurrection. Beginning at 10 a.m., the service will feature special praise music, an uplifting Easter message and an Easter egg hunt for children.

Easter communion service planned

LA GRANDE — Easter Sunday, April 17, will be cele-

SUBMISSIONS

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

brated at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 11 a.m. with a communion service. Fellowship will follow in the church hall. Masks are still required at this time.

Union church offers three services and a brunch

UNION — The Union Baptist Church has three services planned around Easter to celebrate the Risen Christ. A Good Friday service on April 15 begins at 6:30 p.m. at the church. On Easter Sunday, April 17, a sunrise service will be held at the Union City Park at 6:30 a.m. At 9:15 a.m. on Easter, a potluck brunch begins at 9:15 a.m. in the church's fellowship hall. All are welcome to bring a potluck dish to share and join in the fellowship. An Easter worship service follows at 11 a.m.

We need reminders of what God has already said

LA GRANDE — Gatherings at Faith Lutheran Church for Passion Week include a Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 p.m. April 14 and a Good Friday Tenebrae service at 6:30 p.m. April 15. On Easter Sunday, April 17, a sunrise service at 7 a.m. and a worship service at 10 a.m. will celebrate the resurrection of the Lord.

"Maundy" is a Latin word meaning "mandate." On the night Jesus was betrayed (a Thursday night), he washed his disciples' feet and said, "just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" (John 13:34). He also gave the mandate to "take, eat and drink" as he instituted the Lord's Supper.

"Tenebrae" is a Latin word for "darkness." The darkness of Jesus' death on Friday brought the good of divine forgiveness for humankind.

For Easter, the sermon will use Luke 12:1-11 in which the angels reminded the women at the tomb what Christ had told them. We need regular reminders of what God has already said.

Easter service will be livestreamed

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church meets for worship on Easter Sunday, April 17, at 9 a.m. Masks are not required, though are recommended for those at risk. The service will include Holy Communion and will be followed by a time of fellowship. The service will also be streamed live to YouTube, and the link for that stream will be posted on Zion's Facebook page and website on April 16.

Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra broadcast Easter performance

EASTERN OREGON — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints wards will hold special Easter Sunday celebrations of Christ's atonement and resurrection during the April 17 Sacrament service in each ward. Two one-hour services, at 9 a.m. and at noon, are offered at the church buildings on Gekeler Lane in La Grande, on McAlisters Road in Island City and on Hughes Lane in Baker City. Services in Union, Elgin, Enterprise,

Halfway and John Day start at 10 a.m. There is also a singles group that meets at 11:30 a.m. in La Grande and another ward that meets at 10:30 a.m. in Baker City.

Also on Easter, a special performance of the Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square will be broadcast at 9 a.m. (PDT). Visit www.churchofjesuschrist.org/comeuntochrist to learn more.

The "Come, Follow Me" lesson for the week of April 18 is based on Exodus 18-20 and will focus on the need for us to do the Lord's work, to make and keep sacred covenants, and to put the Lord first in our lives.

Special music highlights Easter service

LA GRANDE — First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will celebrate Easter Sunday, April 17, at 10:30 a.m. with special music and reflection on the Easter story. Pastor Archie Hook's message comes from Matthew 28:6: "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said." There will be an Easter egg hunt held for the children during the worship service.

Her devotion must have spoken to his lonely soul



DONALD BASTIAN
JUST CALL ME PASTOR

At a dinner a couple miles from Jerusalem, Jesus was the guest of honor. The sisters Martha and Mary and their brother, Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the tomb, were there. The group was completed by Jesus' 12 disciples.

The meal was being served six days before Passover when crowds would flood Jerusalem and the surrounding area. Passover was the main Jewish feast of the year and the city was already beginning to stir in expectation.

The table posture of the guests would not fit our style today — they reclined on low-lying couches, resting on their left elbow and receiving and eating with their right hand.

Into the room Mary carried a pint of very special ointment imported from India, worth nearly a year's wages. Before the guests realized what was happening, she broke its seal and, as the Gospel of John says, poured its content lavishly on Jesus' feet. She then used her hair to wipe up the excess, filling the room with a pleasing fragrance.

Judas, the disciple who would betray Jesus just days later, erupted in indignation, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the

poor?" On the surface this sounded like a good question. But we know today that Judas' interest was the money itself: He was a thief.

Jesus came to Mary's defense. "Leave her alone," he said. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial."

They must have all wondered, "my burial"? Though he had tried to forewarn his disciples of his coming death, none of them was thinking of funerals. After all, he was a young man, about 33, and in good health.

Although Jesus likely entered fully into the social exchanges at the table, he knew that he was marked for a very cruel death and unspeakable anguish as the world's sin-bearer.

One can suppose that, however vaguely, Mary may have sensed that the time for displays of devotion were coming to an end, prompting her to seize the moment to pour out her devotion in this extravagant way.

Jesus also halted the clamor by saying, "You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." This seemed to be an acknowledgment that her perception of trouble ahead was accurate.

When Matthew and Mark tell this story they add these words of Jesus: "I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will

also be told, in memory of her."

Mary made a gesture of extravagant devotion at a time when the world was set to reject Jesus, his disciples to forsake him, and Roman soldiers to torture and kill him. Her devotion must have spoken to his lonely soul.

Jesus said to those at table with him, "She has done what she could." And, "She has done a beautiful thing." The account gives us occasion

to measure our own love for the Lord Jesus Christ as Easter approaches.

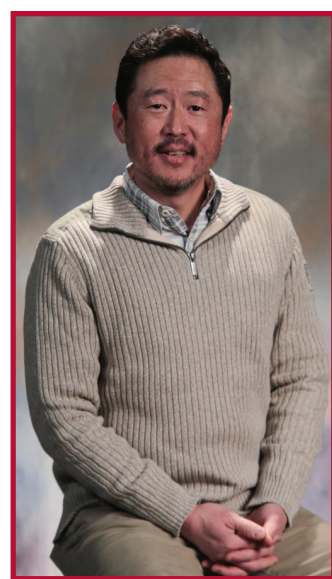
■ Donald N. Bastian, of Ontario, Canada, is the bishop emeritus of the Free Methodist Church of

North America. For more of his writings, go to justcallmepastor.wordpress.com.

Good Friday Service
April 15th at 7 pm
Easter Day Service April 17th
Breakfast 8 am to 9:30 am
Church service at 10 am

Grace Community Lutheran Church
At The Place
62848 Philynda Loop, Island City

Grande Ronde Hospital & Clinics proudly welcomes Andrew Oh, MD—Neurologist



"Some of us seem to face more than our fair share of life's challenges. Having a neurological condition is certainly a challenge, but having a neurological condition is also more common than you might think. Worldwide about 1 in 6 persons suffer from at least one neurological disorder. Although I'm a specialist, I specialize in problems that are widespread among us.

My goal as your neurologist will be to find the underlying cause of the neurological symptoms that bother you, and do whatever possible to ameliorate their effects. Not all neurological conditions are treatable but I always focus on trying to find the treatable ones and minimizing their effects."

Dr. Oh's Professional interests: Migraine, dizziness and vertigo, general neurology, neuroimaging.

Dr. Oh's Personal interests: Family time, dogs, cats, and tinkering in the shed.

Please help us welcome Dr. Oh and his Family to our Community!!



GRH.org — 700 Sunset Drive — 541.963.1919

GRH Neurology Clinic

Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

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

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
901 Penn Avenue 963-2623
lgdisciples@gmail.com

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

~Join us at The Lord's Table~

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.imblercc@gmail.com

Sunday Services
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

CHURCH Service DIRECTORY

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 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"

1612 4th Street - 963-2498

Pastor Taylor Gould

For service information go to
www.lagrandeumc.org

LaGrande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

109 18th Street • 963-3402

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

La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church
A Place where hope is found in Jesus
Join us in Fellowship & Worship
Saturday all age classes 9:30 am
Saturday Worship 11:00 am

2702 Adams Avenue, La Grande 963-4018
lagrandeor.adventistchurch.org

Learning for Today and Eternity
Little Friends
Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390
La Grande Adventist Christian School
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

Services This Week