

SPIRITUAL LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

Service of Morning Prayer held May 1

LA GRANDE — St. Peter's Episcopal Church will meet for Morning Prayer at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 1, followed by fellowship time. This week's Gospel reading comes from John 21:1-19. Masks and social distancing are required.

Study of Lord's Prayer continues

ENTERPRISE — The Enterprise Community Congregational Church continues its series studying the Lord's Prayer. Rev. Dr. Craig Pesti-Strobel will use scripture from Matthew to look in depth at the prayer Jesus taught his disciples, so that we may truly understand what Jesus was teaching. The "big, brown church" offers Bible study at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m.

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).

Weekly lesson focuses on offerings and forgiveness

NORTHEASTERN OREGON — May 1 is Fast Sunday for members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Members are encouraged to fast for two meals and to donate the value of those meals to support the less fortunate. Members are also encouraged to share personal testimonies with one another during the Sacrament Service and/or in their homes or other meetings. Sunday school

classes will be held the second hour of services.

The "Come, Follow Me" lesson for the week of May 2 is based on Exodus 35-40 and Leviticus 1,16 and 19 with a focus on how the Lord wants us to make offerings with a willing heart and how we can be forgiven of our sins through the atonement of Jesus Christ.

First Sunday potluck follows worship

LA GRANDE — The sermon at Faith Lutheran Church's 10 a.m. service on Sunday, May 1, will expound on Jesus Christ showing himself to people in his resurrected body. John 21 says, "Jesus revealed Himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias" (verse 1). The disciples were doing what was the profession of some of them previously

— fishing, "but that night they caught nothing" (verse 3). Jesus provided some direction on how to fish and they caught a large quantity. Jesus then invited them to eat food he had prepared. Jesus continues to give humankind direction on how to do things and invites us to be with him.

Following the Divine Service will be the monthly First Sunday potluck, Junior Confirmation class and a meeting of the elders.

Service includes baptism, reception of new members and Communion

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church meets for worship on Sunday, May 1, at 9 a.m. The sermon is titled "What Next?" and is based on the Gospel of John 21:1-19. The service will include a baptism and reception of new members as well

as Holy Communion. Fellowship time will follow the service.

The service will be streamed live to YouTube, and the link for that stream will be posted on Zion's Facebook page and website on April 30.

How do you experience spirituality?

LA GRANDE — The Observer welcomes thoughts and comments from community members on spiritual matters. If you would like to share how you experience spirituality, email lkelly@lagrandeobserver.com or leave a message at 541-624-6019. Ongoing monthly columns and one-time submissions will be considered. Columns are generally 500-600 words and include a photo of the writer.

—The Observer

Do you have a Mary Magdalene in your life?



DANNY TYREE
OTHER VIEWS

If you could be the proverbial "fly on the wall," what biblical event would you most like to witness?

I realize some of you don't accept the Bible in the first place. But if you do believe it, what scene would you love to see unfold before your eyes?

I imagine most people would go the Cecil B. DeMille route. They would choose something spectacular, such as the Israelites passing through the Red Sea, Noah's ark riding out the Flood or Daniel remaining faithful in the lions' den.

Me? I would love to see the early-morning encounter between Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene on Resurrection Sunday.

I can think of lots of words to describe the mood of Mary Magdalene and the other friends/followers of Jesus immediately following his arrest, mock trial and crucifixion: blindsided, dejected, disillusioned, heartbroken, anxious, fearful, rudderless.

Two days after the crucifixion, when Mary Magdalene discovered the empty tomb, it was not yet the symbol of hope that has inspired millions of Easter sermons throughout

the centuries. The rock rolled away from the tomb left her confused and distraught. She implored the man whom she mistook for the gardener to tell her where her beloved teacher's body had been relocated.

The "gardener" — in an action reminiscent of the Almighty God speaking to the prophet Elijah in a "still small voice" — needed to utter only one word: "Mary."

Lost pets may wander home after 10 years. Loved ones feared drowned at sea may find refuge on a remote island before achieving contact with civilization. But has there ever been such a transcendent moment in human history as the "late" Jesus of Nazareth revealing himself to one of his inner circle?

Suddenly, Mary Magdalene's earlier negative emotions gave way to relief, elation, comfort, joy and unprecedented zeal.

Is there a Mary Magdalene in your life — someone who needs a little unexpected reassurance and inspiration?

Perhaps there is a friend, relative or business partner whom you haven't spoken to in years because of some long-forgotten disagreement. True, some relationships are beyond repair, but you never know the emotional impact of an olive branch until you try. You may find yourself lifting a dark cloud and

making up for lost time.

Are your children or grandchildren enablers of bullies? Instead of letting them cheer the bullies or give tacit approval of the bullies, nudge them to show support for the underdog. Encourage them to defend the new kid in town, the weird kid. It could be life-changing for an entire classroom.

Are there shut-ins on your street (or in the local nursing home) who face long, dreary days because of physical impairment and the fact that their children live thousands of miles away? Drop in for a chat. Offer to do some chores. Let them know they matter.

Human beings do not have to be rudderless, purposeless and hopeless. They do not have to live lives of quiet desperation — if someone cares enough to give them a sense of self-worth and brighter tomorrows.

Whether you embrace the Gospel or consider it a fairy tale, the possibilities for uplifting, "out-of-the-blue" attitude adjustments are endless.

Whether you cherish the cross of Calvary or not, you can still be the cavalry riding to the rescue of fellow humans who have given up hope.

■ Danny Tyree welcomes email responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com and visits to his "Tyree's Tyrades" Facebook page.

WORDS OF THE BUDDHA

Good are friends when need arises; good is contentment with just what one has; good is merit when life is at an end, and good is the abandoning of all suffering.
—Dhammapada 23.331

With good will for the entire cosmos, cultivate a limitless heart: Above, below and all around, unobstructed, without hostility or hate.

—Sutta Nipata 1.150

The friend who is a helpmate, the friend in happiness and woe, the friend who gives good counsel, the friend who sympathizes too — these four as friends the wise behold and cherish them devotedly as does a mother her own child.

—Digha Nikaya 3.265

Easy to do are things that are bad and harmful to oneself. But exceedingly difficult to do are things that are good and beneficial.

—Dhammapada 12.163

No mother nor father nor any other kin can do greater good for oneself than a mind directed well.

—Dhammapada 3.43

One should first establish oneself in what is proper and only then try to instruct others. Doing this, the wise one will not be criticized.

—Dhammapada 12.158

—Source: www.pariyatti.org

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2022

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Northeast Oregon Directory of Churches

<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> Worship: 9:00 a.m. Cove Worship: 10:00 a.m. N. Powder</p>	<p>First Christian Church <i>(Disciples of Christ)</i> 901 Penn Avenue 963-2623 lgdisciples@gmail.com</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>~Join us at The Lord's Table~</p>	<p>GRACE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH <i>The Place</i> 62848 Philynda Loop in Island City <i>"We are called to Serve"</i></p> <p>Sunday School for all ages - 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Phone: 541-568-4230 grace.lutherancove@gmail.com</p>	<p>IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH</p> <p>440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201 www.imblerce@gmail.com</p> <p>Sunday Services 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service</p>		
<p>SUMMERVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p>Sunday Services: 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 summersvillebaptistchurch.org</p>	<p>LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH <i>"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"</i> 1612 4th Street - 963-2498</p> <p>Pastor Taylor Gould</p> <p>For service information go to www.lagrandeumc.org</p>	<p>LaGrande 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>La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church <i>A Place where hope is found in Jesus</i> Join us in Fellowship & Worship Saturday all age classes 9:30 am Saturday Worship 11:00 am</p> <p>2702 Adams Avenue, La Grande 963-4018 lagrande.adventistchurch.org</p> <p>Learning for Today and Eternity Little Friends Christian Preschool/Childcare 963-6390 La Grande Adventist Christian School K-8th Grade 963-6203</p>	<p>FIRST LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1812 1st St. La Grande Pastor Dave Tierce • 541-605-0215 <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 <i>"Where you can find TRUTH according to the scriptures"</i> www.flmbclagrande.com</p>	<p><i>Services This Week</i></p>