

SPIRITUAL LIFE HIGHLIGHTS

Riding High Ministries presents free unique community event

UNION — A unique event is open to the public on Sunday, June 12, at the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show's rodeo grounds in Union.

Before the 2022 EOLS concludes Sunday with an early afternoon rodeo, Riding High Ministries' champion bareback rider and pastor Todd Pierce will train an unbroken horse in front of the live audience "to demonstrate how Jesus pursues, heals and becomes one with us as a Father," according to www.ridinghighministries.org.

Doors for the "Born Wild" event open at 9 a.m. and the program begins at 10 a.m. No tickets are required and all ages are welcome. A free breakfast will be served at the concession stands from 8-9:30 a.m.



www.ridinghighministries.org

Sermon explores the 'Mystery of the Trinity'

LA GRANDE — Zion Lutheran Church meets for worship on Sunday, June 12, at 9 a.m. The sermon, "The Mystery of the Trinity," is based on Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 and John 16:12-15. Holy Communion will be served, and a time of fellowship follows the service. The service will be streamed live and also be available later for viewing. The links will be

posted on Zion's Facebook page and website on June 11.

What does the Lord require of you?

LA GRANDE — First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will celebrate the first Sunday after Pentecost at a 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, June 12. Pastor Archie Hook's message, "Knowing and Doing Our Duty," will refer to Luke 17:7-10, Deuteronomy 10:12 and Micah 6:8, which says: "What does the Lord require of you? To act justly

and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Sunday school classes for adults are offered at 9 a.m.

Find joy and success in teaching the Gospel

NORTHEASTERN OREGON — On Sunday, June 12, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will release a broadcast recording, "Teaching in the Savior's Way," presented by Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. All members of the church

who teach others in their homes or at church are encouraged to view this broadcast. It is Elder Uchtdorf's intent to help every member find joy and success in teaching the Gospel while increasing their ability to teach like the Savior. Visit the church's website to find the link for this broadcast.

The "Come, Follow Me" lesson for the week of June 13 is based on 1 Samuel 8-10, 13 and 15-18, covering the Lord's calling of Saul and David to serve as kings over the Israelites

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).

and how it is better to obey than to sacrifice.

Gospel of John at heart of message and study

LA GRANDE — Trinity Sunday will be celebrated at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 10 a.m. on June 12. The Gospel this week comes from John 16:12-15. Fellowship is offered after the service, and a study of chapter 2 of John follows.

Faith Lutheran plans VBS, benefit yard sale

LA GRANDE — The sermon at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday, June 12, will expound on John 8:48-59. In these verses people were doubting Jesus' authenticity and accusing him of horrible things, yet Jesus remained steadfast in his mission to serve humankind.

Faith Lutheran will have a Vacation Bible School June 13-16, and will hold its annual benefit yard sale on Saturday, June 18.

—The Observer

A spirit of giving still lives in Turkey



RICH WANDSCHNEIDER
MAIN STREET

I recently spent two weeks in Turkey, a place I lived for most of five years between 1965 and 1970. I'd only been back once before this trip, a three-week tour with a group of Rotarians and spouses from Wallowa County in 2004.

We went from Istanbul to Ankara, then Cappadocia, Tarsus and Antalya on the Mediterranean, all by large, comfortable, air-conditioned buses.

Cappadocia is the area of underground cities, houses and churches carved into sandstone; Tarsus the home of St. Paul; and Antalya is now a large city among a string of resorts — some of them exclusively German or French — on the Mediterranean. The sea itself was as blue and warm as it had been in 1965.

In 2004, I revved up my Turkish to introduce people and translate, to speak to Rotary Clubs and news reporters. It was a grand trip, full of interesting people and places and great food. I knew then that another three weeks could peel back years in my grasp of the language and culture.

This time I was alone from America. I only touched down at the Istanbul airport — reputedly now the world's largest — and went to Ankara and an English language-speaking university in the middle of high-rise buildings of glass, steel and concrete.

Ankara, with just over a million people when I lived there 1968-70, now has over 5 million, and Bilkent has 12,500 students and hundreds of faculty members. It's larger than Wallowa County, and has its own Starbucks.

My hosts were the professors and students from the American Studies Department at

Bilkent, and a roommate from that long-ago time when we lived, worked and studied together in the city.

Then, Turkish was my everyday language, and the shared taxis, the shish kebabs, the daily fresh fruits and vegetables and the occasional meal on the top — 12th floor of the Big Ankara Hotel — were my routines.

My job was to smooth the wrinkles for American Peace Corps volunteers working in Turkish schools and institutions, to make their experiences as good as mine had been as a volunteer just a couple of years earlier.

The teaching language at Bilkent is English, with professors who are Turkish — and American, British and African. Students for all colleges have to score well on a standard, state-administered exam they take as high school seniors.

State universities — there are scores of them — are free, and this private one is cheap by our standards, and gives many scholarships. I couldn't see the 70% inflation and the high unemployment from the university island.

Even on trips into the city to eat, shop and drive by old neighborhoods, inflation was invisible, and the high level of purported government corruption maybe showed up in the massive amount of construction.

I learned of a dissident's life-time prison sentence online, and learned too about the Ankara and Istanbul mayors who were from the same political party that stands in opposition to the national government.

I learned from watching and listening that educated women in Turkey still have an edge. There are probably higher percentages of women professors, doctors and engineers in Turkey than in the U.S. But there are still forced marriages — one of the students I came to know wrote about this.

What stood out in this city of 5 million was that there is no homelessness. Why?

The extended family is still strong, people agreed, and health care is free for all older than 65 — no deduction from Social Security,

What stood out in this city of 5 million was that there is no homelessness. Why? ... Even secular Moslems seem to have a spirit of giving bred into them.

no Medicare Plan B or D. Drugs, I learned when buying eye drops at the school pharmacy, are maybe one-fourth what we pay.

The government is building new high-rises on top of old ghettos, and somehow, the inhabitants are compensated with cheap new housing.

Employment is also important: There were 15 cabin attendants on my Turkish Airline flights, and street sweepers rather than machines cleaned streets.

At this point I remember the "five pillars" of Sunni Islam: 1. Declare that Allah is the only God and Mohammed is his prophet; 2. Pray five times each day; 4. Fast from sunup to sunset during the month of Ramadan; 5. If healthy and financially able, make the "Hadj," the pilgrimage to Mecca. It is No. 3, called "Zakah," that calls for charitable giving to the needy, that is important here.

Even secular Moslems seem to have a spirit of giving bred into them. Small gifts are ubiquitous. Ihsan Dogramaci, the founder and benefactor of Bilkent, was from a prominent Turkmen family. He became a leading pediatrician and entrepreneur, and his total wealth and energy went into two universities in Turkey and education and health care worldwide.

The spirit of giving is everywhere in this country, just as it was in 1965.

■ Rich Wandschneider is the director of the Josephy Library of Western History and Culture in Joseph.

WORDS OF THE BUDDHA

Let go of the past, let go of the future, let go of the present, and cross over to the farther shore of existence. With mind wholly liberated, you shall come no more to birth and death.
— Dhammapada 24.348

Thoroughly understanding the Dhamma and freed from longing through insight, the wise one rid of all desire is calm as a pool unstirred by wind.
— Itivuttaka 3.92

One is one's own protector, one is one's own refuge. Therefore, one should control oneself, even as a trader controls a noble steed.
— Dhammapada 25.380

Delight in heedfulness! Guard well your thoughts! Draw yourself out of this bog of evil, even as an elephant draws itself out of the mud.
— Dhammapada 23.327

Whose mind is like rock, steady, unmoved, dispassionate for things that spark passion, unangered by things that spark anger: When one's mind is developed like this, from where can there come suffering & stress?
— Udana 4.34

—www.pariyatti.org

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~

IMBLER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

440 RUCKMAN, IMBLER 534-2201
www.imblerccc@gmail.com

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

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



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
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LA GRANDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS"
1612 4th Street - 963-2498

Pastor Roberta Smythe

For service information go to
www.lagrandeumc.org

LaGrande CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

109 18th Street • 963-3402

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

La Grande Seventh-day Adventist Church
A Place where hope is found in Jesus
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Saturday Worship 11:00 am

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

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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
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"
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Services
This
Week