

# Backyard bird watching with Harry:

by Harry Johnson

This week, I thought I would talk about our great state of Oregon, and just a little about its birds. When I started to research the Internet for material to do this article, I was amazed at the "Official" designated items we have here in Oregon. I had fun reading all about our state and learning things I never knew. So, my question to you is, "Did you know?" Of course, I'll start with a bird, go figure.

**Bird:** The western meadowlark was chosen as the state bird of Oregon in 1927 by the state's school children in a poll sponsored by the Oregon Audubon Society. The western meadowlark is a familiar songbird of open country across the western two-thirds of the continent.

**Nickname:** The nickname for Oregon is the Beaver State, originating in the early 19th century when fur hats were the fashion and Oregon's streams were an important source of beaver pelts. The trapping routes used by early "Mountain Men" later became known as "The Oregon Trail." It was traveled by thousands of pioneers in the 1840s.

**Rock:** The thunder-egg (geode) is the state rock of Oregon. Oregon designated the thunder-egg as the official state rock in 1965 after the rock hounds of Oregon voted it as their first choice. Found chiefly in Crook, Jefferson, Malheur, Wasco and Wheeler counties of Oregon, each geode is unique in pattern, design and color. Cut and polished, thunder-eggs reveal exquisite designs. According to legend, thunder-eggs were named by the Native Americans of central Oregon. The Indians of this region are said to have believed these stones were thrown by fighting "Thunder Spirits" who dwelt on Mount Jefferson

and Mount Hood.

**Insect:** The Oregon swallowtail butterfly is our state insect. It was designated as Oregon's official state insect in 1973. This strikingly beautiful butterfly is a true native of the Northwest. The Oregon swallowtail butterfly can be seen in the lower sagebrush canyons of the Columbia River and its tributaries, including the Snake River drainage.

**Flower:** The Oregon grape is our state flower. It was designated our state flower in 1899. It's also called holly leaved holly. The Oregon grape is a shrub native to much of the Pacific coast and is also found sparsely east of the Cascades. Its year-round foliage of pinnate, waxy green leaves resembles holly and resists wilting. The Oregon grape bears dainty yellow flowers in early summer and a dark blue berry that ripens late in the fall. The fruit is tart and bitter, containing large seeds. The inner bark of the larger stems and roots of Oregon grape can be used to make a yellow dye.

**Gemstone:** The sunstone is our state gem. The Oregon sunstone was designated the state official gemstone in 1987. Oregon sunstones (also known as heliolite) are uncommon in their composition, clarity and range of colors. Collectors and miners attracted by them have been a boon to tourism and economic development in Oregon. Oregon sunstones are a calcium rich variety of transparent to translucent crystal. Its color ranges from water clear to pale yellow, soft pink, blood red and rare deep blue and green.

**Animal:** I think by now you've figured out what our state animal is. It's the Beaver. Oregon designated the beaver as the official state animal

in 1969. The beaver appears on the reverse of the state flag. Native Americans and early settlers also ate beaver meat. With the help of partial protection, the beaver is re-established throughout Oregon. Beavers are the second largest rodent in the world, after the Capybara and are closely related to Squirrels. They are known as "Nature's engineers" the beaver dam building activities are important to natural water flow and erosion control.

**Shell:** The Oregon hairy triton was designated the Oregon State shell in 1989.

**Motto:** "She Flies with Her Own Wings" became the official Oregon State motto in 1987, replacing "The Union" which was adopted in 1957.

**Fish:** Oregon designated the chinook salmon as the official state fish in 1961. The chinook salmon (also known as spring, king and tye salmon) is the largest of the Pacific salmon and the most highly prized for the fresh fish trade.

**Beverage:** Milk was designated the official state beverage of Oregon in 1997, recognizing milk production and the manufacture of dairy products as major contributors to the economic well-being of Oregon agriculture.

**Tree:** Oregon designated the Douglas fir as the official state tree in 1939. Named after a Scottish botanist who traveled through Oregon in the 1820s, the Douglas fir can grow to a height of

325 feet and have a 15 foot diameter trunk.

**Nut:** The hazelnut was designated the official state nut of Oregon in 1989. Oregon grows 99 percent of the entire U.S. commercial crop of hazelnuts.

**Mushroom:** The Pacific golden chanterelle was designated the official state of Oregon mushroom in 1999. Unique to the Pacific Northwest, this wild, edible fungus has high culinary value. More than 500,000 pounds of the Pacific golden chanterelles are harvested annually in Oregon.

**Fruit:** Oregon designated the pear as the official state fruit in 2005. Oregon produces a variety of pears including Comice, Anjou, Bose and Bartlett.

**Name:** What does the name Oregon mean? The origin of the state name is uncertain, but "Oregon" might have been derived from a 1715 French map which refers to the Wisconsin River as "Ouaricon-sint." Another opinion is that the name "Oregon" stems from an English army officer's proposal for a trip in 1765, in which he refers to "the river called by the Indians Ouragon." Oregon was admitted as the 33rd state Feb. 14, 1859.

If you want to email me, you can reach me at [birdwatching@frontiernet.net](mailto:birdwatching@frontiernet.net).

The above is brought to you by Harry Johnson in O'Brien and many sources on the Internet.



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# Church News

## Community Bible Church

### Is the United States mentioned in biblical prophecy?

*Isaiah 40:15* Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales; Look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing. *Psalms 46:10* (NKJV) Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

One of the questions I am sometimes asked is whether or not the United States is mentioned in end-times prophecy. I have read and listened to people as they endeavor to find a spot in the Bible where the United States could be inserted into prophecy. One Scripture pointed

to by many is *Ezekiel 38:13* which states the following: "Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, 'Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?' Many believe that the "young lions" is a reference to the United States as it refuses to intervene in an attack on Israel by a future Russian-led coalition. Others have pointed to other Scriptures proclaiming this one or that one refers to the United States.

It is my opinion, and let me stress opinion, that there is no major mention of the USA in the Bible

because we will have been reduced to a condition in which we are no longer as influential as we are currently. I have read many potential scenarios that could lead to our national decline: natural disasters, economic collapse, electromagnetic pulses from the sun or an enemy nation, a nuclear attack, major terrorist attacks or civil unrest (possibly civil war). Some believe the rapture will cause the collapse of the nation.

*Zechariah 14:2* says the time will come when all nations will be gathered against Israel at the last battle of this age. I would suggest that all means all, so the USA will be represented there. Let me present you with a statement made by

former Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel. "The world is experiencing historic defining times that will result in a new world order ... this is a time of global transformation, we are essentially seeing a new world order evolving and being built." Startling words that I believe are true.

It yet remains to see what part the USA will have in this "New World Order." One thing does not change - "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." (*Hebrews 13:8*) Hope to see you Sunday.

In Christ,  
Pastor Dave

### Ministry at CBC

Wednesday, April 20  
A.W.A.N.A. 6:30-8 p.m.  
Preschool to grade 6  
Adult Bible Study 7-8 p.m.

Sunday, April 24  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Prayer and Praise  
6 p.m.

Community Christian Academy  
Preschool - High school

Senior Exercise Class  
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday  
9-10 a.m. in Dining Room

## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

### Can we hear Him now?

Most of us are familiar with the Verizon commercials where the Verizon guy shows up in ever more remote places with a phone to his ear asking: "Can you hear me now?"

I think that commercial is a good analogy for our relationship with God. Sometimes we as Christians get to the point where we just can't hear Him. We're still a part of His Friends & Family Plan, but we've lost our connection to Him.

It's easy to lose touch. Maybe the root cause is something we've done or even something we have neglected to do. But whatever the reason, our relationship has become distant; maybe even so distant that we've finally lost touch altogether.

Many of us simply refuse to hear what God has to say. We say we're just waiting for God to speak to us but then we run around like

a child with our fingers in our ears saying, "I can't hear you." It is as if we think that if we just refuse to hear it, then what God has to say won't affect us.

Many more of us would rather not hear from God because we know that our current lifestyle leaves something to be desired. We're afraid that if we start listening we're due for some serious lecturing about what it means to keep living the way we're living and what the consequences of refusing to change our ways are going to be. God is getting ready, metaphorically, to take us to the woodshed; and the woodshed is not where we want to go.

Too many of us just aren't willing to listen unless the unmistakable voice of God starts thundering from the heavens in order to grab our attention. We aren't ready to listen until God picks us up by the lapels, shakes us hard, and tells us personally what we need to do.

So how can we hear from God? First, we need to take action to start clearing out sin from our life. Sin blocks the Holy Spirit and power of God from working in us. When sin controls our life the only message we're able to hear is "Repent," and then we miss the many other things that God is trying to tell us.

Then once we've cleaned out our spiritual ears, so to speak, we need to perk them up and start paying attention. We need to become spiritually alert.

While we probably won't ever hear God call us with a voice that we can hear with our human ears, we need to learn to recognize Him when he calls us. We need to learn to listen not just through our ears, but through our hearts. We have to start looking for Him not just as

a thundering voice from heaven, but in the words he's already given us. We need to look for Him through His written word; the Bible.

His word is alive, and because it's alive it means it's ready to work within us and it can change us and make a difference, if only we allow it. God IS talking; and he's talking directly to us. But are we being receptive to what He has to say or are we rejecting Him?

God is talking to us right now, but I wonder, "Can we hear Him now?"

## Places of Worship

**BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
5181 Holland Loop Rd., CJ  
541-592-3923  
"Come Join the Worship!"  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Sonny Moore  
[www.kbcc.us](http://www.kbcc.us)

**7th DAY ADVENTIST**  
265 S. Old Stage Rd., CJ  
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.  
Saturday Worship 11 a.m.  
Pastor Christian Martin  
Church (541) 592-3218  
Madrone Adventist School  
541-592-3330

**IMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
200 Watkins St., CJ  
Phone 541-592-3876  
Pastor Charles Chase  
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 9:15 a.m.  
Child-care for small children

**Illinois Valley Praise Center**  
28569 Redwood Hwy. CJ  
Non-denominational  
Bible-believing Church  
Sunday school - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday Seekers  
Meeting - 7 p.m.  
Youth Group Thursday - 7 p.m.  
[www.ivpraisecenter.com](http://www.ivpraisecenter.com)

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
Pastor Dave Gordon  
113 S. Caves Ave., CJ  
Office: 541-592-3896  
Email: [cbccca@gmail.com](mailto:cbccca@gmail.com)  
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Christian Academy  
Pre-K to 12th grade  
Awana - Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

**ST. PATRICK OF THE FOREST CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
407 W. River St., CJ  
541-592-3658  
Fr. William Holtzinger, Pastor  
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m..  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.  
Holy Days TBA

**TAKILMA BIBLE CHURCH**  
10343 Takilma Road, Takilma  
Pastor Dan Robinson  
Bible Study / Prayer Time  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11 a.m  
Wednesday Bible Study  
7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church of Selma**  
18285 Redwood Hwy., Selma  
541-597-4169  
Pastor Monty Pope  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Worship - 11 a.m.

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
East River Street  
& Lewis Court, CJ  
Annemarie Richardson  
Lay Pastor.  
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.  
Church Phone: 541-592-2290  
[www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net](http://www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net)

**VALLEY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
498 Laurel Road, CJ  
P.O. Box 1248  
Pastor Marvin Porter  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service - 11 a.m.  
[evfree@frontiernet.net](mailto:evfree@frontiernet.net)  
541-592-6160

**FOUNTAIN OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
451 S. Junction Ave., CJ  
541-592-3956  
Pastor Mark McLean  
Morning Worship  
9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Wednesday - 7 p.m.  
Adult Bible Study

**ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ  
541-592-2006  
Rev. Bryant Bechtold  
Sunday Worship  
Service 10:30 a.m.

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
209 S. Junction Ave., CJ  
Sacrament Meet - 10 a.m.  
Sunday School - 11:20 a.m.  
Priesthood, Relief Soc. -  
12:10 p.m.  
Bishop  
Larry Hammersmith  
541-592-3919

**Illinois Valley Baptist Church**  
541-592-6149  
102 South Redwood Hwy  
(in the County Building)  
Pastor Steve Root  
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
Wednesday Bible Study, Prayer  
& Youth Program 7:00 PM  
Friday Ladies Bible Study  
11:00 AM



Cave Junction

Farmers' Market

Building Community  
Every Friday 4 to 7 PM  
At Jubilee Park

Spring and summer planting starts, flowers, veggies, greens and herbs, local meat, honey, and eggs, local medicine, homemade delectables, delicious food and one-of-a-kind local crafts

Performances This Week:  
Music by Sunrise Ocean  
Dance by the RiverStars & dancefarm Players

For information visit us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/cjfarmersmarketinfo) or call (541) 415-4419 or write to [cjfarmersmarketinfo@gmail.com](mailto:cjfarmersmarketinfo@gmail.com)