Gorge economy recovering from pandemic

Report encourages continuing improvements

■ By Gail Oberst For Columbia Gorge News

The world-wide pandemic has closed businesses, curtailed jobs, and slowed growth in the Gorge, according to a COVID-19 Economic needs assessment prepared by the Mid-Columbia **Economic Development** District (MCEDD).

Despite hardships, the assessment predicted the region would rebound with limited long-term economic impacts and a strong recovery overall.

MCEDD is a governing body that supports economic development in Klickitat and Skamania counties in Washington, and Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman counties in Oregon.

The 28-page report was presented to the Hood River County Board of Commissioners June 21 to assist with plans to distribute the county's \$4.53 million in federal American Rescue Plan Allocations (ARPA) funds aimed at offsetting the economic impact of the pandemic. The county will receive about half of the funds this fiscal year, and the other half, next year. Added together counties, cities and other jurisdictions in the five-county area are scheduled to receive about \$24 million in federal rescue funds over the next two years.

On June 21, Hood River **County Commissioners**

discussed options for distributing the funds including using some of the funds to sustain pandemic health services through 2026. Other suggestions, in no particular order, include directing funds to a grant program for small businesses, districts and nonprofits, supporting law enforcement services, addressing affordable housing issues and land-use backlogs, making county building improvements, hiring a recovery coordinator, among others.

Commissioners will discuss plans for distributing plans in more detail at the

July 19 meeting. Meanwhile, the MCEDD report supplied information about the pandemic's impact from community and business leaders representing more than two dozen organizations. The re-port

summarized the top concerns and resources available to address short and longterm economic recovery.

The entire report is available online at www. mcedd.org/mid-columbia-covid-19-economic-needs-assessment-project.

Among highlights of pandemic's impact on the region, according to the report:

Job and wage losses experienced were immediate and extensive. Job losses in 2020 were from 8-16% compared to 2019. Hood River County lost 10.7% of its jobs; Wasco County, 5.8%; Sherman, 7.6%; Škamania, 12%; and Klickitat, 6%

Hardest hit were the region's employers in the tourism, hospitality and healthcare industries, especially small businesses in rural areas.

■ 44% of businesses in the Gorge had to lay off or terminate employees.

 Agricultural producers and farmworkers were challenged by health restrictions.

 Healthcare providers lost important income from elective procedures while adapting to telehealth programs and responding to the pandemic crisis.

Top needs for recovery, according to the report, are:

■ Small business support. Oregon has only recovered about 37% of its pandemic business losses. Identifying and supporting businesses hardest hit is critical to recovery.

■ Community Infrastructure improvements, including attainable housing for all income-levels, broadband internet, and public transportation, are critical for

recovery. The pandemic has intensified these already-urgent needs.

■ Workforce support — Without childcare providers, many of whom closed their small businesses during the pandemic, parents can't return to work. In 2020, of parents surveyed, 60 percent said they had to miss work three times or more due to lack of available childcare.

■ Improved Resilience — The region has recovered from floods, fires, winter storms, landslides, and now, a pandemic. Identifying weaknesses and improving training for disaster can reduce disruptions to the economy.

Worship Directory

1ST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ODELL

3081 Odell Hwy Pastor Rick Plank 541-354-1863 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Service 11 a.m. Evening Service 6 p.m. Wednesday Service 6 p.m.



BAHA'I FAITH

Building Spiritual Communities Come Join Us Call Brook at 509-365-3749 or Visit bahai.us

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Rob Lawson 2323 E. 12th St. The Dalles. 541-298-8385 Sunday worship service, 11 a.m. Sunday school 12:15 p.m. Home to Columbia Lutheran

BETHEL UNITED

CHURCH OF CHRIST Inclusive - Welcoming -Peace & Justice 480 E. Jewett Blvd, White Salmon (509) 493-1747 Family Worship & Sunday School 10 am Taize - 2nd Wednesdays 7 pm Rev. Laura Robinson www.bethelwhitesalmon.org

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3350 Columbia View Dr. The Dalles., 541-296-2711 Sunday Worship 10am, Sunday Anchored H.S Youth 6pm, Tuesday Refuge M.S. Youth 6pm, Wednesdays AWANA Clubs ages 4 years through 5th grade

6pm. www.calvarythedalles.org

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY 701 Washington St., The Dalles.

541-298-2711 Sunday service and Sunday School at 10 a.m. Testimony meeting last Wednesday of every month 7 p.m. www. christiansciencethedalles.org

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Dalles Ward, Bishop Jason Corey, 541-296-6082; Sacrament meeting 10 a.m.; Missionaries 509-306-0016. 1815 E. 15th St., The Dalles

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Kim Linder, Pastor 2168 Belmont Drive Church Office: 9 a.m. - Noon Phone: 541-386-2604 Website: www.hrnaz.org Sunday Worship Service – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - 11 a.m. Monday-Thursday Home Small Groups

CONCORDIA EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELS Evangelical Lutheran Synod 11th & Pine • Hood River 541-386-4004 or 541-298-8385 Pastor Robert Lawson Sunday School & Bible Class 8:00 a.m.

Divine Service 9:00 a.m. Office Hours: Wednesday www.concordiahoodriver.org

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

"Church of the Nazarene" 1313 Mount Hood Street, The Dalles., 541-604-8986 Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Building Blocks (k-5th), Agents of Christ (6th-12th Youth Group). Anchored Women's Bible Study, Wednesdays 6-7 p.m.

COVENANT HOOD RIVER

Pastor Fritz Stranz 455 Frankton Rd. Hood River, OR 97031 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. Service streamed on our website 541.386.8805 covenanthr.org

DUFUR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

315 NE Harrison St., Dufur. 541-467-2257 Service at 10:30 a.m. See website for updates and to livestream service. www.dufurcc.org

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Nate Warren, 2819 W. 10th St. The Dalles, 541-296-2631 Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship 11 a.m., Sun. Eve. 6 p.m.; Bible Study Wed. 6 p.m., Student Ministry - 6th-12th grades Wed. 6:30 p.m.

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

1889 Belmont, 541-386-3557 fbchoodriver@gorge.net www.fbchoodriver.org Pastor Chris Mullins - Sunday School. www.gorgelutherans.com Worship Service 10:30am – 12pm Expository preaching Childcare provided 11:00 am We offer small groups/studies Call for times and locations.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Zachary Patterson, 2810 W. 10th Street, The Dalles, 541-296-3586 Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m., Bible Study Sunday 9 a.m. FaithLutheranTD.com

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH Pastor Mike Wilson. 541-296-6189

Service 10:30 a.m. **FIRST UNITED**

METHODIST CHURCH Pastor Gigi Siekkinen, 305 E. 11th St., The Dalles. 541-296-4675 Worshipping ONLINE at 11 am SundayJoin by Zoom See our website or Facebook link thedallesumc.org facebook.com/DallesFUMC Email: thedallesumc@gmail.com

GATEWAY CHURCH (ECO)

John Geiter Pastor 1111 Dry Hollow Rd, The Dalles, 541-298-8531 Sunday Worship 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. www.gatewaypc.org Services live-streamed through website

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

2 Services 9 am and 11 am with live streaming at 9am on our website No children's church or nursery at this time. PO Box 1098/ 1280 W Jewett Blvd White Salmon, WA 98672 www.Grace-ws.org

HOOD RIVER

509-493-2597

ALLIANCE CHURCH 2650 Montello Avenue Hood River 541.386.2812 office@hralliance.org Service times: Sunday 9am and 10:45 am Celebrate Recovery, Thursdays 6:30pm

HOOD RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Evangelist GW Cliver 903-426-8064 9:45 Bible Classes 10:45 Services Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m. 541-386-2782

HOOD RIVER VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

975 Indian Creek Road 541-386-2608

hoodrivervalleychristianchurch. com Sunday -10:30 a.m. Worship In person, with Covid 19 precautions observed, and on zoom and Facebook Call for information on youth meetings and other programs for children, youth and adults

HOUSE OF GRACE

114 W. Jefferson, Bingen Sunday Service 10 a.m. "Come experience the presence of God" 509-493-1145

HUSUM COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD

Sundays Sunday School....9:30 a.m. Worship...10:45 a.m. Several Weekly Bible Studies Call for information and locations Church -- 493-2724 Pastor Tom Culp

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

305 9th St. 386-3046 Pastor Jeff Mueller www.ImmanuelHR.org Sunday Morning Schedule Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Children's Church 10:00 a.m. Nursery Care 9:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Small Groups All Week Check our web page above for all the details Sr. High Youth Group Saturdays @ 6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group Fridays @ 3:30 p.m. "It's all about RELATIONSHIPS!"

Please join us! KRHP TV-14

"Christian TV the way it ought to be Available free over the air in The Dalles & Dallesport. Also available free online at www.krhp.org.

Also available free on Roku TV.

LIFELINE BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Fred Sheldon, 801 E. 10th St. The Dalles, 541-296-1508 Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m. Sunday,

Wednesday 7 p.m.

LIFE IN CHRIST CENTER (ASSEMBLIES OF GOD)

Pastor Allen Refsland, 3095 Cherry Heights Rd, The Dalles, 541-296-1136 Sunday School and Adult Life Groups 9 a.m., Sunday Worship Celebration 10:15 a.m. Wednesday night activities include: Kids clubs, Youth and Adult classes all starting at 6:30 p.m. See more info at www. christcenter.net

LYLE CELEBRATION CENTER 715 Washington St., Lyle 509-365-3971 Pastor Micah Smith Sunday School -- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service -- 10:30 a.m. Youth & Small Groups -- 6 p.m. Wednesday -- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study

Children's Ministries (K-5)

MAUPIN COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor Tim Morelli, 490 Fifth St., 541-395-2653 Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. with Sunday Worship, at 10 a.m. Youth Group Wed. 6 p.m.; Women's Bible Study Thurs. 10 a.m.; Men's Breakfast Fri. 7 a.m.

MID-COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor David Astin, 206 6th St., Dallesport, Wash., 509-767-4901 Sunday Worship, 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Wednesday 7 p.m.

MID-COLUMBIA UNITARIAN

UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP Online Worship Sunday at 10 a.m. Religious Exploration for Children and Youth Email mcuufl@gmail.com for a link to the online service Rev. Judy Zimmerman Info: (541) 241-6771 or www.mcuuf2.org Justice. Inclusion. Compassion. A Welcoming Congregation

MT. ADAMS **BAPTIST CHURCH**

Come as you are! Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m. 2366 Hwy 141, Trout Lake 509-395-2929 mountadamsbaptistchurch.org

MT. ADAMS BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Virtual Meetings: Temple service Sat 9-10 am https://us04web.zoom. us/i/507878725 Meditation and Metta Mon 12-1 pm https://zoom. us/j/3664507 4 7 May all be well and happy, may all know love and peace

ODELL CHURCH OF CHRIST 3784 Summit Drive Worship

10:30 a.m. 541-645-5652

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN Bingen WA. Sunday Worship....9:00 a.m. Bible Study.....Sun., 8 a.m.

509-493-2499

PARKDALE BAPTIST 6310 Dee Hwy 541-352-6515 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m. Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Study, 6 p.m.

PARKDALE CHURCH OF THE

NAZARENE 4th & Van Nuys (by grade school) Services Carl Casey, Pastor Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study, Mon. 9:30 a.m. Call 541-352-6913 or 541-490-6673 for further details.

PARKDALE COMMUNITY

CHURCH 4910 Baseline Drive 541-352-7747 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m. Rev. Mark N. Willems, Pastor

QUAKERS, RELIGIOUS

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS Mt View Worship Group 601 Union St, The Dalles Meets via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10:00 am Check out our website: Quakersinthegorge.com We are a non-programmed worship group under the care of Multnomah Monthly Meeting Contact person, Jeff: 541-490-6006 or Lark 541-980-6322

All are welcome. **RIVER OF LIFE ASSEMBLY**

Lead Pastor Terry Abbott Children's Pastor Harvey Walls Youth Pastor Jesse Davis 979 Tucker Rd. Hood River, OR 97031 541-386-3656, rolahr.org Sunday 9:30 am in person & virtual Worship Service & K-6th Grades Wednesday 6:30 pm Pastor Terry - virtual Kidz Connect (K-6th) in person & virtual ShareHouse Youth Ministries

INSTAGRAM RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY

in person

Thursdays 6:30 pm Share-

House Youth - Instagram

FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE,

CHURCH UCC Heart of Downtown at 4th & State Sunday worship service at 10:30 am Check out our website at riversideucc.com for more information Doubters welcome An "Open & Affirming" congregation Rev. Vicky A. Stifter, 541-386-1412

RIVERS OF GRACE CHURCH 1122 Oak Street

The Dalles, OR 97058 Services at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sundays Pastor Cindy McLean

ROWENA BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor George Clark, 5964 Hwy 30 West, The Dalles (Rowena), 541-296-5933 Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m. Ladies Bible Study Wed. 9:30 a.m. Good News Club Thurs. 4:30-5:30 p.m. - School Year - at Church.

RUFUS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Scott Holliday, 309 Wallace St., Rufus, 541-739-2328 Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship, 11 a.m., Sunday Evening 6 p.m.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

New Location: 3339 E. 13th St. Adventist Elementary 541-298-1956 Services: Saturday, 11 A.M. Wednesday, 7 p.m. Pastor David Woodruff

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 13th & Oak, 541-386-3220 David Woodruff, Pastor 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 11 a.m. Worship Service Spanish Services meet at 1100 22nd St.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

CHURCH 509 NE Tohomish St. White Salmon Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.

(Saturday) Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Community Service Center open to needy on Tuesdays, 9:30 - 2:30 Pastor Merrill Caviness

340-953-1372 **SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY**

BIBLE CHURCH 8th & Pacific, Hood River Tommy Moon, Pastor Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. svbchr.org

SOVEREIGN GRACE

BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Norm Wells, 1003 Sunflower St. W. The Dalles, 541-296-9651 Sunday School 10 a.m., Sunday Worship 11 a.m. and Wednesday Evenings 7 pm

SPIRIT OF GRACE

(A Lutheran/Methodist Cooperative Church) Interim Pastor Sue Seifert 1140 Tucker Road 541-386-3993 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. Fellowship Everyone is welcome!

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 240 NW Washington

White Salmon Masses: • Saturday – 5 p.m. (English) • Saturday – 7 p.m. (Spanish) •Sunday – 9 a.m. (English) • Sunday - 11 a.m. (Spanish) Father Salomon Covarrubias 493-2828

ST. MARK'S **EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Rev Kelly Mahon, Rector Sunday worship 8 & 10 a.m. Childcare at 10 400 11th St., Hood River 541-386-2077 wwww.stmarks-hr.org

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 1501 Belmont, Hood River Saturday Sacrament of Reconciliation in English/Spanish 3-4 p.m. Saturday Mass in English 5 p.m. Mass in Spanish 7 p.m. Sunday Mass in Spanish 8 a.m. Mass in English 10 a.m. Mass in Spanish 1 p.m. Holy Day Masses 7 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 7 p.m. Daily Mass 7:30 a.m.

Father Tomy Chowaran, Pastor,

541-386-3373

ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Father Joseph Levine, 1220 W. 10th St. The Dalles, 541-296-2026 Vigil Mass, Saturday, 5:30 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m., Mass in English; noon Mass in Spanish.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1805 Minnesota St., The Dalles, 541-296-9587

Sunday Services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Adult Forum 9 a.m., Rev. Marilyn Roth, Rector THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Visitors Welcome

Sunday Services 10 a.m.

Youth Activities, Weds. 7 p.m. 1041 W Jewett Blvd, WS

493-1919 www.mormon.org THE DALLES SALVATION ARMY Lt. Raymond Morris, The Dalles,

a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

541-296-6417

Sunday Coffee fellowship 10

TUCKER ROAD BAPTIST Pastor Dean E. Kelly, Jr. 1455 Tucker Road Hood River, OR 97031 541-386-1049 - Sundays Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. - Wednesdays -

Prayer Meeting 10 a.m. **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

CONGREGATIONAL Rev. Lea Mathieu, Pastor, 111 E. 5th St., The Dalles, 541-296-2909

Worship 10 a.m.

VALLEY WORSHIP CENTER 5780 Hwy 35, Mt.Hood/Prkdl Rev. Don & LaRonna Howell Sunday Service.....10:45am www.valleyworshipcenter.org valleyworshipcenter.pastor@

gmail.com or (541) 352-7269 WHITE RIVER CHRISTIAN

FELLOWSHIP Pastor Jeff Hoover 83147 Tygh Valley Rd. Tygh Valley, OR 97063 Worship 9 a.m. Sunday. Email: wrcfellowship@gmail.com; http://wrcfellowship.com;

PO Box 11, Tygh Valley, OR 97063 WHITE SALMON PINECREST

Nazarene Church 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service & Children's Service 6 p.m. Saturday Night Spanish Worship Service 255 Rhine Village Dr., White Salmon 360-567-5454 Come Join Us for the Story

WHITE SALMON UNITED **METHODIST CHURCH**

341 N. Main Avenue White Salmon, WA 98672 (509) 493-1308 wsumc@embarqmail.com www.whitesalmonumc.org

WY'EAST COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor Doug Massingill

3422 Odell Hwy, Odell 541-354-1063 Sunday Worship Schedule 9 a.m. Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. Children's Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service Come let us worship!

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Tyler Beane Kelly, 101 W. 10th St., The Dalles, 541-296-9146 In-Person Worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Also pre-recorded services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month (available on YouTube). Visit our website www.zioninthedalles.com or our Facebook page.

> To be included in the next worship directory, contact us at 541-296-2141 ext 101 or email nikip@gorgenews.com