

# Hospital:

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Pace said WMH has been asked if they have the ability to take on extra patients, but has had to turn those requesting hospitals down. “We have not had the ability to accept them,” she said. Pace said the hospital is working with Wallowa County Emergency Management to request additional personnel from the National Guard, anticipating a need for extra help in nursing, emergency medical services, and more.

### Significant increase

While the exact number of coronavirus patients to enter WMH in the past month wasn’t available, Pace said several have been through the hospital doors. “We can certainly say there has been a significant increase in coronavirus patients at our hospital,” she said. Given the critical-access nature of the hospital, Pace said WMH does not have an ICU, and, thus, no patients in ICU care in the hospital. Like with any situation, a coronavirus patient requiring ICU care would be transferred to a different hospital. Patients have been transferred from WMH in the past month, though the specific reasons were not given.

### Statewide trends seen locally

Reports throughout Oregon have shown that more young people are among those being hospitalized with coronavirus. Karvoski said that is consistent with what WMH is seeing.

“These patients are younger...” Karvoski said. “...And (have) a higher level and severity of respiratory issues,” Pace added. “... It would be safe to say that Wallowa County’s trend has matched that of the state.” That also includes, she added, the ratio of hospitalized patients who are vaccinated or not vaccinated against coronavirus. Statewide, OHA data shows that through the first two weeks of August, just less than 3,000 of the more than 20,000 coronavirus cases reported were breakthrough cases, meaning more than 85% of coronavirus cases in those two weeks were in unvaccinated individuals. Karvoski said at this point, though, nurses at WMH have not had to take on a higher patient count than they typically would. “Right now, I think we’re able to stick with our staffing plan and our patient load for the nurses has remained pretty much the same,” she said.

Pace said, too, that staff is under a lot of pressure and stress with the ramped up number of patients, but that it remains committed to serving the community. “It’s unfortunate we are being placed in this situation” she said. “Staff are stressed and tired with the case load. It’s been a long road.”

### Contingency plan

What happens if the hospital did get overrun with patients? Or it cannot transfer patients? While that hasn’t happened, Pace said there is a roadmap for the hospital in case there was a surge. “It has not reached that level yet, but that is certainly part of our surge plan is



Brooke Pace/Wallowa Memorial Hospital  
**Wallowa Memorial Hospital nurse Karla Holmes, R.N., prepares to see a patient diagnosed with coronavirus. Cases have been rising sharply in Wallowa County and WMH on several occasions in the past month has reached its capacity.**

preparation for if things continue to get worse,” she said. The contingency plan, she said, is detailed with action plans depending on the types of patients in the hospital. If, for example, there were a surge in coronavirus patients, the physical therapy wing and medical office building that houses Wallowa Memorial and Winding Waters medical clinics would be converted into a “clean space” to house patients hospitalized but who don’t have coronavirus. “We can increase the number of beds in our medical surge floor for COVID patients,” Pace said. Karvoski added that there could be an additional 21 beds added, if necessary.

### Vaccine mandates

With the FDA’s approval of the Pfizer vaccine on Monday, Aug. 23, the clock is officially ticking toward Gov. Brown’s vaccine mandate deadline that all medical staff are to be fully vaccinated — which means two weeks past their final shot of a vaccine — by Oct. 18. That means the first doses of a vaccine would have to be administered on Sept. 6 (Moderna vaccine), Sept. 13 (Pfizer) or Oct. 4 (Johnson & Johnson). The OHA has granted the option for individuals to submit a religious or medical exemption as opposed to receiving a vaccine. Pace said given the recent FDA approval of the Pfizer vaccine, and that there is still

### KEY COVID-19 CASE DATES

Below are the reported dates of key COVID-19 numbers in Wallowa County dating back to the start of the pandemic. The county has reported 405 cases since the start of the pandemic, with 166 of those coming during August.

<b>FIRST CASE:</b>	April 8, 2020
<b>50TH CASE:</b>	Oct. 30, 2020 (205 days)
<b>100TH CASE:</b>	Jan. 26, 2021 (88 days)
<b>150TH CASE:</b>	April 2, 2021 (66 days)
<b>200TH CASE:</b>	July 19, 2021 (108 days)
<b>250TH CASE:</b>	Aug. 5, 2021 (17 days)
<b>300TH CASE:</b>	Aug. 17, 2021 (12 days)
<b>350TH CASE:</b>	Aug. 24, 2021 (seven days)
<b>400TH CASE:</b>	Aug. 30, 2021 (six days)

Source: Oregon Health Authority

# Surge:

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Hospitalizations continue to remain high statewide. The Monday OHA report noted there were more than 1,100 hospitalizations due to COVID-19 in Oregon. Hospitals continue to be near, or in some cases at, their maximum capacity. Just over 300 out of more than 4,200 beds in Oregon are available, and 39 out of 671 ICU beds are available. Region 9, which includes Wallowa County, has come

down from its record of COVID-19 hospitalizations, which was 35 on Aug. 25. On Aug. 30, the number was at 27. The number of vaccinations in the county also has increased, as now 62% of Wallowa County residents 18 and older, and 51.9% overall, have had at least one shot of a vaccine. OHA data shows 107 people were newly vaccinated from Aug. 15-29, and from Aug. 2-29, that number is at 194 people. More than 3,700 people in Wallowa County have received a dose of the vaccine.

“grey area” WMH is seeking to clarify with the exemptions, it’s unclear how the mandate will affect WMH and its staff. **Getting a booster(er)** Booster shots of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine will be made available starting Sept. 20, Pace said. The CDC and FDA have recommended that immunocompromised individuals should receive an additional

dose of the mRNA vaccines — Pfizer or Moderna — they originally received. Pace said, though, the booster shot shouldn’t be received until eight months after a person received their second shot. Those eligible Sept. 20 would be those who received their second dose on Jan. 20. A booster has not yet been recommended for those with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, Pace said.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- Off drugs
  - Old movie channel
  - Popular tablet
  - Fibber McGee’s broadcast medium, once
  - Warsaw native
  - Equine 23-Across
  - Etching agents
  - Truckloads
  - “No contest” or “not guilty”
  - Derby transaction
  - Hang on to first place
  - One has a day in May
  - “\_\_\_ thy father ...”
  - Employer’s posting
  - Where Arches National Park is
  - \_\_\_-to book
  - Homophone for “sense”
  - Dallas NBA player, briefly
  - Most cautious
  - Lubricating medium
  - Reduce drastically
  - Bit of cote chatter
  - Where a pig might be found?
  - “Don’t let it happen!”
  - Take care of, as duties
  - Common words of commitment
  - Big ego, or what encompasses 20-, 25- and 45-Across?
  - Serve that gets you a quick point
  - Like a certain tale or order
  - Similar
  - Full of holiday spirit
  - Tiptop
  - What gets into a beachgoer’s shoes
  - Noticeable navel
  - Where a fork might be encountered
  - Guess: Abbr.
  - Bunch of baby birds

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14				15			
16					17				18			
19			20	21				22				
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51	52					53	54			55	56	57
58				59				60	61			
62					63				64			
65						66						67

- Tweak the wording of
- Subsidies and such
- Person who never arrives
- Informed
- Get into gear?
- Netflix’s “The Kominsky \_\_\_”
- Burst inward
- Not as ruddy
- Surface calculation
- In need of a recharge
- Friend
- Steak city of Nebraska
- Pass, as a bill
- Abbr. on a citation, perhaps
- Sounds of well-tuned engines
- Abbr. in a citation
- What flows from Mount Etna
- Neither this \_\_\_ that
- Once again?
- Neophyte gamer
- Polynesian image
- Toy such as Rosebud
- Roulette necessity
- Geological span
- Bulgaria’s most populous city
- Freed, like peas
- Debate position
- Feeling relaxed
- Grey Goose liquors
- Occasional bit of work
- Alabama city in civil rights history
- Red carpet figure
- Dr. Pepper Museum’s Texas home
- Clue
- Word after “deep” or “defensive”
- Voice above tenor
- Award talked about on “Mad Men”
- Gave the once-over
- Hemingway’s “In \_\_\_ Time”

- CLUES DOWN**
- Green
  - Queen Anne’s \_\_\_ (white plant)

## Church Directory

**Joseph United Methodist Church**  
3rd & Lake St. • Joseph  
**10 AM Worship Online AND In Person**  
For More Info 541-432-3102  
JosephUMC.ORG  
Pastor Cherie Dearth

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
409 West Main - Enterprise  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP at 9am**  
Pastor John B. King Jr  
phone (message): 541-426-4633  
web: gracelutheranenterprise.com

**Enterprise Christian Church**  
85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449  
We have ‘In-person worship’ @ 9:00 am (Guidelines observed)  
Sunday School at 10:30  
Parking Lot Radio/Facebook @ 9:00  
David Bruce  
Pastor, Enterprise Christian Church

**St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church**  
100 NE 3rd St, Enterprise  
NE 3rd & Main St  
541-426-3439  
Worship Service Sunday 9:30am

**Lostine Presbyterian Church**  
Discussion Group 9:30 AM  
Worship Service 11:00 AM  
Childrens program during service  
Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com  
541.398.0597  
Hwy 82, Lostine  
Stephen Kliewer, Minister

**Summit Church**  
**Sundays at 10 am**  
at the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise  
Pastor: David Pendleton  
Summit Church  
www.summitchurchoregon.org  
Cloverleaf Hall • 668 NW 1st St. • Enterprise, OR 97828

**Wallowa Assembly of God**  
702 West Hwy 82  
Wallowa, Oregon  
541-886-8445  
**Sunday School • 9:am**  
**Worship Service • 10:am**  
Pastor Tim Barton  
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**Christ Covenant Church**  
Pastor Terry Tollefson  
Church Office: 541-263-0505  
**Worship 9:00 a.m.**  
723 College Street, Lostine

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School**  
305 Wagner (near the Cemetery)  
P.O. Box N. Enterprise, OR 97828  
Church 541-426-3751  
School 541-426-8339  
Pastor David Ballard 503-810-9886  
**Worship Hour**  
10:30 a.m. - Noon

**Enterprise Community Congregational Church**  
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**Bible Studies:**  
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