

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO

from the Democrat-Herald

August 20, 1972

PENDLETON — Pregame prognosticators hinted that Saturday's East-West Shrine game could be a lopsided affair with the East's big linemen and star-studded backfield. They were half right: the score was 33-8, the widest point spread in the classic's 20-year history, but it was the West delivering the bludgeoning.

25 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

August 20, 1997

Dallas Grant is looking inside Marge Haynes' heart, and he's pleased with what he sees.

As he watches a small color monitor, Haynes' mitral valve flutters like a small leaf in a gentle wind. The picture is clear and sharp. What the screen shows means little to the untrained eye, but to Grant, who runs the mobile cardiac-vascular lab for Boise's St. Alphonsus Hospital, it is a window to the future of medicine.

10 YEARS AGO

from the Baker City Herald

August 22, 2012

The discovery of two immobile bats early Monday — one of them dead — at adjacent homes in Baker City isn't a huge concern to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

But it still sounds pretty darned creepy.

Both bats were discovered in the 900 block of D Street in east Baker City near the freeway.

ONE YEAR AGO

from the Baker City Herald

August 21, 2021

While parents and others marched through downtown Baker City on Thursday evening, Aug. 19, protesting the state mandate that students wear face masks this fall, the Baker School Board was meeting by Zoom to discuss that and other COVID-19-related protocols.

The board met just hours after Gov. Kate Brown announced that teachers and all other school staff, including volunteers, must be vaccinated by Oct. 18.

Board member Travis Cook said he is concerned about the possibility of school workers resigning due to the vaccine mandate.

"If the governor mandates this, how many teachers, transportation personnel, food service personnel, are just going to say 'we're done' and move to Idaho or whatever," Cook said.

Superintendent Mark Witty said that is an topic of heated discussion among school officials statewide.

"That's a real concern," Witty told the board. "It is here locally. I'm, again, just preaching for patience so we can actually understand how this actually is implemented and I am hopeful that there's opportunities for those that have chosen not to take the vaccine to be able to continue working."

The state mandate includes two exemptions to the vaccination requirement: medical and religious.

The medical exemption should be relatively straightforward, Witty said.

"We anticipate that that would be going in to your medical health provider and having that discussion with them and then they'd fill out the paperwork and if they believe in their opinion it's not safe for you to take the vaccine, then you'd put that on file with the district office," Witty said.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, AUG. 17

12-18-20-25-37-47

Next jackpot: \$4.9 million

POWERBALL, AUG. 17

23-28-41-50-55 PB 24

Next jackpot: \$80 million

MEGA MILLIONS, AUG. 16

33-35-41-45-51 Mega 1

Next jackpot: \$99 million

WIN FOR LIFE, AUG. 17

17-23-32-76

PICK 4, AUG. 18

• 1 p.m.: 3-6-5-5

• 4 p.m.: 8-4-9-6

• 7 p.m.: 4-5-5-0

• 10 p.m.: 1-9-6-1

LUCKY LINES, AUG. 18

4-8-12-15-19-24-28-30

Next jackpot: \$17,000

SENIOR MENUS

MONDAY (August 22): Spaghetti, mixed vegetables, garlic bread, green salad, ice cream

TUESDAY (August 23): Ground beef steak, onions and gravy, mashed potatoes, rolls, carrot-raisin salad, brownies

WEDNESDAY (August 24): Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, ambrosia, bread pudding

THURSDAY (August 25): Orange glazed chicken, rice, broccoli, rolls, fruit cup, cinnamon rolls

FRIDAY (August 26): Roasted turkey, stuffing with gravy, green beans, rolls, green salad, apple crisp

MONDAY (August 29): Chicken-fried chicken, mashed potatoes, carrots, rolls, green salad, pudding

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$5 donation (60 and older), \$7.50 for those under 60.

CONTACT THE HERALD

2005 Washington Ave., Suite 101

Open Monday through Friday

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Telephone: 541-523-3673

Baker City Herald

ISSN-8756-6419

Serving Baker County since 1870

Published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays except Christmas Day by the Baker Publishing Co., a part of EO Media Group, at 2005 Washington Ave., Suite 101 (P.O. Box 807), Baker City, OR 97814.

Subscription rates per month are \$10.75 for print only. Digital-only rates are \$8.25.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Baker City Herald, P.O. Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814.

Periodicals Postage Paid

at Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Copyright © 2022

Publisher

Karrine Brogotti

kbrogotti@lagrandeobserver.com

Jayson Jacoby, editor

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

Advertising email

ads@bakercityherald.com

Classified email

classified@bakercityherald.com

Circulation email

circ@bakercityherald.com

North Powder church nears milestone

Community United Methodist Church has been in same building for 140 years

BY DICK MASON

The Observer

NORTH POWDER — It may be the most memorable dollar ever spent in North Powder's history.

In 1882, Sarah and James W. Welch sold a block of property in North Powder for \$1 to the United Methodist and Episcopal churches, according to records.

The Methodists and Episcopalians built a church on the block in 1883, which they shared for four years before the Methodists assumed full ownership.

Today, the North Powder Community United Methodist Church is on the verge of joining a select group — churches in Oregon that have operated in the same building for at least 140 years.

It is not hard to imagine what the church looked like in 1883. The building is filled with links to its past, including about three wooden pews believed to be the same ones the church first had in the 1880s and a bell in a tower that congregants still ring with the pull of a rope before every weekly Sunday service.

These vestiges to the past are in a well-maintained building that looks much like it did 139 years ago, according to Jeff Nielsen, a member of the church's congregation.

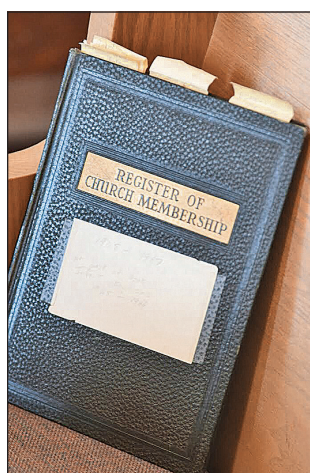
"It is pretty unique. Most churches this old have at best been remodeled at least five times," he said. "It is an original pioneer church. It is pretty phenomenal."

The church also has ledgers filled with the names of almost all the members of the church's congregations dating back to the 1800s.

"If these walls could talk, they could tell so much about the generations of people who grew up here," he said.

The North Powder Community United Methodist Church has about twice the square footage it had when it opened in 1883, according to Linda Dixon, a member of the church's congregation. The space was added in the 1940s when an east side addition was built on. Today, this addition houses the church's Sunday school program, one temporarily shut down after the COVID-19 pandemic, and the community's food bank.

The food bank, an outreach of the church, is run with major help from Dixon and her husband, Floyd, who travel to



The names of many of the people who have attended the North Powder Community United Methodist Church over past 139 years are in a register, shown here on Sunday, Aug. 14, 2022.

Island City each month to pick up food from the Northeast Oregon Regional Food Bank.

Older is sometimes better

In an ironic twist, operating the older half of the building is today less expensive than running its newer half, since the older section has no plumbing. This means it does not need heat to keep water pipes from freezing, said Joyce Lawyer, a member of the church's congregation for more than 60 years.

The church's sanctuary is instead reliant on a wood stove in the winter.

"It can get so hot that it almost drives people out of here," Dixon said with a smile.

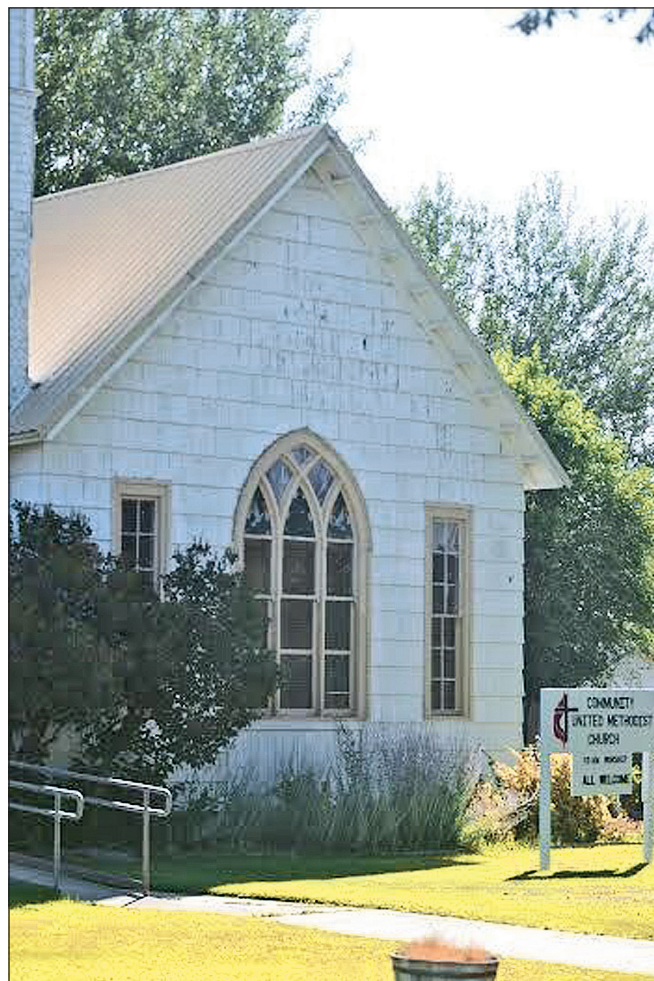
Messages to remember

A focal point of services in the sanctuary are Bible-centered talks given on alternating weeks by Dixon and Susanne Watson, also a congregation member.

Watson said she feels blessed to be able to help give the talks because preparing for them has been so enriching.

"I have learned so much more about the Lord and the Bible," she said.

The North Powder Community United Methodist Church today has a congregation of fewer than 20 people — much smaller than what it once had. Nevertheless, the church's future appears solid because it has a long-running tradition as a focal point for community events. This means that whenever help is needed to keep the building operating, people step forward instantly, many of whom



Photos by Dick Mason/The Observer

Above: The North Powder Community United Methodist church, shown here on Sunday, Aug. 14, 2022, was built in 1883. Below: This is a portion of the sanctuary of the North Powder Community United Methodist Church as it appeared on Sunday, Aug. 14, 2022.



are not members of the congregation.

"Whenever we need help, all we have to do is ask," Dixon said.

Volunteers who help the church, but are not members, include Ted Golden, who picks up food in Island City each week and brings it to the food bank.

The church also hosts community events, such as the annual silver tea that has happened for 102 years, Lawyer said. Pews are temporarily removed from the sanctuary to make room for the tea, which draws at least 50 people each year.

Another popular event at the church is its annual Easter egg hunt, which attracts about 100 children. This year's Easter egg hunt, Dixon said, was run with several inches of snow on the ground.

Such events are under the direction of a congregation that is remarkably close, Watson said.

"The people who attend are not just friends and neighbors, we are more like a family," she said.

A family with no shortage of generosity.

"We want to help as many people as we can," Watson said.

Local Briefing

Astronomy event set for Aug. 26

An introduction to astronomy is featured at the next session of the Baker Community Sciences & Arts Lecture Series on Thursday, Aug. 26. "The Casual Observer's Guide to the Night Sky" will be presented by Ciera Partyka-Worley and Casey Howard from Boise State University. The talk starts at 6 p.m. in OTEC's conference room, 4005 23rd St. Attendance is free. Topics include stargazing, astronomy with a telescope, naked eye astronomy, the planets and moon, and a look at Jupiter and Saturn.

These talks are scheduled

for the last Thursday of the month. The next topics are:

- The Future of Energy with OTEC: Sept. 22, 6 p.m.
- Potatoes, Cattle & Technology — Trends in Eastern Oregon Ag: Oct. 27
- A Brief History of Art — Fabulous Facts, Divine Discoveries & Creative Connections: Nov. 17

Keegan Masterson receives \$6,000 scholarship

P.E.O. Chapter CJ of Baker City has awarded a \$6,000 scholarship to Keegan Masterson, who attends Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri. Masterson, who is majoring in

international relations, will be a junior this year.

Masterson received a \$10,000 scholarship, also from the P.E.O. Sisterhood, in 2020, when she first enrolled at Cottey College.

The private women's college was founded in 1884 by Virginia Alice Cottey.

In 1926 Cottey was invited to join the P.E.O. Sisterhood — the initials stand for Philanthropic Educational Organization.

The next year, Cottey donated the college to the Sisterhood.

Masterson, who grew up in Baker City, learned about Cottey College from her aunt, Jeannette Burgess (her maiden

name is Etchamendy), a Baker High School graduate who attended Cottey College in the early 1990s.

The Sisterhood's Chapter CJ in Baker City, which was organized in 1952, is well-acquainted with Cottey College. Several current or former Baker County residents are alumni who were connected to Cottey College through either of the two local chapters, CJ and AX, P.E.O. member Liz Burton said in 2020.

The list includes Meredith Wilson, Julie Wilson, Kim Wilson Saiki, Kate McKim Rohner, Josie Stearns, Tanya O'Neal, Kate Rowan, Annie Cahill and the late Pat Fessel and Kathy Rose.

News of Record

DEATHS

Larry Waters: 79, of Joseph, died Aug. 17, 2022, at a local care center. His graveside service will be Saturday, Aug. 27 at 11 a.m. at the Joseph Cemetery, also known as Prairie Creek Cemetery. Bollman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

FUNERALS PENDING

Tom 'Mac' Kerns: A celebration of Mac's life will take place Saturday, Sept. 3 at 10 a.m. in the Haines Methodist Church. Donations can be made to the Eastern Oregon Museum in Haines through Coles Tribute Center, 1950 Place St., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in memory of Mac, go to www.colestrIBUTEcenter.com.

Frank William Hermann: A celebration of his life will take place on Sept. 9 at 1 p.m. at the Harvest Christian Church, 3720 Birch St. in Baker City. To leave an online condolence for Frank's family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

Peggy Anna Pittman: Graveside service will be Saturday, Sept. 10 at 10 a.m. at Mount Hope Cemetery. Friends are invited to join the family

for a reception afterward at the Baker City Christian Church, 675 Highway 7. Memorial contributions can be made to Smile Train, St. Jude's Children's Hospital or Shriner's Children's Hospital through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. To light a candle in Peggy's memory, or to offer online condolences to her family, go to www.grayswestco.com.

POLICE LOG

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations

CONTEMPT OF COURT (Baker County Justice Court warrant): Laura Feign Osterkamp, 58, Baker City, 6:56 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18 on Union Creek Road; cited and released.

THIRD-DEGREE THEFT (Baker County

Justice Court warrant): John Marsik Guthrie Jr., 50, Baker City, 8:17 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 at the Sheriff's Office; cited and released.

Baker City Police

Arrests, citations

PROBATION VIOLATION: Chaz Jordan Williams, 20, Baker City, 2:05 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 in the 1200 block of Campbell Street; jailed.

Oregon State Police

Accident report

At 1:38 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 18, Trooper Jonathan Boggs responded to a single-vehicle crash on Interstate 84, Milepost 304.5 eastbound. A white Chevrolet Suburban, driven by Patrick C. Martin, 72, of Creswell, was entering the freeway via the Exit 304 onramp when it crossed both lanes and crashed into the concrete center

divider, according to Boggs' report. Both Martin and his passenger, Janel L. Tjaden of Creswell, were taken by ambulance to Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City, where they were treated and released.

Accident report

At 7:46 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 15, Sr. Trooper Bradley Duncan responded to a single-vehicle crash on Highway 86 near Milepost 39, near Richland. The driver, Myrna J. Clarke, 81, of Sumpter, was driving west when the setting sun obstructed her view, according to Duncan's report. The Suzuki Vitara she was driving went off the highway on a right hand corner and hit a tree. Both Evans and her passenger, Jantje Eva Smith, 83, of Sumpter, had minor injuries and were taken by ambulance to Saint Alphonsus Medical Center-Baker City.

GRUMPY'S Repair & Inc. "You'll love the work we do. I guarantee it." - JR

REPAIR TRUCKS 541-523-3200

225 H Street • East of I-84 • 541-523-3200 • grumpysrepair.com