

Spiritually Speaking

NO SERVANT CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS

Last week we prayed for the victims who lost their lives at the World Trade Center. Several thousand people were suddenly thrown down at the feet of God to give an account of their stewardship, to present all that they had done in their lives, from the age of reason until that final hour, which they could not have fore-seen. The scripture readings this week lead us to the subject of faithful stewardship. How do we perform our stewardship received through Baptism, how do we take it forward in our day-to-day lives?

The prophet Amos (8:4-7) condemns the crooked business practices of the 8th century, BC. He reminds the Israelites to be faithful to their covenant with Yahweh by practicing justice and mercy as God's faithful stewards. He warns us against having as our life goal making money by any means. The prophet wants to warn businessmen who want to make profits through dishonest business practices like high prices, false balances, and poor-quality merchandise. Hence, Amos prophesied the downfall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel for its lack of covenant morality. In the covenant relationship between God and His people, loving compassion and concern for the unfortunate, honesty, and integrity were supposed to be distinguishing qualities. Amos declared that God would not abide abuse of the weak.

In St. Paul's letter to Timothy (2:1-8), he instructs the first century Judeo-Christians to become true stewards of the Gospel of Jesus by preaching the "good news" to the pagans and including them in intercessory prayers. Paul struggled to get Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians to respect each other and not to compartmentalize God's salvation. Hence, the author of I Timothy reminds Timothy (a community leader equivalent to a bishop) and his congregation that God's concern extends to all people, not just themselves. Paul insists again that he was called to take the Gospel to all peoples. He requested prayers for civil rulers and those in high positions so that all people might live a quiet and peaceful life and come to salvation through Jesus.

St. Luke (16:1-13) challenges us to use our blessings - time, talents, health, and wealth - wisely and shrewdly so that they will count toward our good in eternity. We are on the right road only if we use our possessions and wealth to attain our heavenly goal. The parable of the crooked steward has shocked good church people for centuries. St. Augustine said, "I can't believe that this story came from the lips of our Lord." Jesus tells a story about the steward (manager) of the estate of a rich absentee landlord. The principal morals of the parable:

1) We need to be faithful in little things: Often we get so caught up in our work that we ignore the little things of life. But let us not ignore these little matters -- things like dropping someone an encouraging note or extending people a simple "Thank you." As Saint Mother Theresa used to recommend, "Do little things with great love."
2) We need to act shrewdly, to step into the future with confidence -- not in ourselves or our abilities, but in the power and grace of God. The manager in Jesus's story used all his resources to secure his future. We must be no less resourceful. At our disposal we have hope in God's justice, faith in God's assistance, and trust in God's grace. We have church services and sacraments as sources of divine grace, the Holy Bible for daily meditation and practice, and the Spirit-guided Church to direct us. We need to use these best possible resources in such a way that it will be said of us, "And the master commended them because they acted so shrewdly."

3) We need to be prepared to give an account of our lives. We are all stewards of what God has entrusted to us. We prepare ourselves for all kinds of things, but do we care enough for our souls? "... we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil" (II Corinthians 5:10). Thus, the only thing that will count in our favor is the testimony of those who will say, "Lord, when I was really in need, he gave to me at cost to him-self." The time for us to appear before God at the end of our life is the moment of divine justice

Meeting set to explore housing needs in south Morrow County

The community is invited to join ECONorthwest and the cities of Heppner, Lexington and Ione at a meeting September 19 from 4-6 p.m. at the Gilliam & Bisbee Building, 106 E. May St. in Heppner to "explore the barriers to housing development in the Willow Creek Valley and interventions the cities can take to overcome them."

According to a flyer, "The cities of Ione, Lexington and Heppner are struggling to produce enough housing that meets the needs of current and future residents. Among

other barriers, the cities lack infrastructure capacity and developer capacity to accommodate new housing development.

"Morrow County and the cities of Ione, Lexington and Heppner are working with ECONorthwest to develop a Housing Implementation Plan that will provide a set of interventions that the cities can pursue to address these housing needs."

For more information contact city hall or Tamra Mabbott, Morrow County Planning Director, at (541)922-4624.

Ione High School Graduate Chosen to Intern in Washington, D.C.

Morgan Orem, a 2018 graduate of Ione High School and an Agricultural Communications & Journalism major at Texas A&M University, recently began a fall 2022 internship in Washington, D.C. Morgan will spend the fall as an integral part of the National Council of Farmers Cooperatives.

Morgan is one of seven students selected for an internship through the Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy (ANRP) Internship Program at Texas A&M University. Morgan's duties include monitoring legislation, attending committee hearings and briefings, and preparing reports for senior staff members. Morgan is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Eric and Brandi Orem.

"The ANRP Internship Program is one of few in the nation specifically geared toward transforming today's agricultural students into

tomorrow's leaders," said Stephanie Webb, director of the ANRP Internship Program. "Through this opportunity, students use what they have learned in the classroom in a professional work setting. Not only will this D.C. experience be attractive to future employers, but our students are also providing valuable assistance to the offices in which they intern." • The program is in its 32nd year of sending students to Washington, D.C. to work in congressional offices and other agricultural organizations. Since its inception, more than 1,100 Aggies have participated in the program. Each student receives course credit for their internship as well as a scholarship in the form of housing, which is partly supported by private donors and commodity organizations. To learn more about Morgan and her experiences, visit the program's website at atup.tannt.edu.

Justice Court Report

Cameron R. Sweeney, 43 YRO, Heppner, OR: VBR, \$165.00

Matthew J. Sheehan, 42 YRO, Atherton, CA: VBR, \$165.00

Skyler J. Hawks, 25 YRO Heppner, OR: DWS, \$440.00

Skyler J. Hawks, 25 YRO Heppner, OR: Driving Uninsured, \$265.00

Valentin Macias Hernandez, 39 YRO Heppner, OR: VBR, \$65.00

Chrylee A. Price, 54 YRO Boring, OR: VBR, \$165.00

Over the Tea Cup

Ten women turned out for a warm day of golf at the Willow Creek Country Club Ladies Play Day September 6. Virginia Grant was low gross of the field, Kris Lindner took low net of the field and Pat Edmundson, least putts of the field. Carol Mitchell, Pat Dougherty and Betty Carter were low gross. Sharon Harrison was low net. Pat Edmundson had a chip-in on #18. In special events, Pat Dougherty and Kris Lindner had add putts on #12. The worst score on #18 went to Kris Lindner.

The Eddie Skow event will be held on September 13.

Over The Tee Cup

Results for the Ladies Play Day on September 13 are as follows:

Low Gross of the field-Virginia Grant; Low Net of the Field-Betty Carter.

Low gross: Flight B-Pat Edmundson, Flight C-Kris Lindner.

Birdies: Virginia Grant on #10.

The Eddi Skow championship winter was Virginia Grant.

Coming events include a play date, a meeting and a luncheon.

Obituaries

Kenneth Monroe Howard, age 87, of Heppner, Oregon passed away peacefully on September 8, 2022 from heart failure. Kenneth was born on July 21, 1935 in Tonkawa, Oklahoma to Walter Augustus and Myrtle Francis (aka Verda Pearl) (Griffith) Howard. Kenneth was the 4th of 8 children and was the last survivor of all of his siblings.

When Kenneth was in his mid-teens he moved to Oregon to live with his aunt and uncle. He worked for many local farmers and ranchers before enlisting in the Marines on September 30, 1955. Kenneth spent four years in the Marines and then returned to Heppner. He married his first wife Carolyn in 1960, and they had four children - Kenneth Lee, Craig Stephen, Tammy Marie, and Matthew Shane. They later divorced and he married Maureen in 1979, who brought four children with her - William Jay, Lynn Dee, Dawna Ann, and Scott Ray. Kenneth and Maureen had their final child together, Stormy Jo, in 1979. This made a family of nine children. It was definitely a motley crew at times, but it was never about DNA for Kenneth, it was simply being a great dad, and he was the best to all nine of them.

Kenneth was known to many by a host of names: Kenneth, Kenny, Ken, but his most important names were dad and grandpa. With nine kids there were numerous grandkids that followed, and great grandkids; he loved them all, and even some that called him grandpa who had no relationship with the family; he simply loved kids.

Kenneth spent most of his working life at the Kinzua Mill. When he wasn't working, you could find him in his woodshop building all sorts of wooden furniture. It was a hobby he loved. Along with his woodwork he loved attending all of his kids and grandkids functions. He was involved with taking his kids to wranglers and rodeos, and never missed a game for any of the kids whether it be football, vol-



Kenneth Monroe Howard

leyball, basketball, baseball, softball, rodeo, etc. He was always there to cheer them on. When he could find spare time, he had a passion for fishing and hunting with his sons and grandsons, and he may have enjoyed a beer or two now and then! His family meant everything to him, and there was a lot of family to love. He leaves a huge hole in the hearts of his family.

Kenneth is survived by his wife, Maureen Howard; son Kenny Lee (Tami) Howard; son Jay Devin; son Craig Howard; daughter Lynn Dee (Bink) Ramos; daughter Tammy (Dan) Bortvit; daughter Dawna (Cliff) Dougherty; son Matt (Derina) Howard; son Scott (Amber) Davis; daughter Stormy (Brad) Duncan. Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents and all of siblings.

A special thank you to all of the staff at Guardian Angel Homes assisted living facility in Hermiston. They cared for dad as if he was truly their dad/grandpa, we couldn't have asked for a better place, or care team, to help him in his last year of life.

A celebration of life is scheduled for September 24, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Gilliam and Bisbee Building, 106 E May St., Heppner, Oregon.

Contributions may be made in Kenneth's memory to Guardian Angel Homes, 540 NW 12th St., Hermiston, OR 97838.

Arrangements are with Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner.

THE WEEKLY SHOPPER
September 16th, 2022
BiMart, Safeway & Panda Inn
The Bus Will Pickup Passengers at Requested Addresses Within City/Town Limits
the loop **541.676.5667**

**25TH ANNUAL
ELKS LODGE CHARITY
GOLF TOURNAMENT**
SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2021
**AT WILLOW CREEK GOLF COURSE
IN HEPPNER, OR**
REGISTRATION 7:45 A.M.
TEE-OFF 9:00 A.M.
COST- \$40.00 PER GOLFER
PROCEEDS BENEFIT CASEY EYE CLINIC
BRING YOUR OWN CART- \$7.00 TRAIL FEE
RENT A CART- \$20:00
TO REGISTER CALL
KELLY 541-980-2948
MARVIN 541-256-0109



HEPPNER ELKS 358

"WHERE FRIENDS MEET"

541-676-9181 142 N MAIN ST

Ione Community Church
Ione, Oregon

Now! 10:00 am through Labor Day
"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24"

ATTENTION HUNTERS!!

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants pictures of your trophy animals! Stop by 188 W Willow Street in Heppner, email - editor@rapidservice.net upload at heppner.net or text photos to 541-980-6674.

