INTERFAITH VOICES

Give thanks in this and all seasons

The beautiful shades of green of our gorgeous Willamette Valley are now accented with dramatic yellows, oranges and reds. Every time I go outside, I am in awe of the beauty around

The color changes inform us that the Thanksgiving holiday is



fast approaching. This season is one of my favorites and causes me to reflect more on the great blessings in my life.

In the Bible, we are commanded to show our gratitude to the Lord. Psalm

50:14 says, "Offer unto God thanksgiving." Psalm 147:7 instructs us to "Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving, sing praise upon the harp unto our God."

Paul counsels the Corinthians to express thanksgiving to God (2 Corinthians 9:11) and teaches in Colossians 2:7 that we should be

ABOUT INTERFAITH VOICES

The weekly "Interfaith Voices" column includes a regular rotation of writers representing the broad spectrum of spiritual voices throughout the mid-valley. The column is coordinated by the Reverend Barbara Nixon, who can be emailed at revbabs2000@gmail.com.

"Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith ... abounding therein with thanksgiving."

In the Book of Mormon, we are counseled to "live in thanksgiving daily, for the many mercies and blessings, which (God) doth bestow upon you" (Alma 34:38).

Bonnie D. Parkin, former general president of the Relief Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teaches us that gratitude requires awareness and effort, not only to feel it, but to express it.

Gratitude, she says, "Opens our minds to a universe permeated with the richness of a living God. Through it, we become spiritually aware of the wonder of the smallest things, which

gladden our hearts with their messages of God's love. This grateful awareness heightens our sensitivity to divine direction.

"When we communicate gratitude, we can be filled with the Spirit and connected to those around us and the Lord. Gratitude inspires happiness and carries divine influence."

Russell M. Nelson, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 2017 until his recent passing in September of 2025, taught us that "counting our blessings is far better than recounting our problems."

He taught that gratitude can bring peace even in times of trial or suffering and that being thankful is something that can

lift our hearts and strengthen our faith. He said, "No matter our situation, showing gratitude for our privileges is a fast-acting and long-lasting spiritual prescription."

As I think over my life and the many blessings I have been given, I realize that I haven't expressed thanks to God and to others as earnestly as I should have.

I have taken for granted the sacrifices of my parents to give me a warm and safe home where I was able to grow and learn.

I certainly haven't said thank you often enough to my husband for all he does for me.

The countless acts of service from friends and family over my lifetime have been happily received but not always acknowledged with gratitude.

I often pray to Heavenly Father and ask for blessings, but less often offer a prayer of gratitude for the tender answers to my pleadings and for the blessings he sends.

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, I am committing to change. I want to show my gratitude better and live with a thankful heart. I will try to recognize the things in my life that I should be grateful for and express that gratitude in many ways. I will mail more thank you cards. I will write more text messages saying thank you. I will speak with more gratitude and try to demonstrate my thankfulness in deeds as well as words. And to my Heavenly Father, I will offer more prayers of gratitude for my many blessings and for the matchless gift of His divine Son.

Kellie Weber is a wife, mother, grandmother, friend, volunteer, unpublished children's book author, avid reader and an enthusiastic but inexpert gardener and chicken keeper. She and her husband, Lee, raised seven sons just outside Lebanon. They attend The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Sweet Home.

Time capsule found at Utah church

HANNAH SCHOENBAUM **Associated Press**

SALT LAKE CITY - A historian's hunch about what walls of a Japanese church in Salt Lake City led congregants to uncover a century-old snapshot of a once vibrant Japantown now fighting for survival.

Elders at the 101-year-old Japanese Church of Christ – one of two remaining buildings in the city's Japantown - drilled through brick, concrete and rebar to extract a metal box from the building's cornerstone. Its contents tell the stories of early Japanese immigrants to an area now overtaken by urban sprawl.

Community members got their first look at the artifacts last weekend, pulling from reads: "To Lois Hide from ries of walking the streets the box hand-sewn flags, Bibles and local newspapers in both English and Japanese, the church's articles of refuge." Also in the box was other Japanese-owned busiincorporation and a sheet of an English-language Bible

glitter-trimmed paper with placed in the time capsule by the handwritten names of its Sunday school teachers.

"You see the thoughts, the might be hidden within the hopes and the faith of people from a community over 100 years ago. What they hoped for is still continuing to happen in the heart of Salt Lake City," the Rev. Andrew Fleishman said in an inter-

The Japanese-language Bible was given to founding member Lois Hide Hashimoto by her mother when she left her home country of Japan for the U.S. in the early 1900s. More than a century later, Hashimoto's grandchildren, Joy Douglass and Ann Pos, held her Bible for the first time.

her mother when she started to America. 20th June, 1906. 'The Lord is our strength and cleaners, restaurants and

their father, a then-13-yearold Eddie Hashimoto.

Members of the Presbyterian church knew their chapel was dedicated in the fall of 1924 but did not know the exact date, Nov. 2, until they opened the time capsule. It was discovered when Lorraine Crouse, a third-generation member and former historian at the University of Utah, pointed out that time capsules were popular at the time of the church's construction. A radar scan later confirmed the presence of a trapezoidal box encased in the concrete foundation.

For Lynne Ward, a church elder, seeing the contents A handwritten inscription evoked childhood memoof a bustling Japantown full of fish markets, hotels, dry

RELIGION CALENDAR

Sunday service: Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 2650 NW Highland Drive in Corvallis, will share God's Word and Holy Communion at 9 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, both in the sanctuary and via livestream worship at www.svlccorvallis.org and facebook.com/ shepherdcorvallis.

Pastor Eric Bohlmann leads the worship service as we celebrate God, given words of courage, ref-All Saints Sunday. Shepherd of the Valley is a place of personal and group well-being, inviting you to find rest and renewal in Jesus Christ.

Fellowship time will immediately follow the worship service. Multi-gen Bible Study and Sunday School for younger children both begin at 10:30 a.m. and offer an opportunity for further study of Jesus' teachings and how we can apply them daily.

Multi-gen Bible study will further develop the themes from the worship service and the founda- at 10:15 a.m. tional goodness that comes from the Son of God.

Shepherd of the Valley is fully

accessible. **Sunday worship:** First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW Monroe Ave. in Corvallis, will hold a worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 16, in person and at facebook. com/CorvallisFUMC/live. This Sunday Blessed/Broken.

We are invited into the presence of uge from trouble, healing of memory, forgiveness of sins. Luke 16 And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke them and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. 17 And all ate and were filled, and what was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

Baha'i devotions and dis**cussion:** Stories from the Life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Part III is set for 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Nov. 16. via Zoom. The Zoom room will open

Join us for a third set of stories taken from a short anthology. This

selection includes the oft-repeated story of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's service to the Palestinian community during the blockade in the WWI years. 'Abdu'l-Bahá', the Son of the Founder of the Bahá'í Faith, Bahá'u'lláh, reached out to his community in Haifa, in ways large and small tending to the ill, providing blankets and warm clothing during the bitter Palestinian winters, and showing by his example how the Baha'is should act.

These stories, collected in "Vignettes from the Life of 'Abdu-I-Baha," provide glimpses of his humor, his kindness and wisdom, and his simplicity. Please join us in reading stories and discussing the life of a man who so clearly lived a life of service to others.

All are welcome to enjoy fellowship, readings, and discussion. Please visit: https://tinyurl. com/2ejv7cth, where you will find a copy of readings for Sunday and a Zoom link to join the meeting.

MID-VALLEY W RSHIP DIRECTOR THE CHURCH OF JESUS **EPISCOPAL MENNONITE**

CORVALLIS

ANGLICAN

Light of Christ Anglican 2650 NW Highland Drive, Corvallis

(inside Shepherd of the Valley Bldg.)

Fr. Scott Browning Sunday Service: 10:30 am in person and on Zoom

Our website https://corvallis-anglican.org has the zoom link and other information.

BAHA'I

Baha'is of the Mid-Willamette Valley

Devotional gatherings at various times. Visit https://linnbenton.local.bahai.us/activities/

meetings-pray-and-meditate for contact information, or phone 541-753-5752 in Corvallis or 541-929-9448 in Philomath. For information on the Baha'i Faith in the U.S. see https://www.bahai.us/.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist

17th & Van Buren, Corvallis Sunday Service: 10 am Sunday School: 10 am Wednesday Eve. Meeting: 7:30 pm www.christiansciencecorvallis.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST Circle Church of Christ

2020 NW Circle Blvd. • Corvallis 541-758-4456 Wes Hanson, Minister Josh Stutzman, Campus Minister Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 am a cappella Worship: 10:30 am . Singing & Scripture 5 pm • Wed Evening: 7 pm

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

First Christian Church, Corvallis 602 SW Madison Ave, 541-753-2671

Matt Gordon, Pastor

heartofcorvallis.org/livestream

Sunday Worship: 10 am live and streaming

Church of the Good Samaritan

333 NW 35th St. Corvallis 541-757-6647

goodsamcorvallis.org/

8 am Rite I Service, and 10:30 am Rite II Service with live-stream viewing available through our website. All are welcome.

LUTHERAN

Beautiful Savior Evangelical

Lutheran Church

2605 NW 13th St. . Corvallis 541-757-8953 • Luke Tembreull, Pastor Worship - 10:15 am • Bible Study - 9 am pastor@corvallislutherans.org

Grace Lutheran Church ELCA

435 NW 21st St. . Corvallis 541-757-1600 Pastor, Remy Remmers

www.corvallislutherans.org

Worship services in person at 10:00 am. For Livestream service on Youtube

Go to; www.grace97330.org

Peace Lutheran Church 2540 Applegate • Philomath 541-929-5504 • Jeremy Lucke, Pastor

peaceinphilomath.com Sunday School, all ages, 9 am Adult Bible Study 8:30 am; Worship Service, 10 am. Worship available online at

www.peaceinphilomath.com or on our Facebook site. Also available on YouTube

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, LCMS 2650 NW Highland Dr. - Pr. Eric Bohlmann

www.svlc-corvallis.org - 541-753-2816 9:00 am worship in-person and online 10:30 am Multigenerational Bible Study See our website for links and more info

Zion Lutheran Church Missouri Synod 2745 NW Harrison Blvd. • Corvallis 541-757-0946 • Ted Schaefer, Pastor www.proaxis.com/~zion Sunday Worship: 9 & 11 am Education Hour: 10 am

Wednesday Worship: 6:30 pm

Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship

Westminster House 101 NW 23rd St., Corvallis 541-754-5388

Sunday Worship - 10:30 am See the website for schedule exceptions and other information. www.corvallismennonite.org

METHODIST

First United Methodist Church 1165 NW Monroe Ave. • Corvallis

541-752-2491 www.corvallisfumc.org

Online and in-person service starts at 9:30.

https://www.facebook.com/CorvallisFUMC/live/ Rev. Heather Seman All are welcome here!

NON DENOMINA

Village Christian Church

Find hope and real connection, even now. Online and in-person groups for all. www.avillage.cc infor@avillage.cc

facebook/I

PRESBYTERIAN Calvin Presbyterian Church (EPC)

1736 NW Dixon St., Corvallis 541-757-8021 • calvin-church.org

Pastor Zach Washburn 9 am Sunday School for all ages; 10 am Worship

First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) 114 SW 8th St., Corvallis

541-753-2228 10 am Sunday Worship, in person and streaming at

www.1stpres.org 11am virtual coffee hour Follow us: www.Facebook.com/1stCorvallis

Westminster Presbyterian Church (OPC) 5005 NW Highland Dr. • Corvallis 541-753-4504, Minister: Pastor Charles Williams

Williams.1@opc.org www.wpcorvallis.org Sunday Worship: 11 am & 5 pm

CHRIST

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

se habla español

Come worship Jesus Christ each Sunday with us To find the Church near you, please visit: https://www.ChurchofJesusChrist.org/ComeUntoChrist/ Belong?lang=eng For more info:

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 2945 NW Circle Blvd. Corvallis 541-752-5218

www.ChurchofJesusChrist.org

The Rev. Jill McAllister Sunday Worship Service: 10 am Visit www.uucorvallis.org for information.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

(CONGREGATIONAL) First Congregational UCC 4515 SW West Hills Road Corvallis, OR 97333 Sunday worship 10:30 am

www.corvallisucc.org



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