

Things To Ponder: The Lord is Good

By Grant Williams

Hardly a day goes by that a good dose of encouragement is not a welcome blessing to our heart. In the Old Testament book of Nahum, the prophet assures Israel that God is their friend. Nineveh, their mighty enemy threatened their safety and the Lord tells them through Nahum in chapter 1 verse 7, “The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him, but with an overwhelming flood he will make an end of Nineveh; he will pursue his foes into the darkness.” The God who made that promise over 2,000 years ago is the same God who wants to be your friend today.

In the New Testament John records the words of Jesus in chapter 10:14, “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me-just as the Father knows me and I know the Father-and I lay down my life for the sheep.” Jesus proved He was not only good, but the right person to put their (our) trust in. He laid down His life and rose from the dead to prove He had the message of hope they (we) need to face uncertain times. Their world, just like ours, was filled with turmoil, fear, and questions about the future. Jesus gave them the answers they longed for. Their fears about death and dying where softened by His post crucifixion appearances. Faith in God provides the safest refuge possible because it offers

us hope of deliverance from our greatest enemy, death. Death is not a pleasant subject but a reality everyone must face.

In John 10:9-10 Jesus assures us that He cares for us by declaring, “I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and live it to the full.” In these tumultuous times it is truly a comfort to know that God has provided the shelter from the storm we so desperately need. The Jews of old were in jeopardy of being destroyed by an outside culture. Today we face being consumed by our own culture which has become to a large degree deaf to spiritual enrichment. The Good Shepherd offers us the peace we need to live without paranoia concerning these days that make us feel upside down sometimes.

One of the greatest comforts Nahum shared with his people was the assurance that their enemy would be utterly destroyed. We can also be confident that our enemy the Devil has also been defeated and will one day be taken out of commission and no longer harass God’s people. Have you put your faith in God’s answer, Jesus Christ, for today’s ultimate questions? He patiently waits for your response! He not only offers life for today, but for eternity in His presence.

Readers Lend Their Voices...

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To the Editor,

This November voters in Columbia County get to choose our next circuit court judge. Circuit court judges deal with all areas of the law on a daily basis, including all types of civil cases as well as criminal cases. Many of the cases involve powerful interests litigating against low or moderate income families or individuals. In all these cases, it helps if our judges are personally experienced and knowledgeable, as well as fair and concerned about providing justice.

There are two candidates in this race: Cathleen Callahan and Jean Martwick. Martwick was appointed by Governor Kitzhaber on a temporary basis, until the people could make their own choice by election. Martwick’s experience is almost exclusively in criminal law.

In contrast, Cathleen Callahan has been a real people’s lawyer. Not only has she had a very diverse law practice that reflects the legal needs of the majority of Columbia County folks, but she has also been extremely generous in offering her services free through Columbia County Legal Aid (CCLA), including at law clinics and other programs providing legal help to needy folks. Cathleen has served on the CCLA board of directors, and when the State threatened to close down Columbia County’s local legal aid program, Cathleen played a leading role ensuring that services would continue to be available and convenient

to Columbia County’s low income community.

I hope you’ll join me in electing Cathleen Callahan to the bench. We deserve a judge who cares.

Madelynne Sheehan
Scappoose, OR

To the Editor,

I am one of the 70+% that travels out of County every day for work. Local family wage jobs are scarce in our County. I spend an hour in the morning commuting to work and an hour each night coming home. I do this so I can support my family, but this comes with the human cost; I lose over 40 hours a month in time I could be spending with my family or helping my community. And the monetary cost of paying for that travel; these are dollars that I cannot spend in the community.

If the price for a local family wage job is having to wait 5 minutes once in a while for a train, that certainly is a no-brainer for me. As a trade off it would save me huge hours in travel time and dollars spent.

I know we all like to live here, but for our community to thrive, we need the local jobs and the taxes paid by the local industry to support our community. And let’s face the facts, for industry to want to move here, it’s going to have to be because of the rail or the river, because our communities in Columbia County are on a highway to nowhere and 35 miles off the I-5 corridor. It is a big expense for a company trying to ship their product to market.

Derek Reinholdt
St. Helens



Bridge Street Bits

IMPORTANT HEALTH CARE INFO: Health Net Medicare Advantage Plan is leaving Columbia,County. For additional information on health care plans call Michelle Moore at Columbia City Benefits Group. 503-987-1809

Michelle will be at the Vernonia Senior Center on the following dates:
Oct. 22 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM Blue Cross
Oct. 29 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM Blue Cross
Nov. 12 10:00 AM Blue Cross

Also, Beth Moffett will be speaking at the Vernonia Senior Center on October 15th from 12:30- 1:30 PM on Medicare and the new health insurance changes.

THE SENIOR CENTER IS LOOKING FOR volunteer Meals on Wheels Drivers. Background check required. Call 503-429-3912.

Vernonia Senior Center
446 Bridge Street 503-429-3912

Vernonia Veterinary Clinic

Small and Large Animals



Now Open

Mon, Wed & Saturday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Call for Appointments
(503) 429-1612

Or 24 hr. Emergency Number (503) 397-6470
700 Weed Ave. Vernonia, OR

Church Directory (in alphabetical order)

Assembly of God

Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Morning Worship: 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Prayer: 6:00 PM
Wayne Marr, Pastor
662 Jefferson Avenue
503-429-0373

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Sunday Schedule:
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 AM
Sunday School & Primary: 11:20 AM
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women: 12:10 PM
Roger Cook, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
503-429-7151

Covenant Church Vernonia

Sunday School: 9:45 AM

Worship Service: 11:00 AM

Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 7:00 PM

John D. Murray, Pastor

359 “A” Street

503-860-3860

Grace Family Fellowship

Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Thursday Prayer: 6:00 PM
Greg “Mac” McCallum, Pastor
957 State Avenue
503-429-6790
www.gracefamilyfellowship.org

Nehalem Valley Bible Church

Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 10:45 AM
Wed. Ladies Bible Study: 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service: 7:00 PM
Sat. Men’s Prayer Meeting: 6:30 AM

Gary Taylor, Pastor

Grant & North Streets

503-429-5378

Open Door Gathering Place

Service: Sunday 6:00 PM
Grant Williams, Pastor
375 North Street
St. Mary’s Catholic Church
Wednesday Religious Education:
3:15-4:30 PM

Sunday Mass: 12:00 PM
Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator
960 Missouri Avenue
503-429-8841

Vernonia Christian Church

Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service in Youth & Family Center: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org

Sam Hough, Pastor

410 North Street

503-429-6522

Vernonia Foursquare Church

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Children’s Sunday School
Carl Pense, Pastor
850 Madison Avenue
503-429-1103

Vernonia Seventh-day Adventist Church

Sabbath (Saturday) Services
Sabbath School: 9:30 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaSDAC.org
Larry Gibson, Pastor
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
503-429-8301