

RELIGION BRIEFS

Star of the Sea

The St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 1465 Grand Ave., is hosting the Sacrament of Confirmation at 5 p.m. Sunday. All are welcome to attend this special occasion as the parish's high school youth receive this sacrament.

On Wednesday, there is a Spirit and Song Concert from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Pius Church, 1280 N.W. Saltzman Road in Beaverton. There is no cost. The concert is sponsored by the Oregon Catholic Press in the Archdiocese of Portland.

Catholic young men ages 13-18 are invited to attend Quo Vadis Days camp from June 22-25 at Camp Howard. Quo Vadis Days is sponsored by the Office of Vocations and is led by priests and seminarians of the archdiocese. The cost is \$50. Scholarships are available for those in financial need. To register, go to www.qvdays.org

For information about St. Mary, Star of the Sea Parish, call 503-325-3671 or go to www.st-maryastoria.com

Our Saviour's Lutheran

SEASIDE — Our Saviour's Lutheran Church presents "Song, Scripture and Sacrament" from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Suzanne Elise Assisted Living, 101 Forest Drive in Seaside. All are welcome.

For information, call the church at 503-738-6791.

Great Vow Zen

CLATSKANIE — The Great Vow Zen Monastery, located at 79640 Quincy-Mayger Road in Clatskanie, is holding a Beginner's Mind Weekend Retreat from 5 p.m. June 5 to 1 p.m. June 7.

During this weekend a monastic schedule is followed. All elements of a meditation retreat are covered, including basic meditation techniques, posture, breathing, formal meals, and dealing with obstructions.

The cost is \$150 (\$120 for Zen Community of Oregon; a \$75 reduced rate available to those in need) plus donation.

For details, call 503-728-0654 or email registrar@great-vow.org. Register online at www.zendust.org/event/beginners-mind-jun-2015

Grace Episcopal

Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin Ave., celebrates

the Feast of Pentecost at both the 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday services. Those attending are invited to wear red, and encouraged to bring red food to share following the 10 a.m. service.

Sunday is also Hunger Awareness Sunday, and there is an ingathering for the Hunger Ministries at Grace, with both monetary and nonperishable food items requested.

The monthly Community Dinner is being served in the Parish Hall at 4 p.m. Sunday, free of charge.

For information, call the church at 503-325-4691 or go to www.graceastoria.org

Bethany Free Lutheran

The youth group at Bethany Free Lutheran Church, 451 34th St., is holding a rummage sale starting a 9 a.m. Saturday in the church parking lot. A bake sale will be going on, as well. The rummage sale contains a wide variety of items, including furniture, kitchenware, clothes, electronics and more. Funds raised at the sale will be used to pay expenses of a summer trip to the Free Lutheran Youth national convention in Estes Park, Colo.

Bethany begins its summer schedule Sunday. There is no Sunday school during the summer, but Sunday morning worship services continue to be held at 11 a.m.

For information, call 503-325-2925.

Astoria First United Methodist

The Astoria First United Methodist Church, 1076 Franklin Ave., is holding a Day of Pentecost Worship Service at 11 a.m. Sunday. The video presentation is "Find Truth in the Little Picture?" taken from Phillip Yancey's book, "Vanishing Grace." This is the fifth part of the series, and is led by Stephen Morden. The greeter is Charlie Clark. All are welcome.

The church is handicapped-accessible, and there is off-street parking in the lot on the opposite corner. Children are invited to the sanctuary for crafts and treats. Coffee and refreshments are being served by Gloria Jones after the worship service.

For information, call the church office at 503-325-5454 or go to www.unitedmethodistastoria.org

Pope Francis to bishops: Stop ordering faithful around, fight graft

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis is giving marching orders to his bishops, telling them to strongly denounce corruption and to act more like pastors than "pilots" ordering the faithful around.

Francis had strong words for members of the Italian bishops' conference, which opened its annual meeting at the Vatican on Monday. Francis, who is also the bishop of Rome, urged bishops to be more like Christ in showing humility, compassion, mercy and wisdom.

He also complained that the Catholic Church often organizes conferences where "the same voices" are heard over and over, an apparent reference to the practice of hosting only like-minded speakers.

Francis said such a practice "drugs the community, homogenizing choices, opinions and people." He urged bishops to instead go "where the Holy Spirit asks them to go."

Senate adds religious freedom to trade bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate has voted unanimously to require U.S. negotiators to take religious freedom into account in any country taking part in trade talks.

The amendment sponsored by Sen. Jim Lankford was added Monday to objectives outlined in major trade legislation sought by President Barack Obama. The Oklahoma Republican said the United States should "lead with our values and not sell out for a dollar the people who have been in bondage as a prisoner of conscience for years."

The trade bill sets parameters under which the administration could negotiate trade deals that Congress could then approve or reject, but not change. Obama is seeking the "fast-track" authority to complete a Trans-Pacific trade deal with 11 other countries along the Pacific rim.

Lankford's office says if



L'Osservatore Romano/Pool Photo via AP

Pope Francis waves during the opening session of an Italian Episcopal Conference meeting, at the Vatican, Monday.

the trade bill becomes law, it would be the first time that religious freedom considerations are a requisite for trade talks with other countries.

Belfast baker found guilty of 'gay cake' snub

DUBLIN (AP) — A Christian-owned bakery in Northern Ireland has been found guilty of discrimination for refusing to make a cake bearing the slogan "Support Gay Marriage."

Belfast Judge Isobel Brownlie ruled that the bakery's cancellation of the order was "direct discrimination for which there can be no justification." She said the bakery was a business, not a religious organization, and therefore had no legal basis to reject an order based on a customer's sexual orientation or beliefs.

The judge ordered the family-run Ashers Bakery to pay Lee the equivalent of \$775 and legal costs, which have run into the tens of thousands.

Ashers Bakery initially accepted Lee's order but called him two days later to cancel it, citing the bakery owners' Christian beliefs. Lee had wanted the cake to depict "Sesame Street" characters Bert and Ernie alongside the pro-gay marriage slogan.

The bakery owners' son, Daniel McArthur, said their family would refuse to make the cake if asked again.

Lawmakers pass child-support bill nixed by Shariah concern

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The Idaho Legislature has approved federally mandated child support rules, undoing a rejection that had jeopardized U.S. involvement in an international treaty and threatened to collapse the state's payment system.

The bill was sent to Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, who said he'd sign it into law.

Idaho residents testified for several hours before a joint panel considering the measure in a special legislative session Monday.

Supporters characterized the bill as a simple rules update. But opponents called it an unconstitutional overreach by federal authorities that could subject U.S. courts to rulings made elsewhere under Islamic law.

Much of the debate Monday focused on about \$46 million in federal funds and payment processing systems tied to the legislation. Idaho would have lost access

to both if the rejection had stood.

Delmont church members save cornerstone

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — Members of a South Dakota church that was destroyed by a tornado this month have removed the century-old building's cornerstone, which they hope to incorporate in a new church building.

The Zion Lutheran Church was among 84 structures in and around Delmont that were damaged or destroyed by the May 10 tornado that also injured nine people. The Lutheran church's congregants scheduled a short Monday morning service to officially decommission the building, and then burn the wreckage.

But Jim Kaufman told KELO-TV that he's storing the cornerstone at his farm, for use in the future to remember the old church.

On Sunday, Zion Lutheran members attended services at Emmaus Lutheran Church in nearby Tripp. The two congregations share a pastor. Delmont resident Nola Redd told The Daily Republic newspaper that the service was "one step on the long road to recovery."

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Artists and Fine Crafters Needed

The ninth annual Seaview Manor Bazaar, to be held in Seaside, OR, October 23 and 24, 2015, is seeking original artwork and fine crafts. All organizer proceeds are donated to The Harbor (formerly Clatsop County Women's Resource Center)

Contact Leanne Fernald
at fernalldk@gmail.com for more information

MEMORIAL DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

MONDAY, MAY 25TH @ 11 AM

BROADWAY BRIDGE

BY THE SEASIDE AMERICAN LEGION POST

Guest Speaker
Luke Thomas
County Service Officer

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