

## RELIGION BRIEFS

### Society of Friends

SEAVIEW, Wash. — The Lower Columbia Worship Group of the Society of Friends (Quaker) meets at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Peninsula Church Center Fire-side Room (south building), 5000 N Place. This is a "silent" (unprogrammed) worship group. All are welcome to visit and participate. For information, call 503-895-7474.

### Cannon Beach Community

CANNON BEACH — Cannon Beach Community Church, 132 E. Washington St., holds an Evensong service at 6 p.m. the first and third Sunday of the month. All are welcome.

Evensong features Wes Warhund (guitar, flute and clarinet) and meditative songs, Psalms, readings, candlelight and time for quiet reflection.

For information, call the church at 503-436-1222.

### Interfaith Partnership

SEASIDE — The South County Interfaith Partnership meets at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Pig 'N Pancake, 323 Broadway, to foster better understanding among faith practitioners and to nurture one another in spirit. All faiths are welcome. For information, call Ann Souvenir at 503-738-0200.

### Peace Lutheran

Peace Lutheran Church, 565 12th St., is holding Free Music Meditation Services during Advent. Bring a brown bag lunch between 12:15 and 1 p.m. Wednesday, and enjoy the music offered in the church sanctuary. This week's artist is organist Vincent Jones-Centeno, and the theme is "The Angel Speaks to the Shepherds' Curiosity" (Luke 2:8-20).

Jones-Centeno, a conductor, educator and performer, is the co-founder and artistic director of the Junction City Arts Council in Oregon, and the music director of Cascadia Concert Opera. He is the new organist and music director of the historic Grace Episcopal Church, and pianist of the St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church and the Astor Street Opry Company.

### Astoria Christian Church

Astoria Christian Church, 1151 Harrison Ave., is holding a Community Christmas Carol Sing at 4 p.m. Sunday to benefit the Clatsop Emergency Food Bank. A collection of food items for the food bank will be held, but it is suggested that those attending bring money that equals or exceeds what would have brought in goods instead, as the food bank can make a dollar go further at the stores.

The Astoria Christian Church has issued a challenge: The first \$500 donated will be met, dollar-for-dollar, up to that amount. All donations go to the food bank.

Free hot cider and popcorn are being



Submitted Photo

Four sets of twins currently attend Grace Episcopal Preschool, normally on different days, but on Fridays, all four sets are there at the same time. Pictured, from left, Ella and Ava Feeney, Cam and Gus Bornstein, Nora and Leon Ward, Nathan and Shannon Fitzpatrick. Also shown is their teacher, Denise Raihala.

provided by the church after the Carol Sing.

For information, call 503-325-2591.

### Cannon Beach Bible Church

CANNON BEACH — The Cannon Beach Bible Church video production ministry has announced the release of "The Jesus Always Devotional — Should You RUN?" This 47-minute video examines the new Jesus Always devotional by Sarah Young, comparing it with scripture.

The video, which also provides an overview of what the "Jesus Always" devotion is teaching, is available to watch at [www.jesusalways.us/jesus-always-video.php](http://www.jesusalways.us/jesus-always-video.php)

### St. Mary, Star of the Sea

For nine days before Christmas, the Hispanic community gathers each night at 7 p.m. for a Posada, a remembering of the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem, involving prayer, music, food and entertainment for the children. On Tuesday it is a bilingual celebration, and is being held at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic School auditorium, 1411 Grand Ave. All are welcome.

For information, call the parish office at 503-325-3671.

### Grace Episcopal

Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and is celebrated at both the 8 and 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist services at Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin Ave., with the lighting of the fourth, and last, candle of the Advent wreath. The children of Grace are presenting a Christmas pag-

eant during the 10 a.m. service, "A Countdown to Christmas."

The annual Festival of Lessons & Carols takes place at 5 p.m. Sunday. This traditional Episcopal service alternates scripture readings with music (congregational singing and choir anthems). Grace's choir is being joined by the choir of St. Mary, Star of the Sea.

A "Concert for a Winter's Night" is at 7 p.m. Monday, presented by Jennifer Goodenberger and Shelley Loring.

The last Advent Taizé Prayer & Song service, with local musicians, is offered at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The service consists of simple repeated chants, periods of silence, prayers individual and communal, and the lighting of candles.

For information, call the church at 503-325-4691 or go to [www.graceastoria.org](http://www.graceastoria.org)

### Pacific Unitarian Universalist

The Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is holding a service at 11 a.m. Sunday at the Performing Arts Center, 588 16th St. Shannon Symonds is giving a presentation, "The Harbor — Where Violence Ends and Hope Begins."

Symonds returned to The Harbor this year to complete her 15th year working as an advocate, and continues to respond to domestic and sexual assault survivors on the scene, with law enforcement or at the hospital.

Arline LaMear is the service leader, Bob and Emily Nelson are the greeters and Peggy Coreson and Christine Yeigh are providing refreshments after the service.

For information, call 503-325-5225 or go to [www.pacuuf.org](http://www.pacuuf.org)

# County responds to shoebox appeal

Associated Press

Clatsop County responded with generosity during Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week Nov. 14-21. The event, presented by the nonprofit Samaritan's Purse, made more than 27,300 gift-filled shoeboxes for children in need around the world. According to organizers, this year's gift

collection from the area is an increase over last year's collection of 26,364 gifts.

Local residents donated shoeboxes filled with school supplies, hygiene items, notes of encouragement and toys for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization. For more information visit [Samaritanspurse.org](http://Samaritanspurse.org).

# Seaside hotelier named chain's board chairman

The Daily Astorian

Terry Bichsel, owner of the Best Western Ocean View Resort in Seaside, has been elected chairman of the hotel chain's board of directors.

Bichsel has more than 40 years of experience in hospitality and has been on Best Western Hotels & Resorts' board of directors since 2014. He represents hotel owners in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Alaska, along with Canada's western provinces.

"In the year ahead, we will build on our brand's exceptional momentum, which has positioned Best Western as an innovative company exceeding the expectations of both today and tomorrow's travelers around the world," Bichsel said in a release.

A certified hotel administrator, Bichsel started his hospitality career at an early age and became a general manager at 22 years old.



Terry Bichsel

He has worked throughout the U.S., serving as general manager of several hotels and regional vice president for others.

Bichsel has held executive management positions for John Q. Hammons Hotels Inc. in Springfield, Missouri; the parks and resorts division of Aramark Corporation in Philadelphia; and all tours and land-based operations for Holland America Line cruise ship company in Seattle. He launched his own company in 2002.

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Give your little elf  
The gift of good health.

Merry Christmas from CMH

The caregivers at Columbia Memorial Hospital would like to wish your family Happy Holidays! We would like to thank you for your support and trust in allowing us to be your children's healthcare provider.

This Holiday Season and throughout the coming year, may you and your family be surrounded with peace, joy, good health and love.

2111 Exchange Street, Astoria, Oregon • (503) 325-4321 • [www.columbiamemorial.org](http://www.columbiamemorial.org)