



The world's oldest complete copy of the Ten Commandments, written on one of the Dead Sea Scrolls in Jerusalem.

# Oldest complete copy of 10 Commandments displayed in Israel

By DANIEL ESTRIN  
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — The world's oldest complete copy of the Ten Commandments is going on rare display at Israel's leading museum in an exhibit tracing civilization's most pivotal moments. The 2,000-year-old Dead Sea Scroll, from a collection of the world's most ancient biblical manuscripts discovered near the Dead Sea east of Jerusalem, has never before been publicly displayed in Israel and has only been shown in brief exhibits abroad, said Prina Shor of the Israel Antiquities Authority. The manuscript is so brittle that it will only be on display at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem for two weeks before it is returned to a secure, pitch-black, climate-controlled storage facility there. It is one of 14 ancient objects displayed in "A Brief History of Humankind," an exhibit of historical objects spanning hundreds of thousands of years. "When you are thinking about universal law, the universal principle of ethics, ... this is the first law that comes to your mind," exhibit curator Tania Coen-Uzzielli

said. The exhibit includes tools used in an elephant hunt from 1.5 million years ago, the oldest known remains of a communal bonfire from 800,000 years ago, skulls from the oldest remains of a family burial and the world's oldest complete sickle — a 9,000-year-old object that represents the transition from hunter-gatherers to settled civilization working the land. These objects, framed in dramatically lit cases in a dark exhibition hall, all were discovered in the Holy Land, a testament to the region's central role in human history. The museum is mounting the exhibit to mark its 50th anniversary. "After only 50 years, we may be one of only a very few museums worldwide that can tell such a broad story from its own holdings," museum director James Snyder said. A 5,000-year-old Mesopotamian tablet on loan to the museum and 2,700-year-old coins from what is now Turkey, are also on display. An original handwritten manuscript of Albert Einstein's groundbreaking theory of relativity caps the exhibit.

# Chinese province to ban rooftop Christian crosses

BEIJING (AP) — A Chinese province where authorities have forcibly removed hundreds of rooftop crosses from Protestant and Catholic churches has proposed a ban on any further placement of the religious symbol atop sanctuaries. The draft, if approved, would give authorities in the eastern province of Zhejiang solid legal grounds to remove rooftop crosses. Since early 2014, Zhejiang officials have toppled crosses from more than 400 churches, sometimes resulting in violent clashes with congregation members. They have said the crosses violate building codes, but critics say the rapid growth of Christian groups have made the ruling Communist Party nervous. "The authorities have attached great importance to this religious symbol," said Zheng Leguo, a pastor from the province who now lives in the United States. "This means no more prominent manifestation of Christianity

in the public sphere." A draft of rules on religious structures released by government agencies this week says the crosses should be wholly affixed to a building facade and be no more than one-tenth of the facade's height. The symbol also must fit with the facade and the surroundings, the proposal says. The draft does not provide the rationale for the proposal. Fang Shenglan, an engineer at Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Architectural Design and Research who was involved with the research for the draft rules, confirmed that rooftop crosses would not be allowed under the proposed rules, but declined to explain why over the phone and did not immediately respond to a written request. Zhu Libin, president of a semi-official Christian association in Wenzhou, in southeastern Zhejiang, declined to comment. Calls to the provincial Christian association were unanswered Thursday.

## BRIEFLY

### Nazarene church plans park worship

HERMISTON — Bring your lawn chair, your sunglasses and be prepared to worship in the park. The Hermiston Church of the Nazarene is hosting Church in the Park Sunday, May 24 at 10:30 a.m. at Victory Square Park, 150 S.W. 10th St., Hermiston. In addition, lunch will be served after the service. Everyone is welcome. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/events/894740547232119](http://www.facebook.com/events/894740547232119) or call 541-567-3677.

### Give a helping hand

PENDLETON — The First United Methodist Church of Pendleton is accepting donations for the Helping Hand Ministry.

People are asked to place donations in the grocery cart in the church's fellowship hall, 352 E. Second St., Pendleton. Helping Hand is a partnership between CAPECO, First United Methodist Church, Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, St. Mary's Outreach, First Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church and Pendleton Church of the Nazarene. Services are for the Pendleton area and may include rent, utilities, prescriptions, food, fuel, laundry and other needs deemed necessary for self-sufficiency. The Helping Hand is located at 346 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. For more information, call 541-276-3418. For more information about making donations, contact Rev. Jim Pierce at 501-206-7121 or [preachervet@gmail.com](mailto:preachervet@gmail.com).

# HERMISTON Worshippers celebrate National Day of Prayer

By JADE MCDOWELL  
East Oregonian

Prayer and worship music filled the Hermiston High School gym Thursday as close to 200 people celebrated the National Day of Prayer.

The bilingual community event paid tribute to God and country, beginning with the Christian Motorcycle Association of America leading the group in pledging allegiance to the American flag and the Christian flag.

Preacher Angela Medina quoted 2 Chronicles 7:14 from the Bible, noting God's promise that if people would humble themselves and call on his name, "then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." She told worshippers their prayers would bless the community for decades to come.

Throughout the evening representatives from different sectors of the community prayed over each of the seven pillars of society: Government, military, media, business, education, family and church.

Rob Lovett, chairman of Hermiston's Tea Party group, started off with a prayer over the government, asking for blessings for everyone from Presi-



Members of the Glory Riders, a Christian equestrian club, sing along during a musical number at the National Day of Prayer in Hermiston.

dent Barack Obama to Governor Kate Brown to county and city officials.

"May they legislate in wisdom and truth," he prayed.

After each prayer a moment of silence ensued, allowing worshippers to add their own silent prayers for the pillar of society being blessed.

The Assembly of God Worship Team added a more vocal element to the Day of Prayer celebration,

playing worship music throughout the night and encouraging everyone to sing along.

The evening's gathering, one of many Day of Prayer events across the country, was broadcast live on the radio and online by La Ley 99.5 FM.

Contact Jade McDowell at [jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com](mailto:jmcdowell@eastoregonian.com) or 541-564-4536.

# Activist: No regrets about Muhammad cartoon contest

NEW YORK (AP) — Does Pamela Geller regret organizing the Prophet Muhammad cartoon contest that ended in gunfire?

No, she says confidently. In fact, she says, she probably saved lives by hosting the event and plans to have more just like it, with one difference: Next time, she'll be wearing a bulletproof vest.

"I will continue to speak in defense of freedom until the day I die," Geller said Thursday in an interview with The Associated Press, as a grim-looking personal security guard hovered nearby. "It's just that simple. It's not even a choice. It's a calling."

Geller has always hired armed security personnel to protect the scores of events she has spearheaded across the

nation in recent years to decry Islamic extremism. But furor over Sunday's shooting in Garland, Texas, has led to a specific threat against Geller, posted on a website related to the Islamic State group, and the New York Police Department is taking it seriously. Now she doesn't travel anywhere without protection.

Geller said she believes she saved lives by hosting the contest because the two Muslim gunmen shot to death by police would have picked another soft target and killed innocent civilians.

"Would you regret saving lives?" she asked.

A master of rhetoric and clearly comfortable in the spotlight, the 56-year-old former media execu-

tive shifts easily from charming to combative. Her critics have called the cartoon contest needlessly provocative, practically an invitation for violence. But Geller argued that any blame should be focused on extremists who can't be criticized or lampooned without resorting to violence.

"Cartoons are political critique. It's a cartoon," she said. "Is that what we want to outlaw? We want to outlaw humor? We want to outlaw comedy? If you want to know who rules over you, find out who you cannot criticize."

Her activities have prompted the Southern Poverty Law Center to add her to its extremist files, calling her "the anti-Muslim movement's most visible and flamboyant figurehead."

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

Worship with us!

<p><b>Adams Community Church</b> Duane Geyer, Pastor 140 N. Main, Adams, OR 566-9457 Worship 9 am</p>	<p><b>GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA</b> OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOOR <a href="http://www.graceandmercy.lutheran.org">www.graceandmercy.lutheran.org</a> Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (Nursery Provided) Fellowship, Refreshments &amp; Sunday School Check Out our Facebook Page or Website for More Information 541-289-4535 Tom Inch, Pastor Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church, ELCA 164 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 1108 Hermiston, Oregon 97838</p>	<p><b>St. Johns Episcopal Church</b> All People Are Welcome Scripture, Tradition and Reason Family service 9am Sunday Gladys Ave &amp; 7th Hermiston Fr. Dan Lediard, Priest. PH: 567-6672</p>	<p><b>Redeemer Episcopal Church</b> 241 SE Second St. Pendleton (541)276-3809 <a href="http://www.pendletonepiscopal.org">www.pendletonepiscopal.org</a> Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. Wednesday Worship Noon Wednesday Evening Prayer and Pot Luck 6:00 p.m. All Are Welcome</p>
<p><b>Grace Baptist Church</b> 555 SW 11th, Hermiston 567-9497 Nursery provided for all services Sunday School - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:45 AM 6:00 pm Wed Prayer &amp; Worship - 7:00 PM "Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"</p>	<p><b>FIRST CHURCH OF GOD</b> First Service @ 8:30am Second Service @ 10:30am 712 SW 27th Pendleton 541-276-1894 <a href="http://www.fcogpendleton.com">www.fcogpendleton.com</a></p>	<p><b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> -Presbyterian Church (USA)- 201 SW Dorion Ave. Pendleton Service of Worship - 10:00 am Children's Sunday School - 10:20 am Fellowship - 11:00 am <a href="http://www.pendletonpresbyterian.com">www.pendletonpresbyterian.com</a> Open Hearted...Open Minded</p>	<p><b>Come meet Jesus at PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 3202 S.W. Nye Avenue, Pendleton, OR 541-276-7590 Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 &amp; 11:00 AM Sunday Bible Classes 9:45 AM Sunday Youth Group 6:00 PM Awana Kids Club Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:00 PM K - 6th Grade (Sept-May)</p>
<p><b>FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> in Mission for Christ LCMC Bible Study.....9:00 AM Sunday Worship.....10:30 AM Red Lion Hotel (Oregon Trail Room) <a href="http://www.faithpendleton.org">www.faithpendleton.org</a></p>	<p><b>Living Word Christian Center</b> Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM Sharon Miller, Pastor 401 Northgate • Pendleton 278-8082 <a href="http://www.livingwordcc.com">www.livingwordcc.com</a></p>	<p><b>The Salvation Army</b> Center for Worship &amp; Service Sunday Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School 10:30 - Worship Service Wednesday Bible Study 5:30 Family Fellowship Meal 6:00 Bible Study COME AS YOU ARE 150 SE EMIGRANT (541)276-3369</p>	<p><b>Peace Lutheran Church</b> ELCA 210 NW 9th, Pendleton Join us Sundays 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday School &amp; Adult Class ~Come and be at Peace~ on 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday</p>
<p><b>Community Presbyterian Church</b> 14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR 922-3250 Worship: 10 AM Sunday School at 11:30</p>	<p><b>Faith Center Church</b> Worshipping God • Loving People 108 S. Main • 276-9569 Sunday School 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sr. Pastor, Ray O'Grady <a href="http://pendletonfaithcenter.org">pendletonfaithcenter.org</a></p>	<p><b>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) 215 N Main • Pendleton Ph: 541-276-5358 Web: <a href="http://www.fccpendleton.org">www.fccpendleton.org</a> Join us for 10:40am Sunday Worship with Sunday School at 9:30am. Wednesday Fellowship Meal &amp; Study Groups-Open to All Ages-at 5:15pm. Quality Nursery Care is Offered at No Charge.</p>	<p><b>New Hope Community Church</b> Ministries for the entire family 1350 S Hwy 395, Hermiston Sunday Worship Services: 9 a.m. &amp; 10:45 a.m. Classes for kids during both! Call 567-8441 Servicios en Español</p>
<p><b>a place to belong</b> Pendleton First INVITING ENRICHING INVOLVING EMPOWERING SUNDAY SERVICES AM Celebration-10:00am AM Kids Place -10:00am The Connection--6:00pm Groups for all ages: Adults, Children, Youth, &amp; College Thursdays Celebrate Recovery-6:00pm Celebration Place-6:00pm Other Groups Available Weekly For more info visit <a href="http://WWW.PENDLETONFIRST.COM">WWW.PENDLETONFIRST.COM</a> 1911 SE Court Ave 541-276-6417 Assembly of God Church</p>	<p><b>Seventh-Day Adventist Church</b> Saturday Services Pendleton 1401 SW Goodwin Place 276-0882 Sabbath School 9:20 am Worship Service 10:45 am</p>	<p><b>First United Methodist Church</b> 352 SE 2nd St., Pendleton, OR Office 276-2616 New Pastor Dr. Jim Pierce Worship Service 9:00 AM Fellowship 10:15 AM Broadcast KUMA 11:00 AM Childcare available Choir practice Sundays 8:30 AM</p>	<p><b>PILOT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 585 SW Birch, Pilot Rock, OR 97868 (541) 443-2500 <a href="http://prbconline.blogspot.com">prbconline.blogspot.com</a> Sunday School: 9:30 am Worship Service: 10:45 am Wednesday Services: Kids' Club: 6:00 pm Youth Group: 7:00 pm</p>

To share your worship times  
call Amanda Jacobs  
**541-278-2683**