

BOARDMAN'S LIMEY PASTOR

# Doctor Nestingen at Rockin' Roger's



COLIN BROWN  
Faith

Time is accelerating. The wedding hoofbeats draw closer for my son and "almost" daughter-in-law. They are in the tractor beam of the tribe of mothers and older relatives who are most willing to fuel the mad excitement. My role — that of performing the spiritual surgery of the wedding ceremony itself and providing a sermon that will be little paid attention to by the subjects of its message — trapped in a whirlwind of their own devising, is a negligible matter except to a God who loves this kind of schmaltzy story, of another new beginning of untold promise.

My stand-in on Sunday, the redoubtable Pastor Paul, my predecessor at the church, will pop out of retirement to enjoy the summer glow of the flock and stand in for me, sharing the Word in its glory as he has so many times before.

At church council last week we had discussed our challenge at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of being invitational to so many people of

different former denominations without creating barriers, boundaries or confusions. So I told the church council of my plan to meet with Dr. James Nestingen, my former professor and exemplar of orthodoxy who created so many teaching books and guides for newbies and oldies alike. My idea is to create a basic Lutheran 101 class using some of Dr. Jim's teaching materials.

I have a meeting spot with my master down in Salem at Rockin' Rogers, a 1950s-style diner that seems a great place for theology. We met yesterday, just after he arrived back from a teaching tour in Australia. The diner no longer serves liver and onions, to our chagrin, but they do a tasty pot roast.

The danger to avoid, said Nestingen, is to avoid legalism — that is to say, prevent people from having access to the means of grace, the sacraments, by statutes of complexity that raises the specter of putting law above the Gospel, and thus

thwarting God's purpose of bringing all the children of God to the table. Lutheranism is not a works-based religion and God intends his free gift to be freely available.

So, we discussed what kind of things a Lutheran 101 might look like. Dr. Jim said that the best age for a confirmation class is the fifth grade. At this age, studies had shown, a young person is more open to the holy. I have adults in my church who have not been officially confirmed but are a very holy people. I want to gift them with this simple education. I want to help folks feel that God himself wants to give more of what he has to them.

Jim said that the parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20: 1-16) is an excellent story to share, which shows that the grace we receive from God is equally the same whether we have been working in the Kingdom for a lifetime or whether we just began yesterday.

Colin Brown is pastor of the of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boardman.



AP Photo/Alik Keplicz

Faithful participating in the World Youth Days greet Pope Francis as he rides in his pope-mobile in Krakow, Poland, Thursday. The Pope is on a five-day visit to Poland which will culminate with the World Youth Day on Sunday.

# Huge crowd at Polish shrine hears pope hail their faith

CZESTOCHOWA, Poland (AP) — Pope Francis blessed hundreds of thousands of faithful Thursday at a shrine in Poland, paying tribute to a beloved native son, St. John Paul II, honoring the countless "ordinary yet remarkable" Poles who defiantly clung to their faith during Soviet-bloc communism and establishing this pontiff's drawing power in a country where being Catholic is often equated with being Polish.



Stefano Rellandini/Pool photo via AP

Pope Francis waves to a cheering crowd of faithful as he drives by in a public transportation tram he used to reach the venue of the World Youth Days in Krakow, Poland, Thursday.

Francis, who had never set foot in Eastern Europe before this week's five-day pilgrimage to Poland, gazed in apparent awe for several minutes as he studied the Jasna Gora monastery shrine's iconic image of the so-called Black Madonna. The faces of Mary and Baby Jesus in the icon — an object of veneration starting in the 14th century — are blackened by centuries of varnish and candle soot.

Pilgrimages to Jasna Gora, often by faithful trekking long distances, are part of many Polish Catholics' identity and upbringing.

Polish church officials said as many as 600,000 people flocked to the outdoor Mass at the monastery. In the evening, local church organizers in Krakow said another 500,000 faithful, young people from all around the world cheered Francis at a pep rally on a meadow in the southern city.

Vatican officials and police declined to offer any estimates.

During the pep rally, people sang and danced to lively tunes, waving flags from places as different as Tennessee and Turkey. In a gesture to the Argentine-born, tango-loving Francis, Poles devised a tango number with Polish lyrics.

"John Paul is no more, but Francis means a continuation of this great love for God that our Polish pope has given us," Marcin

Zbik, a student from the northwestern town of Police told The Associated Press.

During the morning Mass, a woman went into labor and was taken to a hospital where her daughter was delivered, said the town hall in Czestochowa, the town hosting the shrine.

At the start of the Jasna Gora Mass, the 79-year-old pope tripped and fell as he walked to the altar, but he rose quickly with help from several priests and showed no ill effects.

"There were no consequences, the pope didn't suffer, he didn't hurt himself, there was no need for a medical checkup," Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi said.

The Mass marked this year's 1,050th anniversary of Poland's acceptance of the Roman Catholic faith, a move that eventually set it apart culturally from Orthodox nations in the region. Polish President Andrzej Duda and other political leaders sat in front rows at the Mass.

"Our minds turn to so many sons and daughters of your own people, like the martyrs who made the defenseless power of the Gospel shine forth, like those ordinary yet remarkable people who bore witness to the Lord's love amid great trials," Francis said in his homily, speaking in Italian and pausing for a

priest to translate his words into Polish.

"Your own history, shaped by the Gospel, the cross and fidelity to the church, has seen the contagious power of a genuine faith, passed down from family to family, from fathers to sons and above all from mothers and grandmothers, whom we need so much to thank," he said.

Francis urged Poles to stay united even as their nation is divided over the issue of refugees and migrants, especially those who aren't Christians. At his evening pep rally, he told the young people he was confident they would "join the adventure of building bridges and knocking down walls, fences."

Walls and barbed-wire fences have sprung up in eastern and central Europe to keep those fleeing wars and hunger in the Middle East, Asia and Africa from penetrating into the heart of the European continent.

After lunch in Krakow, Francis joined some disabled young people aboard an electric tram, painted in the Vatican's yellow and white colors, for the ride to the park where the youth rally was held.

Security was tight following a string of attacks in Europe, and people were warned over loudspeakers not to leave their bags unattended.

## BRIEFLY

### Outdoor church service includes Dutch oven meal

HEPPNER — An informal camp-style worship service is planned by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church.

The public is invited to attend Sunday at 10 a.m. at Hager Park, located on Southeast Hager St., Heppner. A meal featuring slow-cooked Dutch-oven specialties will be served afterward. Beverages, plates and utensils will be provided. If desired, those attending may bring a salad or dessert to share.

For more information, call 541-676-9970.

### Fifth Sunday potluck brunch planned in Pendleton

PENDLETON — A Fifth Sunday Potluck Brunch is planned after the morning worship service at Pendleton First United Methodist Church.

Everyone is invited to attend the service Sunday at 9 a.m. at 352 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. The brunch will follow in the church's dining hall. People are invited to bring a dish to share and visit with others.

For more information, call 541-276-2616 or visit www.pendletonunitedmethodist.org.

### Bible school rounds up the kids

HERMISTON — Children in kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to participate in vacation Bible school at the Hermiston First Christian Church.

With a theme of Barnyard Roundup: Jesus Gathers Us Together, the event includes Bible stories, singing and a light dinner. It begins Monday from 5-8 p.m. at the church, 775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. It continues nightly through Thursday, Aug. 4.

Children don't have to attend the church to participate in the activities. For more information, call 541-567-3013 or visit www.hermistonfirstchristian.org.

### Heppner churches invite kids to grow

HEPPNER — Several Heppner churches are teaming up to sponsor a vacation Bible school.

Children ages 4-12 are invited to participate in Growing in God's Garden. The program starts Sunday, Aug. 7 at 5 p.m. with a free family barbecue on the lawn at Hope Lutheran Church, 675 Alfalfa St., Heppner. Parents can register during their kids during dinner hour. The program, which includes music, art, Bible lessons, science and games, runs from 6-8 p.m.

The sessions continue Monday, Aug. 8 through Wednesday, Aug. 10 with a light supper at 5:30 p.m., followed by the program.

There is no cost to attend and children aren't required to be affiliated with any particular church. For more information, call 541-676-9970.

# Worship Community

**The Salvation Army**  
Center for Worship & 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

**Peace Lutheran Church** ELCA  
210 NW 9th, Pendleton  
Join us Sundays  
9:30 am Sunday Worship  
10:30 am Fellowship  
11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Class

~Come and be at Peace~  
on 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday

**Faith Center Church**  
Worshiping God Loving People  
108 S. Main  
541-276-9569

Summer Sunday Worship  
10:00 am  
Sr. Pastor, Ray O'Grady  
pendletonfaithcenter.org

**NEW HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston  
Sunday Worship Services  
English- Pastor Dave Andrus  
9:00 & 10:45 am  
Spanish- Pastor Genaro Loreda  
9:00 & 10:15 am  
Classes for kids during all services  
For more information call 541-567-8441

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
Saturday Services  
Pendleton  
1401 SW Goodwin Place  
276-0882  
Sabbath School 9:20 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am

**Community Presbyterian Church**  
14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR  
922-3250

Worship: 10 AM  
Sunday School at 11:30

**First United Methodist Church**  
352 SE 2nd Street  
Pendleton, OR  
541-276-2616

Sunday Worship 9am  
Open Hearts, Open Hands, Open Doors  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/FUMCPendleton  
Services are broadcast every Sunday on KUMA-1290 AM @ 11am  
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

**PILOT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
585 SW Birch,  
Pilot Rock, OR 97868  
(541) 443-2500  
prbconline.blogspot.com

Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
Kids' Club: 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Services:  
Youth Group: 7:00 pm

**Grace Baptist Church**  
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 & Worship - 7:00 PM  
"Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"

**St. Johns Episcopal Church**  
All People Are Welcome  
Scripture, Tradition and Reason  
Family service 9am Sunday  
Gladys Ave & 7th Hermiston  
Fr. Dan Lediard, Priest, PH: 567-6672

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
215 N Main • Pendleton

Sunday Worship: 10:40a  
Bible Class: 9:30a  
Office 276-5358  
M-F 8:30-12:30

WWW.FCCPENDLETON.ORG

**GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA**  
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOOR  
www.graceandmercy.org

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (Nursery Provided)  
Fellowship, Refreshments & 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

**Redeemer Episcopal Church**  
241 SE Second St. Pendleton  
(541)276-3809  
www.pendletonepiscopal.org

Sunday Holy Communion 9:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Holy Communion Noon  
Weekly Adults Spiritual Life Group  
All Are Welcome

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
-Presbyterian Church (USA)-  
201 SW Dorlan Ave.  
Pendleton

Service of Worship - 10:00 am  
Children's Sunday School - 10:20 am  
Fellowship - 11:00 am  
www.pendletonpresbyterian.com  
Open Hearted... Open Minded

Come meet Jesus at  
**PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3202 SW Nye Ave Pendleton, OR  
541-276-7590  
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes 9:45 AM  
Sunday Youth Group 6:00 PM  
Mon. Community Women's Study  
9:30 AM & 6 PM  
Awana Kids Club (K-6th grade)  
Wed Men's Study 6 PM  
MOPS meeting the 1st Thur of the Month 6 PM

**Living Word Christian Center**  
Sunday Worship 10:00am  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00pm  
Youth Classes: Nursery - 6th grade Sun & Wed Jr & Sr High Discipleship Program Wed

Overcomer's Outreach  
Tuesdays at 6:00pm - Annex  
A Christ-centered, 12-step  
Recovery Support Group  
Sharon Miller, Pastor  
401 Northgate, Pendleton  
541-278-8082  
www.livingwordcc.com

PENDLETON FIRST  
**CHURCH OF GOD**  
FIRST SERVICE 8:30 AM  
SECOND SERVICE 10:30 AM  
712 SW 27th ST.  
541-276-1894  
www.fcogpendleton.com

a place to belong  
**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, & College

Thursdays  
Celebrate Recovery-6:00pm  
Celebration Place-6:00pm  
Other Groups Available Weekly

For more info visit  
WWW.PENDLETONFIRST.COM  
1911 SE Court Ave  
541-276-6417  
Assembly of God Church

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
in Mission for Christ LCMC  
Bible Study.....9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship...10:30 AM

Red Lion Hotel  
(Oregon Trail Room )  
www.faithpendleton.org

Advertise  
your  
Church  
Here!

To share your worship times call  
Terri Briggs  
541-278-2678