

Lawyer's prayerful Facebook posts draw warning

DALLAS (AP) — A Texas defense attorney is being told to refrain from revealing details about ongoing trials in his prayerful posts on social media.

Attorney Mark Griffith asks online for God's providence and says he prays before and during a trial. He often invokes his clients as part of his prayer.

Judges in separate cases in Ellis County, south of Dallas, have warned him about postings that reveal details of court proceedings.

One post on the Facebook page for Waxahachie-based Griffith & Associates says, "I see God, directing me in my fights for justice. I see God in everything, including my clients. They are scorned, chastised, maligned and cast aside. These are the people Jesus sought out and helped."

Another post reads, "The jury simply needs to see the heart of my client, because that is where the grace of God resides."

In response to the posts, one of the judges has approved a motion by District Attorney Patrick Wilson that attorneys "refrain from making extrajudicial statements related to evidence of this trial, including electronic media."

But Griffith argues court restrictions could amount to an infringement of his constitutional rights.

"All I'm posting on social media is that I'm an attorney who prays before trial and prays during trial," he said, according to a transcript from a court hearing last week. "Now, to restrict me from doing that, I believe the state is asking the court to sanction a violation of my First Amendment right, freedom of speech and also freedom of religion."



Aleppo Media Center via AP

In this frame grab taken from video provided by the Syrian anti-government activist group Aleppo Media Center, a child sits in an ambulance after being pulled out of a building hit by an airstrike, in Aleppo, Syria, Wednesday. Syrian opposition activists reported an airstrike on the al-Qaterji neighborhood in Aleppo late Wednesday.

Aleppo boy's photo shocks world

By PHILIP ISSA
Associated Press

BEIRUT — The Russian military said Thursday it was ready to back a U.N. call for weekly cease-fires for Syria's contested city of Aleppo, as haunting footage of a young boy's rescue from the aftermath of an airstrike shook global media.

The image of the stunned and weary-looking boy, sitting in an ambulance caked with dust and with blood on his face, captured the horror that has beset the war-torn northern city as photographs of the child were widely shared on social media.

An hour after his rescue, the badly damaged building the boy was in completely collapsed.

A doctor in Aleppo identified the child as 5-year-old Omran Daqneesh. He was brought to the hospital, known as "M10," on Wednesday night, following an airstrike by Russian or government warplanes on the rebel-held neighborhood of Qaterji, said Dr. Osama Abu al-Ezz. The boy suffered head wounds but no brain injury, and was later discharged.

Rescue workers and journalists arrived shortly after the

strike and described pulling victims from the rubble.

"We were passing them from one balcony to the other," said photojournalist Mahmoud Raslan, who took the dramatic photo. He said he had passed along three lifeless bodies when someone handed him the wounded boy. Raslan gave the child to a rescue worker, who rushed him to the ambulance.

Eight people died in the strike, including five children, according to a doctor who gave only his first name, Abo Mohammadian. Many doctors working in Aleppo's opposition areas do not give their full names for fear of reprisals against their relatives in government areas.

A nurse who treated Omran said "he was in a daze."

"It was as if he was asleep. Not unconscious, but traumatized — lost," said Mahmoud Abu Rajab.

Medical workers feared internal injuries, but an X-ray and an ultrasound revealed his wounds were superficial. Abu Rajab stitched up the child and wrapped his forehead and left eye in a bandage.

Omran's three siblings, ages 1, 6, and 11, and his mother and father were also rescued from the building.

None sustained major injuries.

"We sent the younger children immediately to the ambulance, but the 11-year-old girl waited for her mother to be rescued," said Raslan, adding that the woman's ankle was pinned beneath the rubble.

In the video posted late Wednesday by the Aleppo Media Center, a man was seen carrying Omran away from the chaotic nighttime scene and into an ambulance. Looking dazed, the boy ran his hands over his blood-covered face, then wiped them on the orange ambulance chair.

The powerful imagery reverberated across social media, drawing to mind the anguished global response to the photos of Aylan Kurdi, the drowned Syrian boy whose body was found on a beach in Turkey and came to represent the horrific toll of Syria's civil war.

The fighting has frustrated the U.N.'s efforts to fulfill its humanitarian mandate, and the world body's special envoy to Syria cut short a meeting Thursday of the ad hoc committee — chaired by Russia and the United States — tasked with deescalating the violence so that relief can reach beleaguered civilians.

BRIEFLY

Baptist church plans yard sale

BOARDMAN — A benefit yard sale will help with building a play area at the Boardman First Baptist Church.

Donations for the sale, which is planned for Labor Day weekend, are being accepted. People are encouraged to clean out their closets, get rid of outgrown sports equipment and other items that are no longer wanted or needed.

Items can be dropped off at the church by Thursday, Sept. 1 at 200 Willow Fork Drive, Boardman. The sale will be held Sept. 2-3.

For more information, call 541-481-9437.

School sales help shoebox program

Back to school sales is a perfect time to begin collecting items for Operation Christmas Child, according to Fay Smith, media coordinator for Tri-Cities/Eastern Oregon region.

An outreach ministry of the international Christian relief organization Samaritan's Purse, it provides shoeboxes filled with gifts to disadvantaged children across the globe.

In 2015, more than 18,060 shoeboxes were collected from donors in the area stretching from Tri-Cities/Walla Walla through most of Eastern Oregon. They came from individuals, businesses, youth and adult service groups, private schools, medical and dental offices, and churches of many denominations. The 2016 goal is 20,000 shoebox gifts.

National collection week is held in November each year. For more information, visit www.samaritanaspurse.org/occ.

Hermiston church collects school supplies

HERMISTON — People can help students in need in the community by donating school supplies to the Connections Overflow.

Hermiston Church of the Nazarene will accept donations through Sunday Sept. 4, which will be distributed to local families.

Basic items needed include No. 2 pencils, erasers, loose-leaf notebook paper, crayons, glue sticks, spiral notebooks, child-size scissors, pocket folders, colored pencils and markers, pink pearl eraser, boxes of tissues and antibacterial wipes.

For more information, contact 541-567-3677, hermistonnaz@gmail.com or visit www.hermistonnazarene.org.

BOARDMAN'S LIMY PASTOR

Singing new songs, finding the melody

The newly reconstituted worship committee gathered about the church office table, blue and green hymnals scattered akimbo in front of us and sheets of paper scratched inkily with titles and numbers. While most of everyone else was attending the fairs that had bloomed in the towns around us, our group had come together on Sunday afternoon to select likely hymns for the texts we use in our worship service for the months ahead.

Among us were Mike, a seminarian in training, who has been putting on services in the park. He had recently put on his first Spanish services in the park, which has garnered him good and hopeful results that had encouraged him no end. There was Josh, our powerhouse 15-year-old who was going to be playing football the next day, who has a call himself to serve the ministry. There was Phyllis, who in our church is a representative of the abundance of God, and provides tabletops of food for the congregation and has a glorious sense of detail. Then there was Kathy, our piano player, who has been playing for our church for many years. She bore the knowledge of what hymns people have an affinity to, and also what they know and remember.

Nothing disconcerts a congregation so much as an unfamiliar tune or words that have never sounded in their presence before. Although, I suspect, when they get to their heavenly reward, they may have to get used to new things, as I suspect Bach won't have given up his passion for composing just because he "made it." I suspect that this also will

apply to the Beatles as well as Prince and Elvis. This should be a comfort for many of us. Music is eternal.

My own background of church music came from an English education at first, where our regular schools had church-like services every morning with mandatory attendance. I had attended from the age of five to the age of 19 years. It's hard for a free-thinking American to conceive of such a thing, but it certainly trained me in much of the range of the traditional hymnals. My encounters with music in American churches

have mostly been with these familiar songs that flow in our blood on both sides of the sea like memories of lost loves.

Between us, we looked through our cheat sheets from Sola Publishing that identified the Bible texts for the months ahead. The decision was to allow the committee to select the hymns that corresponded with all but the Gospel texts. As pastor I would do my best in the week ahead to select a hymn with the aid of the Holy Spirit for our Gospel stories. This process of sermon composition is extraordinarily mysterious to me — I have begun to treat it as an approach to the mouth of the divine himself, marked with fear. It has become a process akin to wrestling with God that leaves me trembling. So the hymn for the Gospel reading will not be clear until we get to that Sunday, and truthfully maybe not even then.

Colin Brown is the pastor of Boardman's Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Locust Road.



COLIN BROWN
Comment

Worship Community

Community Presbyterian Church

14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR
922-3250
Worship: 10 AM
Sunday School at 11:30

Peace Lutheran Church

210 NW 9th, Pendleton, ELCA
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 • 276-9569
Sunday Worship 10:30 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

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

First United Methodist Church

Pendleton/Hermiston
352 SE 2nd Street, Pendleton OR
Sunday Worship 9am • 541-276-2616
191 E. Gladys Ave, Hermiston OR
Worship Broadcast on KUMA 1290 @ 11am
Sunday Worship 11am
541-567-3002
Worship Livestream at herfume.com
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

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

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"

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 Lynch, Pastor
Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church, ELCA
164 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 1108
Hermiston, Oregon 97838

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
215 N Main • Pendleton
Sunday Worship: 9:40a
Office 276-5358
M-F, 8:30-12:30
WWW.FCCPENDLETON.ORG

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

-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
www.pendletonpresbyterian.com
Open Hearted... Open Minded

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

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

Come meet Jesus at
PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH
3202 SW Hye 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

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

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

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

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

BAHA'I FAITH

"The Unity of All Mankind"
Pendleton Baha'i Center at
1015 SE Court Place
Devotions Sundays @ 11:00am; Everyone invited!
(541) 276-9360 visit us at www.pendletonbahais.org

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