

BOARDMAN'S LIMEY PASTOR

Praying for the people

Christmas is here. Last Saturday, the snow filled the sweep of the low hill below our church and its parking lot. Randy, our Church President came and back-hoed the ripe snow and made a straight way up to our door. Markus shoveled the snow back out of the way like an iron man. I had forgotten how cold that cold can actually be and did not wear gloves, and my fingertips became prickly with tingling and my hands became a little blue. Putting my hands under the hot faucet brought a pink color back slowly. I want to give thanks to my church brothers and sisters who struggle so hard to keep our doors open and who come from far away at times to do this.

This Saturday, Christmas Eve, at 7 pm we have our Christmas Eve service. I would like you to be there, even if just in spirit. Our church is a lighthouse of the soul. I would welcome people who enjoy carol singing so that the church can rattle its doors and let the neighbors hear our voices. All are invited who love the Lord's presence.

I wanted to say a prayer for the

people of my city and surrounding cities. In Christ's name I ask for blessing this Christmas day on all people who live and work in the light of East Oregon. I know how hard people work here and firstly I ask for prayer and healing for all the people who live in this light. I pray for healing in relationships that may have been sundered this year. I ask for laughter to fill every home and I ask for good health to burgeon in every home. I ask for homes for those who have none – and I ask for healing for those suffering from addictions, that take root like fires in a forest. I give thanks for AA and its healing work with those who are victim to alcohol, for NA, for those suffering from addictions to all of the narcotics legal and illegal. I ask for healing for those suffering from bodily failings, from the diseases of aging and from pain that springs in different parts of the body. I ask for those help for those who suffer from mental illness: depression, bi-polar disorders and schizophrenia that may be uplifted and strengthened with the right medication. I ask for help with those who are dealing with their own dying,

and their friends and relatives who share this knowledge. I ask for your presence Lord, in the midst of this, with a glorious hope in the place of the heavenly Father where every shed tear will be dried. May all people who have little ones who are sick be comforted by your peace, comforted by your presence and given joy.

I pray that all people of Eastern Oregon feel called to know you more, to read the Gospel and to search out people with common understanding and interests. I pray that all the churches and people who worship here will begin to glow with the light of prayer and that peace will reign in their hearts and between churches. I pray that gentleness will reign.

I pray that all of you feel accompanied by Jesus, as a friend as well as an adviser, and that you seek out his fragrance wherever you feel it rising. The world needs a harmonious place like East Oregon to show peace in action and friendship actively working in the rich field of human happiness. Amen.

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

■
Pastor Colin Brown of Boardman's Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Locust Road.



COLIN BROWN
Faith

Arrest of black man in black church fire stirs debates

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — The arrest of a black man on a charge of burning a black Mississippi church that was spray-painted with the words "Vote Trump" has sparked bickering online and consternation in the community surrounding the church.

Andrew McClinton, 45, made an initial court appearance Thursday in Greenville, a day after he was arrested and charged with a felony: first-degree arson of a place of worship. He requested a public defender and remained in jail with bond set at \$250,000.

McClinton, who lives in the Greenville suburb of Leland, spent several years in prison in Mississippi on convictions of armed robbery and other crimes. He is member of Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church of Greenville, which burned Nov. 1, a week before the presidential election.

In the days after the church fire, Greenville Mayor Erick D. Simmons — an African-American who took office several months ago on a pledge of racial unity — urged officials to investigate it as a possible hate crime. The FBI said it would do so, but no hate crimes charges have been filed.

Chris Orr, a Greenville resident and former police officer for the city, expressed frustration over the mayor's early words about the fire.

"I have a lot of respect for the mayor," Orr, who is white, said Thursday. "But, classifying this as a hate crime of a 'historically black church in a black community' before the investigation even got going good was basically profiling the suspect as a white person, whether he directly said it or not."



Pope Francis is framed between heads of prelates on the occasion of his Christmas greetings to the Roman Curia in the Clementine Hall, at the Vatican, Thursday.

Pope in Christmas speech blasts Vatican resistance to reform

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis on Thursday denounced the resistance he's encountering in reforming the Vatican bureaucracy, saying some of it is inspired by the devil and that the prelates who work for him must undergo "permanent purification" to serve the Catholic Church better.

For the third year in a row, Francis took the Vatican bureaucracy to task in his annual Christmas greeting. He said the reform process he was elected to push through in 2013 isn't aimed at a superficial facelift for the Holy See, but rather a profound change in mentality among his collaborators.

"Dear brothers, it's not the wrinkles in the church that you should fear, but the stains!" he said.

In 2014, Francis stunned the Vatican Curia, or administration, when he listed the 15 "spiritual ailments" its members were suffering. He accused them of using

"It's not the wrinkles in the church that you should fear, but the stains!"

— Pope Francis

their careers to grab power and wealth, of living "hypocritical" double lives and of forgetting — due to "spiritual Alzheimer's" — that they're supposed to be joyful men of God.

Last year, Francis listed a "catalog of virtues" they were supposed to show instead, including honesty, sobriety, respect and humility.

This year, he gave the priests, bishops and cardinals who work for him 12 guidelines that are inspiring his reform process, which has involved consolidating Vatican departments and creating new ones.

He called for a "definitive end" to the Vatican's face-saving way of getting rid of unqualified or problematic staff by promoting them to a higher office.

"This is a cancer!" Francis said.

Francis said it's entirely natural that there should

be resistance during such a profound process of reform — but he said there's good resistance and bad.

Positive resistance is an open willingness for dialogue but "hidden" resistance comes from the "fearful or hardened hearts" of people who say they want change but really don't, he said.

And then there's "malevolent resistance ... when the devil inspires nasty intentions often dressed as lambs."

He urged his collaborators to undergo an ongoing process of spiritual purification guided by the Gospel. Later, he told staff who work for the Vatican City State that the Gospel also should dictate the Vatican's labor practices to make sure people have proper contracts.

"No employment off-the-books. No subterfuge," he said.

Methodist church hosts communion service

PENDLETON — A Christmas Eve communion service is planned at the Pendleton United Methodist Church.

Scripture and special music is included Saturday at 4 p.m. at 352 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. In addition, the regular worship service is planned Christmas Day at 9 a.m.

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

Grace Baptist Church sets Christmas services

PENDLETON — Songs of the season are featured during a special Christmas Eve service at Grace Baptist Church.

The public is invited to attend and sing along Saturday at 6 p.m. at 2809 S.W. Goodwin Ave., Pendleton. Also, on Christmas Day, there is one service at 11 a.m. It will

feature an interactive children's program. For more information, call 541-276-3031.

First Christian announces holiday schedule

MILTON-FREEWATER — The public is invited to a time of worship, music and fellowship on Christmas Eve at the Milton-Freewater First Christian Church.

The special service is Saturday at 6 p.m. at 518 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. Valet parking is available with entrance to the ramp on the south side of the building. An elevator is just inside the north entrance to the church.

On Christmas and New Year's days, there are no Sunday school classes. Morning worship is planned for 10:45 a.m. on both holidays. In addition, the Sunday breakfasts will resume Jan. 8. Also, "The First Noel," a Christmas cantata postponed earlier this month due to inclement weather, will be planned for a later date.

For more information, call 541-938-3854.

A Sacred Moment
Come & Worship
Candlelight Communion Service
December 24th
5:00 pm

Living Word Christian Center
401 Northgate, Pendleton
541-278-8082
www.livingwordcc.com

Worship Community

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

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

Community Presbyterian Church

14 Martin Drive,
Umatilla, OR
922-3250

Worship: 10 AM
Sunday School at 11:30

PILOT ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH

585 SW Birch
Pilot Rock, OR 977868
(541) 443-2500
prbcbonline.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 AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOOR

www.graceandmercy.lutheran.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

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

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 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

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

Welcome the King!

cornerstone
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sun, Dec 25, 10:30 a.m.
200 SE Hailey
(John Murray Bldg)
541.276.3987
www.cornerstonependleton.com

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
LCMC

Sunday worship at
11:00 AM

420 Locust St. • Boardman, OR
541-481-6132
Colin Brown, Pastor

Faith Center Church

Worshiping God
Loving People
108 S. Main • 276-9569
Christmas Eve Service 7 pm
Christmas Day 11 am
Sr. Pastor,
Ray O'Grady
pendletonfaithcenter.org

Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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

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

Join Us
On Our Journey
With Jesus.

Scripture, Tradition and Reason
Family service 9am Sunday
N.E. Gladys Ave & 7th, Hermiston
Fr. Dan Ledard, Priest. PH: 567-6672
We are an all inclusive Church
who welcomes all.

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

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

First United Methodist Church
Pendleton/Hermiston

352 SE 2nd Street, Pendleton
Sunday Worship 9am
541-276-2616

Worship Broadcast on
KUMA 1290 @ 11am
191 E. Gladys Ave, Hermiston
Sunday Worship 11am
541-567-3002

Worship Livestream at
herfume.com
Open Hearts, Open Minds,
Open Doors
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

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
Tuesday at 6:00pm - Annex
A Christ-centered, 12-Step
Recovery Support Group

Pastor Sharon Miller

401 Northgate, Pendleton
541-278-8082
www.livingwordcc.com

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

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