Muslims, Latinos unify over Trump's immigration, border plan

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — U.S. Muslim and Latino advocates have joined forces in opposing changes to immigration rules by President Donald Trump, bolstering their alliance as they mull the prospect of aggressive restrictions.

In joint press conferences and rallies across the country, they are decrying an action Trump signed to jumpstart construction on a southern border wall. Trump is expected to take steps to stop accepting Syrian refugees, suspend the United States' broader refugee program for 120 days and suspend issuing visas for people from seven predominantly Muslim countries in the Middle East and Africa.

As Trump signed the first actions Wednesday afternoon, the hashtags #NoBanNoWall and #RefugeesWelcome trended on Twitter, and thousands signed a pro-refugee petition by Christian evangelical groups. Muslims, immigrants and their supporters rallied in New York City and elsewhere in protest.

Advocates and activists across racial, religious and ethnic lines have linked before but are now mounting a more unified response.

"An attack on one of us is an attack on all of us," said Greisa Martinez, an advocacy director of the United We Dream Network, describing herself as "undocumented, unafraid and here to stay."

"We believe this is the start of Donald Trump's mass deportation agenda," she said.

Trump said Wednesday that his executive actions on immigration show that the U.S. will get back "control of its border." But the flow of immigrants at the Mexican border has declined, and immigrant and refugee advocates call the moves and plans reckless, dangerous and un-American — and say that actions taken against one group affect them all.

The executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations' Michigan chapter questioned whether the signed actions would create more security in the U.S.

"These executive orders will not make our country safer, rather will produce more xenophobia in our society," Dawud Walid said in a statement.

Michigan has one of the nation's largest Muslim communities and thousands of Middle Eastern refugees have settled there. A draft order indicates Trump plans to suspend issuing visas to citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries for at least 30 days, halt the Syrian refugee program and stop admitting refugees from other countries for 120 days.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops condemned plans for a wall. Cardinal Joseph Tobin of Newark, New Jersey, who was recently appointed by Pope Francis, tweeted: "A fearful nation talks about building walls and is vulnerable to con men. We must challenge the fear before we are led into darkness."

Trump also signed an action that would block federal grants from so-called sanctuary cities, where local police don't enforce federal immigration laws.

Marielena Hincapié, executive director of National Immigration Law Center, said her organization has drafted lawsuits challenging Trump's actions and that law firms have offered "pro bono support."

In New Mexico, which has the nation's highest percentage of Hispanic residents, activists worried the executive actions would hurt all Latinos and Mexican-Americans. The Albuquerque-based immigrant rights group El CENTRO de Igualdad y Derechos and the Islamic Center of New Mexico held a press conference along the city's historic Camino Real.

"When they go after Latinos, they go after all Latinos," Ralph Arellanes, chairman of the Hispano Round Table of New Mexico, said. "It's not like people are walking on the streets and they have identification that says they've been here four centuries, or three centuries, or two centuries or one century."

Javier Gonzales, mayor of Santa Fe, New Mexico, vowed to fight any effort to make the city hostile to immigrants. Santa Fe recently renewed its commitment as a sanctuary city.

"There is no presidential executive order that will ever change our values of being a welcoming and inclusive city. It's what's made our city thrive for more (than) 400 years," wrote Gonzales, whose ties to the city go back to 17th century Spanish settlers.

A coalition of Muslim, Latino and civil rights leaders also held a press conference in Atlanta to persuade Georgians to denounce Trump's immigration and refugee policies.

Edward Ahmed Mitchell, executive director of the Georgia branch of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, said they're speaking out before some of the actions have even been issued in hopes that "maybe we can make the horrible just bad."

AP Photo/Andres Kudacki

Muslim women shout slogans during a rally against President Donald Trump's order cracking down on immigrants living in the U.S. at Washington Square Park in New York on Wednesday.

AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis

Immigrants, civil rights supporters, auto union members and immigrant rights advocates participate in a immigrant rights rally at the Capitol in Jackson, Miss., Wednesday.

LIMEY PASTOR

Divine providence

Colin Brown
Faith

This coming Sunday we have the Annual Congregational Meeting of our church. We elect a new church council for the coming year. *E Pluribus Unum* — Out of the Many, One. The Holy Spirit manifests a new call to the people and a new course is set for our vessel of worshippers.

Since I began my ministry at the church, I have seen just how little is in my control and just how much is brought forth by the spirit. As a new pastor I had initially felt that a giant responsibility was upon me, but now I realize how God is all around me and is the director of all our directions. Divine providence — God provides in all matters.

In my time here, I have been amazed at the number of visitors who have shown up at the door. On one occasion travelers from Minnesota, on another a group of travelers from Norway. A family of about ten once showed up and joined us while the family's father worked on a project in Boardman and stayed with us for months while they were away from their home base for months.

This church is God's gift to Boardman and all who travel through its portals. People find our church almost by accident, it seems, and its central place in Boardman is a large landmark.

Once, when a pianist fell ill, a pianist showed up out of the blue to meet the need. Congregation members work behind the scenes to make sure that all takes place. Help comes in perfect measures.

There is a wonderful book that was published many years ago, in the 18th century, called "Abandonment to Divine Providence" by the Jesuit Father Jeanne-Pierre de Caussade. (Available freely on the internet.) It teaches us that God is always at work in all of our activities, and that by taking what is given by the divine in each moment, each crisis, each opportunity, we are being given a path to get closer and closer to the Lord as we submit to the gifts that come from God in the moment. This is a divine miracle indeed. For us to submit to God's will, as Mary submitted to the gift of the arrival of Jesus in her womb despite the immense difficulty for her, is what we are called to do.

"By your will Lord, let it be done." This is a path of sanctity.

By close observation of the moment I am in, I have seen how the Lord has placed solutions to the problems I have seen, in advance of the actual occurrence of the problems, showing that God's care is always present and always is drawing us further into his kind spirit. We do not need to worry about mechanisms. Yes, I admit wholeheartedly that it is quite spooky!

Caussade says: "Therefore when one thirsts after sanctity, the desire to know about it only drives it further away. Speculation must be laid aside, and everything arranged by God as regards actions and sufferings must be accepted with simplicity, for those things that happen at each moment by the divine command or permission are always the most holy, the best and the most divine for us."

When things seem untenable just pray and have trust that the problems which seem so tangled will fall way and receive resolution. Our God is an awesome God.

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

BRIEFLY

Nazarene church sets Valentine event

HERMISTON — A Valentine celebration is planned at the Hermiston Church of the Nazarene.

With a focus on love, the event includes food, entertainment, laughter and games. Valentine Celebration: Great Love is Saturday, Feb. 11 from 6-8:30 p.m. in the church's ministry center, 1520 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Everyone is welcome and childcare is provided.

Although the event is free, those planning to attend are asked to RSVP. For more information, contact 541-567-3677, hermistonnaz@gmail.com or visit www.hermistonnazarene.org.

Open Table needs cook

HERMISTON — The Hermiston First Christian Church is seeking a volunteer cook for its Open Table Ministry.

The program provides free meals each Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the church, 775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. A volunteer is needed each Monday every other month.

For more information, call Jodene at 541-567-3013.

SUBMIT FAITH NEWS

Friday's faith page features local, national and international faith-related news. Send information about local faith-related news and events, including concerts, special speakers and activities to community@eastoregonian.com or drop off to the attention of Tammy Malgesini at 333 E. Main St., Hermiston or Renee Struthers at 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton. Call 541-564-4539 or 541-966-0818 with questions.

Worship Community

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
1911 SE Court Ave
541-276-6417
Assembly of God Church
Service of Worship - 10:00 am
Children's Sunday School - 10:20 am
Fellowship - 11:00 am
www.pendletonpresbyterian.com
Open Hearted... Open Minded

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

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 Lediard, Priest. PH: 567-6672
We are an all inclusive Church who welcomes all.

Faith Center Church
Worshiping God
Loving People
108 S. Main • 276-9569
Sunday Worship
10:30 am
Sr. Pastor, Ray O'Grady
pendletonfaithcenter.org

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

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

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"

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

GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
OPEN HEARTS – OPEN DOOR
www.graceandmercylutheran.org
Sunday Worship 8:45 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
(First United Methodist Church)
191 E. Gladys Ave. / P.O. Box 1108
Hermiston, Oregon 97838

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

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 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 herfumc.com
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
LCMC
Sunday worship at 11:00 AM
420 Locust St. • Boardman, OR
541-481-6132
Colin Brown, Pastor

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

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

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

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
215 N Main • Pendleton, OR 97801
Behind These Stone Walls
Beat the Hearts of Some of the Warmest
Most Sincere, Most Caring People in Pendleton
We Invite You to Come Get Acquainted!
Sunday Worship:10:40am
Sunday School: 9:30am
Office 276-5358 M-F, 8:30-12:30
www.fccpendleton.org

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