

LIMEY PASTOR MuShu Pork, the Pekingese

Pets are what God gives us to teach us how to love, unconditionally. Only human nature has fallen. All children of God should learn the love of pets at the earliest age possible.

When my son, Matthew, got married last year and he and his new wife found their apartment together, there was one very disappointed individual — Mushu, or Mushu Pork as he was originally named. Mushu was the name of the Pekingese dog that my son adopted when he had been looking for a dog companion as a young fellow. He had passed on border collies and spaniels, going for the breed of dog most like the Ewoks in “Star Wars.”



COLIN BROWN
Faith

Mr. Pork was actually purchased after a deep investigation by my son from a well-known Pekingese breeder in Oregon. Like little teddy bears with habits that can only be tolerated by Chinese emperors, the Pekingese is a challenging dog that requires human servants to be relaxed and happy. My son’s new wife, Kylee, decided that Mr. Pork needed to stay with the grandparents (us) and not with Matthew. He obeyed. Mushu adored and still adores my son.

My heart shuddered a little when they parted ways.

Mushu has stayed with my wife and I back in the home base. Like many dogs before him who had suffered the displacement of human romance, Mushu has slowly acclimated to us. The former puppy of a show-winning Pekingese — a canine demigod called Sun Dragon, from Salem — he has embedded with the companionship of our other animals, Samuel the dachshund, Gracey the former Lutheran church cat and Darko, the brooding, slinky black cat, more like a panther than a house pet.

Mushu has a bark that seems continual when his hunger button gets switched on. Now, semi-blind with cataracts and very deaf, Mushu follows the other animals around to take advantage of the many food bowls in the vicinity. He sometimes stands at my feet barking for food after he forgot that he just ate. So today there was a frisson of dismay when it appeared that Mushu had taken a little ill, since his imperial health has been good for many a year. My son and my wife thought that Mushu might be on his last legs, but I was fairly sure that it was a tummy upset and not something terminal. But you can’t be too careful with an emperor’s dog.

The vet’s office has a cat assistant who waits for people to come in and then makes herself available to be stroked and petted by the new patients, and she greeted Mushu with a royal arch of her fur. I had in a plastic bag within another plastic bag the former stomach contents of my little dog. Evidence of a little blood we thought, concerning as a little blood always is.

There was relief, no sign of anything worse than a little diarrhea that even royal dogs of Asia suffer, and a recommendation for dentistry as some of his teeth needed a little work. I give thanks for the little animals who love us and teach us how to love each other.

Colin Brown is the pastor of Boardman’s Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Locust

Trump pledges to end political limits on churches

By CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Declaring that religious freedom is “under threat,” President Donald Trump vowed Thursday to repeal a rarely enforced IRS rule that says pastors who endorse candidates from the pulpit risk losing their tax-exempt status.

“I will get rid of and totally destroy the Johnson Amendment and allow our representatives of faith to speak freely and without fear of retribution,” Trump said at the National Prayer Breakfast, a high-profile event bringing together faith leaders, politicians and dignitaries.

Trump’s pledge was a nod to his evangelical Christian supporters, who helped power his White House win. So far he has not detailed his plans for doing away with the rule, which he has previously promised to rescind. Named after then-Sen. Lyndon Johnson, the regulation has been in place since 1954 for tax-exempt charities, including churches, though it is very rare for a church to actually be penalized.



AP Photo/Charles Gorry, File

In this July 30, 1954, file photo, then-Sen. Lyndon Johnson, D-Texas, holds news conference in Washington. Moving on a campaign promise, President Donald Trump said Thursday, he will work for the repeal of the Johnson Amendment to free religious organizations from constraints on political activity.

Abolishing the amendment would require action by Congress, though Trump could direct the IRS to disregard the rule. The tax code does allow a wide range of political activity by houses of worship, including speaking out on social issues and

organizing congregants to vote. But churches cannot endorse a candidate or engage in partisan advocacy.

Lloyd Mayer, a law professor at the University of Notre Dame, said an IRS move could prompt lawsuits, if the rule was repealed

for churches but not other charities.

Mayer also noted that a full repeal of the rule could open up churches to the possibility of spending their resources to openly try to influence elections — and for donors to get tax breaks for political contributions.

While some conservative Christians would like to see the rule abolished, others, especially the younger generation, support a clear separation of church and political endorsements. Many liberal churches are also active on policy issues, and could potentially get more involved in partisan politics.

Mayer noted that for some religious leaders, the IRS rule has given them a way to avoid political pressure for an endorsement.

“Now a church that wants to say no has an easy answer, it’s illegal,” Mayer said.

Repeal does not appear to have widespread public support. Eight in 10 Americans said it was inappropriate for pastors to endorse a candidate in church in a poll released last September by Lifeway Research, a religious survey firm based in Nashville.

BRIEFLY

St. Francis mural installed at St. Mary’s

PENDLETON — A mural depicting St. Francis of Assisi that once graced the original St. Anthony Hospital has been regifted by CHI St. Anthony Hospital and Sister Monica Borden to St. Mary’s Catholic Church for the enjoyment and inspiration of those who view it. The mural is installed at the ramp to the parish hall. Fr. Kumar Udagadla, the current pastor of St. Mary’s, is thankful for the gift.

The mural was commissioned in 1980 by St. Anthony Hospital in honor of Joseph P. Brennan, M.D., for 61 years of uninterrupted service and devotion to St. Anthony Hospital, the community of Pendleton and the surrounding area. Dr. Brennan began his medical practice in 1922 and retired in 1976. However, he continued his service as medical director of the skilled nursing facility at St. Anthony Hospital until 1983.

If Gathering meets in Hermiston

HERMISTON — A livestream of the If Gathering is Friday and Saturday in Hermiston.

The mission of the event is to gather, equip and unleash women to live out God’s calling on their lives. Women are invited Friday from 5-9 p.m. and



Photo contributed by Dennis Duhok

A mural of St. Francis of Assisi was donated by St. Anthony Hospital to St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Pendleton.

Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road, Hermiston. Participants are encouraged to dress comfortably and bring a Bible.

Food trucks will be on hand during dinner Friday and lunch Saturday for people to make purchases. Participants may bring a sack lunch, if they prefer. A light breakfast and snacks are provided.

For more information or to register, visit <https://register.ifgathering.com/event/ifhermiston>.

Alumni mass celebrates Catholic Schools Week

WALLA WALLA — In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, all current and former

students of Walla Walla Catholic Schools are invited to a special mass.

The Walla Walla Catholic Schools is a ministry established by the three Catholic parishes to provide a Christian-based education for preschool through high school students, regardless of religious affiliation. The schools include Assumption Elementary-Middle School and DeSales High School.

The alumni mass is Sunday at 10 a.m. at St. Patrick’s Parish, 415 W. Alder St., Walla Walla.

For more information, visit www.thewwcs.com.

Baptist church plans couples seminar

BOARDMAN — A marriage and family seminar is planned at the Boardman Baptist Church.

Couple are invited to attend the event, which is titled “Making the Most of Your Marriage” by Kevin Leman. The seminar is Saturday, Feb. 11 at 9 a.m. at the church, 200 Willow Fork Drive, Boardman. The cost is \$15 per couple, which includes a workbook. Some scholarships are available.

For more information, call 541-481-9437.

Prophetic minister to speak at Aglow

WALLA WALLA — The co-founder of Word to the World Ministries will share his testimony and prophetic vision during the upcoming Walla Walla Aglow Community Lighthouse meeting.

The public is invited to hear John Mark Pool Saturday, Feb. 11 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Grace Church, 116 S. Third Ave., Walla Walla. Refreshments will be served.

Based out of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Pool has appeared on the radio, TV and internet broadcasts. He has served as a pastor, foreign missionary and prophetic evangelist.

Aglow, which started in 1967, is an international organization that seeks to minister to its members and share God’s word in the community. For more information, call Kathy Owsley at 509-540-2684, Lora Sykes at 509-540-0212 or visit www.ecwaglow.com.

Worship Community

Pendleton FREE METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Mid-Week Children & Youth • Weekly Adult Life Groups
1711 SW 44th St. • 541-276-6015 • www.pendfmc.org

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

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 541-276-3002
Worship Livestream at herfumc.com
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

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

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 Ledard, Priest, PH: 307-6672
We are an all inclusive Church who welcomes all.

Faith Center Church
Worshipping God Loving People
108 S. Main • 276-9569
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Sr. Pastor, Ray O’Grady
pendletonfaithcenter.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.graceandmercy.lutheran.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 Inchi, 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

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

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

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