

# LIMEY PASTOR Nightmare of a dreamer

My wife, Jeanne and I have been very close to a young man, I shall call "H," for a number of years. When my wife was very ill a couple of years ago, he befriended us and helped my wife around the house and with her garden and cared very much for her needs. H was also involved in the long-term care of his own mother, who had contracted hepatitis from a bad blood transfusion giving birth to him many years before and was in the end stages of her disease. "H" also had a full-time job, a technical job working with editing videos.



COLIN BROWN  
Faith

"H" had come to Oregon with his mother as a little boy. He is one of those young people characterized as a DREAMer. Certified to stay in his "in-between" status, with permission to work, he supported himself and his mother.

About a year ago, his mother died suddenly, two weeks after she and her son moved into a new apartment. I helped carry the casket of his mother into the church. They were Catholic and the church was packed.

"H" was distraught. He wept at all the things he had said to his mother, the arguments that seemed so irrelevant now, all the guilt of the years flowed into his tears, especially the recurring thought, so accusative, that it was his own entry into the world that precipitated the conditions for his mother's demise. What son does not feel guilt when his mother dies?

Several months later, in a depressed state, "H" turned to the solace of a bottle late at night. He drank and drank and then opened the front door and wandered outside, with the noticeable exception of not wearing his trousers. He stumbled through the night streets where he was intercepted by a police car and arrested. The film of his capture shows a weeping young man in the back of a police car.

For the last few months, every month, "H" has shown up at the courthouse, to have his case delayed and delayed. Now, with the new attitude of the law, the case is now going forward and I have no doubt the status of his case will risk his very life and existence here as a DREAMer — a person who "H" calls dispossessed. "H" is a boy of my son's age, who is in a very real way imprisoned in his own life and is trapped by the very sadness of his life circumstance.

I remember my own experience many years ago where I was coming back from Mexico when I was detained by a zealous guard and thrown in the back with many other people. There I witnessed American guards throwing people against the wall and beating them. Fortunately I had someone waiting for me outside who called the INS District Commissioner and pulled my first world strings to allow my passage. Ever since, I have been very, very sympathetic to the plight of the southerners. I only count as true Americans those who have kindness for the immigrants — the strangers at our door. For the most truly American is that same immigrant from hundreds of years ago.

I am proud to be American in this vast and welcoming land. I am a new American. I will speak up for "H" and hope to speak in his favor for his ultimate court experience — for the kindness and love with which he has lived his life is truly most American.

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

# U.S. bishops denounce 'Santa Muerte'

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Bishops in the United States are denouncing the skeleton folk saint known as La Santa Muerte — a figure Roman Catholic leaders in Mexico routinely have attacked for the deity's connection to violence and the illicit drug trade.

Santa Fe Archbishop John Wester, El Paso Bishop Mark Seitz, and San Angelo Bishop Michael Sis in Texas joined their counterparts in Mexico last week in urging Catholics to avoid honoring the folk saint and called her "antithetical" to the teachings of Jesus.

"She's not a saint. There is nothing good that can come out of praying to her," Wester said. "We have a lot of saints who represent the teaching of Jesus Christ. This is an aberration."

The denouncement comes after Ciudad Juarez Bishop Jose Guadalupe Torres Campos attacked La Santa Muerte, which means Holy Death, in a recent newspaper interview and urged parishioners not to join this "cult." A number of Cath-



In this 2013 file photo, statues of La Santa Muerte are displayed at the Masks y Mas art store in Albuquerque, N.M.

olic officials in Mexico have condemned the folk saint, but bishops in the U.S. have largely been silent on the skeleton image.

Popular in Mexico, and sometimes linked to some drug cartels, La Santa Muerte in recent years has found a

robust and diverse following north of the border: immigrant small business owners, artists, gay activists and the poor, among others — many of them non-Latinos and not all involved with organized religion.

Clad in a black nun's robe and holding a scythe in one

hand, Santa Muerte appeals to people seeking all manner of otherworldly help: from fending off wrongdoing and carrying out vengeance to stopping lovers from cheating and landing better jobs. Others seek her protection for their drug shipments and to ward off law enforcement.

Devotees often use Catholic prayers and set up shrines in her honor. The saint is especially popular among Mexican-American Catholics, rivaling that of St. Jude and La Virgen de Guadalupe as a favorite for miracle requests, even as the Catholic Church in Mexico denounces Santa Muerte as satanic.

Her image has been used on prayer cards citing vengeance and protection, which are sometimes found at scenes of massacred bodies and on drug shipments.

But Sis called La Santa Muerte "spiritually dangerous," adding that there is no link to Catholicism. "It should be completely avoided. It is a perversion of devotion to the saints," Sis said.

## BRIEFLY

### Right to Life Latino director to visit Hermiston

HERMISTON — The Latino outreach director with Oregon Right to Life will present information about the pro-life culture with Latino families.

Margot Loza, a recent graduate of the University of Idaho, was invited by Hermiston Right to Life to make several area presentations. The public is invited to sessions:

- Monday, March 6 from 7-9 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall, 565 W. Hermiston Ave., Hermiston (English presentation geared towards youths).
- Tuesday, March 7 at 2 p.m. at La Palma, 231 E. Hurlburt Ave., Hermiston (Spanish presentation geared for adults).
- Thursday, March 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church parish hall (Spanish presentation geared for adults).

At the University of Idaho, Loza studied nutrition and public relations and she was the director of the Students for Life club. After graduation, she served as a digital media intern for Students for Life of America. She is now committed to reaching out to the Latino community to promote the value of life.

"I'm pro-life because I believe in love," she said. "Abortion has destroyed too many people in our time and it's time we put an end to the destruction."

Marge Rolan of the Hermiston Right to Life group encourages area pastors to come and meet Loza, who is open to invitations to return to the area for future discussions and presentations.

For more information, contact Rolan at goodsheep4@gmail.com.



Loza

### Several churches announce Shrove Tuesday meals

The public is invited to Shrove Tuesday pancake supper meals planned in Athena, Pendleton and Hermiston.

A tradition held on the day before Ash Wednesday, the idea was to use up high calorie, high fat foods, eggs, and milk, to prepare for the season of Lent. The meals are:

- Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 5-7 p.m. at Athena Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Fifth and College streets, Athena. The meal is free, but donations will be accepted for Pregnancy Care Services in Pendleton.
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 5-6:30 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 241 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. The cost is \$7 per person and kids eat for free.
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 from 5:15-6:45 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 953 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 for a family.

In addition, an Ash Wednesday Service of Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes is Wednesday March 1 at 7 p.m., at St. John's in Hermiston. The service begins the observation of Lent, the liturgical period before Palm Sunday and Easter.

For more information, contact 541-567-6672 for the Hermiston church, redeemerchurch1897@gmail.com for the Pendleton church and 541-566-3656 for the Athena church.

### Ecumenical group announces Lent schedule

PENDLETON — Special worship services during the season of Lent are planned in Pendleton.

The Ash Wednesday service, which is March 1, begins at 7 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 241 S.E. Second St. Rev. Travis Larsen is presiding.

The rest of the weekly ecumenical worship services begins each Wednesday

at 6 p.m. with a soup supper, followed by communion and worship at 7 p.m. The messages relate to The Beatitudes from Matthew 5:1-11. The locations and minister scheduled includes:

- March 8 at Peace Lutheran Church, 210 N.W. Ninth St. (Rev. Charlotte Wells).
- March 15 at First United Methodist Church, 352 S.E. Second St. (Rod Harwood).
- March 22 at First Presbyterian Church, 201 S.W. Dorion Ave. (Ann Marie Hardin).
- March 29 at Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, 241 S.E. Second St. (Marc Mullins).
- April 5 at Peace Lutheran Church, 210 N.W. Ninth St. (Jim Pierce).

Everyone is invited, regardless of faith, to attend the soup supper and services. For more information, contact redeemerchurch1897@gmail.com.

### Diaper Dash set for March 4

HERMISTON — A fun walk/run featuring 5K and 10K distances helps provide diapers for people in need.

The Diaper Dash is Saturday, March 4 at 9 a.m. at the Hermiston Church of the Nazarene, 1520 W. Orchard Ave. The entrance fee is a package of diapers.

In its third year, the church partners with local social service agencies to distribute diapers. Last year more than 15,000 diapers were collected through the effort of 80 participants.

For more information, contact 541-567-3677, hermistonnaz@gmail.com or visit www.hermistonnazarene.org or www.facebook.com/events/339082683143495.

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.

# Worship Community

<p style="text-align: center;">PENDLETON FIRST <b>CHURCH OF GOD</b> FIRST SERVICE 8:30 AM SECOND SERVICE 10:30 AM 712 SW 27<sup>TH</sup> ST. 541-276-1894 www.fcogpendleton.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> -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 <b>Open Hearted... Open Minded</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Salvation Army</b> Center for Worship &amp; Service Sunday Worship Service 9:30 - Sunday School <b>10:30 - Worship Service</b> Wednesday Bible Study 5:30 Family Fellowship Meal / 6:00 Bible Study <b>COME AS YOU ARE</b> 150 SE EMIGRANT (541)276-3369</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. Johns Episcopal Church</b> Join Us On Our Journey With Jesus. <i>Scripture, Tradition and Reason</i> Family service 9am Sunday N.E. Gladys Ave &amp; 7th, Hermiston Fr. Dan Ledard, Priest, PH: 367-6672 <i>We are an all inclusive Church who welcomes all.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Faith Center Church</b> Worshiping God Loving People 108 S. Main • 276-9569 <b>Sunday Worship 10:30 am</b> Sr. Pastor, Ray O'Grady pendletonfaithcenter.org</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Come meet Jesus at <b>PENDLETON BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 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 &amp; 6 PM Awana Kids Club (K-6th grade) Wed Men's Study 6 PM MOPS meeting the 1st Thur of the Month 6 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> <i>in Mission for Christ LCMC</i> Bible Study.....9:00 AM Sunday Worship.....10:30 AM <b>Red Lion Hotel ( Oregon Trail Room ) www.faithpendleton.org</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grace Baptist Church</b> 555 SW 11th, Hermiston 567-9497 <b>Nursery provided for all services</b> Sunday School - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:45 AM 6:00 pm Wed Prayer &amp; Worship - 7:00 PM "Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Seventh-Day Adventist Church</b> Saturday Services <b>Pendleton</b> 1401 SW Goodwin Place 276-0882 <b>Sabbath School 9:20 am Worship Service 10:45 am</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GRACE AND MERCY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA</b> <b>OPEN HEARTS - OPEN DOOR</b> www.graceandmercy.lutheran.org Sunday Worship 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (Nursery Provided) Fellowship, Refreshments &amp; Sunday School Check Out our Facebook Page or Website for More Information <b>541-289-4535</b> Grace and Mercy Lutheran Church, ELCA (First United Methodist Church) 191 E. Gladys Ave. / P.O. Box 1108 Hermiston, Oregon 97838</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Community Presbyterian Church</b> 14 Martin Drive, Umatilla, OR 922-3250 <b>Worship: 10 AM Sunday School at 11:30</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Living Word Christian Center</b> <b>Sunday Worship 10:00am</b> <b>Wednesday Bible Study 6:00pm</b> <b>Youth Classes:</b> Nursery - 6th grade Sun &amp; Wed Jr &amp; Sr High Discipleship Program Wed <b>Overcomer's Outreach</b> Tuesday at 6:00pm - Annex A Christ-centered, 12-Step Recovery Support Group <b>Pastor Sharon Miller</b> 401 Northgate, Pendleton 541-278-8082 www.livingwordcc.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>First United Methodist Church</b> Pendleton/Hermiston 352 SE 2nd Street, Pendleton <b>Sunday Worship 9am</b> 541-276-2616 <b>Worship Broadcast on KUMA 1290 @ 11am</b> 191 E. Gladys Ave, Hermiston <b>Sunday Worship 11am</b> 541-567-3002 <i>Worship Livestream at herfumc.com</i> <i>Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors</i> Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church LCMC</b> Sunday worship at 11:00 AM 420 Locust St. • Boardman, OR <b>541-481-6132</b> Colin Brown, Pastor</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Peace Lutheran Church</b> 210 NW 9th, Pendleton ELCA Join us Sundays 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 11:00 am Sunday School &amp; Adult Class <b>~Come and be at Peace~ on 1290 KUMA noon each Sunday</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>a place to belong</i> <b>Pendleton First</b> INVITING ENRICHING INVOLVING EMPOWERING <b>SUNDAY SERVICES</b> AM Celebration-10:00am AM Kids Place -10:00am The Connection--6:00pm Groups for all ages: Adults, Children, Youth, &amp; College <b>Thursdays Celebrate Recovery-6:00pm Celebration Place-6:00pm</b> Other groups Available Weekly <b>For more info visit WWW.PENDLETONFIRST.COM</b> 1911 SE Court Ave 541-276-6417 Assembly of God Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BAHA'I FAITH</b> "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</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Living Word Christian Center</b> 401 Northgate, Pendleton 541-278-8082 www.livingwordcc.com</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> (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</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Redeemer Episcopal Church</b> 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 <b>All Are Welcome</b></p>	

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