

FROM THE PULPIT 20,000 Leagues under the sea?

By the Rev. Mike Lamb
To the Blue Mountain Eagle

As a much younger person, I thoroughly enjoyed reading adventure stories. Among my favorite authors was one Jules Verne, a French novelist who was a forward thinker, well ahead of his time. Nowadays, we might classify him as a science fiction writer, although in his time, the wonders of our world and universe were very limited.

We are referring here to a time period of about 1870, long before airplanes, rockets, powered submarines and copious energy availability. Of particular delight for me was my reading of "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," an adventure story that gripped my young imagination. I easily identified with Captain Nemo, commanding the Nautilus, and diving deep into the oceans to pursue a sea monster. In the story are times of doubt, of terror, of deep despair and disagreements, of lack of faith, yet also determination and courage to face the unknown, with all of its associated horrors, both real and imagined. Most of the fear can be attributed to having to deal with the vastness of the unknown, the relentless pull into an alien environment, far out of a person's comfort zone.

Even today, when faced with the prospect of having to do things differently, many of us subconsciously fear the unknown that lies ahead. We too, resist being taken out of our comfort zones. Such an event is even underway within our community in John Day. Our United Methodist Church is faced with having to organize and deliver worship services in the absence of an ordained clergy person to lead us. We are very much in uncharted waters, with associated fears and uncertainties threatening to overwhelm us. Yet, in the face of such adversity, the human courage, determination

and trust in our faith are helping us to move forward together in an exciting, positive new direction.

We are determined our church will become even more vibrant, eagerly seeking ways to help others in our community, and fired up with enthusiasm to welcome all who wish to see and participate in this new adventure. Certainly there may be some rough patches, but with the love of Christ in our midst, we are joyfully setting out to do His work in a new way.

We are being led by lay folks, just like you, empowered to achieve great things! Come to join with us; everyone is welcome. We will guarantee there will be no sea monsters and we will not take you under the sea, but it will be an adventure.

We are located at 126 NW Canton, John Day, right across from the Kam Wah Chung Interpretive Center. Worship starts at 9:00 am. Call 541-575-1326 for further information. Many blessings to you all.

Pastor Mike Lamb is a lay person assigned to NEO Circuit of the United Methodist Church.

Kudos for the Care Center

Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY —The Blue Mountain Care Center in Prairie City was recently recognized as a top nursing home in Oregon according to U.S. News and World Report.

The recognition is based on survey results and quality care of those who live in this facility.

The Blue Mountain Care Center received five stars from the federal Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services for their overall rating with health inspections, nurse staffing and measures of medical quality of care.

Ratings were based on health inspections from the latest three state inspections for health and safety standards for food preparation and other nursing-home activities, and nurse staffing for average number of hours per resident from nurse staff.

"I am so proud of my staff for this accomplishment. This is no small feat, this is huge in the nursing facility industry



Staff members from Blue Mountain Care Center in Prairie City with their awards. Back row, from left, Scott Whybark, Danny Allison and Jo Whitehead; middle row, from left, Rindy Schmitt, Maggie Mansfield, Maria Butler, Jonie Jones, Lorna Askew and Brandi Grove; front row, from left, Tanaya Robinson, Angie Gibson, Kellyn Derosier and Trena Winters.

The Eagle/Kim Kell

and not easy to achieve!" said Brandi Grove, Blue Mountain Care Center Administrator/RN. "This has taken years of hard work and dedication as a team to accomplish. I want to thank each and every one who contributed to us achieving this, from the bottom of my heart."

In Oregon, only 20 percent of nursing homes earned an overall five-star rating based on the U.S. News and World Report.

Committee Volunteers Needed

Grant County is now recruiting volunteers to serve on active boards and committees.

Obtain an Application to Volunteer from County Court, 201 S. Humbolt, Canyon City OR 97820; (541-575-0059); ferriolim@grantcounty-or.gov

Applications are due by **Friday, September 25.**

Committees are formal public bodies required to comply with Oregon Public Meetings Law ORS 192.610.

Extension & 4-H Service District Advisory Council: Eleven members serve three year terms and meet semi-annually to provide guidance and assistance to local OSU Extension staff in planning, developing, and evaluating balanced educational programs directed to high priority needs of county residents. Membership is limited to one re-appointment.

Library Advisory Board: Seven members serve four year terms and meet monthly to promote public awareness and support of library services, receive public input, review and update library materials, and coordinate activities with the Grant County Library Foundation. Membership is limited to one re-appointment.

Mental Health Advisory Board: Seven members (including two consumer representatives) serve three year terms and meet no less than quarterly to facilitate the provision of quality mental health services to county residents and enhance community knowledge of available programs and services. Acts as the Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Commission and Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board.

Road Advisory Board: Seven members serve three year terms and meet as needed to make recommendations on major and annual road decisions such as construction schedules, road vacations, budgeting and policy development, and to participate in hiring staff.

Wildlife Advisory Board: Nine members serve three year terms and meet as needed to discuss issues regarding big game management and make recommendations to Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, including tag allocation and hunting season structure as they relate to population and damage of property.

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MORROW/GRANT COUNTY OHV PARK SPECIAL YOUTH HUNT Elk Second Season -- Spike only
November 7, 2015 to November 15, 2015
 For more information please contact Sandi Putman or Kirsti Cason at the Morrow County Public Works Office 541-989-9500 from 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday - Friday
Morrow/Grant County Special Youth Hunt Applications MUST be submitted no later than Friday, October 2, 2015 3:00 p.m. at the Morrow County Public Works Office 365 West Highway 74, P.O. Box 428 Lexington, Oregon 97839
 Applications will be available at Morrow County Public Works Office. Applicant MUST be a current Morrow or Grant County Resident, have a hunters education certificate and a valid hunters license. Successful applicant will be required to purchase a General Second Season Elk Tag, and provide proof hunting license, and general second season elk tag.

1915 KING'S 2015 100TH ANNIVERSARY
 CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
 Sale Dates: September 18th thru 20th

MAIN EVENT
Saturday September 19th
12pm to 3pm
 Hot Dogs and Drinks on Us!
 Spin the Prize Wheel
 Air Soft Test Range and Toy Demos

\$6⁹⁹
 13" x 49" Basic Door Mirror
 Choose White or Black

\$10⁹⁹
 Mens Dickies Carpenter Work Jeans
 Assorted Colors

\$4⁹⁹
 Walls Short Sleeve Work Shirt
 Assorted Colors

\$16⁹⁹
 16" x 60" Dresser Mirror

4/\$12 12pk Pepsi Products

99¢
 Cottonelle 4pk Toilet Paper

\$34⁹⁹
 Bluetooth Speaker Lantern

\$12⁹⁹ 3pc Oven Basics Tote Set

\$6⁹⁹
 Zombie Crossdart Target Game

\$79⁹⁹
 Huffy 24" Girls or Boys Granite Bike

\$34⁹⁹
 Large Barn Dog House

\$124⁹⁹
 6' Folding Picnic Table

\$449⁹⁹
 Camp Chef Deluxe Stainless Steel Pellet Grill

COME CELEBRATE AT OUR JOHN DAY STORE
 633 W. Main Street | 541-575-2760