

# Pancakes with Santa serves community traditions

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**  
COMMUNITY EDITOR

When asked if he has been a good little boy this year, Cory Kautz Jr. shook his head up and down.

Then, Hermiston boy, 5, looked at his parents for confirmation. When Cory Kautz Sr. and Britni Kautz agreed that their son had indeed been good, a melon-sized grin broke out on his face.

The Kautz family, which also includes 9-month-old Tyson, enjoyed their Saturday morning together during Pancakes with Santa at the Hermiston Conference Center. The Kautzes got their fill of flapjacks and sausage, browsed at several vendor booths and played holiday bingo, which featured green and red M&Ms as card markers.

However, there was an even more pressing reason why the family wanted to attend the event.

"He's so excited to see Santa," Britni said about her oldest son.



The Kautz family of Hermiston, including Cory Sr., Britni, Cory Jr., 5, and Tyson, 9 months, pose for a photo with Santa Claus during Pancakes with Santa Saturday at the Hermiston Conference Center.

When asked what he wanted for Christmas, Cory said, "Presents." And, after pausing, he added, "Big ones."

However, Cory's little brother wasn't as thrilled about seeing the jolly old elf. After eyeballing St. Nick — aka John Perkins

— Tyson started to cry. After event photographer Pat Hart snapped a few pic-

tures, Britni rescued Tyson from Santa's lap. Cory lingered a little longer and

then Santa offered him a candy cane.

Valerie Horton of Hermiston attended the event with her granddaughter, Alivia Estrada, and the 5-year-old's parents, Jessica Horton and Marc Estrada. Valerie said they wanted to do something as a family and to see Santa.

Alivia let St. Nick know that the top of her Christmas wish list is an L.O.L Surprise! As Jessica described the popular toy, Alivia added specific details about the type she's hoping for.

Larry Fetter, Hermiston Parks & Recreation director, said partnerships with the Hermiston Kiwanis Club and local Key Club members were an integral part in making the third annual Pancakes with Santa a success. Also, he said personnel from the Naval

Weapons Systems Training Facility in Boardman assisted with serving. Fetter said the event drew about 130 people, which was held for a second year at the conference center after outgrowing The Arc building.

"It's starting to turn into a local holiday tradition," Fetter said. "It's such a fun event and people look forward to it."

Entertainment was provided by the band and choir students from Hermiston High School. After performing their set, Majazzy choir members headed back for a group photo with Santa Claus. Choir director Jordan Bemrose-Rust said Pancakes with Santa marked the ensemble's 10th special holiday performance.

"It's been a pretty busy schedule, but it's lots of fun," Bemrose-Rust said.



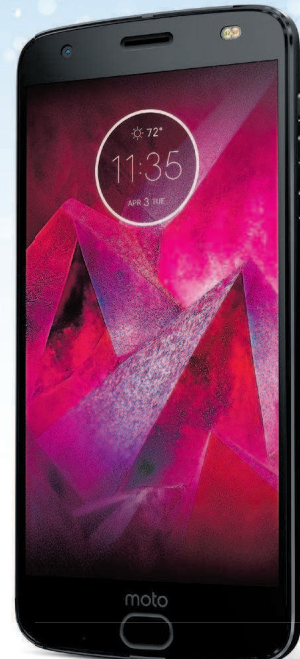
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## WORSHIP COMMUNITY

### 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.*

#### NEW BEGINNINGS

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP  
Worship Service 10:30 AM  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Pastor J.C. Barnett  
Children's Church & Nursery Available  
700 West Orchard Avenue  
P.O. Box 933  
Hermiston, Oregon  
**541-567-8441**

#### First United Methodist Church Hermiston

191 E. Gladys Ave., Hermiston OR  
**Sunday Worship 11am • 541-567-3002**  
*Nursery available. Check us out on Face Book*  
Worship Livestream at [herfum.com](http://herfum.com)  
*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors*  
Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

#### First Christian Church

*"Proclaiming the Message of Hope, Living the Gospel of Love"*  
Sunday School 9:15am  
Worship Gathering 10:30 am  
Children's Church 10:30 am  
**567-3013**  
775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

#### Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church

565 W. HERMISTON AVE.  
DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday  
.....English 7:00 am  
Thursday.....Spanish 6:00 pm  
SATURDAY.....English 5:00 pm  
.....Spanish 7:00 pm  
SUNDAY.....English 9:00 am  
.....Bilingual 11:00 am  
.....Spanish 1:00 pm  
Office.....567-5812

#### Seventh-day Adventist Church

Saturdays  
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
English & Spanish Services  
**567-8241**  
855 W. Highland • Hermiston

#### The Full Gospel Home Church

235 SW 3rd  
Phone 567-7678  
Rev. Ed Baker - Rev. Nina Baker  
**Sunday:**  
Sunday School.....10:00 am  
Worship.....11:00 am  
Evening Service.....7:00 pm  
Wednesday Service..7:00 pm  
*"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."*  
1 Pet. 5:7

#### LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH

125 E. Beech Ave. • 567-3232  
Pastor David Dever  
Sun. Bible Classes.....10:00am  
Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am  
Sun. Evening Worship.....6:00pm  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....6:00pm  
[www.hermistonlmbc.com](http://www.hermistonlmbc.com)

#### 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  
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#### Echo Community Church

21 N. Bonanza Street, Echo OR  
Phone: (541) 376-8108  
Sunday School • 9:30am  
Worship • 10:45am  
Children's Church • 11:15am  
Potluck & Communion ~ First Sunday of the Month

To share your  
worship times call  
541-278-2678