

VBS Slated For First UMC Vermillion

A Vacation Bible School will be held at First United Methodist Church in Vermillion on June 10-13 from 5-8 p.m., with a meal at 5:30. The theme of the VBS is Rolling Sidewalk Sunday School.

Emma and Benjamin are our "guest performers/leaders" of our Sidewalk Sunday School. This year our program is branching out and on a roll. The self-contained trailer will be the focal point of the week. The first night it will run concurrent with the Welcome Table at 16 N. Dakota Street in the back parking lot; come enjoy a free meal and stay for VBS kids! Kids K-6 are invited or younger with a parent. Tuesday thru Thursday night we will gather at Prentice Park under the North Picnic Shelter. In case of inclement weather we'll meet back at 1st UMC upstairs where there is a large air-conditioned room. Fun and Games as the Children learn about God's all inclusive love through story, drama, music, games and more!

Emma K.H. McKirdy is going into her senior year at Simpson College in Iowa as a Music: Piano Performance major. Emma enjoys roller blading and dancing in the rain, but more importantly, she loves working in churches with children & youth or the music, or both! Benjamin McIntyre Wiley is a 2013 graduate from Black Hills State University with majors in Sociology, Human Services, and American Indian Studies. Ben enjoys mountain biking, rock climbing, juggling, unicycling, and making balloon animals! He is very excited to work with many churches this summer and use some of his hobbies to make kids smile.

Vermillion's 1st UMC's Pastor Rick Pittenger says: "Vermillion has a unique opportunity next week, to experience God's love just as Jesus sent his disciples out to the communities two by two to share the good news to all! Young people Emma and Ben bring a wealth of enthusiasm, talent and love of God and children that is infectious. This will be an amazing, exciting event that will blow people's misconceptions about church out of the water. I see it as a brilliant way to show God's love in a practical way. You will not be disappointed! I hope to see you there! Best of all it's free!"

Westville Festival Being Held June 15

VERMILLION — The second annual Westville Festival, held at the Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church, just north of Vermillion on 308th St (off the S-curve on Highway 19) on Saturday, June 15. Come at 8:30 a.m. to register for the events or go to the webpage: www.westvillefestival.wordpress.com, to find more information.

There will be a 5K and a 10K Fun Run with medals going to the top three finishers in each event; a 10K Bike Ride; a one- or three-mile historic Cemetery Walk; and reminiscing and treats in the church basement. All these events begin at 9 a.m.

There will also be kids' activities, including an "Amazing Race" event. The Amazing Race will have kids paired up in teams to figure out clues and meet challenges at every destination that their clues may lead them too! Lots of prizes and adventure awaits! There will also be "digging for gold" and other surprises for the kids on the church grounds. Kids' activities are free and will begin at 9:30 a.m.

T-shirts will also be available. Local Westville artist Mary Hesla Melzer designed the T-shirts and Mohr's Printing in Wakonda made them. A piece of Carla Ostrem's pie and a T-shirt is included in the registration.

Nancy Carlsen, creator of the Historic Clay County Cemetery books, will be on hand with the books to discuss local history. PVLWC WELCA will provide treats and coffee.

The Westville Festival is a fundraiser for the Eckert Children Scholarship Fund and the historical marker project in Westville.

Pleasant Valley Church is located at 45918 308th St., Vermillion. For more information, contact Grace Freeman at 624-5369 or e-mail gracefreeman@live.com/.

VBS Planned For Calvary Baptist June 23-27

Mark your calendars for 'Colossal Coaster World' Vacation Bible School at Calvary Baptist Church, June 23-27 from 7-9 p.m.

Through every twist, turn, and dive, Colossal Coaster World will challenge kids to face their fears and trust God. There's excitement around every curve as kids learn that God has given them a spirit of power, love, and sound judgment. This VBS is the ultimate ride. At the end of the week, kids will want to do it all over again!

Children 3 years old to grade 6 are welcome to attend this free event. Registration is now in progress; call 665-5594 to register.

Religious Orders Struggle With Funding

BY HAROLD BRUBAKER

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The \$19 million renovation and expansion underway at Camilla Hall, a retirement facility for members of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Malvern, Pa., highlights the rapid aging of the members of Catholic religious congregations nationwide.

But don't expect a surge of building projects on the leafy campuses of religious groups.

"I would say it's not a great trend because most cannot afford to build," said Sister Janice Bader, executive director of the National Religious Retirement Office, a unit of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington.

Nationwide, only 34 of 559 religious orders of nuns, priests and brothers that submitted data to Bader's office had fully funded retirement plans at the end of 2011. More than half had less than 60 percent of the money needed to care for their sisters and brothers in old age.

The national retirement deficit was at least \$4.7 billion, according to a 2012 Mercer Human Resources study commissioned by the retirement office.

Meanwhile, religious orders are facing an intensified version of the aging trend that promises to transform all of American society in the coming decades.

In 2010, there were 25,737 members of Catholic religious groups younger than 75 and 24,223 older than 75, data from the religious retirement office showed.

By 2020, nearly twice as many



MICHAEL BRYANT/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/MCT
Sister Maria Patris uses the exercise bike that is out in the hallway outside the beautician's room on the fourth floor of Camilla Hall in Malvern, Penn., May 8. The \$19 million renovation and expansion underway at Camilla Hall, a retirement facility for members of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Malvern, highlights the rapid aging of the members of Catholic religious congregations nationwide.

will be over 75 as under, leaving fewer with full-time incomes to support the community.

"We're all in a situation where we are not being replaced by entrants coming in on a yearly basis the way we used to be. The system is retirement-heavy," said the Rev. Barry Strong, director of province administration for the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales in Wilmington, Del.

Like other founders of nonprofit schools, colleges, hospitals and nursing homes, religious congregations are not allowed to take money out of those charitable institutions — beyond salaries paid to the community, not the individual — or to sell charitable assets to meet their own dire needs.

"When they ran schools, when they ran hospitals, they plowed

the money back into the schools and the hospitals. They didn't use it on themselves," said Margaret M. McGuinness, chair of the religion department at La Salle University. "They invested the hospital's money, the college's money, the school's money. They didn't invest their money," she said.

Now some religious groups, which are financially independent from their home diocese, are facing difficult decisions about their futures.

The Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, in Lower Makefield, Pa., took the drastic step last year of selling their 86-acre property to Holy Redeemer Health System for \$8 million.

"We sold it in order to provide longer for retirement," said Sister

Julia Christine Lanigan, president of the group.

How long the money will last is unknown. The group, which was able to lease the property back for five years, has to find a new place to live, and it's not clear how much that will cost, Lanigan said.

A founder's sainthood doesn't spare a congregation financial turmoil as its members age.

The remaining members of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, whose founder, Katharine Drexel, was made a saint of the Catholic Church in 2000, are facing questions bigger than retirement, said Sister Sandra Schmidt, treasurer and councilor at the Bensalem, Pa., congregation, whose median age is 77.

"The smaller groups are phasing out, and that's probably us. But we don't know," Schmidt said. "We have a number of years yet, but our window of opportunity is almost closed." The group of 123 has no novices in training.

Sister Marie Cooper, treasurer for the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, where Camilla Hall is being expanded to accommodate a surge in elderly residents, found it difficult to talk about the financial side of retirement.

The group of educators has 822 members, but only 243 are working full time, earning stipends, illustrating the upside-down conditions facing religious communities everywhere.

"I'm sorry, I'm having a very hard time with this," Cooper said during an interview. "We don't like to separate sisters who do earn stipends from the congregation from the sisters who do not."

Novelist Focuses On Debate Of Religion And Science

BY SHELIA M. POOLE

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Can religion be a double-edged sword? Atlanta author Jeffrey Small delves into the debate between science and religion in his second novel, "The Jericho Deception," a thriller about a scientist who creates a God machine that can bring about religious ecstasy and madness.

His first novel, "The Breath of God," won the Nautilus Book Award Gold Medal for Best Fiction.

"The Jericho Deception" explores the different brain mechanisms that can bring about religious experiences and whether those experiences are real or just electrical misfirings of the brain.

"Because it's a thriller, we get into the question of can we induce the religious experiences of people and can that be misused as well," Small said. "There are two sides.

One side brings us peace, but we also see religion misused through various forms of fundamentalism."

Below are excerpts of an interview with Small:

Q: Is science at odds with religion today? Just look at the recent controversy over human cloning.

A: I do think there is this science and religion dialogue that is constantly going on. Science, at its heart, is amoral. It's morality neutral. It may give us answers as to how things work, but it doesn't tell us what we should and should not do. It often doesn't answer the question of meaning and why things are.

Q: You take your research seriously. For your first book, "The Breath of God," you actually spent a year in Bhutan.

A: Not a year, but I was there for an extended period. I spent a year at Oxford University getting a degree in world religion. For this

novel, I took two trips to the Middle East because many things take place in Egypt and Dubai. I also spent a fair amount of time talking to neuroscientists about the brain and some of the research that is happening. There's a very significant Muslim character in the book, and I wanted to portray him fairly and accurately, so I spent a lot of time researching Islam as well.

Q: "The Jericho Deception" has a Logos machine that can give people religious experiences. How close are we?

A: The novel is based on real neuroscience research being conducted right now. We've identified certain regions of the brain that are active when people are having a religious experience. The question is by stimulating these areas could we induce religious experiences? If we go into the lab to have those experiences, what would be the dangers of controlling religious experiences through a machine? ...

The idea behind the Logos machine in the book is that there is a positive and negative just as we see in the real world with religion today. There are the positive unification aspects of religion, but there is a cautionary side as well. We see how religious fundamentalism can cause wars, intolerance and prejudice.

Q: There might be a huge market for Logos.

A: We've seen certain tribal religions use different teas or mushrooms to induce spiritual journeys in people for thousands of years. But if you can have a mechanical way to induce these experiences, would people flock to such a thing? In today's time, there's such a yearning for spirituality today, and even though we're becoming less religious as a culture, there is that deep want for a greater dimension to our lives and a search for the meaning of life.

CHURCH SCHEDULES

Alliance of Renewal Churches	Baptist	Catholic	Episcopal	Lutheran	Presbyterian	United Methodist
LIVING WATER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP , Sun. 10am Yankton Middle School (2000 Mulberry) Weds. 7pm Prayer. David Olson, pastor. (605)260-2138.	HARVEST INDEPENDENT BAPTIST , 100 W. 3rd, Mission Hill. Pastor Nathan Martin, 668-0708 (ch.), 665-1481 (home). SUN. 9:30am SS. 10:30am Worship. 5:30pm Worship. WED. 7:00pm Worship.	ST. BONIFACE CHURCH , rural Freeman/Idleywild. JUNE WEEK-END Mass Sundays at 10:45am.	CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH , 517 Douglas, Yankton. Rev. James Pearson, (605)665-2456. View As Web Page. Sunday 8:30 am Serenity; 9:30 am Wednesday Noon Holy Eucharist.	OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN , LCMS, 12th and Elm, Springfield. Rev. Kenneth Johnson, pastor. SUN. 8am Worship. 9am SS. THUR. 7pm Adult Bible study.	PEACE PRESBYTERIAN (PC/USA) , 206 E. 31st. 665-0448. Sun-10am worship, Coffee to follow. SS for kids 10:30am. Aired at 8pm Fri. on Ch. 3 & 98.	WAKONDA, IRENE, VIBORG, UNITED METHODIST , Pastor Mark Gronseth. SUN. 8:30am Worship at Wakonda; 9:45am Worship at Irene; 11am Worship at Viborg.
Assembly of God First Assembly of God, 801 W 25th. (605)665-6362 (office). SUN. 10 am: Bible teaching sermons WED. 6:30pm Midweek service and Bible study for all ages. www.yanktonassembly.com	Bible Church GRACE BIBLE CHURCH , 10:30 am Sundays Call Pastor Joel Finck for more information. (605)760-4701.	ST. COLUMBA CHURCH , rural Irene/Mayfield. JUNE WEEKEND Mass Sundays at 9am.	Evangelical Cornerstone Evangelical Church , Pastor Oliver Omanson, Stewart Elementary School; Morning Service 10 a.m. Wednesday College Bible Study 1306 Maple Street. Mike Stevens 665-8750.	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church , Wisconsin Synod, 201 E. 25th Street, Yankton. Pastor Christian Sultzle, (605)665-4793. Sunday 9:15 am Worship; 10:15 am Bible Study.	Reformed RIVERVIEW REFORMED , 17th St. & Burleigh, Rev. Rodney Veldhuizen, pastor. 665-9204. SUN. 9:30am Worship, 10:15am SS. WED. Youth group & adult choir.	KYNT 1450 AM Radio KYNT 1450 AM Radio SAT. 10:30am "Saturday Morning Live." SUN. 8:30am United Methodist Hour. 9:05am "God's Good News." 9:30am St. John's Lutheran Church
Baptist ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH , 100 E. Douglas, Kevin Caskey, pastor. 665-0066. SUN. 9:30am Sunday School, 10:45pm Preaching Service, 4pm Preaching Service. THU. 7pm Preaching Service.	Catholic HOLY FAMILY CHURCH OF CEDAR COUNTY (Sacred Heart), Wyo., NE. Rev. Eric Olsen. (402)357-2400. Mass times, Sundays 9am.	ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC , Lesterville. SUN. 10:30am Mass. Father Daniel Moris.	EMMANUEL CHURCH We gather together for worship every Sunday at 9:30AM at the Yankton Middle School (2000 Mulberry Street). (605)665-0404 www.emmanuelnyankton.com	South Dakota Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, MAIN STREET LIVING television program, 10a.m. (CST) on KALT-NBC; and 11a.m. (CST) on KAUN-PAX; and 10a.m. (MST) on KKRA-PAX.	Seventh-Day SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST , 722 Locust St., Yankton, 665-1032. Worship Services: Saturday 9:30am & 11am. Pastor Nick Osborn (605)760-7791. Yankton Fruit Program. yanktonfruitprogram.org	WNAX 570 AM Radio WNAX 570 AM Radio. Lutheran Shows-6:30am, 8am, 11am. Wings of Healing-7:30am. Words of Hope 8:30am. Prop. Ref. Church-8:45am. Voice of Prov.-9:30am. Hr. of Hope 10am.ChristianCrusaders-10:30am
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH , 301 Ohio St., Wakonda. Dr. Calvin Jones, pastor. (605)267-1100. SUNDAY Worship. 11:00a.m.	HOLY FAMILY CHURCH OF CEDAR COUNTY (Immaculate Conception), St. Helena, NE. Rev. Eric Olsen. (402)357-2400. Mass: Saturdays 5pm.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH , Constance, Neb., Fr. David Fulton, pastor. SAT. Mass: 7:30pm.	Lutheran CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH NALC : 305 W. 25th, Yankton, 665-8848. Rev. Dani Jo Ninke. SAT: 5:30pm SUN: 9am.	St. John Lutheran Church , Tyndall. Pastor Dean Schroeder. Sunday Divine Service: 8:30am (605)589-3195. www.StJohnsTyndallLCMS.org	United Church CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST , Newcastle, Neb., 303 Highway 12, Rev. Gary Kimm, pastor. SAT. 6PM Church school, 7PM Worship. Second THUR. 2PM Ladies Aid.	MIX 106 FM Radio CLASSIC HITS 106 KVHT FM Radio SUN.-THUR. 10:05PM "Family Radio Rosary" with Bishop Robert Carlson.
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH , SUNDAY: 9:00 Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 Worship Service. MONDAY: Service broadcast 7:30pm Channels 3 & 98. WEDNESDAY 6:30pm AWANA. 7-8th Grade Youth Group: 7:00pm 9-12th Youth Group, Adult Bible Study. Pastor Jon Cooke, Associate Pastor Rick Slattery. www.cbchurch.com 2407 Broadway, (605)665-5594.	MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE , Peace Chapel, MMC campus. SUN. 10am Mass with the Sisters in the Bishop Marty Chapel. Public is welcome to attend.	ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC , Wakonda, Rev. Scott Trayner, 624-2697. SUN. 8:30am Mass.	FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN , 44874 303rd St., Volin SD 57072. (605)267-2277. SUN. Worship Services 9:30am. Children's Education WED. Evening (WOW) 6:30-7:30pm.	St. John Lutheran Church , Tyndall. Pastor Dean Schroeder. Sunday Divine Service: 8:30am (605)589-3195. www.StJohnsTyndallLCMS.org	United Church of Christ CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST , 301 W. Franklin, Hartington, NE. (402) 254-6563 or 664-5310. Rev. Gary Kimm, pastor. SUN. 8:15am Church school, 9am Worship.	ESPN Radio 1570 ESPN RADIO 1570 SUN. 10:30AM Trinity Lutheran Church, Vermillion, worship.
YANKTON BAPTIST CHURCH , SBC, 607 East 15th St., Yankton, 665-7587. SUN. 9:30am Bible study, SS; 10:45am Worship. WED. 7pm Midweek service.	SACRED HEART , 509 Capitol, Yankton, Rev. Mark Lichter pastor. 665-3655 (office). SAT. 4:30pm Mass. SUN. 8am, 9:30am, 11am Mass. THUR. 12:30pm, 2:30pm and 7:30pm Confessions.	THE HOUSE OF MARY SHRINE , 6-mi. W. Yankton, Hwy.52. Masses: Monday 8:30 through October. Masses Saturday 9:00 every Saturday. Rosary Sunday 4:00. Rosary 4:00. Open 7 days a week for prayer. thehouseofmaryshrine.org	FIRST AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC 300 S. Carpenter St., Tripp. (605)935-6941 9:30am Sunday School; SUN. 10:45 Worship firsthope@santel.net	ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS) , 1009 Jackson. David Gunderson, pastor. SUN. 8am Worship; 9:15am Education Hour, 10:30am Worship.	TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST , (Congregational) 210 West 5th St., Yankton. (605)665-7320 Dr. Richard W. Jensen, Pastor. SUN. 10am Worship, 11am-Fellowship, 11:05am Church School.	Knology KNOLGY. MON. 6:30pm St. John's Lutheran; 7:30pm Calvary Baptist. TUE. 6:30pm Trinity Lutheran. WED. 6:30pm Antioch Baptist; 8:30pm Grace Bible. THUR. 8pm Assembly of God. FRI. 7pm United Church of Christ; 8pm Peace Presbyterian.
L&S Harry Lane ELECTRIC 1600 E. 39th St., Yankton Commercial • Residential • Farm Wiring *Prompt Service • Quality Work • Competitive Prices New Construction or Remodeling Home: 665-6612 • Mobile: 661-1040	ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH Bloomfield, Nebraska Fr. Michael Schmitz, Pastor SUNDAY Mass-10:30 AM; 2nd, 4th, 5th TUES DAY Mass-8 AM; THURSDAY Mass-8 AM.	Church of Christ CHURCH OF CHRIST , 1114 West 12th, Yankton, 665-6379. SUN. 9:30am Bible study; classes for all ages. 10:30am Worship.	HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, AFLC 200 South Wilson, Delmont. (605)935-6941. SUN 9am Worship. 10am Sunday school. firsthope@santel.net	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH , 403 Broadway, Yankton, 665-7415. Worship: Saturday 5:30; Sunday 8:15am & 10am; Coffee fellowship 9:30am.	UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST , Crofton, Neb., 412 W. Main St., (402)388-4124, Pastor Les Parmenter. SUN. 10:00am Worship.	United Methodist FIRST UNITED METHODIST, Yankton. Rev. Ron Johnson Pastor. 665-2991. Sunday, Contemporary Worship 9:00; Trad. 10:30. Childcare 8:45-11:45. 8:30 UM Hour, KYNT.
Stevens Construction, Inc. (402) 388-2477 Crofton, NE	ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH , 1500 St. Benedict Drive, Yankton, Father Ken Lulf, 664-6214 (church). Masses: SAT. 5pm. SUN. 8:30am & 10:30am.	Church of Jesus Christ CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS , 2300 Douglas, Yankton, Michael Maxwell (402)586-2645 Family History Ctr 665-0901. SUN. 10am Sacrament meeting.	OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN , LCMS/NALC, Menno. Pastor Theresa Jacobson Office 605-387-5241 Worship 9am, Brunch, SS 10:20am.	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH , Hartington/Crofton, NE, Amanda Jertson pastor; (402)254-6606. SUN. 9am Worship (Hartington), 10am SS (Hartington), 11am Worship (Crofton).	UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST , (Congregational) 210 West 5th St., Yankton. (605)665-7320 Dr. Richard W. Jensen, Pastor. SUN. 10am Worship, 11am-Fellowship, 11:05am Church School.	Koranda Well Company, LLC Well Drilling & Repair Pure Water Distillers 605-463-2244 42719 307th St., Tabor
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