

Pastor moves to St. Francis from northern Minnesota

By Karen Krien

It was 112 degrees when Pastor Ken Hart and his family moved to St. Francis from Greenbush, Minn., a small community just 15 miles from the Canadian border. They were almost to the end of their 900-mile journey when the vehicle he was driving with the two boys and a cat, developed a problem and they were stranded in Oberlin at the roadside park.

However, they were able to make it to St. Francis and Karen Hart, the pastor's wife, said they left a good place to come to a good place!

"This is where God wanted us," Pastor Hart added.

His first sermon was on Aug. 1. Pastor Hart graduated high school in Huron, S.D., and went on to the University of Minnesota, in Morris. He was studying pre-law when he met the future Mrs. Hart.

He said that he had seen Karen and wondered who this foreign student was. He later found out that she was just Norwegian and talked with an accent. He eventually met her and said, "we just couldn't stop talking and, we are still talking."

Karen was from Ada, Minn., the daughter of a farmer. She went to graduate school and has a degree in psychology.

They were married and Mrs. Hart established a psychology practice in Marshall, Minn. Pastor Hart then went to Southwest State University in Marshall, graduating summa cum laude in 1992. Mrs. Hart was also caring for elderly parents and an aunt.

Pastor Hart wasn't always sure that preaching was to be his life career. He said he had wrestled with the decision since he was a child. He was married when he began feeling God's tugging at him to be a minister. He talked to Karen who later



PASTOR KEN HART, his wife Karen, son Erik (at the piano) and son Seth recently moved to St. Francis.

said she would rather be married to a happy pastor than an unhappy attorney. When he talked to his mother and grandmother, he was amazed that his decision to be a pastor was no surprise to them.

He entered the American Lutheran Theological Seminary and was one of the first to graduate from there in 1998. He did his internship in Fosston, Minn., which was followed by 7.5 years in Greenbush where he found a warm family of members with whom he became good friends.

Both Pastor and Mrs. Hart said the people of St. Francis have been overwhelmingly helpful and have been so kind.

"The welcome we have received has been wonderful," they said.

Their children, Erik, 10, and Seth, 8, are actively involved in flag football, bird watching and astrology, so, consequently, are their parents. Erik is also learning to play the piano under his mother's direction. Mrs. Hart noted that the constellations are so much clearer in Kansas than they were in Minnesota.

This Sunday, Pastor Hart is being installed by Robert Lee, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. People are welcome to come join each Sunday. Worship begins at 10:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:30 and Bible study is 7 p.m. that evening.



NEW PASTOR OF the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, right, Mike and Daniela Larson, visit with Tim and Tema Trumbo following the worship service.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

New pastor assumes duties

By Karen Krien

Mike Larson has taken over the duties as pastor of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in St. Francis. He also serves Adventist churches in Oberlin, Goodland and McCook.

He and his wife Daniela arrived at their home in McCook in August and Pastor Larson began his duties the following Sabbath.

Pastor Larson is a third-generation Seventh-Day Adventist. He attended Midland Academy, went on to graduate from Union College in Lincoln and then attended Andrews University in Michigan.

Pastor Larson said he knew he wanted to be a pastor at about the age of five. He was practicing on anything that would sit still. It wasn't until he attended a prayer conference on the second coming of Jesus that he realized that he wasn't ready to meet Jesus.

Still, when he went to college, he thought he wanted to go into the business field. His counselor set

him up with both classes in business as well as religion and, eventually, he knew that he was destined to become a pastor.

He and Daniela had met while they were in the eighth grade. Through the years, they dated but broke up. Five years later, they were back together again and married. Mrs. Larson has a masters in social work.

In 2003, they traveled to Africa where they worked in global evangelism. They were in Zimbabwe for two weeks and delivered 20 sermons during that time. The pastor's group spoke three languages but one of those languages was English. During the two weeks, there were a number of different areas where Seventh-Day Adventist pastors worked and, in the end, there were 5,000 baptized.

After coming to northwest Kansas and southwest Nebraska, he has set a goal and hopes to see people become "passionate about

going to church."

"I would like to see God's church grow and see where people can say the church is a true reflection of Christ," he said.

"I want to reach out to those who see the need to have Christ in their life."

Pastor Larson is at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church on Third and Adams streets in St. Francis, and 160 Cattle Trail Ave. in Goodland on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. On the first and third Saturdays, he is at the McCook Seventh-Day Adventist Church at 212 W. Seventh Street; and in Oberlin, the church is located at 120 S. East.

He just completed a series of meeting in St. Francis but says people can come visit the church service any week.

When he has time, Pastor Larson likes snow boarding and, being only a couple hundred miles from the ski hills of Colorado, he is looking forward to the winter months.



Brady Ketzner

Birthday celebrated

Brady John Ketzner celebrated his first birthday on Aug. 22. He is the son of Nick and Heidi Ketzner of Bird City. Also helping him celebrate was his brother, Dylan and other family and friends.

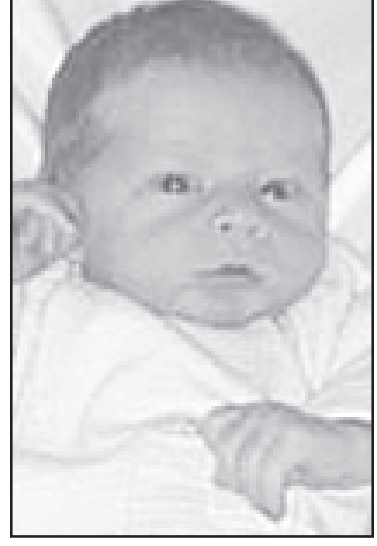
Grandparents are Rosalie Ketter of St. Francis, Linda Ketzner of Sun City, Ariz., and Ernie and Kim Ketzner of Bird City. Great-grandparents are Ned and Donna Johnson of Bird City, Dottie Cook and Charlene Fritsche, both of Goodland.

Introducing

Trevan Jace Coberly

Caden Coberly is proud to announce the birth of his brother, Trevan Jace. Born at home on Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 1 a.m., Trevan is the son of Dr. Guy and Trisha Coberly of Loveland, Colo. Trevan weighed in at 8 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 21-inches long.

Grandparents are Terry and Deb Crites of Idalia and Carter and Janie Coberly of Tipton, Iowa. Maternal great-grandparents are Lawrence and Jerry Crites of Idalia and Bernice Zweygardt of St. Francis.



Trevan Coberly



Club Clip

Pleasant Hill 4-H Club

The October meeting of the Pleasant Hill 4-H Club met at the St. Francis Equity building at 7 p.m.. Roll call was "What are you going to be for Halloween."

There was a ceremony for the new club officers. The minutes were approved by Laura Brunk, president. The treasurer, reporter,

leaders and 4-H Council members gave their reports.

There were no demonstrations tonight at the Pleasant Hill 4-H Club meeting.

Treats were served by the Schoenrogges.

Christina Schoenrogge
Reporter

Leigh Legere of Overland Park was a Tuesday through Thursday visitor of her mother, Betty Jean Winston.

A neighborhood coffee was held Monday at the Alice Isernhagen home for Ellen Raile and Anabelle Rueb. Others who helped them celebrate were Ellen's daughter, Loretta Touslee, Marie Holzwarth, Nina Raile, Violet Cranmer and Elaine Owens.

Billy and Karen Krien traveled to Clay Center on Friday, Sept. 29, where they attended the Clay Center High School football game. Their grandson Kyle Allen is the quarterback and was also crowned Homecoming King in the halftime activities. On Saturday and Sunday, they were guests at the home of Jim and Loretta Touslee, Baldwin City, for a family reunion. Wanita and Ed Kroeplin, Finley, N.D., were on their way to their winter home in Donna, Texas.

Others attending besides the Kriens were Sue Ella Touslee, Karen Zogelman, Mike and Michelle Robinson and family, Phil and Jodi Kostelac and Kali, Sarah Hopper and boys, David Wilburn; Scott Wilburn, Kelly Allen and Kyle, Tyler Krien and Bridgette Allen.

-St. Francis News-

Ruth Reynolds had a birthday coffee at her home for Violet Cranmer last week on Thursday. Those that helped her celebrate were Colleen Gardner, Darlene Merklin, Dawn Fry, Dorothy Orth and Nancy Ellefson.



Don and Florence Antholz

50th anniversary celebrated on Oct. 5

Don and Florence Antholz recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, on Oct. 5. Their children are Robbin and Michelle Antholz and Allen Antholz of McDonald and April Rodriguez of Benton, Mo.

Cards may be sent to 601 Vine, Atwood, KS 67730. They would like to hear from friends.

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