

National Day of Prayer set for May 4

The Thomas County Ministerial Association plans to participate in the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 4, with this year's theme "America, Honor God."

The event will be held from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. on the front lawn of the Thomas County Courthouse.

Christians from across Thomas County are invited for a time of corporate prayer for the nation and the world. Anyone is welcome to participate. For more information, call 462-8391.

In addition to Thomas County's participation, millions of other people will be uniting in prayer as well.

President George W. Bush and all 50 governors will proclaim this 55th annual National Day of Prayer. One focus will include American troops fighting for democracy and freedom around the globe and battling the war on terror.

National Day of Prayer Chairman Shirley Dobson, wife of *Focus on the Family* founder and chairman Dr. James Dobson, said "at a time when so many principles found in Scripture have been rejected by society, it's all the more vital that God's people stand firmly in defense of the precepts He's laid out in His Word. As we wage this cultural battle, however, none of our efforts are assured success without consistent, fervent prayer for God's intervention."

"The National Day of Prayer provides each of us with a powerful

opportunity to humble ourselves before the Almighty and to seek the 'redeeming and preserving grace' Abraham Lincoln so eloquently spoke!," she said.

"In asking God to forgive our collective rebellion against Him, we can also pray for our schools, the media and especially our governmental leaders, asking the Lord to grant them wisdom, for the challenges they face on a daily basis."

Dobson said she thinks it's encouraging to know that "our loving heavenly Father listens and responds to our personal and corporate petitions, enabling us to 'receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.'"

Pastor Dr. Henry Blackaby is the 2006 honorary chairman and will address the national event in Washington, D.C. In addition to his appearance at the national observance, Blackaby has released, *Experiencing Prayer with Jesus*, which is this year's theme book. Grammy award winning artist Rebecca St. James will sing the theme song, "America, Honor God."

Editor's note: The National Day of Prayer tradition pre-dates the founding of the United States of America when the Continental Congress issued a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer in 1775. In 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer and, in 1988, that law was amended, designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

Colby women attend district meeting

Four Colby women were among the more than 500 members and guests of the Kansas District Women's Missionary League — Lutheran Women in Mission meeting for a convention in Salina's BiCentennial Center April 21, 22, and 23.

Deanna Shields, Relda Galli, Carol Raile and Bev Biel all attended from Lutheran Church in Colby.

The members adopted mission projects and financial aid to students fundraising goals for the next two years totaling \$72,000. During servant events, members made cards for nursing homes, wrote cards to military personnel and tied quilts. About 80 people walked in the park for mission donations.

Participants brought craft items, food and paper supplies, games and health items, which were donated to two organizations — OCCK, Inc. (a group helping people link up with

rehabilitation networks) and Rebecca Morrison House in Salina, which offers lodging for families of patients at Salina Regional Healthcare. Speakers at the convention, "Chosen to Serve," included Vivian Ernst of Ida Grove, Iowa with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League vice president and Christian Life; Dr. Jothan Jhang, mission speaker and banquet entertainer founder of the Center for Asian Missions and Evangelism of Centreville, Va.; and Rev. Tom Harmon, bible study leader of Wichita.


The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church — Missouri.

Heartland Christian School will be having an ALL DAY Scrapbook Event

Saturday, May 6th
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy fun and fellowship while you work on your current scrapbooking projects or take advantage of a beginners class to get you started in this fun and rewarding hobby! Cost is \$30.00 for all day or \$15.00 for half a day. Children are half price with an adult ticket. Meals are included and there will be drawings for great prizes and Creative Memories consultants will be on hand to assist you!

To make reservations, please call Tonya Winger at 462-3677.



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For more info., contact: Cathy Gordon at 462-3984, ext. 310

This event is FREE to the public!

American missionary remembered as saint

LURIN, Peru (AP) — Father Joe has come home to the place he picked for his eternal rest — a burial niche on a barren hill, looking down on the orphanage he founded two decades ago.

Joseph Walijewski, a Polish-American, Roman Catholic priest known to all simply as Father Joe, would have been surprised by the turnout for his funeral this month.

Two dozen men of the cloth, some from as far away as Wisconsin and including five bishops, led the Mass for him April 18 at the small church in this community outside Lima, packed with hundreds of townspeople who spilled into the street outside.

Orphans small and large, many now leading successful lives, came to say goodbye.

"A saint has lived among us and a saint has died among us," said the Rev. Luis Hidalgo, a priest from the jungle town of Oxapampa, just down the road from the village where Walijewski

spent his last years setting up a home for the elderly.

Walijewski's life, and death at 82 from complications from pneumonia, exemplify the dedication and sacrifice many foreign missionaries bring to their work in Third World nations — though few receive the recognition that he has.

Walijewski represented the diocese in La Crosse, Wis., when he arrived in Peru in 1971 after 10 years as a missionary in Bolivia and two in Ecuador.

He quickly set up the first parish in Villa El Salvador, a shantytown that was taking shape amid the sand dunes outside Lima, Peru's capital, and helped get aid for its first inhabitants, people who had been uprooted by a devastating earthquake in the central Andes the year before.

"Without him, Villa El Salvador would have been something else, filled with resentful, rebellious people.

He gave it a different tone, a different heart," said Bishop Gerardo

Anton Zerdin, who oversees parishes in Peru's central jungle.

Years later, walking through a tough part of Lima, Walijewski spied stealthy movements under a pile of dirty newspapers in an alley. It was a little boy and a girl preparing a place to sleep.

The sight made Walijewski decide to fulfill a lifelong dream and open a home for abandoned children.

Pope John Paul II's Home in Lurin, near Villa El Salvador, came to provide refuge for more than 100 children, some as young as 2, who live in families headed by couples who serve as surrogate parents.

"Many of the children have never known a home, and we are trying to give them the feeling they have a family," Walijewski told an Associated Press reporter a few years ago.

He was inspired by the movie "Boys Town," which told the true story of Father Flanagan and the City of Little Men.

He said he wanted to create a

place for "happy children."

Walijewski knew about poverty. He grew up in Grand Rapids, Mich., the ninth child of poor immigrant parents from Poland. At age 5, he hawked newspapers on the street to help his family.

In his work clothes and heavy shoes, Walijewski looked more like a meat packer than a priest. Squealing kids would swarm around him, hugging his legs. His mouth twisted off to one side, giving him a Popeye the Sailor look, and his green eyes gleamed when he talked — especially when the topic was his kids.

"If he hadn't taken them on, a lot of them might not even be alive today," said British-born Susan Morillas, the head of Friends of Casa Hogar, whose members donate their time and effort to the orphanage.

"It was their home and he was their father and they were all brothers and sisters."



Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, Pastor, Jeremy Gundling, 245 W. College Dr. - 462-8234, Early Service - 8:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

Schedule of church services

ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 462-3041, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday, Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, September through May. Christian Education for Youth, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, September through May

COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD, Pastor, Jeremy Gundling, 245 W. College Dr. - 462-8234, Early Service - 8:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

BEREAN CHURCH, 1000 S. Franklin, 460-2763, www.colbyborean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Awana Clubs, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Middle & High School, Wednesday, 7 p.m. @ the Heartland Christian School Gym

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, Grant & Webster Street, 462-2867, Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Evening Worship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, (SBC), Pastor Tom Huffman, 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m.

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Chris Shubert. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Sunday Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Nights: 1st Sunday of the month: potluck following morning service - no evening service; 2nd Sunday: services at 6:30 PM; 3rd Sunday: informal fellowship - bring a snack to share!; 4th and 5th Sunday: services at 6:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, 462-2179, Father Dana Clark, Pastor, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:30-5:05

p.m. and from 7:30-7:45 a.m. and 9:25-9:40 a.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 462-6342, Worship, 9:00 a.m.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, 320 W. Pine - 462-8391, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:40 a.m., Sunday Evening Cell groups at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Youth Ministries, Kids Clubhouse 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 460-6605, President Dave Geldmacher, 846-7740; Calvin Haverfield, 1st counselor, 672-4165; Matt Christensen, 2nd counselor, 460-0146. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 12:10 p.m.; Family History Center open to public, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays or by appointment. Call 462-3571.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 462-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. http://www.gbmg-umc.org/colby-umc/

REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC., 345 N. Franklin, Apostle W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 10 a.m., Sunday worship, 11 a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Center (Bible School), 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 510 E. 4th, Jay Kelley, minister, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Eve. Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLBY EVANGELISM CENTER, Rev. Robert Cooper, 815 West 3rd - 462-2062, Sunday School 9:45; Sunday service 10:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Friday Youth Power Hour at 7:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. E-mail: fcccolby@st-tel.net

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Rev. John L. Schmidt, East 5th & Country Club, 462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m.

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Charlie Busch, 694-2242, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Evening service, 6:00 p.m.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, 205 1st St., Pastor Jerry Vincent, 586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Michael Eurit, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. (CDT)

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 687-2565

REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 694-2720, Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. mornings 6:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study, Wed. 7:00 p.m. - Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Thurs. 4:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study

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