

Family

Judaism more than a religion

Most of us think of Judaism as a religion, but many of the people who call themselves Jews are not religious at all. They do not worship God nor do they observe any of the traditional Jewish holidays, but they still consider themselves Jews.

Those who identify themselves as Jews, whether or not they practice any part of the religion, are those who claim to be either religious or physical descendants of the Patriarch Jacob, who was given the new name Israel by God. Whether a Jew is deeply religious or completely secular, there is a claim to this heritage and to the history of this people.

The religion of Judaism has its beginnings, however, not with Jacob, but with Abraham. Judaism began when God called Abraham to leave his homeland and promised that Abraham would be the father of many nations. Abraham's faith in one God, and one God alone, is the basis of Judaism. There is no other God. This belief was unique in the time and place where Abraham lived, and his faithfulness to God was the beginning of the Jewish faith.

Jews believe in one God, who is revealed through their scriptures, the Tanakh, which is the Jewish Bible, what Christians would call the Old Testament. The Tanakh includes the Torah (the Law: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), the Prophets, and the Writings. But another book, the Talmud, is also important in Judaism.

The Talmud is the collected writings of rabbis about Jewish laws, customs, ethics and history written between the years 200 and 500. Ethics play an important part in Judaism, and the writings of the Talmud serve as a reference for a Jew's ethical beliefs and behavior.

Other important beliefs of Judaism include the importance of prayer, directed to God alone; that God will reward the good and punish those who disobey God's laws; the resurrection of the dead; and the coming of God's promised



Carol Rahn

• From the Pulpit

Messiah.

However, the main focus of Judaism is not on the rightness or wrongness of one's beliefs, but on moral and ethical relationships – one's relationship with God, a Jew's relationship with the nation Israel, and one's relationship with other people. These relationships involve obligations that include religious practices and observances. It is the interpretation of these observances that divides Jews.

Orthodox Jews believe that these practices are laws from God and are unchanged by history, time or place. Conservatives agree that they are laws from God, but that they can change over time. Reform and Reconstructionist Jews say they are guidelines that you can choose to follow or not.

Jewish worship takes place in a synagogue and services are typically led by a rabbi, who is the spiritual leader and teacher of the congregation. Any sufficiently educated adult in the congregation can lead worship, although Orthodox Jews do not allow women to do so.

Cantors lead the prayers in a worship service. This can be the same person as the rabbi, but because music is important in Jewish worship, cantors in larger congregations are professionally trained and ordained. Sabbath,

which begins at sunset on Friday and ends at sunset on Saturday, and holidays are also observed in the home, often with rituals centered around a family meal.

The primary Jewish holidays are Passover, celebrating the escape from slavery in Egypt; Pentecost, a spring harvest festival; the Feast of Booths, for the fall harvest; Rosh Hashanah, a day spent in prayers for forgiveness for the past year's sins; and Yom Kippur, the New Year. The latter two are solemn days of prayers and fasting.

Hanukkah used to be a minor holiday celebrating the rededication of the Temple after enemies destroyed it, but has become more importance because it is celebrated about the same time as Christmas.

Judaism is essentially a religion whose practice revolves around study of scripture and the observance of God's laws and commandments. One's relationship to God is shown through prayer and worship and by living a morally ethical life in the world.

There are about 13 million 14 million Jews in the world, making it the 11th largest religious group.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$5.30
Corn (bushel)	\$3.72
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.62
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.72



Megan Michelle Weber and Cody Lionel Honas

Couple to wed in June

Megan Michelle Weber and Cody Lionel Honas of Colby plan marry June 6, 2009, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ellis.

She is the daughter of Mark and Lisa Weber, and he is the son of Stan "Buck" and Julie Honas, all of Ellis.

Grandparents are Ambrose Weber, Hays, and the late Freda Weber; Leland and Janice Werth, and Oscar and Betty Honas, Ellis; and Don and Mary Reinhardt, Russell, and the late Lionel "Sonny" Ernst. Great-Grandparents are Bridget

Werth and Lucille Coupal, both of Hays.

The bride-elect is a 2004 graduate of Ellis High School and a 2008 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in nursing. She is a registered nurse at Citizens Medical Center.

The prospective bridegroom is a 2004 graduate of Ellis High School and a 2008 graduate of the Kansas Highway Patrol Training Academy, Salina. He is a state trooper stationed in Thomas County.

Deaths

Sharla Pierce

Sharla Vaughn Pierce, 41, formerly of Colby, died at her home in Firestone, Colo., on Saturday, March 28, 2009, a victim of domestic violence.

She was born Dec. 17, 1967, in Provo, Utah, to Sherry Dugue and Jay Pierce, and grew up in Colby, attending school here until she moved during high school.

She worked at Welch Equipment Co. in Denver, and previously had managed the front desks of several major hotels in Westminster and Denver.

She was preceded in death by her father.

She is survived by her mother, Colby; three sons, Specialist Shaun McMahan, Fort Riley; and Travis Acker and Lucas Acker, and a daughter, Bethany Acker, of the home; a brother, Thomas Richie, Colby; three sisters, Beverly Johnson, Colby; Tami (Chris) Crum, Mesa Ariz.; and Tracey Carpenter, Bullhead City, Ariz; and her grandmother, Dorothy Barkdoll.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 4, 2009, at the Taborn-Rice Funeral Home, 75 S. 13th Ave., Brighton, Colo., 80601.

Visitation was to be today. The family suggests contributions to the Sharla Pierce Memorial Fund. They can be sent to the funeral home, or to First Bank, Adams County Branch, Sharla Pierce Memorial Fund, 410 E. Bromley, Brighton, Colo., 80601.

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

Cleo Cook Foutz



Cleo Cook Foutz will celebrate her

80th birthday

with a birthday reception on **Saturday, April 11, 2009, 2 p.m. ~ 4 p.m.** at the Good Samaritan Home in Hays. Friends and family are invited to come celebrate with Cleo at the Home.

Cards can be sent to: Cleo Foutz, Room 312, Good Samaritan Home, 2700 Canal Blvd, Hays, Kansas 67601-1798.

SERVICES DIRECTORY

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



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. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com

Schedule of church services

COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee's building), Pastor Bernard Heinz, 460-0313, Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

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, 245 W. College Dr., Colby, Interim Pastor, Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages, Adults: choice of Fireproof, Crown Financial, or the Bible Class. 462-8234. cdag@st-tel.net.

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, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Carroll H. Morony, Pastor, 615 W. Webster, 462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study Wednesday at 3 and 7 p.m.; RC Club 2nd & 4th Sunday: 2 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, 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 Intern Pastor Pat Colley, 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, Sunday Worship 11:00 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 Gary Slavens, 460-2656; Jordan Barrett, 1st counselor, 460-1101; Tim Wilson, 2nd counselor, 785-846-7796. 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 785-462-3571.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 460-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. www.colbyumc.org

REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC., 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 10a.m., Sunday worship, 11a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Centers (Bible School), 5 p.m. Shop online at: www.rlmregional-church.com

CHURCH OF CHRIST, Minister, Jarrod Spencer, 510 E. 4th, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Interpretation for the deaf, Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Lyle Knebel, 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 11:15 a.m. E-mail: fcccclb@st-tel.net.

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

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. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-890-3375, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.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.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)

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

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Joan Dingerwerth, 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

This feature is sponsored by these business firms as a contribution to the religious life of the community.

Open House
April 5, 2009
1:00 to 4:00
1025 West 3rd St. in Colby, Kansas.
4 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled home. For pictures and more details go to www.nex-tech.com free classifieds or call 785-443-0111.
Everyone is welcomed to come see the changes I've made to my home. Selling on my own, for a better price for you.
Thanks - Laurie Allen

Kiwanis Club
ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!
Saturday, April 4th • Fike Park
Ages 3 & under 10 a.m. sharp
Ages 4-6 10:10 a.m.
Ages 7-9 10:20 a.m.
In case of bad weather, listen to KXXX/KQLS for information.

WADDELL & REED
Financial Advisors
www.waddell.com Member SIPC
Economy got you down?
Join us for a seminar with Mike Hendrickson discussing **Annuities in Today's Market Place.**
April 8th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Colby Community Building.
This is a Free Seminar with Limited Seating. Wide variety of desserts will be available at our dessert bar. Please RSVP by April 6, 2009 to 785-462-9823.
Investing is subject to market risk and it is possible to lose money on your investment. Waddell & Reed is not affiliated with Mike Hendrickson.

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Bud Van Horn and Staff
1760 W. 4th 462-2181
To become a sponsor, call Heather or Jasmine today at 462-3963.

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