

Family

Tolerance is part of Christian belief

Two specific tendencies in behavior toward others by the Body of Christ, otherwise called the Christian Church, do not honor Christ and do not follow the teachings of the New Testament.



Carroll Morony

• From the Pulpit

One is to refuse to accept, hardly even tolerate, a fellow Christian (or church) who does not conform exactly to one's beliefs and convictions on specific issues. The result, sadly, often is schism, disharmony or judgmentalism within the Body of Christ. The other is to so castigate, reject or condemn those outside the community of faith for behavior or values that they are personally shunned or judged by Christians to the point that the love and grace of God has no opportunity to reach them.

At the heart of the matter is confusion about the meaning of "acceptance" and equating it with "approval" or "agreement." The assumption is made that if I do not agree with you, or approve of your behavior, I cannot accept you. From a Biblical perspective, nothing is further from the truth.

In New Testament Greek, the words, "tolerate," "accept," "agree" and "approve" have quite distinct meanings. The very order in which I have just listed them indicates a progression in the behavior and attitude of a Christian toward others.

In the New Testament, the word used for "tolerate" means to endure, or to bear with. I may not like what or who it is, but by circumstances I am compelled to put up with it (or them). Tolerance toward those totally opposite of what I may stand for is God's grace in action at its most demanding. Whatever personal judgment I, as a Christian, may make against the values or behavior of such a person, I must keep it to myself and learn how to "bear with" them.

Tolerance of others is the minimal responsibility of a follower of Jesus. Accepting another person takes it the next step. The Greek means to accept or acknowledge a person to be what she or he professes to be without rejection or judgment. It is what it is. They are what they are, and whether I like it, agree or approve – or not – is irrelevant.

As a Christian (or church), I am called in Christ to accept them as they are, not merely to keep my judgments to myself, but to withhold judgment at all, understanding that that is God's prerogative alone. (Acceptance, by the way, is how God has acted toward us in Christ! Not to mention how God tolerates our shenanigans and sin for the sake of hopefully redeeming us.) Agreement goes to an even deeper level – that there is some kind of harmony or accord between persons or churches; that there is more that is alike, or similar, than there isn't. The New Testament word "Covenant" is a synonym for an agreement. We

can be in agreement, even if that agreement is not 100 percent on all things. What binds us as Christians is greater than what we may disagree on, though unfortunately this is too often overlooked.

Often there are points of agreement that can take place between the Christian community and the rest of the world. The final, word, "approve," takes us to a higher place where I have tested and tried the beliefs, behavior or lifestyle of another and have found, by my understanding of God's Word, that I can allow what they stand for within my frame of understanding and convictions. I have "judged" in the sense of evaluating and can approve.

There is much in human relationships that falls outside the levels of agreement or approval that we are called upon to tolerate or accept. Such relationships are where the application of God's grace and love is the most important, and the most difficult. Nevertheless, it is imperative that we not confuse tolerance or acceptance with agreement or approval.

As persons within the Body of Christ, there will inevitably be things or behaviors or attitudes we simply cannot approve of based on our reading of God's Word. There also will be disagreement – even serious ones – about points of belief, acceptable behavior, or moral or social values, but we find our harmony in Christ based on Grace and the Cross.

Regardless of approval or agreement, or the lack of it, we are called by God's Word to tolerate and even, if possible, by His Grace, to accept all persons, whether in the church or beyond it, without judgment or condemnation or ridicule. The reason is quite simply because if Christians do not, there is no hope of God's Grace and Love becoming a part of their life. We are the only conduits Christ has.

And if we in the Church cannot get this right among ourselves in the first place, how in God's name do we expect those around us to care about anything we have to say?

Markets

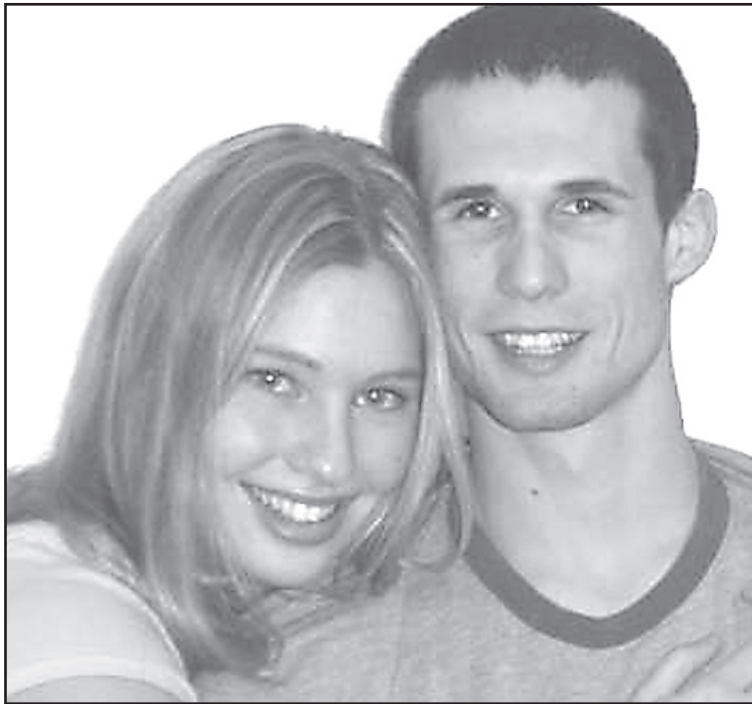
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Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.83
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Corrections

The birth announcement of Landon Dominic Mainus on Page 4 of the May 4 edition of the *Colby Free Press*, incorrectly spelled the mother's name as Shaley. The correct spelling is Shaly. This was a transcription error.

☆☆☆☆☆
The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.



Crystal Mannebach and Shane Montgomery

Leoville church set as site for June wedding

Crystal Mannebach and Shane Montgomery plan to marry Saturday, June 13, 2009, at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Leoville.

The bride is the daughter of Bob and Evelyn Mannebach of Colby. She is a 2005 graduate of Colby High School and will graduate this spring from Bethany College in Lindsborg, with a degree in elementary education.

The groom is the son of Ron and Gina Montgomery of rural Decatur County. A 2004 graduate of Decatur Community High School in Oberlin, he is a student in computer technology at Kansas State University, Salina.

The couple plan to live in Salina.

Deaths

Dale Elizabeth Dunlap

Dale Elizabeth Dunlap, 87, League. She also enjoyed yard former Brewster business owner, work. Clovis, N.M., died Wednesday, May 6, 2009, at Plains Regional Medical Center in Clovis.



Dale Dunlap

She was born June 11, 1921, to O.E. and Clare Butler of Sherman County. Growing up with four sisters and two brothers, she was the last living sibling. Her mother died when Dale was only ten years old, and she went to work as a nanny for a young couple at the age of 11.

On June 14, 1937, she married Bill Dunlap, whom she met in Marshalltown, Iowa. They were married 50 years.

She was a farm wife for several years, living on the farm northwest of Brewster. After they left the farm they owned Craig's Drug Store in Brewster for many years.

She loved to bowl and was a member of the Tuesday Morning

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, one son, Larry, one granddaughter, Kendra, and six siblings.

Survivors include two sons, Jerry (Yetta) Dunlap of Clovis, and Marvin (Carolyn) of Cabot, Ariz.; a daughter-in-law, Judy Dunlap of Highland; 10 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 9, 2009, at Muffley Funeral Home Chapel in Clovis. Burial will be at 3 p.m. Monday, May 11, 2009, at Brewster Cemetery.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Shriner's Hospital, 6600 Zuni SE, Albuquerque, N.M., 87108, or a local hospice.

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Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



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

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: Sundays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 3 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 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 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

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