

# Family

## Our hero found in an earthly shack

Whenever I look at babies, especially after becoming a father, I think about how our Savior came into this world as a baby.

The preciousness. The innocence. The fragility. The vulnerability. All these describe any and every baby that is born. It doesn't matter if they were planned or not. They are all just waiting to be nurtured.

Jesus came in the form of a human, starting out as a baby. He came from a heavenly palace to an earthly, sin-sick shack.

God may have asked Jesus, "Hey, I need for You to leave here, go down to earth, experience pain, temptations, trials and heart-ache for people who won't appreciate it and who will abandon you. Are you up for it?"

You and I would probably never agree to that kind of a deal. Humans have a hard time giving up their parking space for someone else, let alone giving up their life. However, thankfully, He did.

He came down to earth and He was found in an unexpected place - a manger. Our King, in a manger? Our hero, wrapped in His blanket? No paparazzi covered this event, snapping pictures at each opportunity.

This was a quiet setting. This was God, the Son, coming down from His throne, abandoning His home.

This was Him who was great becoming the least, coming to a world that needed a fix. Why? It



**Jarrod Spencer**

• From the Pulpit

was all for you and me.

Have you ever looked at a baby and wondered how God could have allowed His only Son to leave Him to die? About how Mary must have felt knowing that when she kissed Jesus, she was kissing the "face of God"?

It seems so surreal to think about how Jesus came to be our hero. It seems difficult to comprehend how one could die to take the place of every single person who is born. It is unfathomable that the worst of criminals and the most respected citizen "all sin" and are doomed to suffer eternal torment if that unlikely hero, found in the baby, didn't grow up, remain innocent and die for the sins of others.

How many of us would do that? Maybe a few would consider it, but how many would follow through with it?

Only one needed to, and He did it for you and me. May the hope that comes through the hero, found in a baby, make your Christmas a little merrier this year!

*Jarrod Spencer is the minister at the Colby Church of Christ. You can reach him by e-mail at [ichthus\\_man@hotmail.com](mailto:ichthus_man@hotmail.com).*



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Whitaker

## Traditional wedding unites Colby couple

A traditional English wedding ceremony united Holly Ann Stephens and Adam Paul Whitaker in marriage on Nov. 14, 2009, at the United Methodist Church in Brewster. Pastor Perry Baird officiated.

Parents of the couple are Larry and Shelli Stephens of Goodland and Mark and June Whitaker of Gloucester, England.

Maid of honor was Lacy Nemecheck, sister of the bride. Tim Whitaker, brother of the groom, was best man.

Bridesmaids were Kala Bolen and Alison Whitaker, sister-in-law of the groom.

Ushers were A.J. Stephens, brother of the bride, and Brandon Decker.

The bride, a graduate of Fort Hays State University, is executive director of the Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce.

The groom, a graduate of Seale-Hayne Agricultural College in Devon, England, is a product support representative for Shelbourne Reynolds, a British company whose American headquarters is in Colby.

The couple plans to live in Colby.

## Deaths

### Mildred A. Goke

Mildred A. (Chaffin) Goke, 94, Colby, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 2009, at the Morton County Care Center in Elkhart.

She was born April 24, 1915, in Orchard Neb., to Oscar John and Agusta (Retke) Allen. The family moved to a farm south of Colby when she was a child.

On Feb. 3, 1933, she married Howard Chaffin and together they had six children. After his death, she married Karl B. Goke.

She was a retired beautician. She raised three granddaughters, Susan (Dan) Kear, Lenexa; Sylvia "Reenie" (Randy) West, Wichita; and Rischel "Rikki" (Alan) Betts, Hays; and a great-grandson, Douglas Brogan, Colby.

She was preceded in death by both husbands, a daughter, Carolyn, and a great-great-grandson, Chase Alexander Poarch.

Survivors include three sons,

Gary (Adele) Chaffin, Minneapolis, Minn.; Dale (Judy) Chaffin, Post Falls, Idaho; and O. Howard (Joyce) Chaffin, Peyton, Colo.; two daughters, Marolyn (Calvin M.) McFarland, Medford Ore., and Kay (Dick) Clark, Leoti; a brother, Dale Allen, Arvada, Colo.; 21 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren; 13 great-great-grandchildren; and three step-great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, 2009, at the Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel, with burial in Beulah Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday and from 10 a.m. to service time Monday at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials to the Colby Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in care of the funeral home, 745 S. Country Club Dr., Colby, Kan., 67701.

## Firefighters required at services

HOMEWOOD, Ala. (AP) — Churches in an Alabama city better count on a few extra guests at Christmas Eve candlelight ceremonies.

The Birmingham suburb of Homewood requires a permit and four off-duty firefighters to attend any service where candles are passed out to parishioners.

Fire Chief John Bresnan says the rule has been in place for 10 years, but many churches didn't know about it.

Pastor Sid Burgess of Edgewood Presbyterian Church says the rule "seems like overkill," noting that the cost of up to \$400 to

hire firefighters can be a lot for a small church.

The rule doesn't apply if ministers and other church leaders are the only ones handling the flames.

The fire chief says the rule is all about ensuring safety.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$4.05
Corn (bushel)	\$3.38
Milo (hundredweight)	\$5.41
Soybeans (bushel)	\$8.81

## Corrections

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.



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
"Visitors Always Welcome"

**Christmas Eve - Dec. 24th:**  
Candlelight Service with Communion at 8 p.m.

**Christmas Day - Dec. 25th:**  
Worship at 8:30 a.m.

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# SERVICES DIRECTORY

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.

**WESLEYAN CHURCH**, 320 W. Pine - 785-462-8391, 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.

## Schedule of church services

**GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP**, 2nd and Sunrise, Oakley. Pastor James Bloom, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church 10:15 a.m., Wednesday evening Bible Study and Intercessory Prayer 6:30 p.m. 785-671-4020.

**COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH**, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee's building), Pastor Bernard Heinz, 785-460-0313, 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., 785-462-3041, 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. Pastor Steve Todd. Worship Service 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Wednesday Youth at The Rock 3:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday Nite Life at The Rock 5-6 p.m.. 785-462-8234. [cdag@st-tel.net](mailto:cdag@st-tel.net).

**BERENACHURCH**, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, [www.colbyberenchurch.com](http://www.colbyberenchurch.com); Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Pastor Mark Carlton, Senior Pastor and Pastor Jason Purdy, Youth Pastor. Middle School Group Wednesday 7 p.m. at the Attic and High School Youth Group Sunday 6 p.m. at the Attic.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Carroll H. Morony, Pastor, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study: Sundays at 7 p.m. RC Club 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2 p.m.

**COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH** (Affiliated with Southern Baptist), 1185 Wheatridge Rd. at College Drive, 785-460-7144, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship services, 10:45 a.m. Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday's.

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

**WINONA METHODIST CHURCH**, 501 Bellview Ave. Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)

To become a sponsor, call Heather or Jasmine today at 462-3963.

**MINGO BIBLE CHURCH**, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Intern Pastor Tom Peyton. 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**, 785-462-2179, 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, 785-462-6342, Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

**WESLEYAN CHURCH**, 320 W. Pine - 785-462-8391, 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 - 785-460-6605, President Gary Slavens, 785-460-2656; Erwin Mitchell, 1st counselor, 785-460-1952; Tim Wilson, 2nd counselor, 785-846-7796. Sacrament meeting 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.

**REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC.**, 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 9 a.m., Sunday worship, 10 a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Centers (Bible School), 6 p.m. Shop online at: [www.rlmregionalchurch.com](http://www.rlmregionalchurch.com).

**COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 785-460-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcast 11:00 worship. [www.colbyumc.org](http://www.colbyumc.org)

**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 - 785-460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church at 10:00 a.m.

**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. Don White and Rev. Tim Llewellyn, East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.; Services, 11:00 a.m. Visit us at [www.trinitycolby.com](http://www.trinitycolby.com).

**LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 205 1st St., Pastor Jerry Vincent, 785-586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.

**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 Dingwerth, Director, 785-687-2565.

**REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH**, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 785-687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH**, Mike Pinkelman, Pastor, Brewster - 785-694-2720, 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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