

Family

Do you outperform your dog?

The other day, a friend read me a little ditty written by Cindy Hess in "Our Daily Bread": "You have to work hard to offend Christians. By nature, Christians are the most forgiving, understanding and thoughtful group of people I've ever dealt with. They never assume the worst. They appreciate the importance of having different perspectives. They're slow to anger, quick to forgive and almost never make rash judgments or act in anything less than a spirit of total love.... No, wait - I'm thinking of golden retrievers!"

As my friend finished reading the first sentence I was thinking, "What planet is this gal from?" By the time he finished the second, I was laughing. By the time he was reading the part about "total love," I was ready for the punch line, because, of course, we know that she had to be joking.

But what she said ought to be true of every one of us who claim the name of Christ, and according to the most recent research, 76 percent of Americans claim to be Christians.

I suppose we can take some consolation in the fact that most unbelievers are no better than we are, but isn't that the point? Aren't those of us who call ourselves Christians supposed to resemble Hess' ideal?

When Jesus said that his disciples should be



Mark Carlton

• From the Pulpit

the light and salt of the world, isn't that the sort of thing He had in mind? If so, then how do we explain the fact that we are regularly shown up by our neighbor's golden retriever?

I wonder what would happen if we started acting a little more like golden retrievers. Would it make a difference in our families, our churches, our community, our nation and the world?

What if Christians really were the most forgiving, understanding and thoughtful people you could find? What if we really were slow to anger, quick to forgive, slow to judge and marked by a spirit of total love? What if a pandemic of real Christianity suddenly broke out?

I suspect the results would astound us. I suspect that that the world we live in would be transformed in wonderful ways. I suspect that the world would quickly become a brighter

place than it is today.

But I am jaded enough to suspect that it isn't likely to happen on a massive scale. But it can happen on an individual level, and letting it happen is the challenge that Jesus set before His disciples when He told them that they were the light of the world, and when He challenged them to "Let [their] light shine before men is such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

When this is done, it makes a difference in the world. Light shining in a dark place always does.

We may be incapable of shining brightly enough to illuminate the whole world, but we can certainly make a difference in our own world, and it is high time that those of us who call ourselves Christians start doing it.

The words of a song by the group Newsong say it well:

Light your world / Let the love of God shine through / In the little things you do / Light your world / And though your light may be / Reaching only two or three / Light your world.

Mark Carlton is pastor of the Colby Berean Church. You can reach him at pastormark@colbyberean.com or 460-2763.

Deaths

Carl E. Arnberger

Carl E. Arnberger, 58, Oakley, died Friday, Oct. 1, 2010, at his home.

Cremation. Kersenbrock Funer-

al Chapel in Colby, 462-7979, is handling the arrangement. A date for services will be announced.

Darrell D. Leh

Darrell D. Leh, 76, Rexford, died Thursday, Oct. 7, 2010, at Hays Medical Center.

Cremation. Kersenbrock Funer-

al Chapel in Colby, 462-7979, is handling the arrangement. A date for services will be announced.

College instructors address online education

For the third year, Colby Community College instructors Dr. Michael Thompson and Krista Carter were featured presenters at a Kansas State University conference Sept. 29-30 in Manhattan.

Thompson and Carter joined K-State representatives focusing on the future of online education, innovative distance learning methods and Axio Learning.

The Axio web-based learning management system was developed by K-State and is being used by several partners including Colby.

Thompson and Carter gave two presentations. The first focused on digital story telling.

"Digital story telling is a vehicle we use to increase information literacy, writing, and computer technology skills so our students are actively engaged in the learning process through face-to-face

and online collaboration," said Thompson.

The second presentation was on the implications of the Higher Education Opportunity Act and e-learning.

"The ... act has created a lot of concern and discussion of the costly and complex changes required in the e-learning environment, particularly in the areas of academic integrity and student authentication," explained Thompson. "Our presentation discussed the terms of the act and its impact to e-learning."

Thompson is chair of the criminal justice department at the college. Carter is an instructor in the behavioral sciences division.

The college is expanding distance learning classes this fall with several new courses. For information, contact the admissions department at (785) 460-4690.

Colby Rotary Club

Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday with 27 members and guests Dr. Max Heim, Paul B. Heskett and Jay Shelton.

Jim Stanley had the program. Jay Shelton, Norton Correctional Facility warden, spoke on the Kansas Department of Corrections and Norton Correctional Facility. There are eight prisons in the state. Correctional facilities ac-

count for 2.1 percent of the state's \$290.6 million budget. It costs \$19,330 to house an inmate for a year and Norton's annual budget is 15.8 million, with 733 inmates at the facility, nine percent of the state's total.

As of June 30, there were 8,871 inmates in Kansas. The number had increased to 9,014 by Sept. 30. Shelton noted this is the first

time in five years the population has been over nine thousand. The state capacity is for 9,054 inmates. In addition to the prison population, the Kansas Department of Corrections manages 16,082 felony offenders.

Giving an overview of prisons statewide, Shelton noted that Hutchinson houses 21 percent of prisoners and Lansing has 26.6 percent. Of the prison population, 22.4 percent are incarcerated for sex offenses; 19.3 percent for drugs; 16.8 percent for homicide;

11.5 percent for robbery and 9.7 percent for assault/battery. The prison population is 52.4 percent Caucasian, 33.4 percent African-American and 10.0 percent Hispanic. The average age of a Kansas prisoner is between 20 and 40 years. At Norton, the oldest inmate is 84 and the youngest is 18.

The Norton facility has 308 employees.

This week's Roto-Lotto winner was Nancy LePell.

The club meets each Tuesday at Colby Community College.

Corrections

An article on Page 1 of the Monday, Oct. 4, edition of the Colby Free Press incorrectly gave the titles of the books, "Apron Strings and Family Ties" and "Gutsy Women." This was both a reporting and an editing error.

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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.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day	
Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$5.59
Corn (bushel)	\$4.38
Milo (hundredweight)	\$7.37
Soybeans (bushel)	\$9.45

Bridge Club

Tuesday winners at Meadow Lake bridge were first, Gail Vacca; second, Sarah Jane Barrett; third, Mary Kersenbrock; fourth, Elaine Ptacek; fifth, Thelma Shalz.


Who's in My Pew?

Both 8:30 and 11:00 services will be combined

COME JOIN US!
Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010
10:00 a.m.

Brunch to follow at the
Colby United Methodist Church
950 S. Franklin Ave.
785.460.2761

EVERYONE WELCOME!



GET YOUR FLU SHOT!

The Thomas County Health Department will be hosting a Mass Flu Clinic on October 13, 2010 at the Thomas County Health Department from 8:30a.m. - 6:00p.m. No appointments are necessary, you may pick up paperwork prior to the clinic at the health department. The cost will be \$25 payable by cash, check or insurance (be sure to bring a copy of your card). For further information please dial our Flu Information line at 785-460-4599, or our main line at 785-460-4596.

SERVICES DIRECTORY

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Rev. Robert Alexander. East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com.

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 evening services at 6:30 p.m. on all Sundays except the 5th Sunday of every month. 785-462-8234. cdag@st-tel.net.
- BEREAN CHURCH**, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, www.colbyberean.com; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. and Saturday, 5:30 p.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. AWANA Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the church.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Rev. Craig Crossman, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.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)
- MINGO BIBLE CHURCH**, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Pastor Tom Peyton. Sunday School: 9:30AM - all ages. Worship Services: 10:45AM. Sunday Evenings 6:30. 3rd Sunday informal fellowship - bring a snack to share! First Sunday of month - carry-in dinner following morning worship.
- 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 9:00 a.m. Podcasts of the worship services are available at the church website colbypres.org.
- 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 Andy Rose, 785-460-6807; Erwin Mitchell, 1st counselor, 785-460-1952; Calvin Haverfield, 2nd counselor, 785-953-1043. 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, 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), 6p.m. Shoponline at: www.rimregionalchurch.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 broadcasts 11:00 worship. 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., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m. www.colbychurch.com
- OASIS WORSHIP CENTER**, Colby, Pastor J. Curry, 785-462-0913. Sunday Service at 2 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. Robert Alexander. East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com.
- LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 205 1st St., Pastor Charles Taff, 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 Dingworth, 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, Tue. 5:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.

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