

Proclaiming Jesus Christ to world; morality, not cultural insensitivity

Jesus instructed His disciples to "go and make disciples of all nations." They took this command to heart and proclaimed the gospel throughout the world.

This is the way one early Christian described it: "Jesus Himself sent out through them from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation."

By the time this article is published I will be doing the same thing in a land on the other side of the world. I am excited to have another opportunity, but I know trips like mine are politically incorrect.

These days many view the "proclamation of eternal salvation" with contempt. For example, the late Wilfred Cantwell Smith, former director of Harvard's Center for the Study of World Religion, spoke about those who do what I am presently doing.

"It is morally not possible to actually go out into the world and say to devout, intelligent fellow human beings: 'We believe that we know God and we are right: You believe that you know God, and you are totally wrong.'"

Note the phrase, "It is morally not possible." Jesus told his disciple to go out into the world and proclaim the gospel. Smith says it is immoral to do so. So who is right, Wilfred Cantwell Smith or Jesus Christ?



Mark Carlton

• From the Pulpit

Smith is a multiculturalist. As a multiculturalist, Smith begins with the assumption that that all religions are the inventions of the cultures that spawned them. Whatever works for one culture is their truth, and whatever works for you is your truth, but no one has the truth, because truth is not discovered, it is invented, it is a "social construct."

Since no one has the truth, Smith insisted that all religions be viewed as equally true – and equally false. This means that no one should have the unmitigated gall to claim his "truth" is better than anyone else's. This sounds good, given Smith's premises – but what if his premises are false?

For argument's sake, let us assume they are at least partially incorrect. Let us agree that the world is full of socially constructed religious systems. John Calvin made the same observation when he observed that the heart of man

is an idol factory. But let us also assume that there really is a God who created the universe, and let us assume that for some inexplicable reason He loved the world so much He gave His only begotten Son so that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life. Given these premises would not it be immoral to keep this good news to ourselves?

You see, the primary question is not whether or not the gospel should be shared but whether or not it is true. If this is not, Wilfred Cantwell Smith is right; it is immoral to proclaim it. But if it is true, and if there is compelling evidence for it, then it would be immoral, perhaps even racist, not share it.

The world is indeed full of manmade religions, but it is an error to conclude that this means all religions are man-made.

It is an error not to note that Christianity offers objective evidence to back its claims. But the biggest error of all is to fail to consider this evidence.

What evidence am I referring to? The resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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

Learn to manage weed control methods

To aid farmers in identifying weed seedlings and making sound decisions about weed management, Thomas County Extension is sponsoring a Weed Management School from 2 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, at the 4-H Building in Colby. Continuing Education Units and Certified Crop Adviser credits have been applied for.

Early weed identification may be the best tool to control those tough resistant weeds in fields.

As we know, any weed is easier to control when it is young and actively growing. Correct identification lets you select the correct product and rate to control the weeds. Come see how to identify

the seedlings of many prevalent weeds in your fields and find out what are the latest weed control recommendations.

Addressing the ever-changing weed control products and weed identification techniques will be K-State weed specialists Dallas Peterson and Curt Thompson. Reservations are requested by next Friday by calling the Thomas County Extension office at (785) 460-4582.

If you have questions or need more information feel free to call or e-mail Clint Milliman, Thomas County Extension agent at milliman@k-state.edu.

Backyard bird count boosted

Fort Larned National Historic Site is supporting the 2012 Great Backyard Bird Count by offering a nature program and birding hike from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the fort.

Meet a park ranger in the Visitor Center for a presentation on Birds of the Fort, followed by a bird count on the parade ground and surrounding areas including the fort's Nature Trail. Plan to dress for the weather, wear comfortable shoes, and bring binoculars.

Birding is for everyone. Bone up on your bird identification skills by participating in this fun winter activity.

For those not able to attend the

program at the fort but interested in the count go to www.birdcount.org. You can watch your backyard feeders and keep a list of what you see. Individuals and groups can submit their findings on line.

The official count dates are Friday, Feb. 17 through Monday, Feb. 20.

For information call (620) 285-6911.

The 15th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count is sponsored by Audubon, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Canadian partner Bird Studies Canada.

Fort Larned National Historic Site is located six miles west of Larned on K-156.

Deaths

Alfred A. Geist

Alfred A. Geist, 84, a retired state brand inspector from Hoxie, died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012, at the Hays Medical Center.

He was born Dec. 25, 1927, near Park in Gove County, the son of Joseph and Helen (Vonfeldt) Geist.

On April 19, 1948, he married Doris Lewis in Seguin.

He was a farmer and stockman, working as a lineman for the power company before going to work as a brand inspector. He was also an antiques dealer.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a daughter, Pat Keller; two sisters, Hurbatina Werth and Eleanor West; and two brothers, Will Geist and Ernest Geist.

Survivors include his wife, of the home; two sons, Joe (Sheila) Geist, Tyrone, Ga.; and Dave (Deb) Geist, Shawnee; four daughters,

Bonita Palmer, Lago Vista, Texas; Donna (Les) German, Elk City, Okla.; Barb Cooper, Plattsmouth, Neb.; and Jan (Tom) Juenemann, Selden; two sisters, Leona Peters, Denver; and Rosa Turner, Salina; 17 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Services are at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2012, at the St. Francis Catholic Church in Hoxie, with burial in the St. Francis Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 1 to 6 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, with a vigil service at p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials to the Sheridan County Hospice or Sheridan County Health Complex Long Term Care, in care of the funeral home, Box 987, Hoxie, Kan., 67740.

Meadow Lake Bridge Club

Meadow Lake bridge winners for Tuesday were Sarah Jane Barrett, first; Elaine Ptacek, second;

Dave Ulmer, third; Barb Ulmer, fourth; Thelma Shalz, fifth; and Kevan Taylor, sixth.



Stop and Take a Moment

Excuse me, but...
Our real estate market doesn't have a busted...bubble!

OUR REAL ESTATE MARKET IS STRONG...It is amazing how when you turn the television on, or listen to the radio, how the real estate housing market is the focus of much negative news coverage. THEN, I think about our own local real estate market...and I say "Jim, pinch me". (Husband)

The housing and the land Ag market are both stronger than I have seen it in my almost 30 years of full time real estate in northwest Kansas. I think without a doubt we are truly blessed to be living where we do...and how often do we forget that? No, I don't think we need a 'bubble repair' kit and I hope we won't. However, we do need to realize that what does go up, does come down...and the market never stays the same. Being a good steward to ourselves is knowing when...or...when not to liquidate our real estate.

Stock Realty & Auction Co. mollyo@stockrealtyandauction.com (785)462-5203

Send local news to colby.society@nwkansan.com

Senior Progress Center

Tuesday there will be a Valentine party at the Senior Progress Center.

Activities for the week: **Monday:** 10:30 a.m. shuffle board. **Tuesday:** 10 a.m. exercise; 11 a.m. Valentine party. **Wednesday:** snack day. **Thursday:** 10 a.m. exercise; 10:30 pinochle. **Friday:** 10 a.m. exercise; 10:30 pool game.

Menus for the week: **Monday:** hamburger vegetable soup, cook's choice fruit, crackers, brownie. **Tuesday:** Salisbury steak, scalloped potatoes, winter mix vegetables, plums. **Wednesday:** chicken enchilada casserole, mixed vegetables, tossed salad, mandarin oranges. **Thursday:** roast beef slice, mashed potatoes, gravy, apricots, birthday cake. **Friday:** barbecue meat balls, potato salad, corn, dinner roll, pears.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center invites anyone 60 and older and guests to lunch at the senior center. A contribution of \$3 per meal is suggested for seniors, \$5.25 for others. For anyone under 60, home delivery is \$5.75. Make reservations at (784) 460-2901 by noon the day before.

Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.47
Corn (bushel)	\$6.21
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.63
Soybeans (bushel)	\$10.84

Some like it HOT... and some like to shop the COOL way!!

The Colby Free Press - 462-3963



Services Directory

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-PAIRIE 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. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Worship 10:15 a.m. Kid's Church for Kindergarten-5th grade during Worship Service. Nursery available for kids birth - 5 yrs old. Wednesday night: Family night September - May. Meal served 6 - 6:30 p.m. CD Kidz for kids birth - 5th grade, Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders and Adult Bible Study at 7 p.m. 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 Wednesday 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. Contemporary Evening Service at 4 p.m. through the semester.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Perry Baird, 785-728-7380, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (MST)

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. 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 by appointment. Call 785-462-3571.

REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC., 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvela 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.rlmcentralchurch.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

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 Mike Baughn, 785-694-2278, 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, Tue. 5:00 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.

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

Colby High School All Sports Booster Club

Lube-A-Thon

Saturday, Feb. 11th • 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Kansas Quick Lube • 1927 S. Range

Get a full-service oil change and help the school!

Proceeds will benefit the Dennen Field locker room and bathroom project.

For more information, call Brian Quagliano at 785-443-0226

The Josties IN CONCERT



The Jost family share the faithfulness of God through music and testimony. Based from Milk River, Alberta, Canada their music is a unique blend of acoustic country, folk and light contemporary.

Mingo Bible Church • February 16th • 7 p.m.

For more information call Pastor Tom Peyton 785-462-2930.

To become a sponsor, call Sharon or Kathryn today at 462-3963.

COLBY FREE PRESS
155 W. 5th • Colby ~ 462-3963

COLBY LUMBER
Bud Van Horn and Staff
1760 W. 4th 462-2181

Got news? Tell us! Call 462-3963