

# Reflect Christmas light from your life to others

I remember as a small child riding in the back seat of our Chevy as my parents and sisters and I would drive slowly down each street of Phillipsburg, savoring the lights and decorations.

Do you remember times like those from your childhood? I hope you cherish those memories, for you can only see Christmas through the wondering eyes of a child for a few short years.

I ask you today: "Into whose life is your light shining?"

There is much mention of light in the first Christmas story.

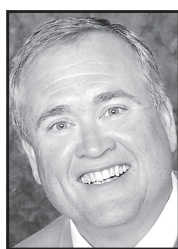
There is the star that shone as the magi brought their gifts to the Christ Child.

There is also the light that shone around the angels as they proclaimed to the shepherds, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill to men."

And there is the babe himself, nestled in the manger.

This baby Jesus was to be the light of the world. John records in his gospel that "in him was life, and that life was the light of men." (John 1:4) Jesus himself would one day stand and proclaim openly, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Jesus Christ brought light to a world closeted in darkness. He brought the light of love into a world of hate, the light of understanding to a world of ignorance, the light of hope to a world filled with despair, the light of life into a world condemned to die in sin.



## Eugene Rothfuss

### • From the Pulpit

Jesus was the light of the world; he healed the lame, the blind, and proclaimed the goodness of the kingdom of God.

But Jesus no longer walks the dusty roads of Palestine.

He warned his followers, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world" (John 9:5) and again, "Put your trust in the light while you have it" (John 12:36). He knew that one day his light on this earth would be extinguished, stifled by those who hated him.

Jesus was right; but the darkness of evil that killed the man Jesus was did not stop his light from spreading. He didn't stay in that dark, cold tomb.

Friends, we as Jesus-believers are the lights of the world.

We do not shine with light of our own - we reflect the light that Jesus shines into our lives. "God, who said, 'let light shine out of darkness,' made his light to shine in our hearts to give us the light" (2 Corinthians 4:6a).

Enjoy the beautiful decorations this Christmas season, but realize, they are not the true lights of Christmas.

Ponder with wonder anew the Christ-child story; follow the star with the magi, gaze wide-eyed

what the shepherds at the shining angels singing in the shimmering sky, and follow them both to the manger where lay the babe that would be the light of the world. But realize that those were the lights of Christmas.

Friends, the 2013 display of the lights of Christmas can best be seen in the lives of you and I.

We are the lights of Christmas, reflecting the light of Christ in our every word and decision - and especially so during the Christmas celebration.

Into whose life is your light shining?

Let me help you see how your light can shine more brightly for Christ this Christmas.

- The life of your family or fellow workers can be brightened by your positive, cheerful attitude.

- The life of some child can catch the rays of your light when you give your time to them.

- The life of some shut in or nursing home resident can be warmed by your visit.

- The life of your parents and siblings can glow from your light as you give of yourself to your family.

Into whose life will your light shine this Christmas?

*Gene Rothfuss is pastor of the Colby Wesleyan Church, 320 W. Pine. You can reach him at (785) 462-8391 or (785) 443-1448.*

## Giving a little for the cause



HAILEE SPRESSER/Golden Plains  
Russ Aumiller donated to the Red Cross Blood Drive at Golden Plains on Nov. 13. Aumiller, a teacher at Golden Plains Middle School, has a unique blood type and generously donates regularly. (photo by Hailee Spresser)

## Solomon Valley 4-H Club

The Solomon Valley 4-H Club held its regular meeting Nov. 11 at the 4-H building.

It was guest night for the club, so there were more present than usual, including grandparents, friends, relatives, potential new members and special guest Kurt Sexton, the new extension agent.

Jillian Niblock gave a history of the song "You're a Grand Old Flag," asking everyone to join in singing it.

The 21 members present welcomed new member Jack Delzeit into the club.

The program for the night was to give achievement awards for the past 4-H year, including awards for officers, council members, new and transferred members, good meeting attendance, camps, shooting sports and fair.

Quinlee Niblock, Kamrie Miller, Kurt Sloan, Samantha Skolout, Anna Stramel, Nathan Stramel and Trey Stramel each attended at least 80 percent of last year's meetings.

The club won the Purple Seal Award, the highest

a 4-H club can win for its many achievements, participation and projects.

The club also received the Kansas Farm Bureau Swine Herdsman Award for the 2012 Thomas County Fair, given to the club that keeps their animals clean and cared for and the animal stalls clean.

The club's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Dec. 9, when the members will play Christmas Bingo and have a Genesis food collection instead of the usual gift exchange.

-Laura Schroeder

## Open house at center

The Goodland Arts Council's annual open house will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. (Central Time) Saturday at the Carnegie Arts Center.

The event features wine tasting with selections from the Claremont Inn and Winery, an assortment of appetizers, a bake sale, violin music and shopping at the center's gift shop.

Gloria Elliott will provide instruction on making a mesh-ribbon wreath at a workshop from 4 to 6 p.m. (Central). Cost for the workshop is \$40 for non-members or \$35 for members, including materials.

Contact Kay Younger at (785) 890-6442 for information or to sign up for the wreath workshop.

## 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.*

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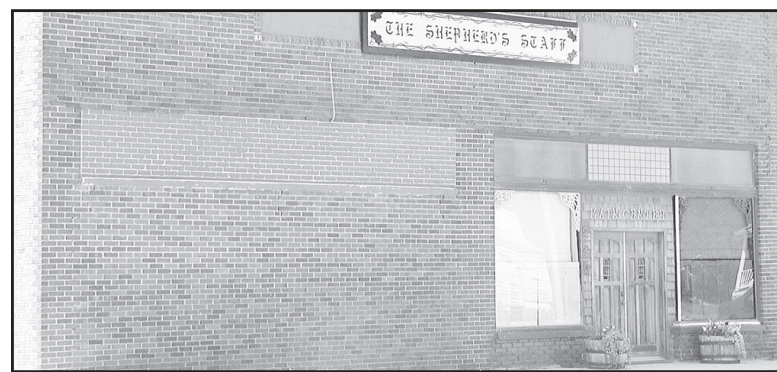


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# Services Directory

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



The Shepherd's Staff

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**, Pastor Dan Keel, 815 W. 3rd. Sundays at 2 p.m. 785-462-0512.

**CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1890 S. Franklin Ave. - Colby Community Building. Kirby Benisch, Campus Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. [www.celebratejesus.org](http://www.celebratejesus.org)

**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.

**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](mailto:cdag@st-tel.net).

**BEREAN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, [www.colbyborean.com](http://www.colbyborean.com); Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Pastor Mark Carlton, Youth Pastor Ben Phillips. 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.

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Pastor Paul Brigham, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study: 6:30 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)

**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. 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**, Reverend Andrew Sonneborn, 515 W. 4th, 785-462-6342, Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. Podcasts of the worship services are available at the church website [colbypres.org](http://colbypres.org).

**THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD**, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 785-687-2565.

**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. 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 Mark-Dock, 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](http://www.colbyumc.org)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 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](http://www.colbychurch.com)

**OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 217 Main St., Brewster, 785-694-2751. Sunday worship 10:00 a.m.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, (Disciples of Christ), 385 W. 3rd - 785-460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship and Children's Church at 10:00 a.m.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**, Rev. Robert Alexander, East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Beginning Sept. 2 - Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Visit us at [www.trinitycolby.com](http://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.

**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 (adults) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. Children's Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Tue. 5:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study.

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