

Church to host ‘40 days of Purpose’

College View Baptist Church is excited to announce that it is hosting the 40 Days of Purpose beginning Oct. 8.

The 40 Days of Purpose is a 40-day study using the book *The Purpose Driven Life* by Pastor Rick Warren of Saddleback Church in California. It has proven to be very effective in reaching out to people and promoting personal spiritual

growth.

The 40 Days of Purpose will answer the question, “What On Earth Am I here for?” through small group video studies, Sunday morning messages, daily inspirational readings and Scripture memory verses.

It will explain what part worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and evangelism play in regards to

our purpose in this world.

To kick off the 40 Days of Purpose, a video by Pastor Warren will be shown at 7 pm Oct. 8 at CVBC, 1185 Wheatridge Road.

The video is approximately 105 minutes and refreshments will be served.

Small group video studies will start that same week. Host homes and leaders are: Shelly Myers, women’s group; Rhonda Kropp and Becky Dickman; Jim Myers, youth, Sundays at 6:30 pm at First Baptist Church; and Donna Lamm and Jim Myers, women’s group and men’s group or a couples group. There will

be a modest fee for the book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, and the small group workbook.

In addition, Pastor Tom Huffman’s messages during the Sunday morning worship service for the next seven weeks, beginning Oct. 9, will supplement each week’s reading and small group study. The 40 Days of Purpose will conclude with a Celebration Sunday on Nov. 20.

If you are interested in joining a group or want more information, contact Donna Lamm, 462-7140; Rhonda Kropp, 465-8087; Shelly Myers, 462-9665; or call the church at 460-7144.

Connecticut Episcopal churches sue bishop

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Six conservative Episcopal parishes have filed a federal lawsuit claiming their civil rights were violated by the local bishop, the church’s national leader and others in a dispute that stemmed from the election of the first openly gay Episcopal bishop.

The parishes had asked to be supervised by another bishop because they disagreed with the decision of Connecticut Bishop Andrew Smith to support the 2003 confirmation of V. Gene Robinson as bishop of New Hampshire. Robinson lives with his longtime male partner.

A priest at one of the Connecticut parishes, the Rev. Mark Hansen, was subsequently suspended by Smith, and five others have been threatened with suspension.

The wide-ranging 67-page law-

suit filed Tuesday alleges that the six priests were fraudulently accused of abandoning the church and denied due process because they were not tried in religious courts.

The plaintiffs also contend that diocesan officials violated state law when they took over St. John’s Church of Bristol in July and appointed a priest to fill in for Hansen, who was pastor to the church. Hansen is not a party to the lawsuit.

Diocesan officials said Hansen was suspended for six months because he took an unauthorized sabbatical and St. John’s had stopped making payments on a loan for its building. Hansen maintains that he notified Smith about his plans.

The Connecticut diocese and a national spokesman for the Episcopal Church did not respond to requests for comment.

Author on world religions focuses anew on his own

NEW YORK (AP) — At age 86, Huston Smith is returning home again — to Christianity. Smith is the dean of American scholars on world religions and his best-selling textbook about them is known to legions of college students. Personally, he’s explored many faiths — though he’s also a minister in the United Methodist Church, the denomination in which he was raised in China as the son of missionaries.

Now, in the new “*The Soul of Christianity: Restoring the Great Tradition*” (HarperSanFrancisco), Smith ruminates about the beliefs, contributions and prospects of the world’s largest faith.

In the end, what he advocates is essentially a modernized and tolerant interpretation of the shared faith of Christianity’s first thousand years, before it broke into Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant branches. But that’s the end point. The start lies elsewhere, with Smith’s premise that the future of Christianity and the other great faiths hinges on keeping proper limits on science — meaning religious people should not concede that scientific knowledge is the only kind.

The outspoken senior statesman acknowledged in an interview with *The Associated Press* that he’s no expert, but said notable scientists who are friends of long standing have taught him about the oft-baffling aspects of nature and our limited knowledge of the physical universe.

Over the past several centuries, empirical observation and laboratory experiments have produced huge benefits for health and removal of drudgery, Smith said. Problem is, as a result “we gave science a blank check, by which I mean we turned all truth over to them.”

“Science is not omniscient,” he insisted. “Our physical senses are not the only senses we have.” As this book puts it: “No one has ever seen a thought. No one has ever seen a feeling. Yet our thoughts and feel-

ings are where we primarily live our lives.”

His book says “discounting invisible realities” is the “modern mistake” promoted by an intolerant secularism that says only empirical, scientific knowledge is valid.

Smith believes the religious worldview is gaining momentum. “Secularism is on the defensive. It’s being moved to the periphery,” he said. “The center is empty and the situation is ripe for the spirit to move to that center.” He predicts that someday people will “look back on secularism as an episode in human history.”

As someone who has occasionally practiced other faiths, Smith naturally opposes any evangelical claims that non-Christians are lost or hell-bound. But the book embraces what he calls a “relative absolute” in religion.

That means “revelations are for the civilizations they create, and within each, the truths revealed are absolute and can brook no rivals.” For Christians, he says, “God is defined by Jesus; he is not confined to Jesus.”

Those early contributions to human betterment, he suggests, have survived intact into the modern age — and they are the areas in which the faith must concentrate in the future if it is to thrive.

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Pet Adoption

Two little kittens are looking for a good home. Interested?

Kittens, dog looking for home

The Colby Animal Clinic has a male German Shepherd mix and two four-week old kittens ready for adoption.

The dog is about one year and would be a good companion dog. He just needs affection and some-

one to care for him, clinic officials said. Information on the two kittens is that one is a white male and the black kitten is a female. If interested in looking at these homeless animals, either call the clinic, 460-8621 or stop by 810 E. 4th, Colby.

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 460-6605, 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 462-3571.

Schedule of church services

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, Pastor, Jeremy Gundling, 245 W. College Dr. - 462-8234, Early Service - 8:00 a.m.; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

BEREAN CHURCH, Rev. Francis Harwerth, 1000 S. Franklin, 460-3076, 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 Colby Armory

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, Grant & Webster Street, 462-2867, Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Evening Worship 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Bible 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, (SBC), Pastor Tom Huffman, 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 Pastor Chris Schubert. 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 p.m. and 9:25-9:40 p.m. on Sunday.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Carol Rahn, 515 W. 4th, 462-6342, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship, 11:00 a.m. September through May; Worship 9:30 a.m. June through Labor Day.

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.

TEENS FOR CHRIST CONNECTION, Everett Robert, 462-7404, Both middle school and high school program.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, 1145 S. Franklin - 460-6605, President Dave Geldmacher, 846-7740; Elmer Schielke, 1st counselor, 462-9022 and Calvin Haverfield, 2nd counselor, 672-4165. 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 462-3571.

COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. James Mardock, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 462-6521, Sunday Worship Services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship coffee 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 11:00 worship. http://www.gbmg-umc.org/colby-umc/

REDEEMING LOVE CHURCH, 345 N. Franklin, Apostle W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Service, Sunday, 10 a.m., Sunday worship, 11 a.m., Thursday, RLM Training Center (Bible School), 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 510 E. 4th, Jay Kelley, minister, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Eve. Worship 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

COLBY EVANGELISM CENTER, Rev. Robert Cooper, 815 West 3rd - 462-2062, Sunday School 9:45; Sunday service 10:00 and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.; Friday Youth Power Hour at 7:00 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, (Disciples of Christ), Pastor Bradley L. Herndon, 385 W. 3rd - 460-2718, Sunday Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. E-mail: fcccolby@st-tel.net

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, Alvin Bruenger, serving interim, East 5th & Country club, 462-3497, Worship, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Lutheran Hour on KXXX at 10 a.m.; KGCR at 2 p.m. website http://www.trinitycolbyks.org

OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH, Pastor, Charlie Busch, 694-2242, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Evening service, 6:00 p.m.

LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH, 112 Harrison, 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., Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

WINONA METHODIST CHURCH, Rev. Michael Eurit, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:30 a.m. (CDT)

BREWSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Dorine Chambers, 785-462-6044, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF, REXFORD, Mr. Bob Leach, 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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