

Family

‘No new hymns’ an old, old song

No new hymns! I think pastors get more complaints about adding new hymns to a worship service than anything else.

Church members are protective of their hymns and can get a mite testy when new, unfamiliar hymns are introduced. Such a change is not welcome.

One angry parishioner wrote to the *The Lutheran Witness*, lamenting the addition of a new hymn into the morning service:

“Please, no more new hymns. What’s wrong with the inspiring hymns that we grew up with? When I go to church, it’s to worship God, not to be distracted with learning a new hymn.

“Last week’s new hymn was particularly unnerving. While the text was good, the tune was quite unsingable and the harmonies were quite discordant.”

We pastors have all heard similar reactions to a particular Sunday’s musical selections, loudly and often.

In church, we learn to sing hymns before we learn the Bible. They are an important part of faith formation, about what we believe about God.

You go home from church singing a hymn from worship, the words running through your mind and lingering there, so that, eventually, much of what you might believe does not come from Scripture you have learned, but from hymns you have sung. But there is a lot of not-so-good theology in some of our most beloved hymns.

Hymns writers are not necessarily bad theologians, but they are, first are foremost, poets, so often good theology is sacrificed for good poetry. Sometimes, when a pastor replaces one of the favorite “oldies but goodies” with one of those “new, unsingable hymns,” it can feel like the pastor in tampering with God. In a time when so much is changing around us, many think that there should be one place safe from change, and it should be the church.



Carol Rahn

• From the Pulpit

But the church has changed, and will keep changing. Let’s be honest. Gregorian chants are not the mainstay of church music today. One of the provisions in the contract that Johann Sebastian Bach signed when he became organist and choirmaster for the church in Leipzig, Germany, was that he not write any of that “new, fancy music.” Thank goodness he violated the terms of that contract on a regular basis, or we would be without some of the most beautiful music ever written for the church.

We need new hymns to reflect the spiritual issues of our day. We need new hymns to speak a prophetic word to the social problems we face, be it economic injustice or environmental degradation. We need new hymns to speak a pastoral word to fresh, personal challenges facing our congregations – aging, family struggles, transitions and yes, even change itself. We need hymns that tell of God’s work in our world, the world we know, live and often struggle in.

And we need to keep the wonderful, beloved hymns as well. Our church music should reflect the rich history and diversity that comes with being the Body of Christ. Just as the Body of Christ should include all God’s children, so it should include the rich array of church music.

And, oh – that letter to *The Lutheran Messenger* – it was written in 1890, and the hymn to which it referred is “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.” So the next time you sing that beloved “old” favorite, remember that it, too, was once new – and considered “quite unsingable and .. discordant.”

No new hymns? There’s a place for the old and the new in God’s kingdom – and in God’s church.



Mary and Chuck Timmons

40th anniversary cause for celebration

Chuck and Mary (Jones) Timmons of Colby will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 26, 2009.

Children of the couple are Bonnie (Craig) Augustine of Hays and Charlie (Erika) Timmons of Olathe. Grandchildren

are Emilee and Madison Augustine and Makayla, Kaitlynn and Austin Timmons.

The couple married July 26, 1969, at the Hoxie Methodist Church. Cards can be sent to them at 1775 Harvey, Colby, Kan. 67701.

Babies

Shy Ann Walker

Shy Ann Walker, daughter of Ethan and Lacy Walker of Ludell, was born July 9, 2009, at Citizens Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds and measured 18 1/4 inches. Grandparents are Marc and Sylvia Walker of Atwood and Leonard and Virginia Mussman of Guymon, Okla.



Shy Walker

Dalton Dean Jacob

Dalton Dean Jacob, son of Clayton and Nicole Jacob of Colby, was born July 7, 2009, at Citizens Medical Center. He weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches. Grandparents are Dean Jacob, Rockwell City, Iowa; Karen and Mike Tasler, Churdan, Iowa; and Ed and Jolene Deges, WaKeeney. Great-grandparents are Velma Jacob, Rockwell City, Iowa; Marvin and Jana Coon, Farnhamville, Iowa; Elsie and Darrell Karlin, Hays; Glen and Twila Bliss, WaKeeney; and Charlene Friedal, Grainfield. Great-great-grandmother is Katie Eberle, WaKeeney.



D. Jacobs

Youth hunting program planned at Scott State Park

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks will hold its annual Southwest Youth Program at Scott State Park from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1.

Participants will have the chance to draw for one of 24 guided hunts and could win one of two shotguns to be given away.

Youth must be at least 10 to enroll. Those 17 and older may participate in a guided hunt if they have never hunted before.

Hunts include duck, geese, turkey, deer and predator calling. Other activities include shotgun shooting, archery, trapping tech-

niques and waterfowl identification.

Professional caller Les Johnson of Predator Quest will be on hand for the calling. Lunch will be provided, along with hats, shirts and predator calls.

Sponsors include Pattern Master, Reel Wing Decoys, Oasis Hunting, Mack’s Prairie Wings, Final Approach, Heavy-Shot, Echo Goose and Duck Calls and Pheasants Forever of Scott City.

Preregistration is required. For information, call (620) 227-8609 or Manuel Torres at (620) 474-2949.

Deaths

Maxine Reuber

Maxine Reuber, 89, formerly of Colby, died today, Friday, July 17, 2009, in Wichita.

Services are pending with Kersenbrock Funeral Chapel in Colby, (785) 462-7979.

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.

Thank You

Paul Layland and his family would like to thank everyone for the cards and gifts he received on his birthday. It really perked him up!

Thank you all!

Paul Layland, Sandy Kriss, and Cogie Heigle

We want your local news: e-mail to colby.editor@nwkansas.com

To all of my friends and family, thank you so much for making my 93rd Birthday special! I appreciate the cards, calls, and gifts. The party was great also.

Elon Miller

In Memory of George Tubbs, Jr.

1922 - 2008

I thought of you with love today but that is nothing new. I thought about you yesterday and days before that too. I think of you in silence I often speak your name. All I have are memories And your picture in a frame. Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part. God has you in His keeping I have you in my heart.

Erma Tubbs & Family

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-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, Interim Pastor, Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages, Adults: choice of Fireproof, Crown Financial, or the Bible Class. 785-462-8234. cdag@st-tel.net.

BEREAN CHURCH, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, 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 Heartland Christian School Gym.

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.

MINGO BIBLE CHURCH, 420 Main Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church served by Village Missions Intern Pastor Pat Colley. 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.

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

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

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.

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 -460-6605, President Gary Slavens, 785-460-2656; Jordan Barrett, 1st counselor, 785-460-1101; Tim Wilson, 2nd counselor, 785-846-7796. 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 785-462-3571.

REDEEMING LOVE MINISTRIES, INC., 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. and Rev. Orvella Romine, Equipping Class, Sunday, 10a.m., Sunday worship, 11a.m., Wednesday, R.L.M Training Centers (Bible School), 5 p.m. Shop online at: 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 broadcasts 11:00 worship. www.colbyumc.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST, Minister, Jarrod Spencer. 510 E. 4th, Sunday Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 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 at 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School at 11:15 a.m. E-mail: fccolby@st-tel.net.

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. John L. Schmidt, East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:15 a.m.; Services, 10:30 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com

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

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.

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

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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