

# Family

## Faith steps out of 'safe' zone

Ben Patterson, writing in *Leadership* magazine years ago, related a climbing experience he had in 1988 when he and three others climbed Mount Lyell, the highest peak in Yosemite National Park.

Two of the others were experienced mountaineers, but not Ben or the other guy. Their base camp was less than 2,000 feet from the peak, but to get to the top would take most of a day due to the difficulty of the climb and a glacier they had to cross.

The morning of the climb, they started out chattering and cracking jokes, but as the hours passed, the two mountaineers opened up a wide gap between them and Ben and his less-experienced companion. Being competitive by nature, Ben began to look for shortcuts to beat them to the top. He thought he saw one to the right of an outcropping of rock — so he went, deaf to the protests of his companion.

Perhaps it was the effect of the high altitude, he said. The significance of the two experienced climbers not choosing this path didn't register in his consciousness, but it should have. Thirty minutes later he was trapped in a cul-de-sac of rock atop the Lyell Glacier, looking down several hundred feet of a sheer slope of ice, pitched at about a 45 degree angle.

He was only about 10 feet from the safety of a rock, but one little slip and he wouldn't stop sliding until he landed in the valley floor! It was nearly noon, and the warm sun had the glacier glistening with slippery ice. He was stuck and scared. It took an hour for this experienced climbing friends to find him. Standing on the rock he wanted to reach, one of them leaned out and used an ice ax to chip two little footsteps in the glacier. Then he gave Ben the following instructions:

"Ben, you must step out from where you are and put your foot where the first foothold is. When your foot touches it, without a moment's hesitation swing your other



### Carroll Morony

#### • From the Pulpit

foot across and land it on the next step. When you do that, reach out and I will take your hand and pull you to safety."

That sounded real good to him. It was the next thing his friend said that made him more frightened than ever. "But listen carefully: As you step across, do not lean into the mountain! If anything, lean out a bit. Otherwise, your feet may fly out from under you, and you will start sliding down."

This is how Ben, himself, describes his feelings at that moment: "I don't like precipices. When I am on the edge of a cliff, my instincts are to lie down and hug the mountain, to become one with it, not to lean away from it! But that was what my good friend was telling me to do. I looked at him real hard...."

"Was there any reason, any reason at all, that I should not trust him? I certainly hoped not! So for a moment, based solely on what I believed to be the good will and good sense of my friend, I decided to say no to what I felt, to stifle my impulse to cling to the security of the mountain, to lean out, step out, and traverse the ice to safety. It took less than two seconds to find out if my faith was well founded."

Then, Ben adds this observation. "To save us, God often tells us to do things that are the opposite of our natural inclination. God offers to save us from losing our life's footing and sliding into spiritual, perhaps eternal oblivion by telling us to let go of our own instincts and inclinations and reach out in belief and trust in Jesus Christ."

But Is God loving and faithful? Can we trust him? We hear all kind of pretenders to the truth today. Is

God any different? Doing it God's way, according to the Bible and the teachings of Jesus, goes against everything that is in our nature.

The irony is that we want to cling to what we know and to the ways and thoughts that got us into our predicament to begin with! Ultimately, all of our human instincts and insights will fail us. Trusting only in our own thinking, feelings and inclinations will at some point get us into trouble, cause physical harm or even death — to ourselves or others. But most certainly they are always spiritually fatal, leading us away from God's goal for our life.

The Apostle Paul put it this way when he wrote to the people in Ephesus: "You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You filled your lungs with polluted unbelief, and then exhaled disobedience. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us. Instead, immense in mercy and with an incredible love, he embraced us." (Ephesians 2:1-4, "The Message" translation)

Letting go and trusting what God tells us in His Word and leaning away from our own fatal instincts is the only way we will experience the victory of life that we seek — and that God wants us to have.

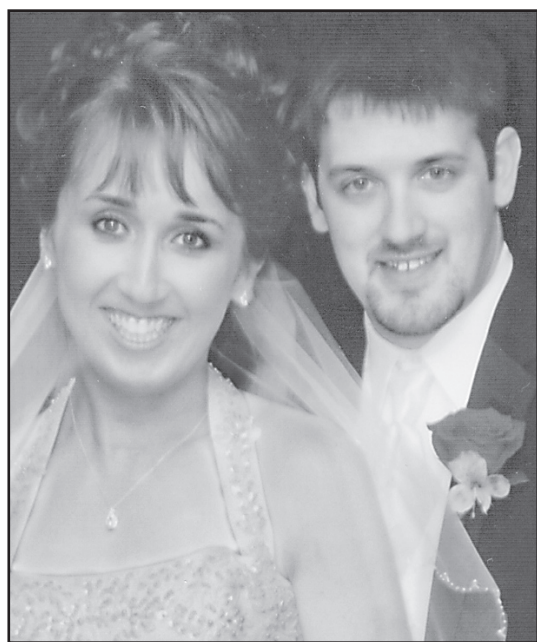
## Colby grad married in Lee's Summit

Kristin Nicole Singleton and Dustin Ray Herschberger were married on Saturday, March 14, 2009, at Woods Chapel United Methodist Church in Lee's Summit, Mo.

Kristin is the daughter of Jim and Debbie Singleton and the granddaughter of Ivan and Marie Johnson, all of Lee's Summit. She was a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, graduating from the University of Missouri-Kansas with a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education and from the University of Kansas with a Master of Science in special education, emphasis in autism.

Dustin is the son of Dale and Suzanne Herschberger and the grandson of John and Rosalie Jacobs and Phyllis and Harley Herschberger, all of Colby. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in computer engineering.

The couple honeymooned on a Caribbean cruise before returning home to Gardner. The bride is an intensive resource teacher with the Blue Valley School District and the groom is a software developer with Point Inc. in Olathe.



Kristin and Dustin Herschberger

## Senior Center

There's bingo on Tuesday. Come and play along with the fun.

Activities for the week: **Monday:** 10:30 a.m., Skip Bo game. **Tuesday:** 10 a.m., exercise; 11 a.m., bingo. **Wednesday:** 10:30 a.m., Wii bowling. **Thursday:** 10 a.m., exercise; 10:30 a.m., pinochle game. **Friday:** 10 a.m., exercise; 10:30 a.m., pool game.

Menus for the week: **Monday:** cook's choice entree, parslid potatoes, scalloped corn, bread, five-cup salad. **Tuesday:** chicken dressing casserole, mashed potatoes and gravy, seasoned carrots, watermelon. **Wednesday:** barbecue meat balls, cheesy broccoli,

macaroni salad, bread, gelatin with fruit. **Thursday:** roast pork with gravy, mashed potatoes, cinnamon apples, bread, cake. **Friday:** baked spaghetti, spinach, pineapple, garlic bread, cottage cheese.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center invites anyone 60 and older and guests to lunch Monday through Friday at the senior center. Home delivery is available, as is pick-up service. A contribution of \$2.75 per meal is suggested for seniors, \$5 for others. For anyone under 60, home delivery is \$5.75.

Make reservations at (784) 460-2901 by noon the day before.

## Rough it

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A luxury resort in San Diego is offering rooms for \$19 a night — if you don't mind sleeping in a tent.

The Rancho Bernardo Inn boasts three pools, a spa and golf course. It typically charges more than \$200 a room, but business is down. So from Aug. 16 to 31, guests can get a "Survivor Package" that charges them less for each amenity they give up.

For \$19, guests give up breakfast, air conditioning, lights, sheets and even the bed. Staff will leave a small tent instead.

Oh, and bring your own toilet paper.

# SERVICES DIRECTORY

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH, Brewster, Sunday worship 9:00 a.m.; 2nd Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.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-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. Sunday School 9 a.m. for all ages. Wednesday Youth at The Rock 3:30 and 7 p.m. Sunday Nite Life at The Rock 5-6 p.m. 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.

**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**, 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 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.

**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, 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.

**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., 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. Don White and Rev. Tim Llewellyn, East 5th & Country Club, 785-462-3497, Services, Sat., 5:30 p.m., Sunday; Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.; Services, 11:00 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitycolby.com.

**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.

**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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