

# Church welcomes new pastor to Colby

By Aubrey Spencer  
Colby Free Press  
colby.society@nwkansan.com

The College Drive Assembly of God in Colby recently welcomed new pastor Steve Todd and his family to the congregation.

The pastor and his family came to Colby from Medicine Lodge, where he was the Assembly of God senior pastor for the last seven years. Todd said his family wasn't looking to leave Medicine Lodge but felt God was stirring them to go, and through a series of events, felt the Lord wanted them here, in Colby.

The Todds first Sunday in town was Aug. 30, he said, and the church made them feel welcome from the start.

"I think the church should really be a family," he said, "and our first night here gave us a good indication of what this church would



Steve Todd

be like."

Todd said he and his family arrived in Colby to find 30-40 members ready to help them unload their truck that evening.

"It was a nice surprise," he said. "We thought we'd be doing it all ourselves. They have really taken us in as part of the family here."

Todd said he is enjoying his work here. The 165-member church is friendly and welcoming, he said.

Todd said he also finds Colby to be a welcoming place, where the people are friendly and easy to get to know. He said the Thomas County Ministerial Alliance has been a big benefit to him already, thanks in large part to Jarrod Spencer, convener for the group. Todd said the other pastors had opened their arms and welcomed him, making the transition easier.

Todd received his education at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas, where he earned a bachelor's degree

in church ministries. He started his career as a youth pastor, spending two years in Baxter Springs and one in Arkansas City, before becoming the senior pastor in Medicine Lodge.

Todd said he would like the church in Colby to be what he called, a "regional church." He said he wants the members to be a good, accurate witnesses of the Gospel to this community.

"I want us to find a need in the community that we can meet, and then pour our resources into that," he said.

The pastor and his wife, Stephanie, have been married almost 10 years and have two children, Parker, 5, and Chloe who turns 3 at the end of the month. Stephanie recently started a business selling Premier Jewelry, he said.

In his free time, the pastor said, he enjoys playing golf and spending time with his family. If the weather is nice, you just might find him in the backyard with his son, who loves to play baseball there.

## High Plains Lions Club

The High Plains Lions met Monday, Oct. 26, with District Vice Gov. Kerry Hookstra making an official visit.

Hookstra reminded the club they are members of the world's largest service organization, with over 1.5 million members.

"All of these members joined the Lions International organization to serve the world," he said. "Lions International now has their first Lions club in Iraq. The United Nations looks at Lions International as their ambassador to the world. Lions get things done and have fun doing it."

President Justin Burrus called the meeting to order by leading the flag salute. Sheryl Brenn led "Happy Birthday" to Shawn Carney and Melda Moore.

Guests included new members Byron and Diane Fritz, David and Vanessa Backis, Holly Lynn, Peg Tole, Kami Boo and Pat Mallory.

Holly, Peg, Kami, and Pat gave a presentation on the proposed new swimming pool for the city of Colby. The current pool has been used for 68 years and does not meet the current regulations for today's swimmers, they said.

Brenn gave a report from the recent zone meeting. President Burrus reminded the club of the Rexford Lions Soup Dinner next Wednesday. The Colby pancake feed will be Saturday, Dec. 5, and the Christmas Light Parade will be Sunday, Dec. 6. Melinda Morton was appointed chairman for the Christmas float.

Brenn won the drawing.

The next meeting will be Monday.

— Roger Hale

## Kid's concert coming

Two "Funky Mama" concerts are planned for Saturday – at 7 p.m. at the Frahm Theater at Colby Community College and at 2 p.m. in the Northwest Kansas Technical College Student Union in Goodland.

Smart Start Northwest Kansas and Northwest Kansas Child Care Resource and Referral are sponsoring the free family concerts.

Krista "Funky Mama" Eyler says she left life as an on-air television reporter to embrace motherhood and a life as a singer-songwriter for children and their families.

Funky Mama blends rock n' roll, funk and fun on her CDs.

She has sung for kids from Kansas City to the White House Easter Egg Roll. Her music packs a punch, and kids love it.

## Rotary Club

The Colby Rotary Club met Tuesday, Oct. 27, at Colby Community College with 40 members and guests, including Barry Blount, Vern Unruh and Dave Rudy.

Terrel Harrison brought a program featuring Colby High School students performing selections from the musical "Oklahoma." They were Gray Henry, Steven Kirksiek, Brock Wagoner, Kaitlyn Wright and Keesa Wright. Joey Nickols directed and Dana Inloes accompanied. Mr. Nickols invited Rotarians to attend the musical on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 12 and 13, at Colby High School.

Sacha Sanguinetti won Roto-Lotto.

The club meets at noon each Tuesday in the Student Union.

— Relda Galli

## Meeting targets business

A "growth training" workshop for businesses will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Hays Welcome Center, 27th and Vine in Hays.

The session will explain how businesses can diversify into more profitable products, services, customers and markets.

The workshop, Profit 101, will provide a hands-on experience with tools and tactics for reducing risk and increasing success with new products.

It will review the world's best practices in innovation, product development, market development and sales.

Admission is free by picking up a ticket to "Profit 101" at the Thomas County Economic Development Alliance office, 350 S. Range Ave. in Colby.

The workshop has a \$150 value. For information or questions, call (785) 460-4511.

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