

Imitate energy, innocence of children in worship

Have you ever had one of those moments when you opened your eyes to begin a new day and knew something was wrong right from the start? I had one of those mornings recently.

I boldly proclaimed on a Sunday morning not too long ago that we are leaving for kid's camp at 5:30 a.m. Guess who overslept? The alarm was set; it was just going to awaken me that afternoon. You should have seen us! We would have given any of the winners of the Amazing Race a run for their money.

Obviously we were late for departure and late arriving with the 13 kids that went, but we weren't late on what God wanted to do in the lives of those 400-plus kids at summer camp.

I love seeing kids develop men-



steve rains

• moments from calvary

tally. I love seeing them develop athletically. But, nothing is as exciting to me as to see a young person (or adults) develop spiritually. One of our core values as a church is that the next generation is of utmost importance.

We just wrapped up our Vacation Bible School this week at Calvary. The place was crawling with kids. The energy, the life, the innocence, the trust and the determination of those kids was inspiring

ences this summer is that for the most part kids aren't impressed with each other, but they are willing to engage with each other. Their innocence allows them to see beyond the shell of the clothing or image and invite another into their circle.

In many ways, I believe you see a reflection of Christ's love in that you can be you, and I will still hang with you. I value you because you are a person, not because of what you have or don't have.

Another aspect of those two events that spoke into my life was the children's willingness to jump into the services. With really no coaxing or anything, they would just begin to express gratitude to God. I realize that not everyone is from a church like Calvary where there is a lot of expression in worship (clapping, lifting hands, voices raised, etc.), and that is all right.

Sometimes I wonder as adults when we are in a worship setting if we get caught up in being "proper" (whatever that is) and we lose the passionate innocence of a child-like faith that says, "I know my heavenly Father loves me, and I can pour extravagant worship on Him and it is OK!"

Jesus, in Matthew 18:2-3, exhorts us passionately to have child-like

faith. What is so important about child-like faith? First off, there is the trust a child possesses.

Unfortunately, it seems that the older a person gets the less likely they are to trust. As you read through the pages of Scripture, if there is a message that stands out it is the message that you and I must trust God and depend on Him and not ourselves. That naturally leads to the second characteristic kids possess and that is humility.

What is humility? Well, there are a lot of ways we could define it, but perhaps the easiest would be the willingness to ask for help. How easy is it for you to ask for help?

Let's cut to the chase — none of us are a "Self-made Man/Woman." To get to where you are, you had to have help from others along the way.

Others have invested in our life. Are you willing to have child-like faith and say, "God I need your help — please work your plan in my life."

One of the great things of living here in Goodland is the investment this community makes in its children and youth. I want to encourage us as another school year quickly approaches that we not only encourage our kids to excel academically, socially and athletically but may we also encourage them and lead the way for them to excel spiritually.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. Play hard, laugh a lot and have a child-like faith.

Steve Rains is the pastor at the Calvary Gospel Church, Fourth and College. Go to the church's web site at calvarygospel.net or e-mail Rains at calvarycolumn@st-tel.net.

Wheat harvest over; Brewster blessed with best crop in six years

The wheat harvest is pretty much finished up for this year. It was a wonderful one for the Brewster community — we are so blessed.

I haven't seen a crop like that in six or seven years. The estimated total bushels brought into Archer Daniels Midland and Frontier Ag was 3.5 million bushels.

Nancy and Beth Hawkins and Vicky Dumler were all home this past week for some visiting. It was good to see them all at the center.

The summer reading program presented a rock band skit and sang several songs at the center Monday. Twelve kids were involved. They served cookies and Kool-aid, it was enjoyed by all who attended.

Matthew and Daniel Allen both graduated from college on July 21, 2007. Matthew from Fort Hays State University and Daniel from the University of Notre Dame. They are the sons of Noland and Geryl Allen and grandsons of Ceci and Jr.

betty jo baird

• brewster news

Allen of Brewster.

The Prairie Gem 4-H Club had their style show at the Center last Friday. Those showing clothing were Layton Werth, Rose Bear and Melissa Baird. They served cookie bars afterwards. Good luck at the fair. Don't forget to go and enjoy everything it offers.

Eric and Angela Jones had a baby girl on July 18. Her name is Lainey Kay. She is the granddaughter of Laurie and John Jones and great-granddaughter of Warren and Bonnie Reid.

Laurie Jones and her girls came in for cake and coffee Thursday.

The Thomas County Nurse will be taking blood pressures again. First date is September 11, 10 to 11 a.m. It will be the second Tuesday of each month from 10 to 11 a.m.

Gloria Ribordy and Mary Garrett

Atwood girl to give farewell concert Sunday

An Atwood native who has been accepted to the Berklee College of Music in Boston will give a farewell concert Sunday at the Jayhawk Theatre in Atwood.

Shantel Leitner of Atwood, who studied music and performance at Butler Community School in El Dorado, will perform in a farewell benefit concert at 2 p.m. (Mountain Time) Sunday.

Her friends, Adam Jensen and Zeb Hatfield, who play with Hopkins Switch in Wichita, will sing with Shantel old and new covers that have a mellow, "feel-good"

vibe, she said. Bryan Anneler will be doing the sound.

The concert will be open to the public, and donations will be accepted in the lobby of the Jayhawk Theatre.

Berklee is the premier institution for the study of contemporary music. Applicants are required to complete a live audition and interview — Leitner interviewed in Denver. About 8,000 to 10,000 students from all over the United States and other parts of the world apply each year, while the student population is only about 3,900.

took Carmelita Clark to the Denver airport to visit her daughter Marla in Phoenix. They had a little trouble with luggage in Denver and Phoenix, but things turned out all right. John McMahan is home from Iraq. I'm

sure his wife Susan and their children are very happy to have him safe at home again. Welcome home, John.

Avery and Dawn Schultz painted some of the store windows for the fair. They all look very nice. Thanks

Avery and Dawn.

The Annual Watermelon Feed is just around the corner, so keep that in mind. It will be Friday, Aug. 17. There's always a large turnout, and the Heritage Center needs our sup-

port to keep the library and museum opened. Try to donate a little more this year for your supper.

Guess that's all for this week. Just pray for some rain and cooler temperatures.

Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church
Pastor: Steve Rains, Ben Coats, youth pastor
 Fourth & College • 890-3605
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10:30 am
 Morning Service: 10:30 am
 Evening Service: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m.
 Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
 Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.
 Small Group Ministries meets throughout the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pastor: Father Norbert Diabal
 307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
 Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am
Spanish Mass:
 Sunday: 12:30 pm



Sonrise Christian Church
 Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398
Minister: Charles E. Kerr, Jr.
Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 am
 Sunday School: 10:45 am
 Team Puppeteers: 6 pm
Wednesday:
 Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm
 Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm
 Jets, 4th grade and under: 3:30 - 4:30

Word of Life
Joursquare Church
 10th & Clark • 899-5250
Pastor: John Coumerilh
Sunday: Worship Celebration
 and Kids' Church: 10:30 am
 Wednesday: K.W.A.M.!
 Age 3 through grade 6, 6:30 p.m.
 (during school year)

Pleasant Home Church
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 for over 100 years
 Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70
Pastor: Charlie Busch
 694-2242
Sunday: Worship Service: 9 am
 Sunday School: 10 am
 Evening Service: 6 pm

Bible Baptist Church
Pastor: Michael Estep
 Fifth & Broadway
 890-7368
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
 Morning Service: 10 am
 Evening Service: 6:30 pm
Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
 1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
 (719) 346-7984
Sacrament Meeting: 10 am
Sunday School: 11:15 am
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 am

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo
 La Luz Del Mundo
 Spanish Speaking Church
Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.
 1601 Texas • 899-5275
Daily Prayer: Sunday thru
 Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am

United Methodist Church
Brewster:
Pastor: Dorine Chambers
 Worship Service: 10:45 am CST
 Sunday School: 9:45 am CST
Winona:
Minister: Sheryl Johnson
 Worship Service: 9 am CST
 Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
Pastor: Rev. Ted Amos
 Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233
Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 am
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups,
 Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups,
 Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship
Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing
 Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler
 Nurseries Available

Kanorado
United Methodist Church
Pastor: Leonard Cox
 399-2468
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
 Worship Service: 10:15 am

Church of the Nazarene
Pastor: Bob Willis
 Third & Caldwell
 899-2080 or 899-3797
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am
 Worship Service: 10:50 am
 Evening Service: 6 pm
Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 pm

First United Methodist Church
 1116 Sherman 899-3631
Pastor: Rev. Kasey Crosby
Saturday: Worship: 5:30 pm
Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 am
 Worship: 10:30 am
Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live
 5:45 - 6:45 Simple Supper "Free will Offering
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Goodland Bible Church
 109 Willow Road • 899-6400
Pastor: Chad DeJong
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 am
 Morning Worship: 10:45 am
 Evening Worship: 6 pm
Wednesday: AWANA (Winter)
 and prayer: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church
Pastor: Travis Blake
 Bateman's Funeral Home, 211 E. 11th
 890-3450
Sunday: Sunday School for all ages:
 9:30 am (Child care provided)
 Morning Worship: 10:30 am
Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.
 Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 13th & Center
 Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969
Priest: Father Hal Lycett
Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
 10:00 a.m. Thursday
Morning Prayer: 8:00 a.m. Wed. - Sun.
 For emergencies 890-6969

Harvest Evangelical Free Church
 104 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-7918
Pastor: Brian Fugleberg
Sunday: Worship: 9:30 am
 No Sunday School for Summer
Wednesday: Youth group
 meets at 7 p.m.
 at Scherlings', 827 Caldwell.

Seventh Day Adventist Church
 1160 Cattletrail
Pastor: Mike Larson
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 am
 Worship Service: 11 am

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
 13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Sunday: Christian education/fellowship:
 10:15 a.m.
 Worship Service: 9 am
Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 pm

Church of Christ
 401 Caldwell
 890-6185
Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 am
 Worship Service: 10:45 am
Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 pm

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

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 North Main

Good Samaritan Center
 208 W. 2nd

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