

Briefly

Send your Briefly items to [colby.editor@nwkansas.com](mailto:colby.editor@nwkansas.com). Deadline is noon two days before. For maximum impact, we recommend having them in 10 days or more in advance.

Picnic in the Park

Join us in Fike Park every Wednesday from June 4 through July 18 at noon for live, local entertainment! Check out the schedule for performers and sponsoring organizations on the Colby Convention & Visitors Bureau Facebook page and website or at select locations around town. Be sure to bring your lunch, drink, and lawn chair!

KSN3 Summer Road Trip

KSN3 and Good Day Kansas will broadcast live from Fike Park on Tuesday, June 18, at 11:15 a.m. as part of their Summer Road Trip across Kansas. The community is encouraged to attend and show support. Enjoy live music from Jan Barnum & Friends, giveaways from local partners, and sloppy joes served by Rotary and High Plains Coop at Picnic in the Park following.

Meats Workshop

Join us at the Sherman County 4-H Building (417 N. Main Ave., Goodland) for a meats workshop on June 11th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. MT (7:00 – 9:00 p.m. CT). Topics include “Meat in the Meat Case” –

deciphering a meat label to make good buying decisions in the store – and “Straight from the Source: Buying Meat Direct from the Farm”. This is a free event with supper included, so we ask that you RSVP by Friday, June 6 for our meal count.

To RSVP for these events, contact Thomas County Extension agricultural agent Helen Giefer at (785) 460-4582 or [hpgiefer@ksu.edu](mailto:hpgiefer@ksu.edu).

Senior Progress Center

Senior Progress Center has coffee everyday and coffee and donuts every Friday at 8:30 AM. 165 Fike Park, 785-460-2901

Consumer Confidence Report

The 2024 City of Colby Consumer Confidence Report is now available at <https://cityofcolbyks.gov/>

Joyful Blessing Meal

Everyone is invited to a Free Joyful Blessings Dinner on Saturday, June 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the First Baptisit Church, 615 W. Webster. All are invited, and please bring a friend.

Senior Progress Center Inside Huge Yard Sale

The Senior Progress Center will host a huge inside yard sale this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 165 Fike Park, 785-460-2901

# Is God Dead? Of Apostles and Martyrs



Brian Lager

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

accounts were later written, the One about whom almost immediately the oral Credo began to be recited, that One, then, the cumulative evidential weight of the resurrection narrative, and the case for Christ deserve a long hard look.

So, did the apostles

die for their faith as Christian “legend” suggests? Since this series of articles has primarily focused on Peter and Paul, we will look at the historical evidence concerning their alleged martyrdom. First, however, the most recent and perhaps the most exhaustive modern historical examination of the fate of the apostles is that of Sean McDowell in his book, *The Fate of the Apostles*. McDowell suggests all told, there are at least ten independent sources, both canonical and non-canonical, that give us a very good idea of what happened to Peter. Based upon these sources, all written within the living memory of Peter up until c. AD 200, we can make the following conclusions. First, the traditional view that Peter was martyred for his faith is strongly attested, and no competing theories exist. Second, based upon the early historical evidence, the traditional view that Peter was martyred for his faith is given the highest possible probability, indicating that it is historically very probably true that Peter was martyred in Rome.

Similar to Peter,

Paul’s martyrdom is attested to by at least eight independent sources, both canonical and non-canonical, written within Paul’s living memory. AD 200. The traditional view of Paul’s martyrdom is that Paul was beheaded in Rome sometime between AD 64-67, during the reign of Nero. Detailed analysis of these independent sources indicates that historically, it is the highest possible probability that Paul was martyred in Rome, more probable than not by beheading. The historical fact that both Peter and Paul were martyred for their faith speaks to their unwavering commitment to what they considered to be absolutely true: that the risen Jesus had appeared to them, and they died for that belief. However, Peter and Paul were not alone. Apostolic suffering was universal. In fact, McDowell’s research suggests that there is strong historical evidence that at least six of the apostles were more likely than not martyred for their faith and that these events are historically true is considered the highest possible probability.

Ironically, martyrdom for both Peter and Paul ended a life of suffering service to the Christ they both were convinced had risen. Both Peter and Paul had plenty of opportunities before martyrdom to recant their stories. Paul gives us an idea of the magnitude of his suffering when he writes in one of his many letters:

Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at

sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches (2 Cor 11:24)..

The point is this: even if Peter and Paul had not been put to death by Nero, the sheer frequency and magnitude of the suffering they endured for Christ’s sake stands at least as testimony to their dogged conviction that Jesus had risen from the dead and had appeared to them.

When the evidence is evaluated, the Christian resurrection perspectives provide the most cohesive, simplistic explanation, with the greatest explanatory power and plausibility to explain what happened to Jesus after his crucifixion. And it is history, not legend, that tells us that the majority of them died for their faith.

It seems to me the historical evidence clearly points us to a truth. What do you believe?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Ty B. Kerley, DMin., is an ordained minister who teaches Christian apologetics and relief preaches in Southern Oklahoma. Dr. Kerley and his wife, Vicki, are members of the Waurika church of Christ and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at [drkerley@is-Goddead.com](mailto:drkerley@is-Goddead.com).*

## Northwest Kansas Slammed by Severe Weather and Early June Rains

by Derek White

Free Press Contributor

Northwest Kansas was rocked by a powerful system of severe weather Monday evening, June 2, with dangerous wind gusts, overturned vehicles, and a surge in rainfall

that has already outpaced most of last month’s precipitation totals.

The strongest wind gusts were recorded in Sharon Springs, where the National Weather Service clocked speeds up to 80 mph—strong enough to topple high-profile

vehicles. Other impacted areas included Goodland at 74 mph, Oakley at 67 mph, and Saint Francis and Selden both hitting 61 mph.

The violent winds caused significant travel disruptions along Interstate 70. According to the Kansas Highway

Patrol, multiple vehicle blow-overs were reported near mile marker 32, and a camper was flipped near mile marker 26, forcing the closure of west-bound lanes. A particularly harrowing crash occurred

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## Services Directory

Worship in the church of your choice this weekend.



**ASCENSION-ON-THE-PRAIRIE EPISCOPAL**, Rev. Don Martin, College Drive & Wheatridge Rd., 785-443-0894, Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Evening Prayer, 5:15 p.m. every Wednesday. **Now Handicap Accessible.**

**BEREAN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**, 1000 S. Franklin, 785-460-2763, [www.colbyborean.com](http://www.colbyborean.com); Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Pastor Jim Meyers. High School Youth Group Sunday 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the church. AWANA (including Middle School) Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Heartland Christian School.

**BREWSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH**, JW Glidewell, Pastor, Brewster - 785-694-2813, Sunday School (adults) 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Children’s Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m. Children’s Ministries (Royal Rangers/Missionettes), Wed. 7:15 p.m. - Intercessory & Prayer, Tue. 5:30 p.m. - Women’s Bible Study.

**BREWSTER METHODIST CHURCH**, PO Box 250, Brewster. Pastor Mike Baughn, 785-694-2278, Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

**CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 1923 S. Range, Suite 2 (Old Beringer’s Hardware Store). Kirby Benisch, Campus Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. [www.celebratejesus.org](http://www.celebratejesus.org)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**, 510 E. 4th, Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**, 1145 S. Franklin, President Ryan Willis, 971-678-1755. Sacrament meeting 10 a.m., Priesthood, Relief Society, YM/YW, 11:00 a.m.; Family History Center open by appointment.

**COLBY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH**, 730 E. 3rd (former Jaycee’s building), 785-465-7020, Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.

**COLBY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, Rodgers Chishiba, pastor, 950 S. Franklin, 785-460-6521, Sunday Worship Services 10:00 a.m., Fellowship coffee 9:00 a.m., Sunday School, 9:00 a.m., KXXX broadcasts 10:00 worship. [www.colbyumc.org](http://www.colbyumc.org)

**COLLEGE DRIVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**, 245 W. College Dr., Colby. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. for all ages. Worship 10:30 a.m. Kid’s Church for Kindergarten- 5th grade during Worship Service. Nursery available for kids birth - 5yrs old. Wednesday night: Family night September - May 6:30 p.m. CD Kidz for kids birth - 5th grade, Youth Group for 6th - 12th graders and Adult Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. 785-462-8234. [collegedriveag@gmail.com](mailto:collegedriveag@gmail.com).

**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. Contemporary Evening Service at 4 p.m. through the semester.

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**, Pastor Dan Keel. 815 W. 3rd. Sundays at 2 p.m. 785-462-0512.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**, (Affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA) Pastor Matt Price, 615 W. Webster, 785-462-2867. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Family Worship: 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**, (Disciples of Christ), 385 W. 3rd - 785-460-2718. Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**, 515 W. 4th, Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Worship is available online. For access, please call Reverend Shelly Holle, 785-462-6342.

**GATEWAY FELLOWSHIP**, 2nd and Sunrise, Oakley. Pastor Kyle Bloom, Sunday Morning Worship and Children’s Church 10:15 a.m.

**GRACE ADVENTIST FELLOWSHIP** meets in the Ascension-on-the-Prairie Episcopal Church on College Drive & Wheatridge Rd. on Saturday morning. 10 a.m. Bible study group & 10 a.m. worship service. Pastor Dale Rossette: For more information call 785-462-7963.

**LEVANT COMMUNITY CHURCH**, 205 1st St., Levant. Ron Alexander, 785-586-2376, Sunday School (classes for 3 years & up and 3 adult classes) 9:30 a.m., Morning worship 10:30 a.m.

**MINGO BIBLE CHURCH**, 420 Main, Mingo, 785-462-2992: An independent community church. Adult class and Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 am. Worship Services: 10:45 a.m. First Sunday of month - carry-in dinner following morning worship.

**OUR SAVIORS LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 217 Main St., Brewster, 785-694-2751. 1st, 3rd, 4th Sunday of the month worship 9:00 a.m., and 2nd and 5th Sunday of the month worship 10:00 a.m.

**PLEASANT HOME CHURCH**, 785-694-2807, 3190 Road 70, Edson, Worship, 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m. (MST)

**REDEEMING LOVE, RLM Regional Church**, 345 N. Franklin, Dr. W.G. Romine II - Apostle. 785-657-1611. Saturday is Sabbath Worship: 9 a.m. Equipping class, 10 a.m. is Praise and Worship with 11 a.m. is Scripture Teachings. Wednesdays at 7 p.m. is Bible Study. Youtube. com, search rlmkansas.

**REXFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH**, Rexford, Pastor Lane Purcell, 785-687-3305, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**, 785-462-2179, Father Brian J. Lager, Saturday Eve. Mass 5:30 p.m., Sunday Masses 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Confessions will be heard Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m., Sunday 7:00 - 7:45 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. and from Wednesday & Friday 7:30 - 8:00 a.m.

**THE SHEPHERD’S STAFF, REXFORD**, Joan Dingwerth, Director, 785-687-2565.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**, Rev. Philip Hoppe. 855 E. 5th St., Colby, KS. Church number: 785-462-3497. Services, Sat. 5:30 p.m., Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Visit us at [trinitycolby.org](http://trinitycolby.org) and see us on Facebook.

**WESLEYAN CHURCH**, Pastor Jordan Grimms, 320 W. Pine - 785-462-8391, Adult Sunday School 9:00 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.

**WINONA METHODIST CHURCH**, 501 Bellview Ave. Rev. Sheryl Johnson, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m., Morning Worship 9:15 a.m. (CDT)

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** is a Christ-based ministry for anyone struggling with past or current hurts, habits or hang-ups! We welcome everyone! at First Baptist Church, 720 W. Walnut, Hill City, KS 67642 Join us for praise, worship, healing lessons and testimonies Starting May 31, 2025 at 7 p.m. and every Saturday after Contact (785) 821-8136 with questions