

Fellowship of Christian Athletes reorganized at GHS

By Marilyn Hefner
Star-News Contributor

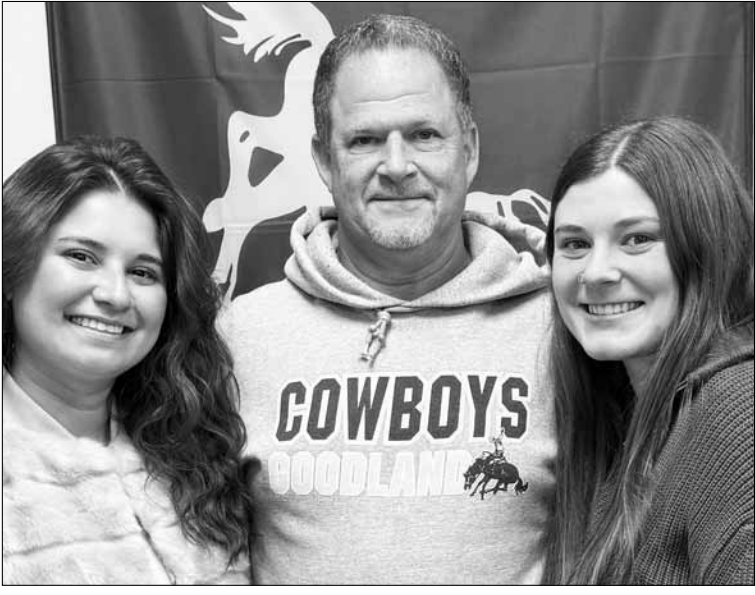
The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) first began at Goodland High School in 1969. The group has had many highs and lows over the years, and has lain dormant for several years. Approximately a year ago, Jr. High Social Studies teacher, Mike Natchtigall began thinking of how to bring this group back to the students and faculty of GHS. Natchtigall approached Athletic Director, Marty Lehman and asked about starting an FCA group on

campus once again. At-Risk Math Tutor, Amber Seruta and Math teacher, Karisma Vignery, along with Natchtigall, had a booth at the recent Flatlanders event on Main Street. Over 100 students expressed an interest in getting the FCA group up and running again. Since Flatlanders, many local businesses have offered to assist in any way possible. Fellowship of Christian Athletes is a nationally-known ministry for students on high school campuses. This is a group where anyone attending or working in the schools can

get involved in. Once the group is up and running, they will host fun events for the students to get involved in. To introduce the community to the newly reorganized FCA group, a Dodgeball Tournament is scheduled. This will be held 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15 at the Max Jones Fieldhouse. They are hoping that the local youth groups who meet on Wednesday nights will chose to come cheer the teams on, as many of the youth will be playing in the tournament. As of the writing of this article, 95 students have signed up. The

tournament teams are students, staff and local law enforcement. They want to invite the community to come out and have fun. Anyone with questions may email the group at goodland-fca@gmail.com.

Pictured at right are FCA leaders Amber Seruta, Mike Natchtigall, Karisma Vignery.
Photo by Marilyn Hefner



ROOMS Grants available for upper-floor housing in Main Street Communities

Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Commerce David Toland today announced \$250,000 is available under the Residential Opportunities on Main Street (ROOMS) grant program to support new upper-floor housing in commercial buildings in Designated Kansas Main Street communities. “Rural downtowns are full of history and character — and many have unused upper-floor spaces that could be utilized for additional housing options,” Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Commerce David Toland said. “These funds give our community leaders the resources to turn these historic assets into vibrant, livable spaces — and increase the number of customers within a short walk of downtown restaurants and shops.”

Upper-floor investments play an important role in addressing the affordable and quality housing shortage, which regularly is identified as a major issue across the state. Creating new housing opportunities enhances the overall livability and functionality of downtowns. Equally, these funds can result in increased investment, improved infrastructure, positive cycle of economic growth, stronger tax base and a greater sense of place and community identity. “Through the Kansas Main Street program, we aim to work with communities who are eager to build their capacity in developing upper-floor housing in downtown buildings,” Kansas Main Street Interim Director Debbie Deere said. “Through these grant opportunities, we can continue to increase local housing stock — while maintaining the unique characteristics of our downtown buildings.” ROOMS funds will be available to applicants within active Designated Kansas Main Street communities for projects that lead directly to housing creation or retention in upper floors of existing buildings in downtown areas. Projects

must incorporate Main Street design standards and follow local ordinances and codes for improvements.

More details about ROOMS can be found at <https://www.kansascommerce.gov/program/community-programs/main-street/rooms/>. For more information about the Kansas Main Street program, visit <https://www.kansascommerce.gov/program/community-programs/main-street/>.

About the Kansas Department of Commerce
As the state’s lead economic development agency, the Kansas Department of Commerce strives to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve prosperity in Kansas. Commerce accomplishes its mission by developing relationships with corporations, site location consultants and stakeholders in Kansas, the nation and world. Our strong partnerships allow us to help create an environment for existing Kansas businesses to grow and foster an innovative, competitive landscape for new businesses. Through Commerce’s project successes, Kansas was awarded Area Development Magazine’s prestigious Gold Shovel award in 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024, and was awarded the 2021 and 2022 Governor’s Cup by Site Selection Magazine.

About the Quality Places Division
Established in 2024, the Quality Places Division at the Kansas Department of Commerce exists to improve quality of life in communities across the state through various programs and services. The Kansas Department of Commerce understands the immense role played by strong communities in economic development and prioritizes investments in people and communities as major contributors to the overall strength of the Kansas economy.

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GOODLAND, KS

Always be ready

By Pastor Tim Bonebright
Goodland Bible Church

For many, the events of the last several weeks have weighed heavy on their hearts. Tragedies, such as the assassination of a public figure or the senseless murder of a young woman, cannot be ignored. The horror plays out, not on a movie or television screen, where the director yells “cut” and everyone gets up, but before our very eyes, with real lives being lost. While the response to these events have been varied, many Christians have expressed a desire to be better about sharing the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The sharing of the gospel is important for all followers of Christ to do, but how do you accomplish this? The purpose of this brief article is to look at 1 Peter 3:15 and draw out two principles that can help in the sharing of the gospel.

The first principle is take advantage of the opportunities to point people to the hope of the gospel. After beginning this verse with the exhortation to honor Christ the Lord as holy in your hearts, Peter adds, “Always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.” In writing this, Peter addresses a person’s actions with the exhortation to honor Christ the Lord as holy. This speaks to the responsibility to treat Christ, who is Lord, with reverence or respect. It is this mindset which will impact a person’s actions, particularly in this context in the sharing of the gospel. The believer’s conduct should cause others to ask them how it is they respond to life and its difficulties the way they do. This is of particular importance for the original recipients of this letter, as they were facing intense

persecution. Yet, in honoring Christ, the command is a call to respond to attacks against them by not attacking back, as Christ did when He endured mistreatment. For the believer in Christ, when you respond to struggles and tragedies of life as Christ did, it can and will provide opportunities to point people to the hope of Christ. Thus, for the believer, you not only need to be prepared or ready to share, but also have an eagerness to do so. The second principle is to present the gospel with gentleness and respect. Whereas the first principle focused on the means of sharing the gospel, the second looks to the manner. The word gentleness has the idea of not being overly impressed with yourself. As such, it can also be translated courtesy or meekness. The word respect can be used in active sense for intimidation,

but here it is passive referring to showing reverence. While this word is often used of the reverence that is due God, here Peter is using it as respect directed towards other humans. This indicates that for the believer there is no place for undue harshness, nor disrespect in sharing the gospel. While the gospel message is one that can cause offense, the person sharing the gospel must not be offensive. If you are a believer in Christ, you need to live out your faith in Christ. This does not mean you must try to present yourself as perfect, which you are not. Rather, live in humility knowing you are a person who is always in need of the grace of God. As you live in this humility you can take advantage of the opportunities that come your way to speak of Christ and the forgiveness of sin that can only be found by trusting in Him.

Church Directory

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Pastor Monika Hunter East 8th & Arcade • 785-890-5233 www.goodlandfcdoc.org Sunday: 9 a.m. - Adult Sunday School; 10 a.m. - Fellowship; 10:30 a.m. - Worship M-W-F: 9 a.m. Senior Exercise Class Tuesday: 2 p.m. - Nifty Needlers sewing group; Wed: 7 p.m. - Adult Choir Thursday: 1 p.m. - Game Day Group	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church Father Carlos Ruiz Santos 307 W. 13th • 785-890-7205 T-W-F: noon; Thursday: noon, followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 8 p.m. and Confession from 5 to 5:45 p.m. Saturday: Confession 5 p.m. Mass 6 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. Confession, 10:30 a.m. Mass; 1st and 3rd Sundays, Spanish Mass at noon.	Goodland United Methodist Church 12th and Sherman • 785-899-3631 Pastor Younghwan Won goodlandumc.org & Facebook Sunday: Adult Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: September-April KidZone & reNew Youth 5:30-7 p.m. (Meal Provided)
Crossroads Worship Pastor Craig Groeschel 1529 Texas	Seventh Day Adventist Church Pastor Fred Grant 1160 Cattletail • 785-899-7522	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 1200 15th Street, Burlington, CO
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Pastor Don McMillan • 785-890-6161 13th & Sherman www.elcgoodland.com Services: Sunday Worship – 9 a.m. Sunday School – 10:15 - 11 a.m. Wednesdays – 6:30 p.m. during Lent and Advent	Church of Christ 1630 Sandy Road • 785-890-6185 www.goodlandcoc.org Sunday: Bible class: 9 a.m. Worship Service: 10 a.m. Wednesday: Bible Study: 6 p.m.	Calvary Gospel Church Lead Pastor Randy Payne 6296 Hwy 27 • 785-890-3605 www.calvarygospel.church Watch us live on YouTube Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Elevate Youth Group: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Kids 4 Christ - K-6th grade 6 p.m., during the school year
Pleasant Home Church Celebrating 125 years of God's gracious blessings! Rt. 1, Box 180 • 3190 Road 70	Kanorado Methodist Church Pastor Josh Simmons 785-399-2468 Sunday School: 9 a.m. MT Church: 10:15 a.m. MT “A Global Methodist Congregation”	Iglesia Del Dios Vivo Minister Jose Orenos 1601 Texas • (909) 693-1781 La Luz Del Mundo Spanish bilingual church - translation available
Goodland Bible Church Pastor Tim Bonebright 109 Willow Road • 785-899-6400 Sunday: Services: 10:45 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.	Promiseland Baptist Church Pastor Rick Holmes 225 W. 16th • 785-890-7082 785-890-7944	Methodist Church Brewster Pastor Mike Baughn 202 Nebraska Ave., Brewster 785-694-2463
Harvest Evangelical Free Church Pastor Brian Fugleberg 521 E. Hwy. 24 • 785-890-6423 harvestfreegoodland.com Sunday: Worship & Children's Church: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Harvest Crew Youth Group (5th-12th Grade) and HIS KIDS 6 p.m. Men's Bible Studies: 1st Monday at 6:30 p.m. and 3rd Saturday at 7 a.m.	First Baptist Church Pastor Caleb Miles 1121 Main • 785-890-3450 Sunday: Sunday School - All Ages: 9 a.m. Coffee Fellowship: 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship: 10 a.m. For information about Bible Studies and Wednesday Night Youth Programs please call the church or check out our website www.fbcgoodland.com	St. Paul's Episcopal Church Father Don Martin Deacons Scott Mentzer and Pat Schiefen 121 W. 13th 785-890-2115 or 785-443-4777 Saturday: Services 5 p.m.

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