

OBITUARIES

Mae J. Graff



Mae J. Graff, 94, of McGregor, died Sun., Feb. 10, 2008, at her home.

Services were held Sat., Feb. 16, 2008, at Holy Family Catholic Church in McGregor with Father John Fleischhacker officiating. Burial was in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Oelwein, IA.

She was born June 24, 1913, at Oelwein, IA, to George and Mary (Salisbury) Aldrich. She grew up and attended schools in Oelwein. She married Sylvester Graff Nov. 2, 1929, at Oelwein. They moved to Wichita, KA in 1941, where she was employed by Beechcraft during WWII. They purchased their home on Big Sandy Lake near McGregor in 1952 and she has lived there since. She was a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church in McGregor and also served as a notary.

She is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law: Robert (Alice) Graff, McGregor; Edward (Bonnie) Graff, McGregor; Halley (Glenna) Graff, St. Augustine, FL; daughters and sons-in-law: Marjorie (John) Cox, McGregor; Barbara Maron, McGregor; Janice (Gene) Meeke, Wichita, KS; Connie Snelling, Ft. Collins, CO; Dianne (Larry) Ladd, Palisade; Catherine (Ron) Weith, Marthasville, MO; Sylvia (Mike) Tilghman, Kansas City, MO; 52 grandchildren; 88 great-grandchildren (and another due in May); 17 great-great-grandchildren; as well as nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, four siblings; husband, Sylvester, in 1991; daughters: Mary Graff and Jo Dawson; infant son, Richard Graff; four grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home of Aitkin. Go to www.srtfuneral.com to sign the online guest register.

William J. Kellerman

William John Kellerman, 96, of Aitkin, died Tue., Feb. 12, 2008, at the Aicota Health Care Center in Aitkin.

Services were held Fri., Feb. 15, 2008, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Cedarbrook. Burial was in the St. John's Church Cemetery.

He was born June 9, 1911, in Aitkin Township, to John and Jennie (Hirshmann) Kellerman. He lived within five miles of his birth home all his life. He married Anna Lu-eck June 29, 1937, and then married Isabelle Pearson Sept. 28, 1974. He and Isabelle lived at Blackrock until he moved to Aicota. He worked as an iron ore driller, raised dairy and beef cattle and farmed for many years. He also graded roads and mowed ditches for Rabbit Lake Township. In his younger years he played the accordion and piano, accompanying his brothers with other instruments. They were locally known as

the "Kellerman Band".

He is survived by his wife, Isabelle; sons and daughters-in-law: Russell (Diane) Kellerman, Aitkin; Pete (Janelle) Kellerman, Aitkin; step-sons and daughters-in-law: Charles (Judy) Pearson, Aitkin; John (Connie) Pearson, Aitkin; Roger (Kathy) Pearson, Aitkin; step-daughter, Shirley White, Brainerd; brother and sister-in-law, Fred (Melvida) Kellerman, Aitkin; five grandchildren; and 10 step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Anna, in 1970; brothers: Paul, John, Andrew, Conrad, Leonard and George; sisters: Margaret Peterson, Maggie Kellerman and Anna Blazina.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

'World Day of Prayer' at Crosby St. Joseph's Catholic Church

"God's wisdom provides new understanding"

World Day of Prayer will be observed on Fri., March 7 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crosby.

World Day of Prayer is an international movement in 179 countries, when prayers "follow the sun" around the globe on this day of celebration.

The women of Guyana developed the theme, "God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding", to express the awesomeness of God's creation and that we learn from it. As we survey God's work, we are filled with awe at the beauty and diversity, and we begin to understand that we are called to care for all of creation. The World Day of Prayer's motto, "Informed prayer leads to prayerful action", affirms that prayer and action are inseparable

and that both have immeasurable influence. As we observe World Day of Prayer 2008, millions of God's people are suffering from violence, neglect, poverty and political injustice. Women and children, especially, are denied basic human rights and are victims of those who would exploit them and abuse them.

Invite your friends, family and communities of faith to join the women

of Guyana in prayer and song to support women's ecumenical ministries toward justice, peace, healing and wholeness.

The program will include scripture, special music, and accounts of the lives of women in present day Guyana.

Refreshments, treats, and fellowship will follow the program. The women of Cuyuna Range churches invite everyone to attend.

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Welcome To Our Area Churches

* Indicates handicap accessible. NOTE: All times are Sunday morning (a.m.) unless indicated otherwise.

ALLIANCE

Garrison* — Pastor Michael H. Palkie; Adult & Children's SS 9:30; Worship & Children's Church 10:30; Wed. 7 p.m. Church/Home Bible Study.
McGregor/Big Sandy — Rev. S. DeMars, 426-3408; E. of Sather's Store; Worship 9:30; Children's Church 10-10:30.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Aitkin — Rev. Dan Turner; SS 9; Worship 10; Wed. 7 p.m.
Crosby — Rev. Michael Towers; Worship 10:30
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeth;
Hill City — Rev. G. Valley; Worship 10 and 6:30 p.m.; Bible Study Thurs. 7 p.m.
Palisade — Pastor Ed Somberger; SS 9; Worship 10; Bible Study, Wed. 7 p.m. at church, Wed. 7 p.m. kids games and bible activity, grades K-12.

BAPTIST

Aitkin — Westside, Pastor D. Smith; Worship 9; SS 11; (Sept.-May).
Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor G. Fisher; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study and Our Kids for Christ Wed. 7 p.m.
Deerwood — Pastor W. Skog; SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m.; Wed. Service, 7 p.m.
Glory — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 927-3678; SS 9:15; Worship 10:30 am.
Hill City — Pastor L. Lee; 697-2645; SS 9:45; Worship 11 am, 7 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.; Bible Study, Fri., 7 p.m.
Isle — Pastor Gary Lambert; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.
Opstead — Pastor P. Johnson; 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.; www.opsteadbaptist.tzo.com.

CATHOLIC

Aitkin — St. James, Fr. Paul Fruth, Mass: Sat. 4:30 pm; Sun. 8:30 am; Confession Sat. 3:45 p.m. Call 218-927-6581.
Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sun. 11
Crosby — St. Joseph's, Mass: Sat. 4 p.m.; Sun. 10:30; Tue & Thu 8:30
Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, Mass: Sat. 4 p.m.; Sun. 8 & 10:30
Deerwood — St. Joseph's, Fr. H. Eisel, Mass: Sat. 7:30 p.m.; Sun. 8:30 am; Daily: Mon. & Fri. 8:30.
Emily — St. Emily, Fr. Roman Spoor, Mass: Sat. 4:30 p.m.; Sun. 10 am; 218-763-2101.
Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Paul Fruth, Mass: Sat. 7 p.m.; Sun. 11 am; Confession Sat. 8 p.m.
Hillman — Holy Family, Sun. 9;
Hill City — St. John's, Fr. Jerry Weiss; Fr. Keith Bertram, asst. pastor Mass: Sun. 8:30
McGrath — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. J. Fleischhacker, O.S.C., Mass: Sun. 11.
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. J. Fleischhacker, O.S.C., Mass: Sat. 5:30 pm; Sun. 9.
Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Aitkin — Worship and SS 10:00; Mtgs. 1st & 3rd Wed. 7:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Paul Peterson, Br. President, 218-927-4435; Priesthood/Relief Society, 9; S.S. 10; Sac. Mtg. 10:50

COMMUNITY

Aitkin Community — Nondenominational; 927-2749; Worship 10; at 219-1st Ave. NE.
Emily, Community Cornerstone Christian — Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.
Glen, mile east of Glen — Rev. R. Stauter; Worship 9, May- Oct.
Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 p.m.
Jacobson Community Church (the little white church in Jacobson). Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 p.m.
Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.
McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 9:30 at McGregor VFW; Bible study Sat. 7 p.m. VFW basement; Contact: Pat Perrine 218-768-2234
Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Larry Harshman; SS 9:45; Service 11 & 6 p.m.; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536.
Merrifield — Ossipee Community, Pastor Ewald Eisele; SS 9:15; Service 10:30; Wed. Bible Study Prayer, Pastor Ralph Hegman 7:30 p.m.
Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Dave Uhrich; SS 9; Fellowship 10; Worship 10:15; Wed. Fellowship Dinner 5:30; Wed AWANA Youth & Adult Bible Study 6:30; Wed. Choir Practice 8:15 p.m.
Palisade/Waukenabo Twp. — Hilltop Chapel, Pastor B. Hite; Service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's Sunday School 9 a.m.; located between Esquagama & Round Lake. Handicap Accessible.
Tamarack — Church of Christ, Pastor Brandt Johnson, 218-768-2965; Service 9:30; SS 10:45. Wed. worship, 6 p.m.
McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

Aitkin — Community of Christ, Elder S. Wasserzieher, 218-678-2506 for meeting place and time.

CONGREGATIONAL

Aitkin (UCC) — First, Rev. Richard Celley; Worship 10; Comm. 1st Sun.; Trustees Mtg., 2nd Sun.; Diaconate Mtg., 3rd Sun.; Adult Bible Study Sun. 9 am.

EVANGELICAL FREE

Crosslake — Pastor Fred Cressman; Call for Service Times at 218-692-4141, email thelogchurch@crosslake.net
Isle — Pastor Charles Visser; Worship 9; SS 10:15; Wed. Youth Group 6 pm; Adult Prayer 6:30 p.m.
Malmo — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10:30; Worship 10:50; Wed. Care Group 9:30
Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Wed., Bible Study, 7 p.m.

EPISCOPAL

Aitkin — St. John's, Holy Comm. or Morning Prayer, Sun. 9

INDEPENDENT PENTECOSTAL

Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Ironton Town Hall*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 p.m.

LUTHERAN

Aitkin — Bethel* (CLB), Rev. G. Salmonson; Worship, 9:30; Wed. Wed. Kids Club (starting 9/19) 3:30; Thurs. Bible Study & prayer 7; SS following morning worship.
Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Cindy Gray; Worship 9:30 and 10; SS 10; Holy Comm. 1st Sun. each month.
Aitkin — First* (ELCA), Rev. Lance E. Isaacson, Sr. Pastor; Rev. Sarah Cordray, Assoc. Pastor; Worship: Sun. 8 and 10:30; coffee fellowship 9; Adult Forum and Sunday School 9:15; Contemporary 3rd Sun., Communion 1st & 3rd Sun.; 10:30 service broadcast live on KKN (930 AM) & on TV cable channel 8 at 9 am Wed.
Aitkin — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor D. Becker; Worship Sun. 9 a.m.
Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sundays, 10:30.
Cedarbrook — St. John's (ELCA), Rev. Sandy Berg-Holte; Worship 8:30; SS 9:30; Saturday SS; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.
Crosby — Immanuel (ELCA) Pastor Paul Mattson; Sat. 5 p.m. worship; Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 worship; fellowship & coffee 9:30. Call for FLT schedule.
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 8:30; SS 10; Bible Study Wed. 7pm; handicap accessible. 218-546-6910
Crosslake — (ELCA), Pastor Mark Anderson; Worship Sun. 9:30; SS 10:15; Coffee Fellowship 10:30. 218-692-3682.
Crosslake — Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Steve Anderson; SS/Bible Study 10:45; Fellowship 9:30; Fellowship follows; Holy Comm. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays; Confirm./Youth Group Wed. 6 p.m.; 218-692-4228
Deerwood — Salem (ELCA), Pastor D. Anderson; Fall Worship: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.
Giese Immanuel — Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. each month 8:45.
Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Pastor Chris Hill; Worship 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship 10:0 a.m.; Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; 320-692-4773.
Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (Missouri Synod), Pastor Matthew Ruesch, Bible Study & 10:2nd grade & up, 10:45
Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor Volkert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.
Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Pastor Cathie Rhodes; Sun. Worship 9:30. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)
Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS), Pastor Dean Stolz; Worship 10:30; 218-534-3069.
Isle — Faith (ELCA), Pastor John Lundberg; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.

Isle — Trinity (Missouri Synod), Rev. Mark Maunula; Worship 8:30; Fellowship follows; SS 9:45; Adult Bible 10.

Jacobson — Carmel, J. and L. Anderson-Bauer; Services, 11; SS, 9:30.

Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA), Rev. Jim Raisanen; Sat. Informal Worship 5 p.m.; Sun. Worship 8:30 & 10; Fellowship between services; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun.

McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 p.m.; Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.

McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor James Sodergren; Worship 9; SS 9.

McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace (ELCA), Pastor D. Heath; Sun. Worship 9 a.m. Fellowship hour follows. Sat. Worship Services will resume in the spring.

McGregor — Our Savior's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Henry Koopman; Worship 9; SS 10; Bible Study Tue. 9, Wed. 7 p.m.

Opstead — Holden (ELCA), SS 9:30; Worship 10:30.

Outing — Our Saviors; Worship 9.

Palisade — Bethel (ELCA), Rev. W. J. Sass; Worship 9:30; SS: pre-school - 1st grade, 10; 2nd grade & up, 10:45

Rosburg — Bethesda (ELCA), Rev. Sandy Berg-Holte; Worship 10:30; SS 2nd Sat of Mo. 9 - 1 p.m.; Comm. 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.

Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor P. Franz; 1st & 4th Sun. 11; 3rd Sun. 1

Thor — Zion, Pastor G. Salmonson; Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.

Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.

Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Henry Koopman; Worship 10:30; Bible Study Thu. 10.

PENTECOSTAL INDIAN

Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, 218-768-3412, Pastors Ken and Robin Fairbanks, Praise and Worship, Sat., 11.

PRESBYTERIAN

Crosby/Ironton — Pastor Norma Spurgin 1st St. SE, Hallet Ave.; Worship 10 a.m.; SS during worship.

Crosslake — Pastor John Hill; Adult Education 9; Worship/SS 10, 14444 Daggett Pine Rd., 218-692-4769

McGrath — Calvary, Interim Pastor - Rev. Bill Chadwick; Worship 9:30; SS 10:30.

McGregor/Round Lake — Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 9:30.

Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.

Round Lake — Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 9:30.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Aitkin — Pastor R. Brauer; Worship, Sat. 9:20; Sabbath School 10:20; Prayer Mtg. Tue. 7 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Aitkin — Rev. Judith A. Clark; Adult SS and classes for 3 yrs. to 9th grade, 9; Worship & Nursery 10:30.

Crosby/Deerwood — Cascade, Rev. Shirley Nelson; Worship 9:45; fellowship follows.

Emily — Pastor Lois Hansen; Worship 8:45; fellowship follows.*

Northern Lights Parish (United Methodist) — Pastor Russ Christensen

Cromwell — Worship 11:00; SS 9. Pastor Russ Christensen

Fleming — Worship 9:00; handicap accessible.

Hill City — Rev. Russ Christensen; Worship 10:45 a.m.

McGregor — Pastor Russ Christensen; Worship 8:45; S.S. 10:15.*

Palisade — Pastor Russ Christensen (Closed until April).

Cutler — Pine Lake Chapel, Rev. Judith A. Clark; Worship 9; SS 9.

WESLEYAN

Emily — Rev. Jeff Drake; Worship 9; Friendship Time 10; SS 10:30; Wed. Activities 6:30 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.

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OBITUARIES

Eleanore B. Bath

Eleanore Beatrice Bath, 86, of Aitkin, died Sat., Feb. 16, 2008, at Riverwood Extended Care Center in Aitkin.

Services were held Tue., Feb. 19, 2008, at Cascade United Methodist Church in Deerwood. Burial was in the Bay Lake Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 19, 1921, in Deerwood Township to Frank and Catherine (Looman) Etzler. She married Edward Bath on Feb. 3, 1940, in Sidney, MT.

She is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law: Earl (Jeanette) Bath, Bay Lake; Edward (Rae) Bath, Brooklyn Park; Ernie (Barbara) Bath, Coon Rapids;

Eugene (Sandy) Bath; Bay Lake; daughters and son-in-law: Elaine Hausfeld, Ironton; Ann Prchal, White Bear Lake; Joy (Tony) Miller, Circle Pines, Evonne Bath, Brainerd; sisters and brother-in-law: Helen Etzler, Minneapolis; Melva (Donald) Sarri, San Diego, CA; 28 grandchildren; 53 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward; a grandson; four brothers and three sisters.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

Barbara A. Dutton

Barbara Ann Dutton, 77, died Sat., Feb. 16, 2008, at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby.

Services were held Fri., Feb. 22, 2008, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Outing. Burial was in the Pine Ridge Cemetery in Emily.

She was born Nov. 6, 1930, in St. Paul to Albert and Ann (Johnson) Fehr. Her family moved to Washburn Lake near Outing after her they purchased Washburn Point Lodge in 1934. She attended country school near Remer and graduated from Remer High School in 1949. While doing clerical work for the Colorado State 4-H office at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO, she met Howard Dutton. They were married Aug. 7, 1954, in Outing. They lived in various locations in the US while he completed his service with the US Army before returning to Minnesota and purchasing the

family resort from her mother in 1958. From then until the present they lived on Washburn Lake, operated the resort, and raised their sons. She was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Outing, where she served on a variety of committees, participated in Women's Circle, and was a member of the Church Council as Treasurer for 37 years.

She is survived by her husband, Howard, Remer; sons and daughters-in-law: Wade (Holly), Detroit Lakes; Brett (Kristi), Baxter; Shawn (Jan), St. Michael; eight grandchildren; and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Jack.

Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby.

Central Lakes College jazz and brass bands to perform

The Central Lakes College Jazz Band and Brass Ensemble will perform Tue., Feb. 26 in the Windchill Concert on the Brainerd campus at 7:30 p.m.

Jazz Band

Saxophones – Brittany Stegora, Brainerd; Ross Klingner, Crosby; Rohana Bjorkquist, Crosslake; Shawn Kobs, Pilsbarger.

Trumpets – Sue Kavanaugh, East Gull Lake; Laurie Savage and Ian McNamara, Pequot Lakes.

Trombones – Tim Schultz and Chris Pagnas, both of Brainerd; Derek Prindle, Baxter; Steve Anderson, Merrifield.

Piano – Meredith Lovaas, Isle.

Percussion – Chet Bailey, Hill City; Michelle Miller, Swanville.

Bass guitar – John Tetrault, Pierz.

Guitar – Damian Rolfsmeier, Nisswa.

Brass Ensemble

French horns – Bonnie



Ross Klingner of Crosby, playing saxophone with the Central Lakes College Jazz Band.

Groneberg and Becky Stadem, both of Baxter; Claudette Kitzman, Crosby.

Trumpets— Jeff Liebsch and Andrew Tagtmeier, both of Brainerd; Laurie Savage and Ian McNamara, both of Pequot Lakes.

Trombones – Jim Anderson, Brainerd; Steve Anderson, Merrifield; Bruce Kaiser, Pine River.

Tubeas – Tim Schultz and Rick Fellman, both of Brainerd.

The musicians are directed by Steve Anderson. Admission is \$3, free to CLC students.



LOOK WHO'S baby JUST ARRIVED

KALEE BRASCH

KaLee Ann Brasch, a girl, weighing 7 lbs., was born Feb. 8, 2008, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Terrie Brasch of Mora. KaLee is welcomed home by sibling, Laiken. Grandparents are, Dan and Patty Brasch, Ogilvie.

DAYSHEINA ST. JOHN

Daysheina Lee St. John, a girl, weighing 7 lbs., 7 ozs., was born Feb. 8, 2008, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Russell St. John and Katrina Jones of Hinckley. Daysheina is welcomed home by sibling, Aireana. Grandparents are: Kathleen and Bob Bowen, Lindstrom; Russell Taylor, St. Paul; and Norma Diver, St. Paul.

KANE REVIER

Kane Allen Revier, a boy, weighing 7 lbs., 3 ozs., was born Feb. 13, 2008, at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, to Travis and Allie Revier of Finlayson. Kane is welcomed home by sibling, Chloe. Grandparents are: Roger and Pam Revier, Finlayson; and Bob and Jan Korh, Hinckley.



LEAP YEAR BABY

Karena Marie Burgstaler

Our Leap Day Baby ~ Born 2/29/04
Happy 1st 4th Birthday!
Love, Daddy, Mommy, Eric, Ryan,
Breena, Lindsay & Dakota



Family News IN FOCUS

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Virtue outperforms vice on Wall Street

By JOSH MONTEZ

There's a feeling that standing by your principles won't help you financially. Not so says a study of mutual funds.

The study looked at two types of mutual fund; one that can be called biblically responsible and the other aptly named the Vice Fund because it invests in "sin" stocks, such as abortion, pornography, gambling and alcohol. The Vice Fund grew by 154 percent in the last five years. But, that pales in comparison to the portfolio of Stewardship Partners, which increased by 251 percent over the same time frame. Stewardship Partners steers away from "sin" stocks and makes in-

vestments that will not make Christians cringe. Rusty Leonard of Stewardship Partners believes it's logical. "It's a message that love and truthfulness and transparency and honesty and doing the right thing; the Golden Rule is always going to win in the long run verses the opposite where you're trying to prey on people's weaknesses to profit for your pocket."

Dan Hardt is a certified financial planner and member of Kingdom Advisors. He's glad to see that virtue outperforms vice. "I do take it as a blessing and I'm happy for it. But I would be investing the best I can in virtue even if the performance figures were

the other way around." Art Ally of the Timothy Plan believes Christians are waking to the fact that it matters where they invest their money. "You know I'm a steward of this money God's entrusted me and I'm not going to get my hands dirty investing in stuff that I claim to stand against like abortion, pornography, and active promotion of the homosexual agenda. Why would I want to own companies like that even if they got a little better return this year? The fact is, over time they don't get better returns." That's reason enough to check your own portfolio.

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