

Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake Annual History 2020

Compiled by Stake Clerk, Kim Carlson

Approved by Stake President, Kevin Ledding

Unit (511447)

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Vision and Action Plan

The plans for this year are to continue the good work of the past Stake Presidency while the new Presidency familiarizes themselves with their new leadership opportunity.

There were many new things that happened this year that stole the attention of all leaders so the Action Plan was put on hold as the new pandemic gripped the world. The plan became how to ensure our members and all within our stake borders had all the resources they needed to brave the coming storm.

Announcements came periodically throughout the year from Church leaders to help us organize and plan and keep up with ensuring the safety of our members. Page 21 summarizes those announcements. As we got used to the pandemic and learned how to cope we were able to still adjust our curriculum, get members attending remote meetings and plan virtual events to let everyone know that the Spirit was still in our stake.

This Year's Events

Our calendar was full with our regular meetings and events that were planned to further our 3 goals. Here's some stories about members experiences of these events.

Calendar

Here's the events that were planned

January

- 12 Wanuskewin Ward Conference
- 12 Worldwide Devotional 18-30 & grade 12
- 19 Stake Self-Reliance Devotional
- 26 Meadow Green Ward Conference
- 29 Stake Council
- 30 Elder's Quorum and Relief Society Presidencies Training

February

- 7 **Stake Youth Activity**
- 7-8 **Senior Youth Conference**
- 9 Wildwood Ward Conference
- 29 Auxiliary Leadership Training
- 29-1 Stake Conference

March

- 08 Kindersley Branch Conference
- 13 Stake Youth Activity
- 22 Melfort Branch Conference
- 29 Battleford Branch Conference

April

- 4-5 General Conference
- 24 Stake Youth Activity
- 26 Prince Albert Ward Conference
- 30 Meeting with Bishoprics /
Stake General Priesthood Meeting

May

- 2 Stake Relief Society Women's Conference
- 3 Institute Recognition
- 3 Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults
- 22-24 Tri-stake Youth Conference
- 31 Flin Flon Branch Conference

June

- 6 Seminary Graduation
- 14 Meadow Lake Branch Conference
- 24 Stake Council

July

- 8-11 Stake Young Women's Camp
- 8-11 Stake Young Men's Camp
- 18 High Priests Quorum Temple Trip

August

- 15-16 Stake Conference (General Authority presides)
- 26 Stake Council

September

- 10 Elder's Quorum and Relief Society Presidencies Training
- 11 Stake Youth Activity
- 13 Stake Self-Reliance Devotional
- 19 Primary Temple and Priesthood Preparation

October

- 3-4 General Conference
- 16-17 Youth Standards Conference

November

- 7 Stake Council
- 15 Meeting with Bishoprics
- 20 Stake Youth Activity

December

- 6 First Presidency Christmas Devotional
- 31 New Year's Eve

Here are the highlights from our conferences

February 2020

Semiannual Stake Conference Report			
To be filled out by or for the presiding authority			
Stake			
Saskatoon Saskatchewan			
Presiding Leader		Dates	
President Kevin J. Ledding		29 Feb-1 Mar 2020	
Others Attending			
Temple President and Matron, Mission President and Wife			
Where Held		Stake Population	
Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake Center		2,013	
Meetings			
Meetings	Number Invited	Number Attending	% Attending
Stake Presidency Meeting (including clerk and executive secretary)	5	4	80%
Stake Priesthood Leadership Meeting	190	103	54%
Saturday Evening Adult Session	1,651	222	13%
Total Attending the Sunday General Sessions	2,013	375	19%
Comments: Please summarize the material taught in this conference and indicate matters that may need further attention by the next visiting presiding authority.			
THEME: Being our Best Selves			
First Stake Conference for the new Stake Presidency			
LEADERSHIP - Focused on Ministering and the leaders new responsibility to be able to conduct Self Reliance forms and address members needs in Councils			
EVENING SESSION - covered topics in Addiction and Recovery, the Promises of the Word of the Wisdom, using the atonement to become better, and to prepare for General Conference by studying the First Vision before April.			
From the President			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - if we are to become our best selves - instead of seeking answers from the world, rely more on our Personal testimony, forgiveness, repentance, scriptures and the Atonement - show in a temporal way our commitment to the gospel and open up the windows of heaven - honor your agency - respect, cherish, and preserve your power to choose and use the blessing of having your body to bless others 			
SUNDAY SESSION - Topics included: How well do you know your neighbor, Be ye therefore perfect, life is a hard school but a Patriarchal blessing could be your Liahona, our agency and our joy are both choices and we can choose to be happy, stop comparing ourselves to others			
From the President			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How many times do we feel the tides pulling us away from the shore? We need anchors to resist the winds and waves. - Ministering - we have to get our feet wet, we don't have to be perfect to serve, cheerfully do those things that are in our power to do - stand and be steadfast - invite someone to hear about the impressions you had at this conference and tell them you care. 			

1:00 – 1:45 1:45 – 2:00 2:00 - 2:45	Stake Presidency Meeting High Council Meeting Bishops Meeting		
3:00 – 5:00 Stake Priesthood Leadership Meeting	Chapel-Broadcast Conducting: President Prete Chorister: Organist: Sister Angie Rodgers Opening Hymn: Onward Christian Soldiers 246 Invocation: President Andrew Spencer (Branch President Meadow Lake) Opening plenary (for all leaders): 3:00 – Welcome 3:01 – Hymn 246 – Onward Christian Soldiers 3:06 – Opening prayer President Spencer 3:07 – President Prete - opening remarks, Review agenda and Introduce Bro Reeve 3:10 – Bro Reeve – cover the Self-reliance form and Q and A (15-20) 3:30 – Ward & Branch Council breakout groups (15 min) 3:45 – wrap/debrief and Q and A Completion of opening plenary session Closing prayers in your breakouts		
4:15 – 5:00 Stake Auxiliary Leadership Meetings	Relief Society	Relief Society Presidents (Sister Ericson)	Relief Society Room
	Young Women	Young Women Presidencies (Sister Vaz)	Young Women Room
	Young Men	Bishops/Branch Presidents HC (London)	Across from YW
	Primary	Primary Presidencies (Sister McKay)	Primary Room
	Sunday School	SS Presidents HC (Kilistoff),	Classroom by CES
	Temple and Family History	RS Counselor, EQ Counselor, HC Temple & FH (T. Prete)	FH Library
	Missionary Work	RS Counselor, EQ Counselor HC (Derry),	HC Room
	Elders	EQ Presidents SP (Ledding, Michael)	SP Office
	Clerks	All Clerks SP (Prete, Carlson)	Stake Clerks Office
5:15 – 6:15	Supper (provided)		

Saturday, February 29th, 2020

6:30 - 8:30	<p>Saturday Evening Session (Feb 29) - <i>All Adult Members</i></p> <p>Theme – Our Best Selves (in the evening)</p> <p>Conducting: President Michael</p> <p>Chorister: Sister Brenda McKay Organist: Sister Leah Creighton</p> <p>6:30 - Welcome: President Michael</p> <p>6:31 - Hymn: # 117 – Come unto Jesus</p> <p>6:35 - Prayer: Sister Renlee Weir (Wanuskewin)</p> <p>6:36 - Talk – Brother Peter Sagassige (Wildwood) – Church Service Missionary</p> <p>6:56 – Talk – Pres Prete - The Promise of the Word of Wisdom</p> <p>7:16 – Testimony – Sister Sarah Froc - Church Service Missionary (Melfort)</p> <p>7:21 – Testimony - Sister Anna Segura – confirmed Dec 2019 (Wanuskewin)</p> <p>7:27 – Hymn: # 217 – Come Let us Anew</p> <p>7:39 – Talk – President & Sister Teifenbach (Regina temple)</p> <p>8:05 – Talk – Pres. Ledding</p> <p>8:25 - Hymn: # 274 - The Iron Rod</p> <p>8:29 – Prayer: Bishop Creighton – (Meadow Green)</p> <p>8:30 - Dessert in cultural hall</p>
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Sunday, March 1th, 2020

10:00 – 12:00	<p>Sunday General Session Theme – Our Best Selves (on a Sunday)</p> <p>Conducting: President Ledding</p> <p>10:00 - Welcome: President Ledding</p> <p>10:02 - Hymn: # 64 – On this Day of Joy and Gladness</p> <p>10:06 - Prayer:</p> <p>10:07 - Stake Business & Sustaining of Church Officers: Pres. Prete</p> <p>10:15 – Talk – Pres. Michael</p> <p>10:35 – Special musical number</p> <p>10:40 – Talk – Savanna Russell</p> <p>10:50 – Talk – John Spencer</p> <p>11:00 – Hymn: # 301 – I am a Child of God</p> <p>11:05 - Talk – Lauren Crosby</p> <p>11:15 - Talk – President & Sister Hitchcock (Canada Winnipeg mission)</p> <p>11:35 - Talk – Pres. Ledding</p> <p>11:55 Hymn: # 220 – Lord I would follow Thee</p> <p>11:59 Closing Prayer:</p> <p>**** We may call upon members for impromptu testimonies to fill remaining time</p>
	<p>Setting apart of Stake Callings - ensure Stake Clerk is informed (Priesthood Ordinations overseen by High Council – ensure Unit Clerk is informed)</p>

The following have been released from their callings:

Stan Tu'inukuafe	Stake Public Affairs Specialist
Mary Rodriguez	Stake Young Women Beehive Camp Specialist
Rhianna Wright	Assistant Technology Specialist
Andi Wright	Assistant Technology Specialist
Jared Michael	Stake Assistant Clerk
Kathy Ahern	Stake Relief Society Board member
Wayne Shutra	Stake Young Men Secretary
Evan Ericson	Stake Executive Secretary

The following people have been called to positions:

John Raiche	Stake Executive Secretary
Alicia Kinneard	Stake Communication
Thelma Dudragne	Stake Communication

The following brothers have been ordained in the Melchizedek Priesthood:

None at this time

There are currently 7 full-time missionaries serving from our Stake:

Elder Greg & Sister Kay Butler	Meadow Green Ward	Canada Halifax Mission
Sister Julie Livingstone	Kindersley Branch	Canada Montreal Mission
Elder Hyrum Wright	Prince Albert Ward	Canada Edmonton Mission
Sister Marieka Angell	Flin Flon Branch	Canada Vancouver Mission
Elder Jared Torres	Meadow Green Ward	Canada Edmonton Mission
Elder Randall Walter	Meadow Green Ward	Washington Everett Mission

Church Service Missionaries:

Denyse Smith	Wanuskewin ward
Christine and Peter Sagassige	Wildwood ward
Anne Daclan	Wanuskewin ward

In addition, President Milton Derry (Meadow Green ward) is serving as the 2nd counselor in the Canada Winnipeg Mission presidency.

On September 29, 2019 John A. G. Spencer was sustained and ordained as our Stake Patriarch.

August 2020

All further stake conferences were cancelled due to COVID-19.

Sep 01 – North America Central Primary Leadership Meeting (Winnipeg and Bismarck Area Coordinating Councils)

Invitees: Stake Presidency, High Council, Stake Primary Leaders, Bishoprics/Branch Presidencies, Ward/Branch Primary Leaders

Sep 02 – North America Central Relief Society Leadership Meeting (Winnipeg and Bismarck Area Coordinating Councils)

Invitees: Stake Presidency, High Council, Stake Relief Society Leaders, Bishoprics/Branch Presidencies, Ward/Branch Relief Society Leaders

Sep 03 – North America Central Young Women Leadership Meeting (Winnipeg and Bismarck Area Coordinating Councils)

Invitees: Stake Presidency, High Council, Stake Young Women Leaders, Bishoprics/Branch Presidencies, Ward/branch Young Women Leaders

Sep 08 – Area meeting Re: President Ballard's letter regarding training for the Counselors over Missionary work and over Temple and Family History work – also including the youth in the meetings

Invitees:

- President and Sister Hitchcock
- Stake/District Presidents
- Stake/District Relief Society Presidents
- High Councillor/District Counselor responsible for Missionary Work
- Elders Quorum Presidents and Counselor responsible for Missionary Work
- Ward and Branch Relief Society Presidents and Counselor responsible for Missionary Work
- Ward and Branch Mission Leaders
- One of the Assistants to the Bishop or Branch President from each Ward/Branch
- The President in the oldest Young Women Class from each Ward/Branch

Youth Events

Senior Youth Conference – Feb 7-8

The youth activity afterward consisted of capture the flag with water balloons in a nearby park.

Tri-Stake Conference – May 22-24

Cancelled due to Covid-19

Virtual Seminary Graduation – June 6

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org>

Dear Youth, Seminary Teachers, and Parents:

The Stake Presidency extends our appreciation to all of you for your efforts to complete the seminary year despite the unique challenges presented by the pandemic. We invite you to an informal virtual gathering to celebrate the accomplishments of our youth as they draw closer to Christ through building a strong foundation of lifelong gospel study. We also extend this invitation to those youth eligible to participate in the seminary program this fall. In lieu of an in person seminary graduation, please join us **Saturday, June 6th @ 7 pm via zoom.** We will hear from a couple of our seminary graduates, Seminary and Institute Coordinator, Brother Reid, and a member of the Stake Presidency.

Following the remarks of our speakers we will engage in a question and answer discussion.

Your comments are greatly appreciated and will support our efforts to meet the needs of our youth, their families and teachers. I look forward to having you join us this Saturday.

Sincerely yours,

President Michael
First Counselor
Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake

AGENDA

0:00	Prelude Music
17:34	Conducting: Eric Michael (Stake Presidency 1 st counselor)
18:10	Opening Prayer: Larae Stephan (Meadow Green)
19:33	Speaker – Paisley Ledding (Wildwood)
24:40	Speaker – Owen Clarke (Wildwood)
31:52	Speaker – Shawn Reid (CES Coordinator, Meadow Green)
38:48	Discussion – Eric Michael
1:12:17	Closing Prayer: Curtis Regnier (Wildwood)

Virtual Young Womens Camp – July 11

Hello Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake Young Women & Parents!!

We hope each Young Woman has received their Virtual Camp Boxes! Let us know if you have not received a box.

There are a few activities you have been invited to participate in before Virtual Camp starts:

1. “Chalk Up Some Kindness” – using the sidewalk chalk in your box, write an inspiring message or drawing for someone in your neighbourhood, take a selfie with it, and send it to Kesaia Tupou @ 403-463-1747 by July 5th, 2020.
 - Together, we are hoping to collect 150 pictures of our “Chalk Up Some Kindness” from all YW and leaders in our stake to participate in the MY150 challenge given from the Young Women General Presidency.
 - <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/church/events/young-women-celebrating-150-years-face-to-face-with-the-young-women-general-presidency?lang=eng>
2. “Sit back, relax and enjoy the Girls Camp talent show starring YOU!” – You are invited to send in a picture or video of a talent you have (see invite from box). How amazing this will be to see all your many unique and wonderful talents!

Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake YW Virtual Camp will be on July 11th, 2020 with three Zoom sessions:

1. Morning Side @ 9:30 am
2. Afternoon Activities @ 2:00 pm
3. Evening Fireside @ 7:30 pm.

We encourage young women and their parents to follow "Saskatoon Sask Stake Youth" on Instagram and/or join the "Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake Youth" page on Facebook for updates and pre camp surprises!!

Excited to see you all in our memorable 2020 Virtual Young Women’s Camp!

- Sis. Charlebois & Camp Committee Members

BYU Pathway Devotional – Aug 16

On Sunday, August 16, 2020 there will be a virtual fireside by President Clark Gilbert, President of BYU Pathway Worldwide at 7:30 pm MDT. The topic will be “The Importance of Education”. This meeting will be for anyone of any age who feels that continued education may be important for them, or for someone that they love. It is for anyone in the North America Central Area from Canada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming or Colorado.

BYU Pathway is a wonderful program. Through this program, two classes are offered per semester over three semesters. One of these classes each semester is a religion class. These Pathway groups meet in person, or virtually, weekly for approximately two hours during that time. At the end of three semesters, if the student completes all requirements satisfactorily, they are guaranteed admission to BYU Idaho. They do not have to have any particular High School classes, nor do they have to write the ACT / SAT to gain admission. Further classes can be taken virtually allowing a student to eventually graduate from BYU Idaho.

Stake Primary Temple and Priesthood Presentation – Sep 01

The Saskatoon Stake Temple and Priesthood Presentation took the form of a prepared video on Sep 1, 2020.

<https://youtu.be/yDqMjH3WKnA>

Youth Standards Conference – Oct 16-17

Cancelled due to Covid-19

Virtual Stake Fireside via Zoom – Apr 19

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In this time of physical and social isolation to slow the spread of COVID-19, we, as a Stake Presidency, recognize how we can feel cut off from our Church community and the support and fellowship that it offers. We recognize that Ward and Branch leaders are navigating uncharted waters in keeping connected with each member without the usual comforts of our Sunday meetings.

We would like to have the opportunity to connect as a Stake in a virtual fireside, this Sunday at 7pm. My Counselors and myself will take the opportunity to address you, and you will have an opportunity to ask questions of us. We hope to uplift each other, and recapture some of the sense of community that we have been isolated from.

You may join by the Zoom App, using the information below. You may also join by phone, but please note that long distance charges may apply for you.

Stay safe and strong, and I hope that you are able to join us this weekend.

Love,
Pres Ledding

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org>

---- comments ----

I really enjoyed the meeting. I like that we can see each other. The messages were inspiring and right on. I couldn't figure out how to comment while we were connected. Thank you so very much. I hope we will do this again. The hardest part of this pandemic is not being able to have church. I miss that most of all. I'm grateful for our wonderful Stake presidency thanks again. God bless you all.

Jessie

Thank you so very much for the uplifting music and messages last night! It was wonderful, hope all is well with all of you and your families.

Larry and Sandy

We loved the meeting and the spirit it brought. We loved seeing everyone. We'd be happy to participate another time.

Pam and Joan

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org> (Scroll down to the bottom of the page)

AGENDA

Conducting: Eric Michael (Stake Presidency 1st Counselor)

0:00	Prelude Music
15:33	Opening Prayer
17:15	Speaker – President Vaz (EQ President - Wanuskewin)
31:04	Speaker – Duane McKay (High Council - Prince Albert)
48:10	Speaker – Andrew Spencer (Branch President – Meadow Lake)
1:00:22	Discussion Time - Kevin Ledding – (Stake President)
1:38:50	Closing Prayer

Virtual Spanish Fireside – May 17

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org> (Scroll down to the bottom of the page)

Hola hermanos y hermanas,

Este domingo tendré una charla fogonera en española a las 7:00 pm via Zoom. ¡Invito a todos los que se puedan beneficiar escuchando en su lengua materna, o que quieran escucharme intentar hablar español! ¡Te veo pronto!

President Prete

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday at 7:00pm I will be hosting a Fireside in Spanish for all of those that might benefit from listening in their mother tongue or wish to hear me attempt to speak Spanish. See you soon!

President Prete

AGENDA

Conducting: Armando Sofoifa (Meadow Green)

0:00	Prayer
0:45	Speaker – Sister
4:45	Song by Sisters
8:36	Kirt Prete (Stake Presidency – 2 nd counselor)
27:00	Hymn: Te damos, Señor, nuestras gracias
29:53	Closing Prayer: Brother Sanchez (Wanuskewin)
30:22	Discussion

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org> (Scroll down to the bottom of the page)

AGENDA

Presiding: Kevin Ledding (Stake President)

Conducting: Eric Michael (Stake Presidency – 2nd Counselor)

0:25	Prayer – Denyse Smith (Wanuskewin)
3:19	Speaker – Hyrum Wright (served in Canada Edmonton mission)
15:45	Speaker – Julie Livingstone (served in Canada Montreal mission)
27:00	Speaker – Greg and Kay Butler (served in Canada Halifax mission)
48:00	Discussion – Eric Michael
1:11:41	Closing Prayer: Logan Froc (Melfort)

Stake Relief Society Virtual Leadership – Oct 27

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org> (Scroll down to the bottom of the page)

AGENDA

Conducting: Diana Munkholm (Stake RS Presidency 2nd Counselor)

0:00	Prelude Music
10:30	Opening Prayer – Kim Mendenhall
12:55	Roll call of Units
16:10	Sister Dilling – Stake RS President
32:06	Sister Racicot – Stake RS 1 st Counselor
42:40	Sister Munkholm – Stake RS 2 nd
51:27	Just Serve Introduction – where to give service
56:00	How are things in your units?
1:15:45	Planning for RS Womens Conference
1:27:16	Closing Prayer – Beth Butler

Recording can be viewed at <http://broadcasts.saskatoonstake.org> (Scroll down to the bottom of the page)

AGENDA

Conducting: Kirt Prete (Stake Presidency 2nd Counselor)

0:00 Hymn – Ye Elders of Israel

3:08 Opening Prayer – Trey London

4:04 Stake Business

5:30 Speaker – Owen Clarke (Wanuskewin)

15:38 Speaker – Kevin Ledding – (Stake President)

41:40 Q & A

50:50 Hymn – High on the Mountain Top

50:50 Closing Prayer – Benjamin Spencer (Meadow Lake)

January to October 31/ 2020

Submitted by Jean Slocombe

I am submitting these reports as one because the pandemic limited activities this year and the focus of my Communication efforts were in JustServe.

All public outreach activities that might have been planned, such as a celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the First Vision were cancelled due to Covid-19.

January 2020. Sisters from 3 wards completed 2 beautiful quilts to donate to the Mennonite Central Committee's "Great Winter Warm-up" project that was held throughout North America. Kelly Dilling (Stake Relief Society President) and I presented the quilts on the event day to staff from MCC. Photos were taken and posted on the Stake Facebook page. We hoped to build good will with MCC to encourage them to list on JustServe.

In the early months of 2020 Brittany Roberts (JustServe Specialist) and I invited many organizations to post on the Justserve site. Some visits were done in person at that time. During the pandemic two sisters were called to Communications and trained by Sister Roberts in JustServe. In June 2020 Sister Roberts was released as JS Specialist.

With much help from Brother and Sister Burgess in Regina, JustServe began to grow as I struggled to take over.

The Stake JustServe Site now has 27 active posts and 5 "on hold" until the pandemic is over. More than 3 dozen organizations were approached over the past 5 months. Most are not accepting volunteers at this time.

Groups such as Catholic High Schools and home educators were also approached to use JS as a service opportunity for students.

Sister Diana Munkholm began to train Ward and Stake members in the use of Justserve. Thus far, volunteer numbers for Justserve are very small. I believe Justserve has the potential to create amazing opportunities to connect with others to serve our communities.

Susan Derry was called as JustServe Specialist in November 2020.

In the News

This was a major year for world affairs, the largest being the worldwide pandemic. Here's how our stake responded.

COVID-19 Corona virus

Starting in Wuhan in China, the first case was found in Dec 2019. The World Health Organization declared it a worldwide pandemic in Feb 2020. On March 15, 2020 Saskatchewan declared a state of emergency and announced the following protocols.

The citizens of Saskatoon are requested to diligently participate in the prevention of the spread of COVID 19.

Citizens are directed to;

- avoid all non-essential travel until directed otherwise by the Medical Health Officer
- avoid all public gatherings of over 50 people
- cancel all gatherings of 250 or more people
- person/s that have returned from travel on or after March 13, 2020 will self-isolate for 14 days
- monitor self and dependents for cough, fever and difficulty breathing and call 811 for direction if these symptoms develop
- wash hands often for 20 seconds using soap and water, and use alcohol based hand sanitizers when soap and water are not available
- Reach out via phone, social media to those most vulnerable
 - Aged 65 and over
 - Compromised immunity systems
 - Underlying medical conditions
 - People who are in self-isolation
- Provide support to those agencies who are supporting Saskatoon's vulnerable population, homeless shelters, foodbanks, etc.

Special Instructions:

The corona virus can cause infections of the nose, throat and lungs and are most commonly spread from an infected person through;

- respiratory droplets generated from a cough or a sneeze
- close, prolonged personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- touching something with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing your hands

To help prevent the spread of the virus, wash your hands with soap and water for a least 20 seconds and use alcohol based hand sanitizer when soap and water is not available. Cough and sneeze into the bend of your arm, not your hand. Dispose of any tissues after usage. Avoid touching your face, eyes or mouth with unwashed hands. Clean high touch surfaces disinfecting cleaners.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

March 12, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As promised in our letter of March 11, 2020, we continue to monitor the changing conditions related to COVID-19 throughout the world. We have considered the counsel of local Church leaders, government officials and medical professionals, and have sought the Lord's guidance in these matters. We now provide the following updated directions.

Beginning immediately, all public gatherings of Church members are being temporarily suspended worldwide until further notice. This includes:

- Stake conferences, leadership conferences and other large gatherings.
- All public worship services, including sacrament meetings.
- Branch, ward and stake activities.

Where possible, leaders should conduct any essential leadership meetings via technology. Specific questions may be referred to local priesthood leaders. Further direction related to other matters will be provided.

Bishops should counsel with their stake president to determine how to make the sacrament available to members at least once a month.

We encourage members in their ministering efforts to care for one another. We should follow the Savior's example to bless and lift others.

We bear our witness of the Lord's love during this time of uncertainty. He will bless you to find joy as you do your best to live the gospel of Jesus Christ in every circumstance.

Sincerely,

THE FIRST PRESIDENCY AND
QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

Sent: March 15

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

I will try to keep my communication to a minimum, and reserve it for what I feel is most important.

On March 29, I would like to invite each of you to unite in fasting and prayer for a rapid resolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, and for the welfare of those that may suffer directly from infection, or indirectly due to friends or family members that are afflicted, from isolation, from economic hardship, or from fear or anxiety surrounding it.

We can expect miracles.

Additionally, I know that many of you are wondering about how the sacrament will be made available to you. Please know that your Bishop or Branch President will be communicating with you soon to ensure that this happens.

I implore each of you to observe the practice of social distancing, self isolation or quarantine as recommended, the best hand-hygiene, and provident living. May the Lord bless you as you humbly subject yourselves to difficult, but important practices to slow the spread of this overwhelming virus. You are the key to keeping each other safe and healthy.

I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your faith and efforts in these trying times.

With love,

President Kevin J.M. Ledding

Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake

"And the Lord called his people ZION, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them." (Moses 7:18)

Sent: March 15

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I wanted to send out a note and let you know that we are thinking of you. We know that our lives are in upheaval and that navigating this is a challenge.

I have recorded a short message with some strategies as to how we can best handle this current pandemic. Please feel free to share it with anyone that you believe could benefit from it. https://youtu.be/ICsHOftkb_8

We love you and are concerned for you. We pray that you will enjoy your Sabbath Day and will take advantage of your time to get to know your Saviour.

Love,

President Prete

Sent: March 21

Dear Friends,

I felt impressed to share a few thoughts with you at the conclusion of the Worldwide Fast.

You can watch the video at the following link <https://youtu.be/wktGNADqmlk>

God bless you, and stay safe.

Love,

Pres Ledding

- Worldwide fast on March 29
 - to plead with the Lord for “physical and spiritual healing” in response to COVID-19
- Worldwide fast for dealing with COVID-19 held on April 10, Good Friday
 - “Let us prayerfully plead for relief from this global pandemic.”
 - “I invite *all*, including those not of our faith, to fast and pray on Good Friday, April 10, that the present pandemic may be controlled, caregivers protected, the economy strengthened, and life normalized.”
- Adjustments to Missionary Service – Mar 31
 - The COVID-19 pandemic has required many adjustments to missionary service, including the need for large numbers of missionaries to return to the United States and Canada from around the world. The ability to reassign these missionaries—even on a temporary basis—has now become more limited by changing conditions. This has created a measure of uncertainty for many missionaries and their families.
 - We have prayerfully considered these circumstances and are making available two opportunities for missionary service for those who have returned and are awaiting reassignment or may yet be required to return to the U.S. and Canada. Each opportunity requires a temporary release prior to reassignment. These options, as well as opportunities for prospective missionaries and missionaries beginning their service
- Changes to the Handbook – July 31
 - Chapters revised (Elders Quorum, Relief Society, Sunday School) to focus on the work of salvation and exaltation
 - Ward libraries are now Resource centers
- Changes to the Handbook – Dec 18
 - Chapters were revised to further clarify how the stake leaders’ responsibilities for missionary work and temple and family history work have changed
 - Wording changes from welfare assistance and caring for the poor and needy to “caring for those with temporal and emotional needs”
 - Emphasize the Relief Society and Elders Quorums role in caring for temporal needs

Stake Statistics

General Membership

Unit Statistics

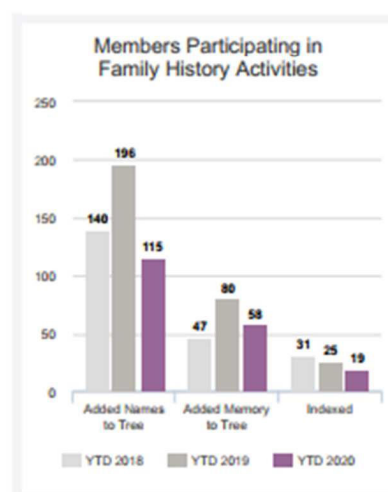
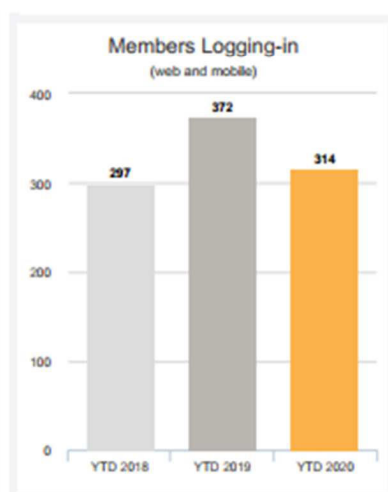
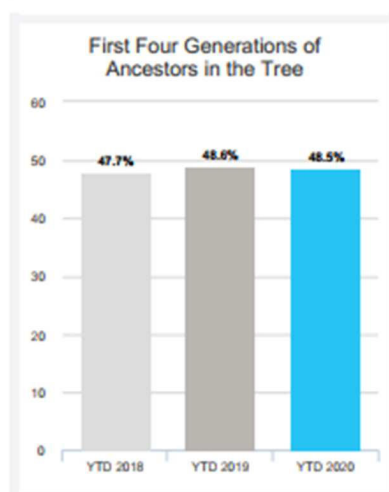
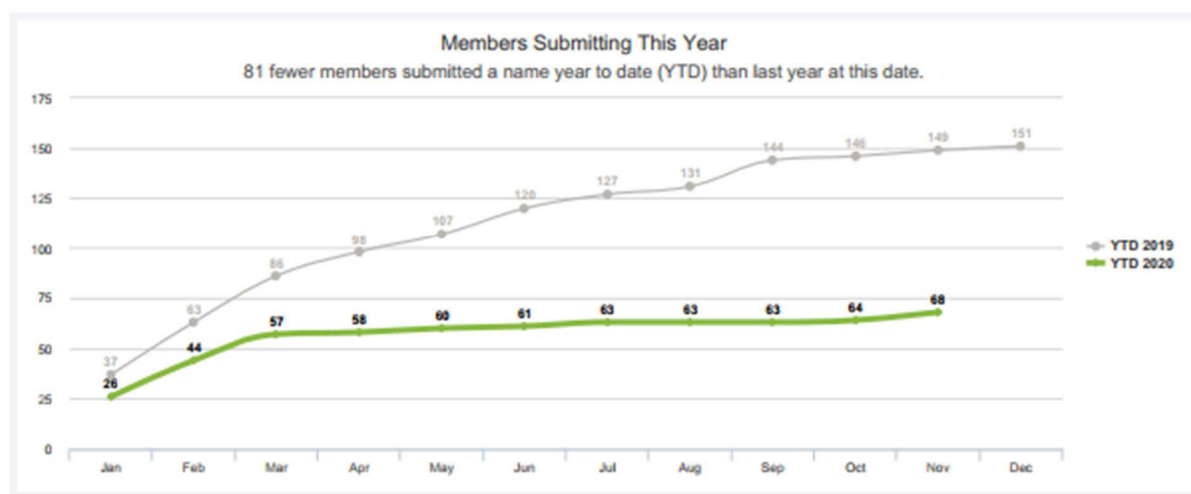
Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake (511447)

	BATT	FLIN	KIND	MEAD	MDLK	MELF	PA	WANU	WILD	Total
Total Members	99	85	91	431	58	117	281	523	310	1995
Men	29	25	38	145	22	46	107	212	125	749
Women	42	42	34	180	25	56	138	245	136	898
Young Men	7	8	3	27	7	4	9	15	8	88
Young Women	7	5	2	39	2	3	10	13	11	92
Children (3 and over in primary)	13	4	10	32	2	7	13	34	26	141
Children (0 through 2 years of age as of 1 Jan)	1	1	4	8	0	1	4	4	4	27
Households	58	54	51	216	35	77	179	353	195	1218
Adults	71	69	72	327	47	103	247	458	261	1655
Married Adults	38	23	44	167	20	52	109	152	127	732
Single adults (31 and over)	24	33	19	107	17	33	92	217	89	631
Young single adults (18-30)	9	13	9	53	10	18	46	89	45	292

Member Movement

Unit	New Members	Moved IN	Moved OUT	Members	Families
Battleford Branch	0	12	7	99	58
Flin Flon Branch	0	2	6	85	54
Kindersley Branch	0	2	24	91	51
Meadow Green Ward	3	29	29	431	216
Meadow Lake Branch	0	2	6	58	35
Melfort Branch	1	4	10	117	77
Prince Albert Ward	4	9	12	281	179
Wanusewin Ward	3	27	30	523	353
Wildwood Ward	0	16	22	310	195
Saskatoon Stake	11	103	146	1995	1218

Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake (511447)



YTD Submitters Unit Detail

	Total	Adults	Youth	New Members	YSAs
Saskatoon Saskatchewan Stake	68/1,810	61/1,660	7/150	0/12	2/296
Battleford Branch	9/81	7/72	2/9	0/0	0/9
Flin Flon Branch	3/81	3/70	0/11	0/0	1/13
Kindersley Branch	4/77	4/73	0/4	0/0	0/10
Meadow Green Ward	8/381	8/327	0/54	0/3	0/52
Meadow Lake Branch	1/54	1/47	0/7	0/2	1/9
Melfort Branch	3/109	3/103	0/6	0/0	0/16
Prince Albert Ward	7/264	7/247	0/17	0/3	0/50
Wanuskewin Ward	19/487	19/462	0/25	0/4	0/93
Wildwood Ward	14/276	9/259	5/17	0/0	0/44

Ward and Branch Leadership (as of Dec 2020)

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only 3 Wards had Unit Conferences this year

BRANCHES

BATTLEFORDS

Branch Presidency

Pres Arthur Jones
1st C Adonis Ortiz
2nd C Russell Butler
Clerk Larry Racicot

Relief Society

Pres Beth Butler
1st C Janelle Ortiz
2nd C
Sec Judith Dexter

Young Women

Pres Amanda Oberg
1st C Maria Rodriguez
2nd C
Sec

Elders Quorum

Pres Dan Konopelski
1st C Adonis Ortiz
2nd C

Primary

Pres Jenny Konopelski
1st C Ruby Ortiz
2nd C

Sunday School President

Mission Leader

FLIN FLON

Branch Presidency

Pres Brian Garrett
1st C Andre Longmore
2nd C
Clerk Tim Davis
Asst

Relief Society

Pres Jillian Longmore
1st C Henrietta Angell
2nd C
Sec

Young Women

Pres
1st C
2nd C
Sec

Elders Quorum

Pres Chris Gwin
1st C
2nd C

Primary

Pres Karen Gwin
1st C Amanda Garrett
2nd C
Sec

Sunday School President

Gerry Angell

Mission Leader

KINDERSLEY

Branch Presidency

Pres Lee Hanson
1st C Walter Scarff
2nd C
Clerk

Relief Society

Pres Julie Worfolk
1st C Leanne Livingstone
2nd C Kim Mendenhall
Sec

Young Women

Pres Shannon Leslie
1st C Carlota Davies
2nd C
Sec

Elders Quorum

Pres Anthony Worfolk
1st C James McKay
2nd C
Sec

Primary

Pres Colleen Sheppard
1st C Makenzie Hansen
2nd C Carla Vold
Sec

Sunday School President

Gerry Angell

Mission Leader

Tony Worfolk

MEADOW LAKE

Branch Presidency

Pres Andrew Spencer
1st C Aaron Fillion
2nd C
Clerk

Elders Quorum

Pres Dexter Pancho
1st C
2nd C
Sec

Relief Society

Pres Terri Prete
1st C Anita Mistichokat
2nd C
Sec

Primary

Pres Heather Fillion
1st C
2nd C
Sec

Young Women

Pres Chantel Spencer
1st C
2nd C
Sec

Sunday School President

Mission Leader

MELFORT

Branch Presidency

Pres Barry Wright
1st C Cecil Vera
2nd C Michael Charbonneau
Clerk John Belandres

Elders Quorum

Pres Bud Prete
1st C John Belandres
2nd C
Sec Russell Harold

Relief Society

Pres Irene Vera
1st C Lorene Froc
2nd C
Sec

Primary

Pres Dia Belandres
1st C Pamela Skiftun
2nd C
Sec

Young Women

Pres Lorna Prete
1st C Stephanie Turner
2nd C
Sec

Sunday School President

Mission Leader

Bud Prete

MEADOW GREEN**Bishopric**

Pres Steven Creighton
 1st C Phillip Stephan
 2nd C James McKay
 ExecSec Andrew Rodgers
 Clerk Edward Siady
 Asst David Brown
 Asst Jason Weismiller

Elders Quorum

Pres Bryan Dilling
 1st C Francisco Romero
 2nd C Francis Sipe
 Sec John MacInnes

Relief Society

Pres Blanca Sofoifa
 1st C Crystal Linka
 2nd C Veronica MacInnes
 Sec

Primary

Pres Jackie Shutra
 1st C Sarah Smith
 2nd C Angie Rodgers
 Sec Sylvia Loveridge

Young Women

Pres Lisa Fieguth
 1st C Sarah Tidmarsh
 2nd C Kala Young
 Sec Maryann McKay

Sunday School

Pres Jeff Linka
 1st C John Raiche
 2nd C Martin Johnson

Mission Leader

Benjamin Wu

WILDWOOD**Bishopric**

Pres Rick Bennett
 1st C Chad London
 2nd C Jordan Michelson
 ExecSec
 Clerk Steven Miller
 Asst Bryan Riley
 Asst

Elders Quorum

Pres Lawrence Roberts
 1st C Nathan Regnier
 2nd C Jace Hendry
 Sec Bill Clarke

Relief Society

Pres Mary Sanchez
 1st C Amy Ledding
 2nd C Lauren Crosby
 Sec Christina MacLachlan

Primary

Pres Kenda London
 1st C Andrea Miller
 2nd C Katrina Julseth
 Sec Brittany Roberts

Young Women

Pres Tallasee Crosby
 1st C
 2nd C
 Sec

Sunday School

Pres Alberto Sanchez
 1st C
 2nd C

Mission Leader

Lawrence Robert

PRINCE ALBERT

Bishopric

Pres Danny McKay
1st C James O'Connell
2nd C Chris Fowler
ExecSec Grant Moore
Clerk Terry Halcro
Asst

Elders Quorum

Pres Brad Fowler
1st C Terry Halcro
2nd C Nick Crosby
Sec

Relief Society

Pres Kate O'Connell
1st C Karen Halcro
2nd C Avis Halcro
Sec Linda Moore

Primary

Pres Ashley McKay
1st C Krista McKay
2nd C
Sec

Young Women

Pres Mary Anne Clark
1st C Rebecca Forness
2nd C Charlene Wilkinson
Sec

Sunday School

Pres William Camche
1st C
2nd C

Mission Leader

Brad Fowler

2020 Prince Albert Ward History

We had a new Relief Society Presidency called in October. Kate O'Connell was called as President with Karen Halcro and Avis Halcro called as first and second counsellors.

We facilitated a ward temple trip in January.

We had 3 baptisms and one marriage service during 2020.

Due to the COVID pandemic we did not have a ward conference and have had to adjust our meetings and activities to comply with the government protocol and protect our members.

We had a primary presentation, a Christmas presentation, a youth activity, and a fireside by using the Zoom application.

We are grateful for the technology that has allowed us to resume our sacrament meetings and manage our duties and functions to serve our membership.

Submitted by Terry Halcro, Ward Clerk

WANUSKEWIN

Bishopric

Pres Tyler Burgess
1st C Eric Slocombe
2nd C Geoffrey Vaz
ExecSec Graham McKenzie
Clerk Darren Cayabyab
Asst

Elders Quorum

Pres Burke Hill
1st C Dustyn Noble
2nd C Manley Hernandez
Sec

Relief Society

Pres Jean Slocombe
1st C Lindsey Hill
2nd C Morgan McKenzie
Sec Jennifer Doak

Primary

Pres Kami Drew
1st C Leanne Willoughby
2nd C Mary Martillana
Sec Raechel Peck

Young Women

Pres Niki Nagy
1st C Lori Ann Kennedy
2nd C Renlee Martillana
Sec Zara Ann Thomson

Sunday School

Pres Evan Clarke
1st C
2nd C

Mission Leader

Assistant Wayne Smith

WANUSKEWIN WARD

HISTORY 2020

RELIEF SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

"DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS THE MARCH PARTY WAS CANCELLED. NO OTHER ACTIVITIES WERE HELD THIS YEAR. WE HELPED WITH THE CHRISTMAS BINS AND INCLUDED A SCARF AS A GIFT FOR ALL THE RELIEF SOCIETY SISTERS. WE STARTED DOING ZOOM MEETINGS IN APRIL. THEY HAVE BEEN WELL ATTENDED SINCE WE STARTED. MINISTERING INTERVIEWS HAVE BEEN DONE FOR THE LAST QUARTER. THE SISTERS ARE CONTINUING TO MINISTER IN WHATEVER CAPACITY THEY CAN. THEY ARE TRYING TO MINISTER CREATIVELY WHILE FOLLOWING COVID RESTRICTIONS. WE HAD SOME LEFTOVER BUDGET SO WE ORDERED NEW TABLE CLOTHS FOR THE WARD AND GOT SOME FREEZER MEALS TO GIVE TO FAMILIES IN NEED."

RELEASES:

JENNE DOAK AS SECRETARY IN JANUARY.
NOLA OLUKAYODE AS A TEACHER IN MARCH.
KAMI DREW AS 1ST COUNSELOR IN AUGUST.
JESSICA KILISTOFF AS PRESIDENT IN NOVEMBER.
LINDSEY HILL AS 2ND COUNSELOR IN NOVEMBER

CALLINGS:

JEAN SLOCOMBE AS RELIEF SOCIETY PRESIDENT
LINDSEY HILL AS 1ST COUNSELOR
MORGAN MCKENZIE AS 2ND COUNSELOR
PRESIDENCY WAS SET APART ON NOV.1, 2020.

ELDERS QOURUM ORGANIZATION

WHAT I FIND TO BE THE MOST POWERFUL MESSAGE IN 2020 IS HOW BLESSED WE ARE TO LIVE IN SASKATCHEWAN AND TO BE MEMBERS OF THE TRUE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

WE'VE ENJOYED FREEDOMS MOST HAVE NOT IN THE WORLD AS WE LIVE IN SASKATCHEWAN WITH FEWER CASES AND LESS RESTRICTIONS ON OUR BUSINESSES AND AS INDIVIDUALLY. I FEEL WE SHOULD ALL BE GRATEFUL FOR OUR POLITICIANS, LEADERS AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS FOR ALL OF THE GUIDANCE AND ADVICE WE'VE BEEN GIVEN TO HELP CONTROL THIS PANDEMIC.

WE SHOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL FOR MODERN REVELATION AND A LIVING PROPHET WHOSE GIVEN US GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES TO CONTINUE TO SHOW AND SHARE OUR FAITH AS FAMILIES AND AS A COMMUNITY. I'VE SEEN MANY FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN OUR WARD SERVE AND MINISTER IN NEW, UNIQUE AND INNOVATIVE METHODS. WE'VE WITNESSED OUR MISSIONARIES WHO HAVE HAD TO COMPLETELY CHANGE HOW THEY SHARE THE GOSPEL.

2020 HAS BROUGHT MANY CHALLENGES, BUT IN THOSE CHALLENGES WE'VE SEEN SO MANY BLESSINGS AND WE SHOULD FEEL GRATITUDE FOR THOSE BLESSINGS.

AS WE SHIFT OUR ATTITUDES TO POSITIVITY AND SERVICE WE WILL FIND REASONS TO FEEL GRATITUDE AND CAN PROVIDE MORE VALUE TO THOSE AROUND US."

PRIMARY ORGANIZATION

"PRIMARY CAME TO AN ABRUPT HALT ONCE CHURCH WAS CANCELLED IN MARCH. THOUGH NO FORMAL ACTIVITIES WERE HAPPENING AS A PRIMARY, LEANNE WILLOUGHBY CONTINUED TO REACH OUT TO HER CTR 5 AND 6 CLASS BY DROPPING OFF PACKAGES FULL OF FUN ACTIVITIES AND GOSPEL RELATED COLOURING PAGES. HER CLASS FELT OF HER LOVE! AUGUST 9 A NEW PRIMARY PRESIDENCY WAS SET APART. WE BEGAN SINGING TIME USING ZOOM.

IN SEPTEMBER WE HELD A BOOK OF MORMON THEMED DRIVE THRU ACTIVITY IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT TO INTRODUCE OURSELVES AND REMIND THE CHILDREN THEY WERE PART OF A WONDERFUL PRIMARY FULL OF PEOPLE WHO LOVED THEM. IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS! THE KIDS GOT TO PICK FRUIT FROM THE TREE OF LIFE, LISTEN TO THE WORDS OF KING BENJAMIN FROM HIS TOWER, FIGHT THE LAMITIES WITH THEIR BUBBLE WANDS, THROW STONES AT SAMUEL THE LAMANITE, EXPERIENCE THE DARKNESS AND EARTHQUAKES THAT ACCOMPANIED THE SAVIOR'S DEATH AND THEN WATCH A VIDEO OF THE SAVIOR'S LIFE AND RESURRECTION BEFORE GETTING TO VISIT WITH SISTER WILLOUGHBY AND RECIEVE THEIR OWN RECORDS (AKA A NOTEBOOK).

WE HELD A TEACHER TRAINING IN NOVEMBER TO TRY TO ENCOURAGE OUR TEACHERS AND ACTIVITY DAY LEADERS TO REACH OUT TO THEIR CLASSES USING ANY/ALL FORMS OF TECHNOLOGY AND EVEN THE MAIL.

IN DECEMBER THE PRIMARY WAS ABLE TO BE A PART OF THE CHRISTMAS FIRESIDE BY SENDING IN INDIVIDUAL RECORDINGS OF SILENT NIGHT AND COMBINING THEM TO CREATE ONE OF THE MUSICAL NUMBERS."

1. The rod of iron and tree of life.



2. The Vaz kids throwing rocks at Samuel the Lamanite.



3. The missionaries and teachers helping the kids feel the darkness and earthquakes that came after Christ's death.



4. Sister Leanne Willoughby giving the kids a notebook to keep their own record.



**GRAHAM MCKENZIE
WARD EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY**

"MY FAMILY MOVED INTO THE WARD IN AUGUST. DUE TO THE PANDEMIC GUIDELINES, IT HAS BEEN A STRUGGLE TO GET TO KNOW THE WARD MEMBERS. WE APPRECIATED THE WARD'S WEEKLY BROADCASTS, BUT AS A FAMILY, WE FELT VERY ISOLATED FROM THE WARD. HOWEVER, AS WE HAVE GIVEN CALLINGS IN THE WARD, WE GRADUALLY HAVE FELT MORE PART OF THE WANESKEWIN WARD FAMILY. IT HAS BEEN A GREAT BLESSING TO BE ABLE TO SERVE RIGHT NOW IN A TIME OF ISOLATION. WHILE WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO BE A PART OF THE WARD FULLY, WE HAVE FELT THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR HOME. MY WIFE AND I HAVE PLACED AN INCREASED EMPHASIS ON OUR PERSONAL SCRIPTURE STUDY AND PRAYER. WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN MORE TIME TO PREPARE AND KEEP THE SABBATH IN OUR HOME. THE COME FOLLOW ME PROGRAM THAT THE CHURCH HAS CREATED IS AN INSPIRED AND TIMELY BLESSING IN OUR HOME. WE HAVE FELT GREAT JOY AS WE HAVE TAUGHT THE GOSPEL IN OUR HOME TO OUR THREE DAUGHTERS."

**DARREN CAYABYAB
WARD CLERK**

"I CAME BACK TO THE WARD WITH MY WIFE AND DAUGHTER IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 2019 AND SINCE COVID-19 HIT THE COUNTRY IN MARCH IT HAS BEEN A HUGE STRUGGLE NOT JUST FOR MYSELF OR MY FAMILY BUT TO EVERYONE. AND DESPITE ALL THAT, THE LORD'S INSPIRED LEADERS(THE PROPHETS AND APOSTLES) HAVE INTRODUCED A HOME-CENTERED, FAMILY-ORIENTED GOSPEL LEARNING THROUGH THE "COME, FOLLOW ME" PROGRAM WAY BEFORE EVERYTHING HAPPENED. INDEED, THESE MEN ARE INSPIRED BY GOD AND HAVE FULLY PREPARED EVERYONE "THAT PERHAPS THE WORLD MAY ONE DAY BE SHAKEN BY SOMETHING UNFORESEEN" YET THESE INSPIRED PROGRAMS HAVE HELPED ME AND MY FAMILY STILL FEEL CLOSER TO THE LORD WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE MY OWN HOME A REFUGE FROM WHATEVER IS HAPPENING AROUND US.

I WAS CALLED AS THE WARD CLERK IN NOVEMBER AND DESPITE HAVING A LOT TO LEARN, I'M GRATEFUL TO BE SERVING WITH GREAT LEADERS FROM THE BISHOPRIC WITH THEIR GREAT EXAMPLES OF SELFLESS SERVICE AND LOVE TO THE WARD."

**ERIC SLOCOMBE
FIRST COUNSELOR OF
THE BISHOPRIC**

“THIS BISHOPRIC HAS BEEN SERVING THE WANUSKEWIN WARD SINCE JUNE 2016 WITH YOUNG BISHOP TYLER BURGESS (AGE 40 WITH 5 CHILDREN UNDER 8 YEARS OLD). OUR 2ND COUNCILLOR DYLIN KARCH GRADUATED FROM PHARMACY THIS YEAR AND MOVED TO B.C. GEOFF VAZ (AGE 40 WITH 5 CHILDREN UNDER 15) WAS CALLED IN HIS PLACE. THIS HAS BEEN AN UNUSUAL YEAR DUE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC FORCING THE CHURCH TO SUSPEND MEETINGS. AT FIRST THERE WERE NO MEETINGS ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING THEN GRADUALLY WE WERE ALLOWED TO MEET ON A RESTRICTED BASIS. FIRST WE COULD MEET WITH LIMITED NUMBERS (LESS THAN 30) WITH NO CHILDREN UNDER 8 YEARS AND NO SENIORS OVER 65. ONLY SACRAMENT MEETINGS WERE HELD AND WERE BROADCAST VIA “ZOOM” TO ISOLATED FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS. SUNDAY SCHOOL, R.S, EQ. WERE BROADCAST VIA ZOOM ON ALTERNATING WEEKS AT FIRST AND THEN WHEN WE WERE ABLE TO HAVE SACRAMENT MEETINGS EVERY SECOND WEEK WE ALTERNATED THE AUXILIARIES AND QUORUM MEETINGS ON THE SUNDAYS WITHOUT THE SACRAMENT BROADCAST,

IT HAS BEEN A CHALLENGING TIME FOR MANY MEMBERS TO FEEL INCLUDED IN THE WARD FAMILY AS PERSONAL CONTACT HAS BEEN SEVERELY RESTRICTED BY LAW MAKERS, HEALTH OFFICIALS AND DIRECTIVES FROM SLC. IN NOVEMBER THE STAKE PRESIDENT (KEVIN LEDDING) CLOSED THE CHURCH BUILDINGS TO ALL BUT THE MISSIONARIES AND MEMBERS OF BISHOPRICS. ALL MEETINGS ARE BEING BROADCAST VIA ZOOM. OUR ROLE AS A BISHOPRIC IS TO ENCOURAGE HOME CENTERED CHURCH SUPPORTED GOSPEL LIVING. WE REACHED OUT TO FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS VIA A CHRISTMAS “DRIVE BY” EVENT WHERE BINS OF CHRISTMAS CHEER WERE GIVEN OUT CONTAINING GAMES, TREATS, CHRISTMAS MESSAGES AND COME FOLLOW ME MANUALS. EVERYONE WAS TREATED TO A DRIVE-IN STYLE MOVIE (“THE NATIVITY”) ON THE OUTSIDE WALL OF THE CULTURAL HALL. IT WAS FUN.

THE R.S. AND THE PRIMARY ARE PUTTING OUT NEWSLETTERS WHICH HELP TO MAKE CONTACT MONTHLY WITH OUR WARD FAMILY VIA EMAIL AND ALSO THE OLD FASHIONED WAY BY HAND OR SNAIL MAIL. THE BISHOPRIC ORGANIZED A CHRISTMAS FIRESIDE WITH STORIES AND MUSICAL PERFORMANCES BY MEMBERS OF THE WARD. NUMBERS AND TALKS WERE PRE-RECORDED BY INDIVIDUALS IN THEIR HOMES AND SENT TO BISHOP BURGESS WHO EDITED THEM INTO A 45 MINUTE PROGRAM WHICH WAS BROADCAST ON SUNDAY EVENING AND THEN MADE IT AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE FOR A SECOND VIEWING DURING THE WEEK FOLLOWING. R.S. AND EQ. ARE IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH MINISTERING SISTERS AND ELDERS TO DEAL WITH MEMBER NEEDS. YM AND YW HAD GROUP ACTIVITIES WHEN ALLOWED AND NOW ARE MEETING WEEKLY VIA ZOOM WITH GAMES SUCH AS SCAVENGER HUNTS TO KEEP CONTACT. THIS IS HOW WE ARE TRYING TO HOLD TOGETHER IN TOUGH TIMES."

**EVAN CLARKE
SUNDAY SCHOOL
PRESIDENT**

2020 HAS SEEN A SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM THE TRADITIONAL WAY WE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL. AT THE START OF THE YEAR PRESIDENT DUSTIN NOBLE WAS TEACHING SUNDAY SCHOOL EVERY SECOND WEEK IN THE RELIEF SOCIETY ROOM WITH A GOSPEL PRINCIPLES CLASS BEING RUN IN THE HIGH COUNCIL ROOM AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL BEING RUN IN THE EMPTY CLASSROOM (WITH THE COUCHES) AT THE SOUTH WEST CORNER OF THE CHURCH. EVERYTHING CHANGED IN MARCH AS THE WORLD WAS HIT BY COVID-19 AND BISHOP TYLER BURGESS DIRECTED THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESIDENT TO HOLD CLASSES ONLINE. THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT LEARNING CURVE FOR THOSE WITHOUT COMPUTER APTITUDES AS WE WERE ALL REQUIRED TO LEARN HOW TO USE THE VIDEO CONFERENCING PROGRAM ZOOM. WITH A LOT OF PATIENCE, WE WERE ABLE TO ADAPT TO THE USE OF THIS NEW WAY OF INTERACTING WITH EACH OTHER AND THINGS BEGAN TO ROLL SMOOTHLY. MIDWAY THROUGH THE YEAR THERE WAS A CHANGE IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESIDENCY WITH PRESIDENT NOBLE BEING RELEASED AND BROTHER EVAN CLARKE WAS CALLED IN HIS PLACE. GOSPEL PRINCIPLES CLASS WAS DISBANDED AND ALL ADULTS BEGAN MEETING AS ONE GROUP (ONLINE). THE YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS WAS INITIALLY TAUGHT (ONLINE) BY A BISHOP BURGESS BUT HE WAS REPLACED BY JOSH AND BRITNEY LOW WHO HAD MOVED INTO THE WARD DURING THE SUMMER.

Young Womens

We began 2020 with an all new Young Women's presidency that was called in November of 2019. President Niki Nagy, 1st Counselor Lori Kennedy, 2nd Counselor Renlee Weir and Secretary Zara Thomson. By March we also had a class presidency called and set apart- President Lara Walter, 1st Counselor Abigail Clarke, 2nd Counselor Layla Vaz and Secretary Vivian Walter.

We welcomed two new 11 year old young women in 2020- Ashley Calabria and Vivian Walter. Over the year we sadly lost Neka Redfeather and Memory and Kearra Caisse when they moved out of the ward, but were excited to have Erica Perry move in.

Early in the year we had an activity to set personal goals and plan activities around helping the girls towards accomplishing those goals. The girls also made themselves framed goals sheets that could be written on and reused throughout the year.

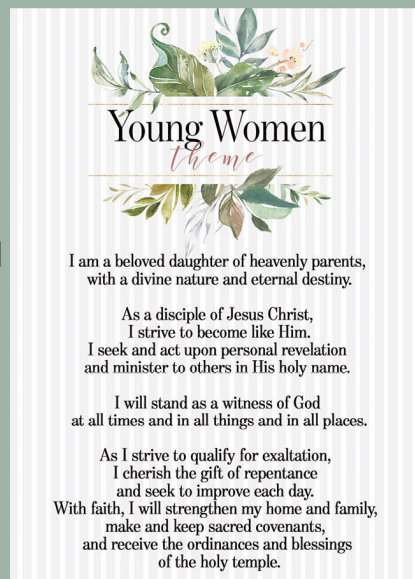
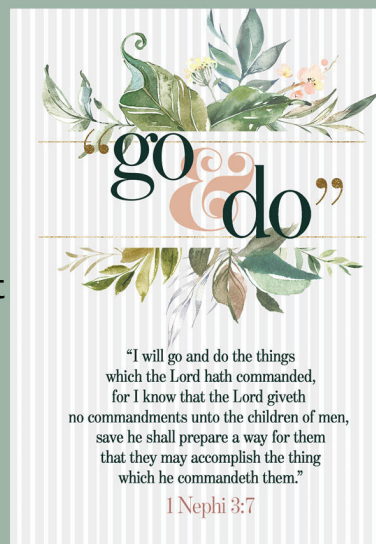
In February we hosted an escape room joint activity with the YM. The two teams had a great time figuring out their puzzles.

One of our last in-person activities was a paint nite on March 4th. We have some very talented, artistic girls. (In the photo from left to right: Lori Kennedy, Megan Walter, Layla Vaz, Hollie Hernandez, Marissa, Lara Walter, Tashiena Longman, Vivian Walter)

Unfortunately at that point in person activities, ward parties and stake events were cancelled due to Covid-19. We began online activities in April- playing games via zoom, photo scavenger hunts, online yoga classes etc. The stake did a fantastic job providing the girls with a virtual YW camp over two days in the summer.

In October, with school being back in and relatively low covid numbers locally, we were able to have an in person joint activity to play discgolf with the YM at Dieffenbaker park. It was so nice to see everyone in person again! Unfortunately the numbers didn't stay down long and we were back to virtual activities after that.

2020 was definitely an unprecedented year, but one of learning, adapting, improvising and faith.



**TYLER BURGESS
BISHOP OF THE
WANUSKEWIN WARD**

WHILE THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC PUT A PAUSE ON ALL ACTIVITIES IN MARCH WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING TO STAY CONNECTED WHILE APART. THE YOUNG MEN TRANSITIONED INTO VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND 'ZOOM' HAS BECOME SECOND NATURE. NO DOUBT TIME APART HAS STRAINED RELATIONSHIPS AND ATTENDANCE AMONG THE QUORUMS BUT THERE HAVE BEEN MANY EXAMPLES OF YOUNG MEN STEPPING UP AND LEADING OUT IN OUR ONLINE GATHERINGS. WHEN I WAS GROWING UP WE CALLED THIS THE "TROOP METHOD". ALLOWING THE YOUTH TO LEAD AND THE ADULTS TO SUPPORT. NOW THAT THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS HAS MOVED AWAY FROM THE SCOUTING PROGRAM WE MAY NEED TO COME UP WITH A NEW BUZZ WORD FOR PRIORITIZING YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING, CONDUCTING AND CARING OUT OUR ACTIVITIES AND LESSONS. POSSIBLY INSTEAD OF ZOOM WE COULD CALL IT CO-VID™. SORRY ABOUT THAT PUN, I SUPPOSE IT WAS NOT EVEN REMOTELY FUNNY. I THINK CALLING THE BISHOP THE 'FATHER OF THE WARD' SHOULD LET HIM GET AWAY WITH A FEW BAD DAD JOKES.

FOLLOWING THE PROPHETS DIRECTION THE BISHOPRIC HAVE BECOME SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE YOUNG MEN ORGANIZATION RATHER THAN DIFFERING TO ANOTHER YOUNG MEN'S PRESIDENCY. AS WE BECAME MORE ADEPT AT THE PROCESS WE HAVE CALLED BROTHER DANIEL THOMPSON AND BROTHER CHAISE WEIR AS YOUNG MEN ADVISORS. THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN SUPPORTING THE YOUNG MEN TO LEAD AND HAVE HELPED THE BISHOPRIC "GET OUT OF THE WAY", SO THE YOUTH CAN REALLY GROW.

ONE OF THE SILVER LININGS HAS BEEN THE EASE OF CONTACT. LAST YEAR IF A YOUTH DID NOT SHOW UP FOR AN ACTIVITY OR SUNDAY LESSON WE WOULD CALL THEM LATER IN THE WEEK AND INVITE THEM FOR NEXT TIME. NOW WE CAN IMMEDIATELY TEXT THEM AND GET THEM INVOLVED WITH US ONLINE IN A MATTER OF MINUTES. NO DOUBT THIS YEAR HAS PUT A LOT OF WORK ON PARENTS' PLATES AS THEY HAVE BEEN THE TECH SUPPORT, COPY EDITORS FOR TALKS, LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES. WHILE IT HAS NO DOUBT BEEN MORE WORK THAN ACTIVITY OF THE PAST MAY HAVE ASKED OF THEM, IT HAS RELIED ON A LEVEL OF FAMILIAL INVOLVEMENT THAT HAS HELPED REINFORCE THE "HOME CENTRED" FOUNDATION OF OUR CHURCH SUPPORTED PROGRAM. THE LATTER HAS NOT SO MUCH BEEN 'RE-ENTHRONED' SO MUCH AS BOTH, HOME AND CHURCH, HAVE BEEN FURTHER INTEGRATED BY THIS FOCUS COUPLED WITH THE LOGISTIC REALITIES OF GATHERING RESTRICTIONS.

WE HAVE 21 YOUNG MEN ON OUR RECORDS WITH 11 REGULARLY OR SEMI REGULARLY ATTENDING OUR MEETINGS. IN THE PAST WE HAVE ALL MET TOGETHER TO ENJOY A LARGER GROUP. WE HAVE BEEN MEETING WITH THE DEACONS SEPARATELY TO ALLOW THE YOUNGER BOYS TO BE MORE COMFORTABLE IN A GROUP TO EASE THE SOCIAL TRANSITION FROM PRIMARY. WHEN PROVINCIAL GATHERING RULES AND CIRCUMSTANCE ALLOWS WE HAVE HAD SOME IN PERSON ACTIVITIES INDOORS AND OUTDOORS. BY MEETING AS QUORUMS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HAVE SMALLER GROUPS WHICH HAS BEEN MORE OFTEN ALLOWED AND HAS REDUCED THE RISK OF GREATER CONTACT DURING THIS TIME.

THE YOUNG MEN HAVE SHOWN RESILIENCE, RESOLVE AND CREATIVITY DURING THIS TIME. NO DOUBT THE LEADERSHIP AND TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS THEY HAVE COMBINED WITH THEIR DISCIPLESHIP WILL BE USED FOR MISSIONS AS WELL AS ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PURSUITS THAT CONTINUE TO GRAVITATE TOWARD THE ONLINE SPACE.

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As we observe the Sabbath at home

Some quick news, talks and announcements.

This weekly Newsletter is a little place to connect as a ward. As we cannot gather together this provides a forum where those assigned to give talks may share what they have prepared. It also allows us to stay connected with announcements and plans.

1

PRESIDENT NELSON

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MISSIONARY NEWS

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Sacrament Plan

We will be having the Sacrament in our own homes next week (P. 2)



#HearHim

See the upcoming conference video [here](#)

What are you



talking about?

Our weekly Sacrament talks in print and audio

Sacrament Plans

Bishop Tyler Burgess/[Audio Here](#)

This week I will be contacting each priesthood holder to organize the administration of the sacrament.

In order to fulfil the Prophet's instruction to make the sacrament available to each member at least once a month, and in consultation with the Stake President, Priesthood holders will be authorized to prepare, bless and administer the sacrament on Sunday March 29th, 2020.

The Lord has counselled us through his prophets that everything is to be done "...in wisdom and order..." (Mosiah 4:27). When the Saints learned about baptism for the dead in 1840, some "began to perform baptisms in nearby rivers and streams in behalf of relatives, friends, and prominent people." Through His Prophet, Joseph Smith, the Lord clarified that such things were to be done in the temple, when authorized and should be properly recorded.

In like manner, many priesthood holders will be authorized to prepare the sacrament for themselves and others in their homes and the homes of those they minister to. This will be orderly and by invitation. **Authorization will not be given as standing approval for the ward.** I will speak directly with each priesthood holder being authorized for each instance as I hold the keys for the ordinance in the ward.



Some of these instructions may be different than you may have seen in the past to best suit the circumstance that we find ourselves in.

1.The bread, water and sacrament cloth should be provided by the home receiving the sacrament.

2.If the ministering brother is visiting the home of another ward member it would be best to go alone, rather than bring a companion from another household to help reduce social contact. Keep in mind :

- any bread will do, it does not need to be white bread
- having a pitcher of water under the cloth rather than cups may reduce spills, pour into cups after it is blessed
- do not pre break the bread, this is part of the ordinance
- bread first, water second.
- The prayer can be found in Doctrine and Covenants 20:77, 78

Bravery

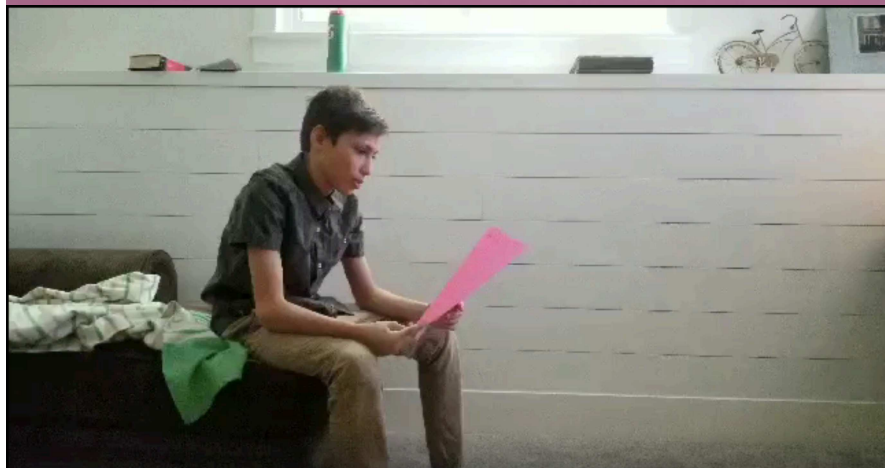
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BENTLEY VAZ

He died on the cross for us, so that we could make mistakes. He could have just said "be gone," or soften their hearts. But instead Jesus offered himself up to be crucified. I mean he had to be pretty brave to do that. Jesus also was not scared when judges and priests questioned him. So how could we be brave just like Jesus? We aren't going to be crucified or be questioned by judges, but sometimes might be giving a talk, talking to the bishop or even saying the prayer in primary. But the reason Jesus could do all these great things was because he had God on his (His father) on his side. So when you are faced with a challenge, always think; "I have God my side", and he can do anything. In the name of Jesus Christ amen.

bravery
He died on the cross for us so that we could make mistakes. He could have just said "be gone" or soften their hearts but instead Jesus offered himself up to be crucified. I mean ^{he} had to be pretty brave to do that. Jesus also was not scared when judges and priests questioned him. So how can we be brave? ^{Just like Jesus} We aren't going to be crucified or be questioned ^{by judges}, but sometimes might be giving a talk, talking to the bishop or even saying the prayer in primary. But the reason Jesus could do all these great things was because he had God on his side. So when you are faced with a challenge always think I have God on my side and he can do anything.



Any month is a good month for a Christmas Story.

Eric Slocombe

I'm going to tell you a Christmas story about my friend Bryan and his father as a young boy. circa 1935

Last Christmas Bryan's father told his family of an experience from when he was a small boy at Christmas time about 80 years ago. As part of their celebrations of the season the whole family would gather around the radio and listen to Christmas programs. A minister came on and told the story of Christ's humble birth, probably reading from the second chapter of Luke in the Bible. He told of great wise men and simple shepherds being led by heavenly signs and angels to see for themselves the greatest event in the history of the world. He told that prophets had spoken of His coming for thousands of years and that the purpose of his coming was to bless every living person on earth, every person who ever lived and every person who will ever live. When the program ended he, Brian's father asked "Mommy, are all those things that man said about Jesus true?" His mother said: Yes! It is all true.

Bryan's father told them that after his mother said it was all true he had a powerful feeling come over him and he felt really good. He knew that Jesus Christ is real. He remembered that feeling and later in life had similar feelings that he then came to recognise as the Holy Spirit building on that foundation of youthful faith.

Can you think of a time in your life when you have felt powerful feelings about Jesus Christ? His birth? His life? His teachings? His atonement? His resurrection? You should share those

feelings with your family and friends. When you do you may help them to have similar feelings and share the hope that is found in Jesus Christ. In effect you will say "Fear not: behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day ... a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

Many years ago I was a young men leader at a youth conference. A young man got up to bare his testimony. He had experienced a family tragedy and wasn't sure he wanted to be there at that time. He said that he felt uplifted by the conference but then he said that he felt comforted in his family's loss, that the veil was very thin and that he had felt the presence of the family member who had died. That idea of the veil being very thin struck me in a strange way and I wanted to feel that. I prayed that I too might feel that way. The experience was very personal and I won't share the details with you but a similar story is recorded in 2 Kings 6: 15-17. I felt a powerful feeling come over me that felt really good and which became a spiritual foundation of faith in Jesus Christ so I could cope when tragedy struck our family a few years ago. I bare my testimony that when we "fear not" and share our deep feelings of Jesus Christ that they can touch others with those same powerful feelings and be a spiritual gift to them.

The gifts we give at Christmas are a remembrance of the greatest gift ever given to you and me. Given with perfect love. He gives us hope, comfort, forgiveness, healing of body, mind and spirit. He is the perfect example of how to live, love and serve.

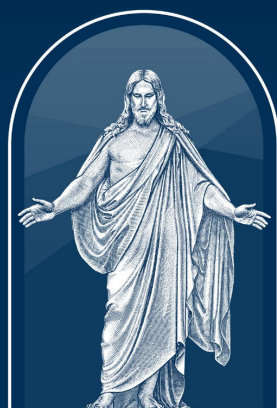
I love Him. He is my Saviour and my friend.

Yes! It is all true.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

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THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Easter Weekend

God “has all power, all wisdom, and all understanding; he comprehendeth all things, and he is a merciful Being, even unto salvation, to those who will repent and believe on his name” (Alma 26:35). So, during times of deep distress, as when illness reaches pandemic proportions, the most natural thing for us to do is to call upon our Heavenly Father and His Son—the Master Healer—to show forth Their marvellous power to bless the people of the earth. - President Russell M. Nelson

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EASTER VIDEO

#HearHim

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Proclamation to
the world
“Restoration of
the Fulness of the
Gospel of Jesus
Christ”



Update on Saints
Worldwide
How COVID-19 is
impacting
members.



Tabernacle Choir
Premieres
[Available Here](#)

Faith vs Fear

Dylan Karch

D & C-55 Therefore, whosoever belongeth to my church need not fear, for such shall inherit the kingdom of heaven.

I have always thought about the relationship between faith and fear. I have thought that if I was in the service of God and had true faith I would not be fearful. Because of this understanding, when I had experiences where I was called to give a blessing or to share the gospel with strangers or to do something else that was challenging for me and I experienced emotions of fear, I felt like I wasn't being faithful and Heavenly father was disappointed in me. I now know that feelings of fear, inadequacy, weakness are all things that we go through in life and more importantly, that our faith can help us overcome these feelings. But to understand how faith can overcome fear we need to know a little more about fear first.

Definition: Fear, Merriam Webster- *an unpleasant often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger or pain. The kind of fear I'm talking about is not shocking kind of fear. It's then internal mental struggles that we have when faced with adversity or pain.*

In scripture, we are told that we should not fear because fears can be debilitating. It can lock us in a mental and spiritual prison.

Fear is destructive in 2 ways: Firstly, fear can prevent us from taking action. It could have prevented me from sharing this talk because it's definitely not grammatically perfect. Fear can prevent us from taking critical steps that we need to take in order to progress. There are things that we need to do and learn and sometimes these things can only be learned by stepping forward. There are such steps as getting married, having



children, having tough discussions with our spouse or children, participating in our callings, sharing the gospel with those we know, acknowledging our sins by confession and repenting of them. Satan wants to prevent us from moving forward because he knows that if we're not moving forward God cannot guide our steps. In summary, fear can prevent us from moving forward in any aspect of our lives.

The second way that fear can be destructive is by preventing us from accessing the Power of Jesus Christ that we need in our lives. We can be so focused on the negative and the potential pain that we forget that our Savior has overcome all and that he is there to support us. I have felt God's power strengthen me when I was at my lowest and when I needed him the most.

Faith on the other hand opposes the effects of fear. Faith is a principle that impels us to act. Faith

keeps us moving forwards despite any fears that we may have. Faith when placed in Jesus Christ and his gospel brings his power into our lives.

Can we experience fear and still maintain Faith? Yes. Faith and fear can exist together and often do. But our faith in ourselves combined with our faith in a loving heavenly father and in our Savior Jesus Christ have the power to overcome any fears that we may have and as we continue to exercise faith our fears shrink. Our father in heaven loves us and will always be there for us and that's why we are told to fear not. Bad things happen and they can be painful and extremely difficult to bare but our Savior has overcome all and he will not abandon us. He will strengthen us during these trials so that we can endure them.

Our Savior is the perfect example of how faith can overcome fear and he demonstrated this in the Garden of Gethsemane. In Mark chapter 14 verses: 32-36 we read: **32** And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and [Jesus] saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.

33 And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;

34 And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.

35 And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not

what I will, but what thou wilt.

I toiled for a long time trying to define what our Savior manifested when he was faced with the awful burden of taking upon himself the sins of mankind. I felt like it was inappropriate to say our Savior feared because he had never lacked faith. But these verses show the humanity and mortality of our Savior. Our Savior had all power over life, death and the elements. God was with him and he did not fear. But in that moment before his suffering he was as mortal as you and me. He was faced with an unbearable task. A task that would destroy anyone else.

Think about the last time you faced your toughest trial. How did you feel? Our Savior felt the same. He suffered for the sins of all mankind. He experienced every pain and sickness that man has had to endure. He had some idea of how difficult this was going to be that's why he asked if there was any other way so that he would not have to suffer. But there was no other way. And he fully accepted that by saying "Not my will but Thine by done" and he drank the bitter cup. In that



moment his faith swallowed the fear that he had and we are saved because of it.

Our Savior demonstrated that while overcoming our fears we can demonstrate the strength of our faith. When life is hardest and you have every reason to quit and give into fear or pain or loneliness and forget faith, we need to follow the footsteps of our Savior and choose faith.

In the May 2020 Ensign, President Nelson Said: "Do whatever it takes to strengthen your faith in Jesus Christ by increasing your understanding of the doctrine taught in His restored Church and by relentlessly seeking truth. Anchored in pure doctrine, you will be able to step forward with faith and dogged persistence and cheerfully do all that lies in your power to fulfill the purposes of the Lord.

You will have days when you will be discouraged. So pray for courage not to give up! Sadly, some who you thought were your friends will betray you. And some things will simply seem unfair.

However, I promise you that as you follow Jesus Christ, you will find sustained peace and true joy. As you keep your covenants with increasing precision, and as you defend the Church and

kingdom of God on the earth today, the Lord will bless you with strength and wisdom to accomplish what only members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can accomplish." (1)

In our mind we need to re-adjust the statement that faith is the opposite of fear, to faith opposes the effects of fear.

Brothers and sisters, I believe that when we face our fears with faith, fear withers away and we are made mighty. Jesus Christ showed us what we have to do and now we have to decide whether we will follow him. The road will be very tough. It was for our Savior. But if we keep our faith we will overcome.

One simple way to increase our faith that I have recently rediscovered is by exercising gratitude. God is continually blessing us but we can be blind to those blessings unless we try to see them. Try next time you brush your teeth to think about what you have to be grateful for and why you're grateful for it. This practice of micro-gratitude has the power to change your perspective and will increase your faith and give you joy.

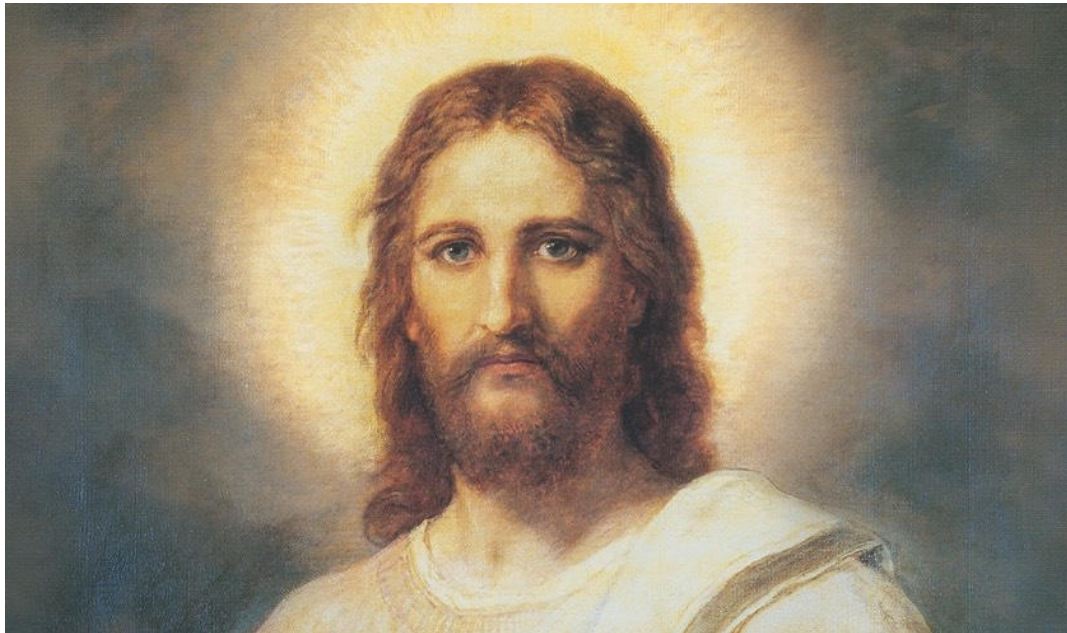
I love you brothers and sisters. I hope your well!!!



IN ABSENTIA LUCIS, TENEBRAE VINEXPLETIVE

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There is much more to come

I wish to express my gratitude to all who participated in the recent fast on Good Friday. As we look forward together toward a recovery from this worldwide pandemic, I pray that we will find a stronger relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ. He is our Master Healer. [#HearHim](#)

- President Russell M. Nelson

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CHILDREN

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[There is much
more to come](#)
President Nelson
Documentary
22min16sec



[Global Relief
Efforts](#)

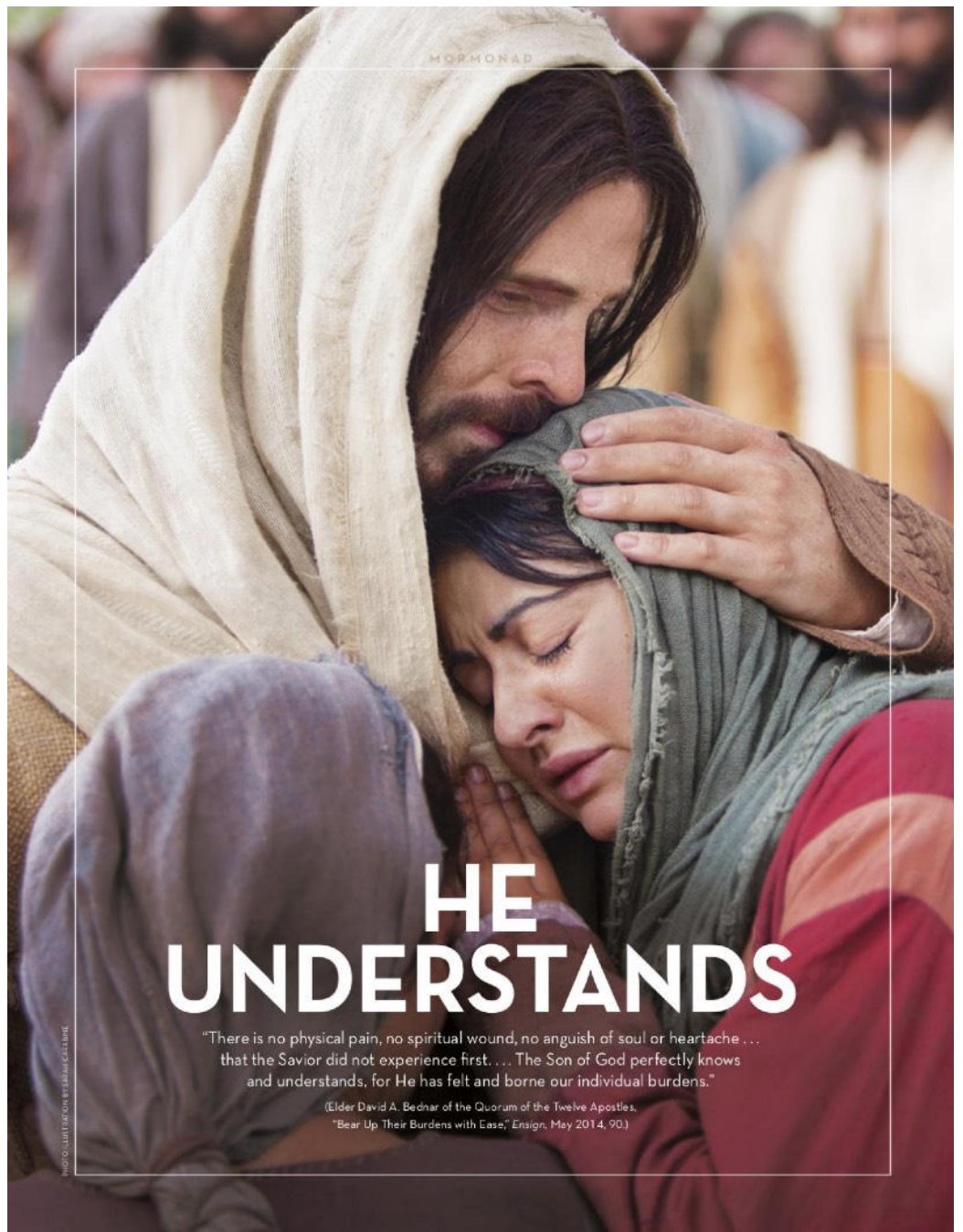


Tabernacle Choir
Premieres
[Available Here](#)

2nd Chances
Sister Farren
1 Nephi 21:15-16



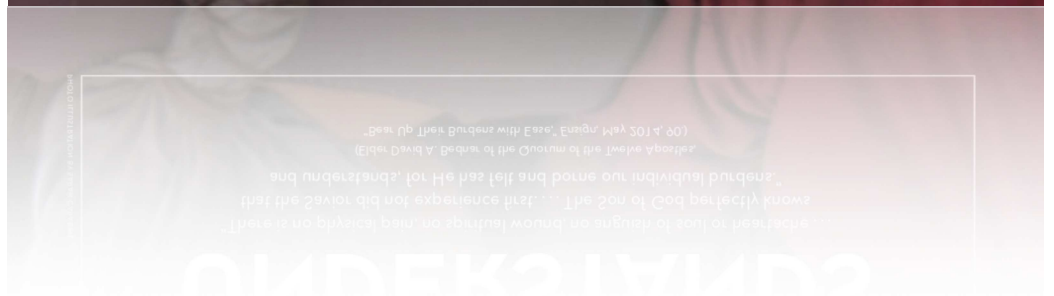
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HE UNDERSTANDS

"There is no physical pain, no spiritual wound, no anguish of soul or heartache ... that the Savior did not experience first. ... The Son of God perfectly knows and understands, for He has felt and borne our individual burdens."

(Elder David A. Bednar of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles,
"Bear Up Their Burdens with Ease," *Ensign*, May 2014, 90.)



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HE UNDERSTANDS

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Sacrament in our homes

This week each of us will have the opportunity to partake of the sacrament in our own homes.

If you have questions about receiving the sacrament please call Bishop Burgess at (306) 850-6807.

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**MUSIC AND THE
SPOKEN WORD**

Live 9:30 am

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President Nelson



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Owen Clarke -

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Preparing for General Conference

Last general conference the prophet Russell M. Nelson urged every member to read the Joseph Smith History in preparation for this upcoming general conference, the bicentennial conference of the first vision.

General conference for me has always been a really special experience and this next conference will be no different. This conference will mark the bicentennial of the first vision, it will be the first general conference live broadcast without an audience and it will be the first general conference to be had during a global pandemic.

The Lord is hastening his work and we now need to do our part to help the work along. During times of hardship, personal loss or financial stress we might find ourselves lacking in spiritual might, we might feel that because of



our trials we are no longer worthy to keep receiving the blessings that the Lord gives to us. But when this happens we need to pick ourselves back up and push through.

So how do we do this? How can I do my part to hasten in the work even amongst all my trials and challenges? Fortunately we have not been left behind and the Lord never ceases to bless and guide us. The Lord has given us modern day prophets to guide us in our day and age among all the pitfalls and traps that are unique to latter days. President Russell M. Nelson has given us guidance for this very special general conference. His admonition is simple; to read the Joseph Smith History in its entirety before general conference and to consider some

questions. These questions are as follows; “How would my life be different if my knowledge gained from the Book of Mormon were suddenly taken away?” or “How have the events that followed the First Vision made a difference for me and my loved ones?”

These suggestions for preparation may seem so simple but as we learn from Alma 37:6 “...[B]y small and simple things are great things brought to pass...”

President Nelson finishes his closing remarks in the October 2019 general conference by saying “Select your own questions. Design your own plan. Immerse yourself in the glorious light of

the Restoration. As you do, general conference next April will be not only memorable; it will be unforgettable.”

It is my hope for not only me but everyone that this next conference will be unforgettable and as we follow the council of the prophet I believe that it will without a doubt be one of the best general conferences we’ve ever experienced.

I know that the church is true, I know that the prophet and leaders of this church have been appointed and chosen by God. I know that when we follow the prophet’s counsel by reading the scriptures, praying and seeking to become Christlike we will be able to unlock the blessings of heaven and be blessed to know what road we need to take for ourselves and for our families. I know that Joseph Smith restored the church and Book of Mormon in our latter days and I know that learning about and familiarizing ourselves with the history of the church will make us better ministers to our brethren in and increase the work of the Lord in a way that is never been seen to date. The Lord is hastening his work and it is our job to aid in that work and I’m grateful for that privilege. I leave these things with you in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.



Elder Westmorland

Prayer in Difficult Times



[Listen Here](#)



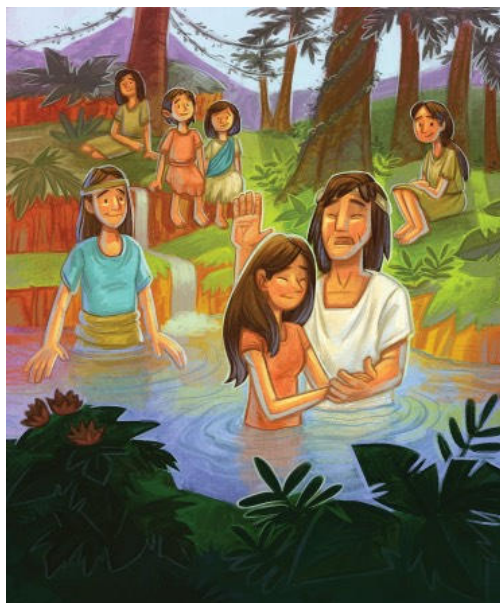
What a crazy past couple of weeks we have had with many challenges around the world. At this time I am especially grateful for the Prophet of God, who leads and guides the church. I am looking forward to the General Conference this upcoming weekend and the great things we will learn there. I know that as we do as the prophet directs, and prayerfully create our own questions they will be answered. At this time I am especially grateful for the power of prayer, which has helped me in so many ways throughout my life. These past few weeks have been especially challenging for me, but I have been able to find comfort through prayer. No matter what the circumstance, our heavenly father is always there to listen and answer our prayers. This past month as we have studied *Come Follow Me*, you may have come across the scripture 2 Nephi 32:9. Nephi has just taught his people the Doctrine of Jesus Christ in the previous chapters; Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Repentance, Baptism by

immersion for the remission of sins, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, and Enduring to the end. Nephi then goes on to teach his people what they should do after they have entered onto the path. Even after we start on the path to discipleship we all experience trials and hard times, as did the Nephites. Nephi teaches that with the gift of the Holy Ghost we can have guidance as we pray for direction in life.

2 Nephi 32:9 says, “But behold, I say unto you that ye must pray always, and not faint; that ye must not perform any thing unto the Lord save in the first place ye shall pray unto the Father in the name of Christ, that he will consecrate thy performance unto thee, that thy performance may be for the welfare of thy soul.”

As I have studied this scripture, I realized the importance of praying continually throughout the day. Back home I fell into a routine with my prayers. Often I only prayed as I started my day and got ready for bed. As a missionary one thing I have

learned is the true power and importance of prayer. Nephi teaches that we should not do anything, until we pray unto our Heavenly father for help and guidance. This is something I know I can be better at. When I was a new



missionary I often had a hard time being away from my family. One day as I was studying I came across a quote by Henry B. Eyring which has become one of my favourites.

He says, “Even when family members are not living in the home, prayer can build bonds of love. Prayer in the family can reach across the world. More than once I have learned that a family member far away was praying at the same moment for the same thing as I was. For me, the old saying “The family that prays together stays together” could be expanded to “The family that prays together is together, even when they are far apart.”



My favourite part is the last sentence, “The family that prays together is together, even when they are far apart.” I have seen this in my life as a

missionary. Now that we have the opportunity to have church in our homes each week, we have the opportunity to grow closer to our families, whether they be near or far. We can pray for opportunities to minister to others and be an answer to their prayers. This provides us with extra opportunities to find answers to our own prayers. Dieter F. Uchtdorf said, “Often, the answer to our prayer does not come while we’re on our knees but while we’re on our feet serving the Lord and serving those around us.” I know that as we minister to others, we will be strengthened as well.

I would like to share a story about a prayer that has changed my life. In the year 1820 there was a young 14 year old boy who had a question that deeply troubled him. This young boy, Joseph Smith, lived in the town of Palmyra, New York. He was searching for Jesus Christ's true church and attended many different denominations. Joseph was confused because each church taught different things and interpreted the bible differently. Despite the confusion, Joseph continued to search for answers. One day as he was reading the bible, Joseph came across the scripture James 1:5; “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” Joseph did as James directed and went to Heavenly Father in prayer. What happened next changed the world forever. As Joseph prayed he had a miraculous experience.

In his own word Joseph said, *“I saw a pillar of light exactly over my head, above the brightness of the sun, which descended gradually until it fell upon me.... When the light rested upon me I saw two Personages, whose brightness and glory defy all description, standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!”*

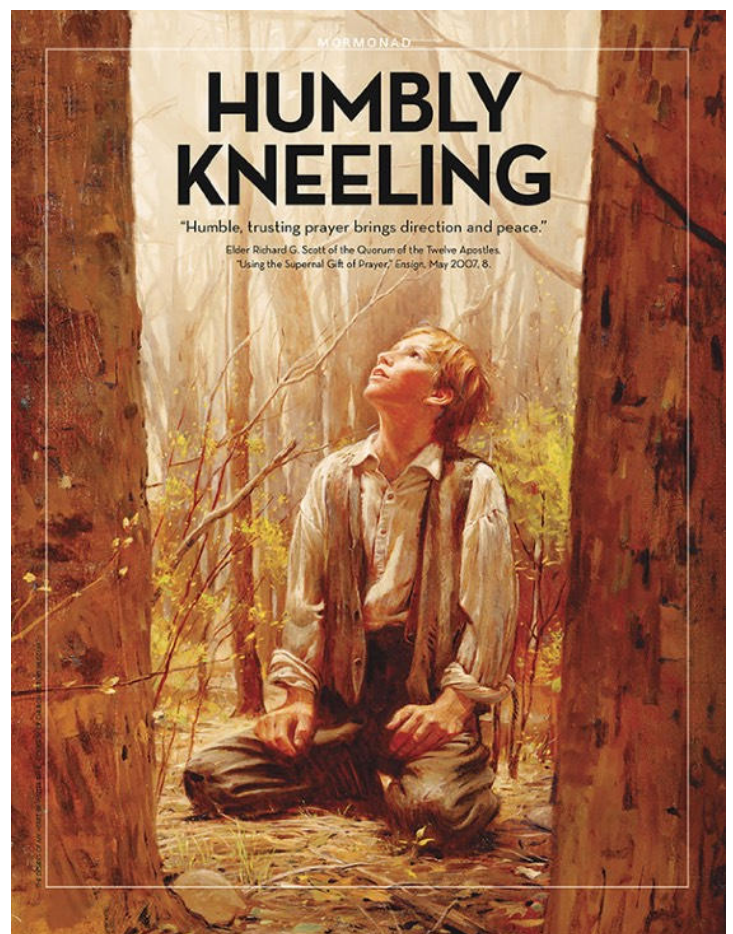
Joseph Smith’s prayer was answered and the ongoing Restoration of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints began. I am so grateful for this humble prayer given by this young boy. It has changed my life and given me peace and comfort. I know that like Joseph, God will answer our prayers as well. We may not see Heavenly Father or Jesus Christ, but if we listen they will speak to us. Each of us receive answers to our prayers in different ways. In President Russell M Nelsons *#Hear Him Invitation*, he poses a question, “How do you hear Him?”

This is something I have reflected on lots lately as I have prepared for General Conference. How does God speak to me and answer my prayers? As I’ve pondered this question I’ve realized God speaks to me in multiple ways. One way that I would like to share is through music. As I listen to spiritual uplifting music I feel the spirit touch me, and often find peace and comfort in my trials. One of my favourite Hymns Comes from the children song

book, A Child's Prayer. The song starts out by saying:

*Heavenly Father, are you really there?
And do you hear and answer ev’ry child’s prayer?
Some say that heaven is far away,
But I feel it close around me as I pray.*

I have a testimony that our Heavenly Father is there, and cares for each of us deeply. We are his children, and he does answer our prayers. We can feel his presence and love surround us no matter the situation. I am grateful for this knowledge. I am also grateful for our prophet, Russel M. Nelson. I know that as we do as he directs and prepare for General Conference, we will have our prayers answered. I say these things in the name Jesus Christ, amen.





Sister Denyse Smith

Celebrating being a member of the Church

This week as I was texting with my grand-daughters in California I told them I had to give a talk in church that would be sent by email. They thought it was pretty cool. I asked them if they had any ideas on the subject. (They are both 10 years old). One of them said I could say how I feel and the other to tell how I became a member of the church. Both sound suggestions. So here goes.

I joined the church through tracting elders in 1967. (I used to say it was my Canada Centennial effort). I had never let anyone come in my home to talk about religion since I had had a bad experience with

another faith's tracting members. But I could not say No to these young men. The light in their eyes was mesmerizing... I was taught and baptized. I learned that I was a child of God and rich blessings were in store for me if I learned to do His will. I vividly remember the first 7 words of my confirmation after I received the gift of the Holy Ghost: "thou shalt be a mother in Zion". At that time I thought it was a surprising thing to say but as the years went by I came to fully grasp the meaning of this blessing. At that point in my life I was leaving an unhealthy marriage and facing the life of a single parent, raising a toddler.

Flip the pages of the calendar, and, several years later, I had married Brother Smith in the Cardston Alberta temple and raised 10 children (and 10 more as short term foster children). These children (8 are sealed to us, the other 2 being non-adoptable as they

had their own biological families involved in their lives), all came to us at various ages and with heavy baggage on their shoulders. I can't begin to imagine my life without the church for support, for loving arms, for teaching, for embracing my family. The programs of the church are truly an arm of the Lord to help us parents raise our children. My children

“waste” your time repenting, do it right the first time. Membership in the church also save me much time in trying to figuring out life. It teaches us all about the Plan! There is no guess work.

Membership in the church paved the way for the Lord to show me how He truly loves me and listens and hears my silent prayers, me a nondescript regular person. I have been blessed with many dreams and blessings and visions. I'd like to share one with you today.

Some of you may remember a talk I gave in church a few years back when I was referring to judging people, passing comments, etc. I invited the congregation to look at the babies around them and notice how everybody smiles looking at them. There, is no judgement, no criticism, nothing negative, and I challenged each and every one of us to look at each other in the same way we look at babies. A few months ago I had the opportunity to



developed strong and lasting bonds of friendship with many wonderful Primary and Youth leaders. Sometimes, when a feeling of inadequacy or helplessness threatened to overcome me, I knew I had the ears and the heart of my leaders and I could count on them to bring solace to my heart. Only in the church.

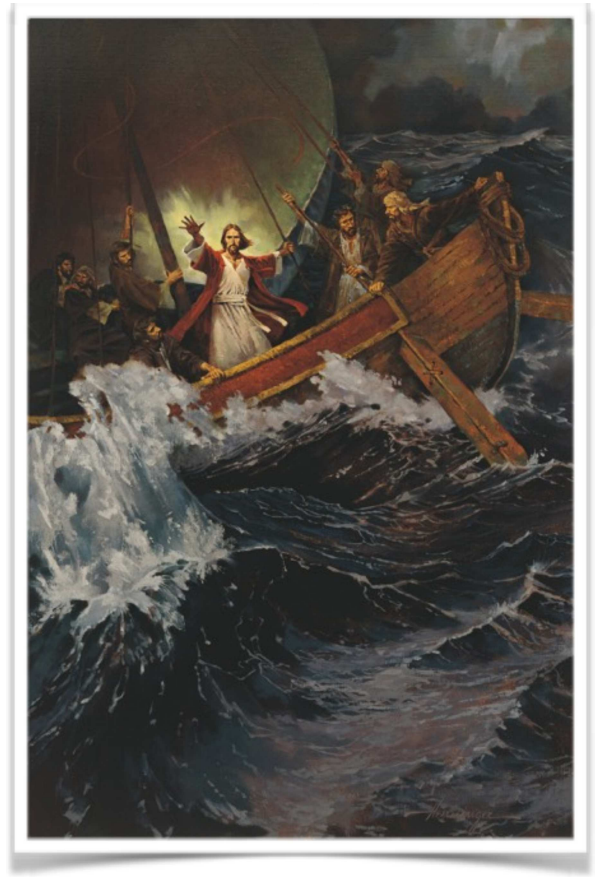
I used to tell my children: Don't break the law; you'll always be found out. You don't need to



attend Sunday School one day. The chairs were placed in the shape of a double U. I was sitting beside the door, on the back row. The thought suddenly came to me about that challenge I had given myself and all a few years back to try to look at people as one looks at babies. I thought: let me consciously look at them with peace and put a smile on my face as I would for a baby, and looked at the two rows of people in front of me. I remember seeing Sisters Kennedy and Slocombe, brother and sister Prime among others, and as my eyes gazed upon their faces, for a split second, the veil was lifted and all I could see was two rows of people dressed identically in white, all about the same age, and each one having their heads turned towards the teacher, listening intently to every word coming out of his mouth. I hadn't ask for that, I wasn't expecting that, but the Lord blessed me with that vision reminding me that each morning, in my prayers, I should ask Him to show me what I should learn today. I am also reminded that all around us, in the university and school classes, across the street and in the jails, in our families, there are all these spirits dressed in white yearning to learn. Often times WE are the teachers. Only in the church...

We live in a troubled season right now but part of the uncertainties is bypassing me right now. Our church leaders have been counselling us for nearly a century to prepare ourselves for troubled times. As

generations after generations get in the mode, it becomes second nature for the next generation. This morning when I woke up, a picture came to my mind: it is the painting depicting our Lord sleeping in a boat while all around it rages a fierce tempest



and the disciples are filled with fright. Turning to the hymn book, #105, in the chorus, we are reminded: “Peace be still”. ([Click here](#))

Regardless of all our circumstances we must find peace and quiet assurance that we are all in His hands and, as the Prophet reminded us again and again, the Lord is bound when we do as He asks. “If ye are prepared, ye shall not fear”. Where else can one get this assurance?

I am grateful for Elder Harmston and Elder Herget who followed their inspiration and came knocking at my door and opened the way for me to become a member of His church.

I have a testimony that this is the Lord's church and that He is at its helm. I know that President Nelson is truly a prophet of God and we must emulate the words of the hymn "Follow the prophet, he knows the way". I bear you this testimony in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**"AS YOU CHOOSE
TO LIVE
ON THE
Lord's side,
you are
NEVER ALONE."**

– Elder Russell M. Nelson

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Wanuskewin Weekly

All is safely gathered in



General Conference Weekend

Join us for the 190th Annual General Conference as we celebrate 200 years since the first Vision. In a social media post, President Russell M. Nelson wrote: "I extend a warm welcome to all, regardless of your faith tradition, to join with us through technology and to rejoice in the comforting power of revealed truth. I love you. I pray for you. And I assure you that the Lord is watching over us during these troubling times."

1

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CONFERENCE**

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2

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3

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MORMON VIDEO**

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Internet stream

Friday April 10th

Previously

Recorded Messiah
by the choir and
orchestra.



Update on Saints Worldwide

How COVID-19 is
impacting
members.



Pandemic Planning

Intructions: Click
Here

IN ABSENTIA LUCIS, TENEBRAE VINEXPLETIVE

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Sunday School
10:30AM
[CLICK HERE](#)
Password: 177875

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YSA DEVOTIONAL

Sunday 6:00PM

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Making the Sabbath a Delight while Social Distancing

President Jessica Kilistoff

[Listen Here](#)



in heaven, as well as to feel truly happy as we spend our Sundays away from each other? In a conference talk from April 2015, President Nelson (then Elder Nelson) talked about the Sabbath and why the Lord gave us this day. He said this: “I believe that He wanted us to understand that the Sabbath was His gift to us, granting real respite from the rigors of daily life and an opportunity for spiritual and physical renewal. God gave us this special day, not for amusement or daily labor but for a rest from duty, with physical and spiritual relief.” Even alone, we can use this time to lift ourselves and those around us.

As a mother to young children, my Sunday schedule may look the same, or vastly different from what is happening in your home. I felt such mixed emotions when the church announced that we had to discontinue church meetings for an indeterminate amount of time. I was so worried about those of you who rely on church for your social interactions. At the same time there was such peace, knowing that our beloved Prophet had clearly been inspired when creating the Come, Follow Me program. This program gave us the

Brothers and Sisters today my talk is about making the Sabbath a delight during social distancing. I don’t need to tell you that the world has changed considerably over the last few months. Even something as simple as a trip to the grocery store or a family visit is no longer so simple, or something to be taken for granted. I’m sure that there are many of you missing the community of our Sunday meetings as well as the structure that comes with our normal worship routines. So, what can we do to continue to feel that closeness to our father

opportunity to continue to study at home and to enjoy learning both on our own or with our families, depending on our circumstances. At the same time, we had been encouraged to think outside the box when it came to our ministering assignments. Even in leadership, they had been asking all to take advantage of the technology available.

Obviously, we all structure our Sabbath day differently, depending on our family situation, but I would like to share a few things that have really helped our family to not just endure the Sabbath day, but to truly enjoy and delight in this special day. Let me be very clear by stating that how my family does things is not the only way to do things, nor is it necessarily the best way to do things.



So, beginning the day with prayer is never a mistake. It sets the tone and we have the opportunity to ask our Heavenly Father to help with our mindset. Following this with some personal scripture time is really important for me, as we read in 2 Nephi 4:15 “For my soul delighteth in the scriptures, and my heart pondereth them, and writeth them for the learning and profit of my children.” If I skip this step, the likelihood of me yelling at someone later in the day goes up exponentially. We then try to spend time together, doing Come, Follow Me activities and/or watching some of the videos that the church has put online. We try to have a good mix of time together and time one on one with the kids. I will be perfectly honest, we have not tried to set up our Sunday worship like a mini sacrament meeting service. We have tried to work with our kids’ personalities and set things up the way that they will feel the most comfortable. The best part of our Sundays, currently, is the weekly Sunday Zoom sessions with my extended family. I have a large family that I don’t get to see very often, so this has been truly lovely. We start and end with prayer, and we take the time to share experiences that were spiritually uplifting during the week. We talk about our callings and get each other’s advice on how to approach issues that have arisen. It makes my heart so settled to see their faces and feel their love for me.

So, in conclusion, the most important parts of my Sunday are family and faith; all centred around our love for our father in Heaven. In order to get the most delight out of your Sabbath day, I really recommend looking at what brings you the most joy and lifts your spirit and finding a way to focus on that. If it is listening to good music, finding a way to connect with those that you love, or if it is having a structured sacrament meeting on a smaller scale, enjoy that. The best thing that you can do is embrace this unusual time and see it for the wonderful opportunity that it could be to try something new and work

on areas of yourself that perhaps you didn't have time for before this.

Please know that you are all beloved children of our Heavenly Father. This situation, though scary, has the potential to be life-changing, in the best possible way. We have more time to parent, more time to delve into the scriptures, more time to reach out and minister in different ways, and more time to work on ourselves and our relationship with Jesus Christ and Heavenly Father.

Be safe and know that I am praying for you all. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.



"The most important
of the Lord's work that you will
ever do will be the work you do
within the walls of your own home."

— President Harold B. Lee

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