

AKRON OHIO STAKE

Stake Presidency Message



Listen to President Dayton's message to the Stake this month!

Reflections on Stake Conference from President Talley

"It is always an advantage to members of the stake when a visiting authority comes to instruct and inspire. Elder Dunnigan of the Seventy offered excellent counsel to all of us, and for me personally, it seemed he had a great gift for conveying hope. Among the observations I noted, I was moved by the principle that in the course of His Atonement, Christ did not just feel bad for us, but felt bad with us, which is the difference between mere sympathy and real empathy. Because of His supernal ability to empathize, the Savior is not disappointed with anyone who earnestly seeks to repent.

"During all sessions of stake conference, we had the privilege of being reminded that our Heavenly Parents have no other agenda for this very brief period

of mortality than our welfare, the advancement of their sons and daughters. Elder Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles had offered the same principle at General Conference—that our Heavenly Parents and our Savior Jesus Christ 'are totally, completely, eternally aligned with us. We are Their work. Our glory is their glory. More than anything else they want us to come home'

"In all respects, this was an uplifting conference. The music offered by the stake choir and others was beautiful and the addresses provided by those assigned to speak were filled with wisdom and sound counsel. We were reminded particularly to honor the Sabbath, to look to Christ in all our thinking and activity, and to love God with all our hearts and our neighbors as ourselves."

Akron Stake Plan

Revitalize the Rescue!



Become, and help others to become, true followers of Jesus Christ and enjoy the blessings of the holy temple by . . .

- Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Gathering Israel through missionary work.
- Caring for the poor and needy.
- Identifying ancestors and doing their temple ordinance work.

Family History Corner



by Jeanne Peugh,
Director

As we heard the story of the "Starfish" in Stake Conference we could compare this to our Temple and Family History Work. There is much to do and many of our ancestors have been waiting a very long time for you and me to complete their work so their joy might be full. But it is just a matter of doing one at a time and how important it would be to the "one" we did. We need to have a "steadfastness" in this work so when we come to road blocks, we can find our way through, around, or over them. I testify if you do, you will find the information you are looking for to complete the work. Recently, I helped a sister, who thought her grandfather was born in Germany, only to find out he was born in Illinois. She was quickly able to go back another generation. It's all there, just waiting for us!

The Messages of Stake Conference

SATURDAY SESSION

Brother Steve Cochran

Keeping the Sabbath day holy is an ongoing struggle and challenge. It is not a once and done scenario. But it is worth it. Keeping the Sabbath day holy brings a balance and perspective to life that when observed correctly will bring families closer together and will also bring generations together.

Sister Sara Nielson

What an amazing gift the Sabbath is for each of us! A day to rest from every care. Don't we always complain that we never have enough time? But Sunday is literally time given to us, and when he asks us to abstain from our own pleasure, it is so we can be better, purified, and sanctified. If we want our children to delight in the Sabbath, we need to show them the amazing gift that it is.

President Bryan L. Laubaugh, Second Counselor

In the context of your personal ministry to those you see in need, do something. Send a card, text, email, letter, make the phone call, invite them over for a visit. Just commit to do something. I promise that every act of kindness, whether large or small, will make a difference in their life and yours as well.

Brother Skip Juhasz

I want to thank everyone in the stake as a whole, that you had faith in me, and that through that faith, you showed me your love. I want to bear my testimony of the power of members, particularly in their work as home and visiting teachers. Sometimes we feel in those callings that we don't have much success. The people who worked with me probably thought they didn't have much success. But they did.

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**Historic
Kirtland Art
Gathering 2017**

**Inspiring a collection of historical art from local artists—
depicting events in 1830's Kirtland, Ohio.**

Collection and hanging of the artwork will be in the Historic Kirtland Visitors Center June 1-August 31, 2017.
Awards reception will be on September 16, 2017.

See kirtlandartgathering.wordpress.com for story ideas and details.

**PRIMARY
CATEGORY** **YOUTH
CATEGORY** **ADULT
CATEGORY**

Stake Conference Messages *continued*

Sister Barbara Juhasz

I'm grateful for the love and support of home teachers. Thank you for not giving up hope. We couldn't have made it through [my husband's inactivity] without faithful home teachers who I have no doubt loved my family and wanted to be there for us. I have a testimony of miracles.

SUNDAY SESSION

President Douglas L. Talley, Stake President

Our church membership should be a blessing to us and not feel like a burden that is too heavy to carry. So much of it depends on our own attitude and our own manner of thinking. When we speak to ourselves and have our own continuing conversation and dialog, what is it we say to ourselves? I know that the Lord God knows our thoughts. He knows what we're thinking moment to moment. God knows who we are, knows what we're thinking, knows what we're intending.

We often think that the Sabbath is a day of rest where we can recreate ourselves with our own refreshments. But what the Lord is suggesting here [in Isaiah 58] is that we turn away from our own pleasures and accept His pleasures. Because this is His day, and He can teach us how to delight in His day, how to trade what might be really good pleasures — not necessarily unholy pleasures — and substitute those pleasures for those that He can offer. And that will truly make the Sabbath a delight.

Help Us Expand



The Akron Stake is looking to expand JustServe project postings in the following Ward boundaries

Ashland - Canton - Medina - Tallmadge - Wooster

If you work for, know of, or volunteer for a service oriented organization in one of these Ward boundaries that is currently NOT listed on JustServe.org; please contact Sister Lewis at lewisk@ldspublicaffairs.org.

President Joel K. Dayton, First Counselor

Reading from the Book of Mormon daily will help to keep our spiritual shoelaces strong and tight, and help us avoid getting tripped up as we walk along the path of life. Don't let your reef knots and your slip knots become distorted and loosened. Keep your shoelaces (and testimonies) firm and strong by reading from the Book of Mormon daily as our prophets and apostles have admonished us to do.

Sister Isabella Weaver

Happiness always looks small while you hold it in your hands, but let it go, and you learn at once how big and precious it is.

Sister Jennifer Biggs

Partaking of the Sacrament each week allows us to access the enabling power of the Atonement in our lives. Worthily partaking of the sacrament each week enables us to do good and become better in ways that are beyond our mortal capacities.

Note: *The Stake Newsletter will not include remarks from Elder Daniel F. Dunnigan. This is in compliance with the following statement that was read during stake conference: "We ask that you not record, transcribe, or otherwise electronically transmit the messages of the General or Area Officers of the Church who will speak to us."*

MISSIONARIES RETURNING HOME



**KATHERINE MARIANNE
MAIER**

2 JUNE 2017

FROM

GERMANY BERLIN MISSION



KENT PATRICK SANDERS

27 JUNE 2017

FROM

IDAHO NAMPА MISSION

FAITH IN GOD AWARD

Stake Primary Presidency

The Primary children have an opportunity to earn their Faith in God Award between the ages of eight and eleven. This is a great program that helps to prepare children for Young Men and Young Woman program.

The Faith in God booklets outline the goals and steps that each child must take in order to earn his/her award. The basic components include daily prayer, regular scripture study, and memorizing the Articles of Faith. They also complete two goals each year in the following areas: (1) learning and living the gospel, (2) serving others, (3) developing talents, and (4) preparing for the priesthood or for Young Women.



The vast majority of this program can be completed at Primary Activity Days or in correlation with the Cub Scout program. This is a great opportunity for parents to help their children learn more about the gospel.

There are many children in our stake who have currently completed all the requirements for the Faith in God Award, and we hope that every child is able to do so.

The following children from the Massillon and Canton Wards have shared their feelings about the Faith in God program:

MASSILLON WARD

Mierae Taylor: “The Faith in God for Girls has really strengthened my testimony. It has helped me to feel the spirit day to day as I complete the activities.”

Kloee Tomkinson: “I am almost done with the Faith in God. I found that after I have

accomplished something in my Faith in God for Girls, I feel much better about myself. The Faith in God has helped strengthened my testimony a lot.”

Shannon Kerstetter: “The Faith in God has let me feel the spirit more when I do it. I feel that my testimony has been strengthened and I feel the love of my Heavenly Father.”



Kowen Gayhart: “The Faith in God book along with the scriptures are a big part of my life and I know I can go to them when I have troubles and problems.”

CANTON WARD

Alex LaPenes: “My favorite activity I did for Faith in God was in Developing Talents by planning exercises for a month.”

Grace Lewis: “Faith in God is a way to learn about Jesus Christ and Heavenly Father and be closer to them.”

Julia Fenton: “My favorite thing about Faith in God was cleaning the church. Another thing I liked about Faith in God was donating toys to the fire station.”

Ryland Most: “My favorite activity in the Faith in God is the doing the Family Home Evening on the First Vision. My second favorite was service for a person when they didn’t know about it.”

Grant Lewis: “Faith in God is a way I think to challenge myself to do the right. My favorite thing that I did was teach my family about the restoration.”

Georgia Muller: “Through Faith in God, I learned that serving others can be fun and a blessing.”

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Faith in God continued

Spencer Fry: "I really liked doing the pedigree chart. I got to learn



more about my ancestors and find out who I'm related to. I also liked being able to choose one for myself, I chose to read the Book of Mormon in 6 months, it was a challenge, but I did it."



Many hands make light work when you are doing service for others



Our feet support us in doing the work of the Lord as we willingly participate in the many opportunities



New Philadelphia Ward Easter Craft

STAKE YSA

by Jana Laubaugh

We have had lots of fun get together at the YSA Branch. For Cinco de Mayo, a group of us did an impromptu get together and went to get Mexican food. We waited for over an hour and a



half, but it was worth it! And the biggest party animal of them all? Grandma Laubaugh, President Laubaugh's mom, who flew in the night before. We had a blast eating our fill in tacos and chips and celebrating Easthill style.



Later this month we said goodbye to our beloved Newbolds as they finished their devoted mission and moved back to Utah. We sure will miss them!



Please welcome with open hearts, the Hansen's! This past Monday we had a nice cookout and we got to know our new senior couple who will be teaching Institute. They are a great pair and we're excited to get to know them even more! Until next time!



Hunger Walks Successful

The Akron Area Interfaith Council hosted its annual Hunger Walk with locations in Fairlawn, Medina, and Stark County. Donations to the AAIC through the event will benefit the Akron Canton Regional

Foodbank. Final monetary totals are not yet available, but the Fairlawn walk alone netted \$12,081. Members of the stake participated at each of the three locations.



Walkers in Fairlawn



Massillon's Bishop Taylor at the Stark County Hunger Walk

STAKE CALENDAR EVENTS

June 2017

Sunday, June 4

Stake General Priesthood Meeting/
Massillon 6:30-7:30 p.m. for all men
and young men ages 12 and up.

Friday, June 9

Mormon Night at Progressive Field
7:10 p.m.

Sunday, June 11

Easthill (YSA) Branch Conference

Sunday, June 18

Father's Day

Monday-Friday, June 19-23

YW Camp/Pioneer Trail Camp

July 2017

Tuesday, July 4

Independence Day

Sunday, July 9

Medina Ward Conference

Thursday-Friday, July 20-21

11-year old Scout Camp/Manatoc Scout
Facility

Friday-Tuesday, July 21-25

Youth Conference/Nauvoo

Monday, July 24

Pioneer Day (Utah)

August 2017

Sunday, August 13

Wadsworth Ward Conference

Sunday, August 27

Tallmadge Ward Conference

Historic Kirtland 5K Run/Fun Walk
Saturday, July 29, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
Historic Kirtland Visitors' Center
7800 Kirtland-Chardon Road, Kirtland, Ohio 44024

\$10 registration fee 19 older; \$5 for 18 and younger; Walk is Free for all
T-Shirts available for purchase.

www.historickirtland5k.com

Sponsored by the Kirtland Ohio Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Please send Akron Stake Calendar questions and updates
to Brother Strate at srstrate@gmail.com