

AKRON OHIO STAKE

Stake Conference Date Change

General Authority to be announced coming on November 17-18 for the reorganization of the stake presidency and therefore Stake Conference is moved back a weekend

Stake Presidency Message from President Talley

<https://youtu.be/HZIJudyOSjI>



Stake social media accounts

- Facebook @ldsakronohiostake
- Instagram @akronohiostake

Thoughts on Ministering

by Tracy Johnson, Medina Ward RS President

- The sisters are trying to develop their personal ministry not only with those assigned to them but all those they encounter.
- We are all opening our eyes to the needs around us and helping how we can, even if that is just being a good listener.
- Along with in person visits we are using technology to stay connected and up to date.
- I'm grateful for the young women who are anxiously engaged in this new Ministering Program.
- I am grateful for the collaboration between EQ and RS.
- The first meeting of both presidencies went well and we came up with some good ideas together.
- The Relief Society is working on our second round of ministering interviews this month.
- We are finding what works best for us and the sisters we serve.
- We are not perfect but trying to make the needed sacrifices in our lives to make ministering a priority.

Religious Freedom Broadcast

by Elizabeth Nielson

On Saturday, September 8, the Church held a fireside concerning religious freedom. The fireside took place in Columbus and was broadcast live to all stakes in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana.

The speakers included Elder Gary E. Stevenson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, Elder Lance B. Wickman, Sister Hannah Smith, and Brother Alexander

Dushku. They discussed current threats to religious freedom and ways that members of the Church can work together collectively to protect that freedom for all people.

From the church's website we learn the definition of religious freedom:

"Freedom of religion is a basic principle of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and a fundamental human right. Moral agency, the ability to choose right from wrong and to act for

ourselves, is essential to God's plan of salvation. Religious freedom ensures that people can exercise their agency in matters of faith."

Elder Wickman emphasized that we must learn some specific truths in relation to that definition:

1. Religious freedom embraces not only the right to freely worship, but also to speak and act based on one's religious beliefs.

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Upcoming Dates

- Saturday, October 20 - Family History Fair, Tallmadge
- Saturday, October 27 - YSA Quad-Stake Activity, Tallmadge, contact Kelly Smith for details
- Sunday, November 11 - LDS Child Loss Group/Stark's home, 230 Cherry Hill Dr, Wadsworth 7 p.m.
- Saturday, November 17 - Quad Stake Youth Dance/Cleveland 7-10 p.m.
- Saturday, November 17 - Stake Leadership Training 4-5:30 p.m.; Adult Session/Tallmadge 7-9 p.m.
- Sunday, November 18 - Stake Conference/Tallmadge 10 a.m. - noon

Religious Freedom Broadcast *continued*

2. Freedom of religion protects not only individuals but also the religious organizations that make faith communities possible.
3. Religious freedom is not absolute
4. Latter-day saints believe in defending the religious freedom of others just as readily as their own.

“The work of the Lord is growing,” said Elder Wickman. “The Lord is hastening His work in His time, and defending and protecting religious freedom is an important part of that latter-day work.”

After a presentation and discussion led by Sister Smith and Brother Dushku, Elder Stevenson spoke. He said, “Religious freedom is vital because it protects our agency to exercise faith in Jesus Christ and to follow him.”

“We need to understand that we stand up for everyone’s rights. Extremes on both sides are counterproductive. We can’t let anyone think that freedom of religion is a free pass to discriminate.”

Elder Stevenson finished his remarks with a Call to Action.

1. **Get informed.** (“Learn about the issues and be wise.”)
2. **Get involved.** (“Lift where you stand. Be a good neighbor to others. Don’t be dramatic or join extreme organizations. Vote. Volunteer. Seek the spirit about where to start on a local level.”)
3. **Be civil and advocate for fairness for all.** (“We must be Christlike. There is not a qualification in the Lord’s kingdom for race or color or ethnicity or wealth or gender or sexuality or religion. The Lord is no respecter of persons. All are alike unto him.”)


Learn more about religious freedom: <https://www.lds.org/religious-freedom>

Get more specifics on becoming involved: <https://www.lds.org/religious-freedom/get-involved/10-ways-to-protect-religious-freedom>



4. **Live the gospel.** (“The gospel brings us joy and as we live the gospel, people will be drawn to us. We should be ‘an example of the believers’ and when we live the gospel, other people of faith will want to help us as we want to help them.”)

President Talley attended the broadcast and later shared his thoughts on religious freedom for the benefit of this newsletter. “Freedom of religion is an essential tenet of our own beliefs as Latter-day Saints, found in the Articles of Faith: ‘We claim the privilege of worshiping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.’ One of the ways we best promote religious freedom is not only to respect the wide diversity of faiths in this country, but to interact with and understand the religious views of others. I am gratified that Latter-day Saints in our stake have been quite active in this endeavor, particularly through our membership in the Akron Area Interfaith Council.”

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PRIMARY HAPPENINGS

By Melinda Turner, Stake Primary

Autumn is a beautiful time of year with all of the changes in our surroundings. It is also a special time of year because of an annual happening in our wards and branches – the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentation! Historically, this meeting is one of the best attended Sacrament Meetings of the year and probably the most enjoyable. We look forward to our testimonies being strengthened by the voices of the Primary children sharing the gospel in both word and song!

A lot of preparation goes into preparing the songs for the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentation. The children learn at least eight songs to present and many times it will include a new song not found in the Children’s Songbook. The song they learn each month ties in with the Primary Sharing Time theme for that month and helps to reinforce the gospel principle being taught.

The purpose of music in Primary is to teach children the gospel of Jesus Christ. Primary songs make learning the gospel more enjoyable, invite the spirit, and create a reverent and learning atmosphere. They are learning not only a song but

also a gospel principle. The children are testifying as they sing and we have all felt the Spirit because of that testifying during the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentation!

Learning gospel truths in a musical setting can play an important part in developing a child’s testimony. Gospel songs teach the heart as well as the mind – often better than just words alone. Elder Boyd K Packer stated, “We are able to feel and learn very quickly through music ... some spiritual things that we would otherwise learn very slowly” (“The Arts and the Spirit of the Lord,” Ensign, Aug. 1976, p. 61). President Dallin H. Oaks has said, “Our sacred music prepares us to be taught the truths of the gospel ... we ... need to keep singing that we may draw even closer to Him who has inspired sacred music and commanded that it be used to worship Him” (Church News, Oct. 8, 1994, p. 8).

May our testimonies to be strengthened through the speaking and singing of the Primary children during the Children’s Sacrament Meeting Presentations this year!



Canton Ward Window

submitted by Brother Greg Von Forell

Starting at the end of summer through the end of the year, the Canton Ward wanted to focus on one of the twelve points that the Stake has asked us to keep in mind when doing missionary work. It specifically mentions that “we can invite non-members, (as well as less active members) to activities such as family home evenings and Church socials, conferences, and other meetings. Help encourage and organize activities during the year that can be used to invite friends, neighbors, and relatives.”

We wanted to make sure that there would be many chances to invite, so we set a goal to have a special activity to invite others to about once a month. The first of these opportunities was a picnic and kickball game at Whitwer Park, held before the beginning of the school year. The park had tables for socializing and eating ice cream, alongside a playground for the smaller kids. There were no injuries during the kickball game, and many were able to get to know each other better. (We're pretty sure this is where Bishop Oettli met our new Second Counselor, Brother Griffis, after just moving into the ward.)

Our second opportunity to invite others was an actual fireside.



The Elder's Quorum supplied the fire, and the primary provided the s'mores. President and Sister Dayton shared some of their wisdom with us.

We are currently preparing for two of our most well-attended activities: the ward trunk-or-treat and the ward Christmas party. The Young Men and Young Women are planning the trunk-or-treat, and the Relief Society is in charge of the Christmas party.

With each auxiliary being in charge of a different activity, we found that it isn't too difficult to create many different opportunities.

As we create more occasions to invite others, and as we have more people accept our offers, we know it will increase our faith and become easier. We hope this increased focus on invitations will also spill over into invitations that aren't just for social activities. We have two wonderful opportunities to participate in, General Conference and our Primary Program, that will bring joy to anyone who accepts our invitations. There are also ongoing opportunities to attend Sacrament Meeting, visit with the full-time missionaries, or read the Book of Mormon. We pray that by the end of the year, some of these invitations become first steps towards coming unto Christ.

October Akron Stake Emphasis



Find family names, take those names to the temple for ordinances and teach others to do the same.

[See HERE for ideas](#)



FAMILY HISTORY FAIR

Sponsored by the Akron Ohio Stake of

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

106 East Howe Road - Tallmadge, OH

Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 9 AM - 4 PM

Register at **EVENTBRITE**

Schedule:

8:00 am - Check in/registration
8:45 am - Opening Remarks
9:00 pm - Classes Begin
4:00 pm - Classes End

See available classes and additional information at:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Akron_Ohio_Family_History_Center
Attendance & Lunch are FREE!

Easthill YSA Branch

by Kelly Smith

The Easthill YSA Branch is alive and thriving! We are excited to have new and old faces return as school has begun. This past month the Cleveland Branch hosted the monthly Quad-Stake Activity at Swings N' Things in Olmstead Falls. As we battled each other at bumper boats, and raced around a track on go-karts, our friendships increased and fun was had by all! The Easthill Branch also had an enjoyable FHE dinner and game night at the Fitzgerald's home this past month. We may be small, but we are mighty fun.



All YSA from Akron, Youngstown, Cleveland, and Kirtland Stakes are invited to attend the next Quad-Stake Activity in October. FHE is held the third Sunday of every month immediately following church meetings. Food is always provided! Please join the Facebook page "Akron YSA (Easthill Branch)" for all updates on activities and events, or contact Kelly Smith.

Self-Reliance Spotlight

Stake Update

A special thanks to the many wards that have hosted a local devotional during September. It has been a blessing to be able to share more about the initiative with so many of you. Coming out of these devotionals we have self-reliance groups now starting up across that stake. Please continue to reach out to your Ward Specialist or Ward Council to learn more.

Principle #11 – Seek Learning

"Seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning, even by study and also by faith. ... Establish a house ... of learning."

Doctrine and Covenants 88:118-19

Invitation

- 1) Write down your "life's mission."
 - a. Where do I want to be in five years?
 - b. Why?
 - c. What skills, knowledge or experience do I need to get there?
 - d. What will I commit doing in the next 30, 60, 90 days?
- 2) Share your "life's mission" with a mentor and ask for their help

Learn more within the *My Foundation* workbook on srs.lds.org

MISSIONARY LEAVING



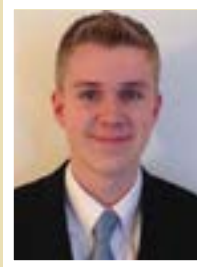
CHRISTOPHER CHARLES SMITH

17 OCTOBER 2018

FOR

**COLORADO DENVER
NORTH MISSION**

MISSIONARY RETURNING



ETHAN RANDALL DAVIS

9 OCTOBER 2018

FROM

**LISBON PORTUGAL
MISSION**

Family History Corner

Family History Fair

On October 20th, the Akron Ohio Stake Family History Center will be hosting a "fantastic" Family History Fair. What a great opportunity to be taught by experts in the fields of family history research. With 24 different classes being offered, there will be help available for anyone's research needs. Classes will cover a host of Internet sources and databases from the Big 4 including Fold3. As for other research there will be English/Welsh, African American, German and even Indians from Ohio classes available. Please come and join us. After all, "It's All Relative." Here is the link to the website to get your ticket ...

[EVENTBRITE](#)

Also look for the flyer in the newsletter for more information. Any questions, please feel free to get in contact with me.

Jeanne Peugh - djpeugh@sbcglobal.net

BRECKSVILLE HOME STORAGE CENTER SPECIALS

October Sale Items

Peanut butter and Honey

50¢ off the regular price