

AKRON OHIO STAKE

Stake Presidency Message

“What is your favorite Book of Mormon story?”

The stake recently held our annual Youth Standards Night. It was a great event, and we are grateful for everyone that planned and attended. During the evening we held two breakout sessions in which the stake presidency, along with our wives, were asked questions about standards and other gospel-related topics. It was a blessing to share our testimonies with the youth, and it gave us a chance as a new stake presidency to show off our favorite people - our lovely wives!



President Call

One question we were asked that night: “What is your favorite Book of Mormon story?” That is a very, very hard question! Why? Because I’ve found that my favorite story changes all the time. One of the great blessings of daily, prayerful Book of Mormon study is that we develop relationships with the people and prophets in this great book. Our faith grows, as we see their faith in action (Nephi and the ship, for example). We learn that we can change and repent (Alma the Younger, to name one of several). We learn the importance of being good parents (mothers of the stripling warriors, and Jacob’s teachings to his son Enos). These examples only scratch the surface of lessons to be learned, and re-learned. Most importantly, we learn about our Savior, Jesus Christ, and what we individually need to know at any given time in our lives that we may be “led by the power of His arm,” as Amaleki teaches us in Omni 1:14.

The Book of Mormon is a miracle which will draw us closer to our Heavenly Father, and his Son. It should be a prayerful part of our daily lives as we strive to emulate Christ. As President Russell M. Nelson once taught: “When you read the Book of Mormon, concentrate on the principal figure in the book—from its first chapter to the last—the Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God.” (Liahona, January 2000)

We have been commanded by the Lord and His prophets to study the Book of Mormon. Doctrine and Covenants 84:54-57 makes it very clear that we have a duty to cherish this special book. Further, President Thomas S. Monson, in his last conference in which he presided as our prophet, simply said: “I implore each of us to prayerfully study and ponder the Book of Mormon each day. As we do so, we will be in a position to hear the voice of the Spirit, to resist temptation, to overcome doubt and fear, and to receive heaven’s help in our lives.” (April 2017 General Conference)

When I was 12, I set out to read the Book of Mormon every day for 30 minutes. I made great progress and loved the goal to read the book through from start to finish. For several weeks I kept my goal. One Saturday, after a full day of soccer games followed by helping in our large family garden, I was exhausted.

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Upcoming Dates

- Saturday, February 9 - Quad Stake Youth Dance/Cleveland 7-10 p.m. for Mia Maids, Laurels, teachers & priests at the Cleveland Stake Center
- Sunday, February 10 - Akron Ward Conference
LDS Child Loss Group/Stark’s home, 230 Cherry Hill Dr, Wadsworth 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 19 - Temple Recommend Interviews with Stake Presidency member/ Tallmadge High Council Room 6-7 p.m. No appointments needed.
- Saturday, February 23 - Youth Ice Skating/Activity Alice Noble Ice Arena in Wooster 2-5 p.m. for all youth in the YM/YW program.
- Sunday, February 24 - Ashland Ward Conference

Tallmadge Ward Window

The New Bishopric

Bishop Scott Miller was born and raised in Stow and was baptized into the Tallmadge Ward 22 years ago. He and his wife Katie met at Zion's Camp in Kirtland and have been married for 16 years. They have five children: Michaela, Ryan, Macey, Kyle, and Molly. He enjoys being outside, biking, playing sports, and staying active. Above all, he enjoys spending time with his family at home.



Adam Critchlow, Scott Miller, and Brent Wiemer

Mission from 1989-1991 and has been married to Jenny (a convert) for 23 years. They have a son, Jake who currently lives with his wife in Las Vegas. Brent works in inventory control for a tool manufacturer. One of his favorite talks by a prophet is "Flood the Earth with the Book of Mormon" given by President Benson.

First Counselor Brother Adam Critchlow and his wife Michelle are the parents of five children (Madison, Spencer, Paige, Joshua, and Sophia). He served his mission in Salt Lake City, Utah. After his mission he completed a finance degree, and then went on to earn his master's degree in health administration. He and his family moved from Butler, Pennsylvania to Stow in March 2017. He currently works in administration at a health system in Northeast Ohio. One of his favorite activities is family pizza and movie night.

Second Counselor Brother Brent Wiemer grew up in Dallas, Texas. He served in the Georgia Atlanta

Stake Presidency Message *Continued*

As I headed to bed, I asked my father: "Dad, I'm really tired, do you think Heavenly Father will understand if I don't read the Book of Mormon today?" I expected a sympathetic answer to my tired question. My very wise father simply said, "No, son, He wants and expects you to read every day, even if you are very, very tired." That teaching moment had a large impact on the rest of my life.

I testify that the Book of Mormon will edify and strengthen all of us. It will safeguard our families. It will instill in us a true witness of Joseph Smith, Heavenly Father's plan of happiness, and the redeeming love and atoning sacrifice of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Monthly we will be highlighting a different Area Plan goal



Deepen conversion to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and the restored gospel.

I will deepen my conversion by . . .

— 1. Prayerfully study the Book of Mormon every day. —



PRIMARY HAPPENINGS

By President Diane Burgoon, Stake Primary

Wow! Lots of exciting changes in the church! Many have affected the Primary program. With less than one hour now available in Primary each week for music and gospel instruction, it is critical that more time is spent at home teaching gospel principles to our children. This can be a wonderful opportunity for all of us, not just the parents. Perhaps “play dates” can be arranged for families to meet to learn together. Ministering brothers and sisters can help share in this opportunity to teach the children. All members of the ward can be looking for opportunities to help support families as they work to make the gospel more home-centered.

The children’s sacrament meeting presentation will still occur each year. In fact, singing time now makes up the majority of Primary. Twenty-five minutes are allotted each week to music instruction. As the Primary General Presidency emphasized, “As children sing about gospel principles, the Holy Ghost will testify of their truthfulness. The words and music will stay in the children’s minds and hearts throughout their lives.” I can testify to this. I did not join the church until I was an adult. But, because of the years that I have spent in Primary as a teacher or

a leader, I have been able to learn these songs. They are sometimes the first thing that comes to my mind in times of trouble or in times of joy. Many Sundays I go home with the last song in Primary “stuck in my head.” That’s a good thing!

We’re not done with changes as others have been announced. In particular, the changes to youth and children’s activities. We are anxiously awaiting to learn what will take the place of scouting and activity day girls along with the Faith in God program. For now until 2020 it is business as usual with the current programs. For scouting, each unit is automatically rechartered for 2019. Any leadership changes are still required to be properly registered and trained.

Last year we asked the cub scouts and activity day girls from each ward and branch to make pet toys and pet beds out of fleece for donation to animal shelters. Everyone completed their projects and they were delivered to the humane societies for each of the counties in our stake. (We are still working on getting them to Ashland.) Each delivery was met with a warm thank you. Little octopus dolls were also made for patients at Children’s Hospital. Thanks to the leaders and children for participating.



Medina County Humane Society



Stark County Humane Society



Wayne County Humane Society



Tuscarawas County Humane Society



Summit County Humane Society



Children's Hospital

Family History Corner

by Jeanne Peugh, Director

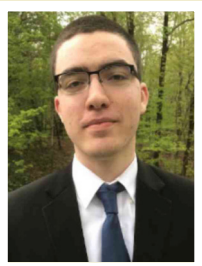


With the start of a New Year, the Stake Family History Center is off and running. We were asked by the President of the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical

Society, Rita Smith, to host a presentation on Family Search at their January meeting held on the 19th at the Akron Public Library. There were thirteen in attendance all

of which were avid users of Family Search. After a review of new and major aspects of Family Search, the floor was opened for questions; this led to a lively discussion that took the meeting into overtime. Many in attendance aren't looking forward to a visit to the Stake Family History Center where they can receive information and assistance on family history research.

It is our hope as the New Year progresses that many will take advantage of the help and resources available at the Stake Family History Center. With increased open hours and mini classes getting started there will be much to learn, explore, and receive help with. You can be a part of this great experience and blessing.



MISSIONARY LEAVING

SAMUEL BENTON RYDEN

27 FEBRUARY 2019

FOR

PHILIPPINES MANILA MISSION

African American Family History Symposium

Presenters:

- ⇒ LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, JD, LL.M., CG, CGL
- ⇒ Hollis Gentry
- ⇒ Deborah Abbott, PhD
- ⇒ Tim Pinnick
- ⇒ Lt. Col. Eric E. Johnson, USAF (Retired)
- ⇒ Sandra Milton
- ⇒ Sunny Jane Morton
- ⇒ Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG
- ⇒ Judy G. Cetina, Ph.D.



Date: March 9, 2019
Time: 9:00 am—5:00 pm
Location: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
25000 Westwood Road, Westlake, OH
Cost: FREE



****Lunch will be provided at no cost for attendees**

BRECKSVILLE HOME STORAGE CENTER SPECIALS

January 1 to February 28
Flour & Apple Slices
White Flour - 10-year shelf life.
A 4 lb. can is \$3.50 or
a case of 6 cans is \$21.00
Apple Slices - 30-year shelf life.
A 1 lb. can is \$10.25 or
a case of 6 cans is \$61.50

February 1 to March 31
Black Beans & Pancake Mix
Black Beans - 30-year shelf life.
A 45.5 lb. can is \$5.00 or
a case of 6 cans is \$30.00
Pancake Mix - 2-year shelf life.
A 4 lb. pouch is \$3.50 or
a case of 8 pouches is \$28.00

Questions - contact
Elder and Sister Juhasz
Elder and Sister Carpenter
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Brecksville, Ohio 44141
440-526-4057
Wed-Thurs 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.