

AKRON OHIO STAKE

Stake Presidency Message

An Unexpected Lesson From a Prophet

What a wonderful General Conference that just concluded. I find it remarkable how much energy President Nelson has at 94 years of age. I clearly remember when he and President Oaks were called as apostles at the April conference in 1984. They both made a great impression on my mind at the time, and I have watched them and listened to them closely over the years. There have been so many wonderful prophets during my lifetime. I have admired and respected each of them and learned so much from each one.



President Coburn

However, one of my most memorable lessons from a prophet came quite unexpectedly. While living in the Dayton Ohio Stake, I had an opportunity to accompany our bishop and my wife Denna, who was serving as Young Womens president in our ward at the time, on a youth trip to Salt Lake City for a special church event. While there, one of our youth expressed a desire to attend the Salt Lake temple to perform baptisms for the dead. We quickly arranged to do this and found ourselves in the temple on a Thursday morning.

As myself, the bishop, and our three young men were on our way to the baptistry all dressed in white, we were shocked as we turned a corner to see the First Presidency about 100 feet away down the hallway. President Thomas S.

Monson and his counselors, President Eyring and President Uchtdorf were greeting the temple presidency on their way into the temple. I quickly motioned to the boys to stop and be very quiet. We stood motionless. We were far enough away that I was certain we would not be noticed. But immediately President Monson looked up from down the hallway and motioned for us to come to them. We obeyed!!!

As we approached, President Monson with a huge smile and the warmth of summer sun, exclaimed, "Well who do we have here?" He then greeted each of us and treated these young men as if they were dignitaries. He asked about each

one. He learned we were from Ohio and jokingly confided that he was a Michigan fan growing up. He commented that my son looked like himself growing up ... 6 feet 3 and 140 pounds. He made each of us feel special. And then they were off, on their busy schedule to do the Lord's work.

In that moment, I learned as much as I have from any conference talk. I felt and experienced firsthand the abundant love a Prophet has for God and his children. How blessed we are to be led and guided by a prophet of God. How blessed we are to have such an example to follow. Follow the prophet. Follow the prophet. Follow the prophet. He knows the way!

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Upcoming Dates

- Sunday, April 14 - Massillon Ward Conference
- Sunday, April 21 - Easter
- Saturday, April 27 - Quad Stake Youth Activity /Kirtland 7-10 p.m. for Mia Maids, Laurels, teachers & priests.
- Sunday, April 28 - Fast Sunday
- Saturday, May 4 - Stake Leadership Training/Tallmadge 4-6 p.m.
- Stake Conference Adult Session/ Tallmadge 7-9 p.m.
- Sunday, May 5 - Stake Conference /Tallmadge 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults 8-9 p.m.
- Sunday, May 12 - Mother's Day
- Friday-Saturday, May 17-18 - Father Son Campout/Pioneer Trail Camp

New Stake Young Men's Presidency

President - Wade Most, Canton Ward

My wife Heather and I are parents of 4 children, 3 boys and a girl. I grew up in the Canton Ward, and after spending 13 years in Alabama, we returned to Ohio in 2012. I served an English speaking mission in the California Ventura Mission and graduated from Kent State University with a Business Management degree. I am the VP of Sales & Marketing for a wire and cable manufacturer based out of North Carolina. I love spending time with my family and attending their many different sporting events and activities. I am humbled by this new assignment, and I look forward to serving the great young men of the stake.

First Counselor - Stan Oda, Medina Ward

I grew up in Quincy, Washington, where my father farmed. As with most farm kids in that area, I had to work hard on my dad's farm without pay, but farm life in that part of the country also had some perks. In our free time, my friends and I did a lot of snow and water skiing, hunting, fishing, dirt biking, and I learned to skateboard in my dad's pole barn in the winter.

Today I still enjoy skiing, skating, shooting, and motorcycling whenever I have the opportunity. As an adult I've added playing guitar, studying French and mountain biking to my list of activities.

I served my mission in France after my freshman year at BYU Provo. After my mission, I completed my degree in Financial Planning and Counseling with a minor in French. I met my sweetheart, Debbie, during my final semester at BYU. We were married the following spring and moved to Ohio for my first financial planning job. I now run my own investment and advisory practice in

Medina, Ohio. We have three beautiful daughters who all live in the Salt Lake City area.

I have a profound testimony

of the Book of Mormon, and all that that truth implies regarding the reality of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ, their Church on the earth and the importance of their work that we are blessed to be a part of.



Brother Oda, Brother Most, Brother Morey

Second Counselor - John Morey, Massillon Ward

Sue and I will be celebrating our 48th wedding anniversary on June 19th. We are both converts to the Church and have experienced many marvelous blessings over the years. We had the wonderful opportunity to be sealed together forever with our four children in the Washington Temple. We have both served where called and Heavenly Father has seen fit to bless us with callings. I was a school teacher for 35 years, mostly sixth grade, and look back upon many enjoyable memories of students and colleagues. I enjoyed nine years working part-time at Aultman Hospital after retiring from Perry Local School District. After having the opportunity to retire twice, I enjoy the time at home with Sue and friends. We like to travel and spend time with children and grandchildren and to do all the things we wished we had had time for while we were working. I am also humbled to be serving in this new calling. May Heavenly Father continue to watch over our families, our wards and the Akron Ohio Stake.

Easthill YSA Branch

by Kelly Smith

This past month the Easthill YSA Branch had the opportunity to attend Institute in the Kirtland Temple, taught by the Institute Director, Bishop Aardema. We recently welcomed a new member into the branch who was baptized after being contacted on one of the campuses the branch covers.

As summer is quickly approaching, and the last little bit of the semester comes to an end, we have many activities to look forward to! All graduating seniors and YSA are

invited to attend Senior Sunday on May 5 at 7 p.m. at the Tallmadge Stake Center. We will gather to listen to the stake presidency, get to know one another, and then watch the Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults by Elder Carl B. Cook. YSA and graduating seniors are also encouraged to register and attend the Regional YSA Conference held in Kirtland from May 31 - June 2, 2019. Information can be found at kirtlandysaconference.com or by contacting Kelly Smith from the Branch.

Wooster Ward Window

submitted by Sister Susan Bateman

The Wooster Ward Young Women recently spent an evening learning how to do String Art. The project they made was a temple. The outline was marked on the wood, then nails were pounded in with a lot of



noise and effort. White yarn was wound around the nails in any design they desired. It was interesting that the girls each chose a very different method of placing their string on the outline. They were very creative with this project!

YSA REGIONAL
CONFERENCE

**ENDOWED
WITH POWER
FROM ON HIGH**

MAY 31 - JUNE 2, 2019
KIRTLAND, OHIO

Come and enjoy a weekend in Kirtland with tours of the sites, workshops, service activities, testimony meeting in the Kirtland Temple, dancing, good food, and new young single adult friends!

FIND MORE DETAILS AND
REGISTER ONLINE AT
KIRTLANDYSACONFERENCE.COM

FEATURING



STEPHANIE
NIELSON



HANK SMITH



KARL ANDERSON

Family History Corner



by Jeanne Peugh, Director

Family History Stories

A quote from Spencer W. Kimball, “Do it, Do it right, Do it right now.” should be our goal in putting our stories in Family Search. It is important to follow the counsel given by President Kimball because we don’t know what tomorrow will bring. A quote from President Dallin H. Oaks from 2019 Rootstech Family Discovery Day, stated the following: “If you persuasively want happier families, create, refine and retell stories of your ancestor’s positive moments, emphasize their ability to bounce back and persist through adversity. Family stories count, children should know they belong to something bigger than themselves. When individuals and families search out their ancestors’ inspiring actions and words, they will receive strength and direction for their own lives.” From personal experience, when my mother was 93, I finally decided I would try to write her full life story. We had done a short one several

Monthly we will be highlighting a different Area Plan goal



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

3. Worthily hold a current temple recommend.

years earlier, so I had a list of questions ready when she again would be with me. Each day we would go over a few of the questions, and I learned many things I didn’t know. After reviewing the list following her visit, I was prompted to create questions to fill in the gaps. Well, she passed away two months later and I never got those questions answered. Gather your family’s stories, have your children talk to their grandparents and great-grandparents, record their voices as they do so. What a blessing those stories will be from generation to generation.

Easter message on ComeUntoChrist.org to view and share

