

AKRON OHIO STAKE

Stake Presidency Message

At a recent work dinner in England, I sat next to two new work colleagues who were surprised I didn't drink alcohol. They immediately asked me if I didn't drink for faith-based reasons, to which I responded that this was indeed the case. It was a great opportunity to explain my beliefs.

They then began to ask me about my background, and the topic eventually turned to my ancestry and the origins of the last name "Call." I informed them that many of my ancestors came from England, including my Call line. They began to talk to each other about the merits of my claim, concluding that perhaps I was mistaken. At this point, I picked up my phone, opened the Family Search app, and walked them generation by generation back to the Call's originating in England. On the app, I showed them the birthplaces of my Call ancestors in England and even a picture of the Call coat of arms.

They were stunned.

They asked how much the app cost and I told them it was free, and encouraged them to download it, which they both did. Next time I see them, I can easily follow-up on their use of a Church-sponsored application they now carry around with them everywhere!

Sharing the gospel is often times easier than we imagine. The simple beauty of the gospel of Jesus Christ is that as we live it, others will naturally want to know more. These are



President Call

children of God that have already once accepted His plan. Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf testified in the April General Conference: "There are many normal and natural ways to (share our beliefs), from daily acts of kindness to personal testimonies on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter to simple conversations with the people you meet."

Often times, we just need to invite. Our friends want to be involved in good works and be with good people. The gospel library app was recently updated with new videos that I invite you

to view at Library/Missionary/Sharing the Gospel/Come and See Videos. They are short, instructive and inspiring.

I testify that Heavenly Father desires for all His children to hear about His plan of happiness and of the life, sacrifice, and gift of His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, who makes it all possible. I testify that He will support and uplift us in our efforts to proclaim His precious gospel message.

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. I invite all of us to pray daily for missionary experiences and opportunities as we've been asked to do by our dear prophet, President Russell M. Nelson. We will surely be blessed with such opportunities.

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Upcoming Dates

- 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
- Sunday, May 12 - LDS Child Loss Group/Stark's home, 230 Cherry Hill Dr, Wadsworth 7 p.m.
- Saturday, May 18 - YMYW Service Project/Pioneer Trail Camp 10 a.m.-noon
- Sunday, May 19 - Seminary Graduation/Tallmadge 7-8 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 21 - Temple Recommend Interviews with Stake Presidency member/Tallmadge High Council Room 6-7 p.m. No appointments needed.
- Sunday, May 26 - Medina Ward Conference
- Monday, May 27 - Memorial Day

RELIEF SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

by President Kristin Center

It has been a whirlwind of activity since this presidency was “installed” in very late December. We have enjoyed being with our sisters in our Women’s Conference, Leadership Meeting and several ward conferences. We are thankful for each of you - for your faith, testimonies, strength, service, compassion, and charity. We are thankful for your desire to serve the Lord and be His disciples. We appreciate the sisterhood we feel with you when we are in your midst. The Lord has blessed the Akron, Ohio Stake with good, good women; strong in their faith and determined to bless the lives of others.

The purpose statement of Relief Society reads:

Relief Society helps prepare women for the blessings of eternal life as they:

- Increase faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and His Atonement.
- Strengthen individuals, families, and homes through ordinances and covenants.



- Work in unity to help those in need.

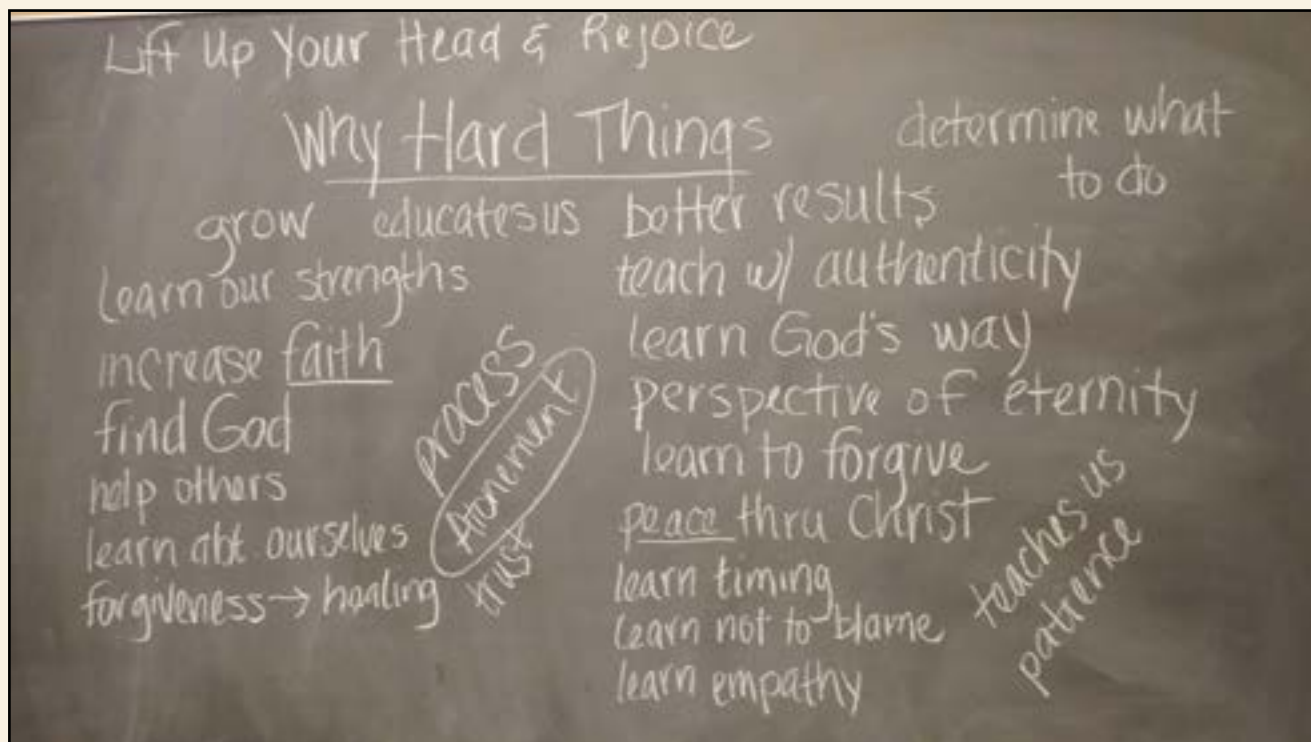
How thankful we are to Heavenly Father for this divinely inspired organization. Organized under priesthood keys and authority, we are invited to teach and care for



one another in an orderly and holy manner. Our Sunday Relief Society and additional meetings provide the settings for sacred instruction, faith-strengthening, testimony building, service, and fun. Women need women. And not that we need “formal” meetings to get us together, but those meetings do provide the opportunity to grow together. Last October, President Nelson invited us

to “participate fully in Relief Society.” I encourage you to determine how you can best do that. I know you will feel blessed for your efforts as you join with your sisters, drawing strength from and giving to this sisterhood we share.

Come to Relief Society and have your faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and His Atonement increased. Join in Relief Society and be strengthened in your resolve to make and keep sacred covenants; to walk the covenant path. Participate in Relief Society and find joy in serving God’s children.



Akron Ward Window

Welcome Home, Eloise!

submitted by Brother Doug Talley

The Akron Ward's newest member, Eloise Singleton, was baptized this past March 23rd and confirmed the next day. Hers has been a life-long search for the Savior Jesus Christ. Born the sixth of twelve children to a loving family, she was raised in the Roman Catholic faith. As an adult she began searching for the truth about the Bible, even achieving a Doctor of Divinity degree. In June 2018 the missionaries, Sister Warren and Sister Tobler, knocked on her door but were sent away. On leaving, they helped Eloise's gardener with some yard work, and when they returned the next day to continue helping, Eloise invited them in. They taught her about the Book of Mormon, the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the mission of the Church to help prepare the world for the



Eloise Singleton and Doug Talley

Savior's Second Coming. In Eloise's own words, "In my journey throughout life, I have been aware of Heavenly Father's love for His children. I was going from church to church looking for a good place to worship, and to hear the Gospel and learn God's word for myself." On her second visit to a sacrament meeting, she says, "I knew I was finally in the right church because I felt the Holy Spirit welcoming me in." Eloise recently visited the Columbus Temple for the baptism of her deceased mother, father, and grandparents and is eagerly engaged now as a family history researcher and ward missionary. She has made many friends in the Akron Ward, and we all say, "Welcome home, Eloise! We're happy to have you join our family!"

Service for Others

At a recent YW activity, Nan Bartlett, a woman helping with Mitzvah Day, came to the church and taught the Young Women how to make pillowcase dresses for young girls in Haiti. They each picked a pillowcase, cut it to the right length, cut sleeves, picked matching fabric for pockets, and found some binding tape they liked. They also had options to decorate with additional lace and buttons. At the end, the girls had everything pinned and ready to sew. A group of seamstresses will sew the dresses together on Mitzvah Day and send them to the girls in Haiti. It was a wonderful evening, and the Young Women were glad to help!



Family History Corner

by Jeanne Peugh,
Director



Why Does Family History Matter

Family History Work requires our time and dedication to find our ancestors. Is it worth it? The answer is yes. There are lessons to learn, heritage to be attained and salvation to be earned. History is all around us, we studied it in school, and we learned how America was blessed by those who wanted to know more. Are your ancestors part of that legacy? Have you found them? Do you know them? Do you know what sacrifices they made to come here? You are here because of

them, they want you to find them, and they want you to give them the same joy you have. As Paul says concerning the fathers "that they without us cannot be made perfect - neither can we without our dead be made perfect." Family History is a tremendous, yet wonderful responsibility because we have God on our side as we seek out our family members and go to the temple. Mark your calendars for October 19 and participate in the Family History Fair, "Unlock the Past."

Easthill YSA Branch

by Kelly Smith

The Easthill YSA Branch members are excited to attend the YSA Regional Conference from May 31 - June 2, 2019. All YSA and graduating seniors are invited to attend. Please register at kirtlandysaconference.com. Use code NEOYSA to receive a discount for living in the Akron Stake! We can't wait to see you all there!

Self-Reliance Spotlight

Self-Reliance Services continues to flourish throughout the Church and within our Stake. Recently the Church has merged two departments into a newly-formed Welfare and Self Reliance Services Department. Additionally, the amazing Pathway Program has also began to transition under Self-Reliance. Furthermore, new offerings are being added to support English language skills, Emotional Health, and Life Skills for Youth. The Lord is truly hastening His work!

Within our Stake, we are in the process of evolving our approach to be more "Ward-Led and Stake-Supported." As a result, new Self-Reliance Groups will now originate within the units and will be offered based on the areas of greatest need. We invite you to reach out to your Bishop, Relief Society President, Elders Quorum President or Ward Self-Reliance Specialist to learn more.



BRECKSVILLE HOME STORAGE CENTER SPECIALS

April 1 to May 31 Pinto Beans & Dry Onions

Pinto Beans - 30-year shelf life.

A 5.2 lb. can is \$5.00 or
a case of 6 cans is \$30.00

Dry Onions - 30-year shelf life.

A 2.1 lb. can is \$6.75 or
a case of 6 cans is \$40.50

May 1 to June 30 Granola & Spaghetti Bites

Granola - 1-year shelf life.

A 2 lb. pouch is \$3.50 or
a case of 16 pouches is \$56.00

Spaghetti Bites - 30-year shelf life.

A 2.7 lb. can is \$4.00 or
a case of 6 cans is \$24.00

Questions - contact Elder and Sister Juhasz, Elder and Sister Carpenter
6900 Southpointe Pkwy, Suite C Brecksville, Ohio 44141, 440-526-4057
Wed-Thurs 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m. - noon

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


ORPHA TROYER


HANK SMITH


KARL ANDERSON