
AKRON OHIO STAKE

Stake Presidency Message

Welcome to Stake Conference

We are excited for our upcoming Stake Conference on May 15 and 16.

We are very pleased that we will be joined by two members of the Seventy. Elder J. Devn Cornish of the Quorum of the Seventy will preside at our Stake Conference (he will attend via broadcast). We are also pleased that Elder David S. Kinard, Area Seventy, will be joining us. Please see their bios on page 2.

Our stake presidency recently had the opportunity to meet with Elder Cornish to receive direction on stake conference. Elder Cornish gave us some very thought-provoking guidance. He noted that the purpose of life is really to come to earth to change; to become a new creature in Christ; to literally become a new being. We come to have experiences that will change us. To change and be changed. He discussed the joy that we experience in our hearts when we begin to be changed through the power of Jesus Christ.

With this background in mind, I would invite us all to ponder the process of being changed through the power of Jesus Christ. This is certainly one of the most exciting, hopeful, and motivating principles of the gospel.

The following scriptures will help in preparing while pondering and studying this topic: [Mosiah 3:19](#); [Mosiah 5:2](#); [Mosiah 5:7](#); [Mosiah 27:24-26](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

Thank you for all your wonderful efforts as Brothers and Sisters in the gospel, striving to follow our Savior and be changed through his power.

We look forward to meeting with you at Stake Conference.

Warmest regards,
President Coburn



President Coburn

Details for Stake Conference are as follows:

Leadership Session: Saturday, May 15, at 4 pm

- This will be for all Stake Council and Ward Council Members and will be held at the Stake Center, 106 East Howe Road
- As per our current practice, due to the COVID pandemic, we ask that you wear face masks and adhere to social distancing

Adult Session: Saturday, May 15, at 7 pm

- All members 18 and older are invited to attend the meeting at the stake center or view the broadcast from their homes (a link to the broadcast will be provided in a separate e-mail)
- As per our current practice, due to the COVID pandemic, if attending in-person at the Stake Center, we ask that you wear face masks and adhere to social distancing

General Session: Sunday, May 16, at 10 am

- This meeting will be a broadcast from the stake center
- All are invited to attend the meeting at their own ward buildings (as coordinated locally) or view the broadcast from their homes (a link to the broadcast will be provided in a separate e-mail)
- As per our current practice, due to the COVID pandemic, if attending in-person at your ward building, we ask that you wear face masks and adhere to social distancing

Family History Corner

by Jeanne Peugh, Director



“Do You Have My Name”

One of the parables of Jesus was that of the Lost Sheep. “What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.” Have we not had this experience in our family history research? Have we not felt an ancestor is asking us, “Do you have my name?” When that ancestor is found, do we not rejoice? “And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.” When we have made that connection, do we not want to share it with others?

I have had an experience where I felt that a great-grand aunt wanted me to find where she was buried. Even though I had most of her information, I felt strongly that I must go to that cemetery. Before the convenience of the internet, we would take family history trips that would include going to courthouses, historical societies, and cemeteries. I had called the city ahead of time to give me directions to the cemetery, and they told me that it was neglected and there were snake pits, and we needed to be careful. Again, I felt a strong desire to find her, and so we persisted. It was located in a nice neighborhood and was on about a half-acre. It was beautifully maintained, and at the back of the cemetery, there was her tombstone, and next to it was a daughter and grandson, which provided information I did not have. Now I have her name and those of her descendants as well. There is a joy for them and us as we continue to research our family regardless of the sacrifice. As we prepare to go to the temple, do we not feel some of our ancestors asking us, “Do you have my name?” All of them are waiting on us to bless them with eternal blessings.

Many times in the endowment, I have felt joy and peace and a special connection with an ancestor. When kneeling over the altar and sealing husband and wife and children together, I have felt surrounded by their love. Jesus wants us to find those lost sheep on the other side of the veil.

Elder J. Devn Cornish

Elder J. Devn Cornish was sustained as a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 2, 2011. At the time of his call, Elder Cornish had been serving as a member of the Sixth Quorum of the Seventy in the North America Southeast Area. He is currently serving in a number of committee assignments at Church headquarters.



He married Elaine Simmons in August 1973. They are the parents of six children.

He received a bachelor of arts in biology from Johns Hopkins University in 1975. In 1978 he received a doctor of medicine, also from Johns Hopkins University. He completed his pediatric residency at the Boston Children’s Hospital at Harvard University in 1981.

He has served in numerous Church callings, including full-time missionary in the Guatemala–El Salvador Mission, bishop, stake president, president of the Dominican Republic Santiago Mission (2003–2006), and Area Seventy.

Elder David S. Kinard

Elder David S. Kinard was named an Area Seventy and a member of the Tenth Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at the April 2021 general conference. Elder Kinard received a bachelor of science degree in family science



and a master of science degree in organizational behavior, both from Brigham Young University. He has worked as vice president of human resources for Eli Lilly & Company and currently works as executive vice president of human resources for Elanco Animal Health. Elder Kinard has served in a number of Church callings, including full-time missionary in the Kentucky Louisville Mission, high councilor, ward Young Men president, counselor in a bishopric, bishop, counselor in a stake presidency, and stake president. David Spencer Kinard was born in Ogden, Utah, on December 31, 1966. He married Heather Kay Hamilton in 1988. They are the parents of four children. Elder and Sister Kinard reside in Fishers, Indiana.

Self-Reliance Corner

by Sister Diane Burgoon, Stake Self-Reliance Group Coordinator 330-430-9912, diane.burgoon@yahoo.com

My Foundation Principle – Communicate: Petition and Listen

Ask yourself, “When has Heavenly Father answered my prayers?”

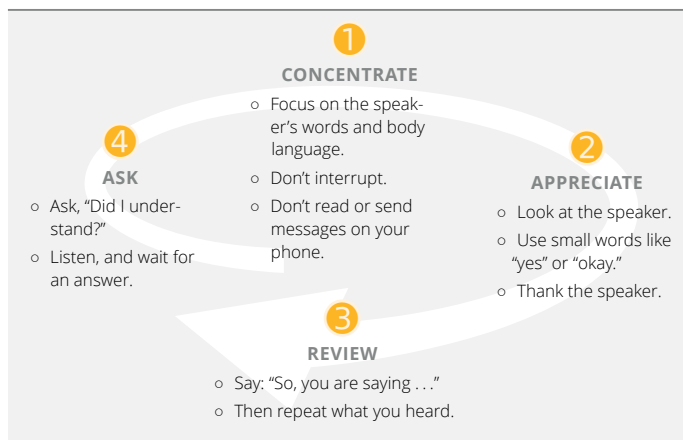
Watch the video: [Creating Lift \(churchofjesuschrist.org\)](http://churchofjesuschrist.org)

Listening is an essential skill. We need to be good listeners in order to recognize answers to our prayers and in all our dealings with our fellow man.

“I will tell you in your mind and in your heart, by the Holy Ghost, which shall come upon you and which shall dwell in your heart.” Doctrine and Covenants 8:2

“Your soul will be blessed as you learn to listen, then listen to learn from children, parents, partners, neighbors, and Church leaders, all of which will heighten capacity to hear counsel from on high.” Russell M. Nelson, “Listen to Learn,” Ensign, May 1991, 24

Below are key steps in the listening process:



Perhaps you can share these ideas and practice these steps with your spouse, family, or friends.

For more information, go to page 22 of the My Foundations manual - click [here](#).

Self-Reliance Groups

The next virtual groups will be starting in September. You can also submit your interest in attending a group with the regional representative. Use the following link: [Virtual Self-Reliance Groups \(google.com\)](http://VirtualSelf-RelianceGroups.google.com)

BRECKSVILLE HOME STORAGE CENTER

6900 Southpointe Pkwy, Brecksville, OH 44141
440-526-4057 (Home Storage Center)

HOURS: Thursday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Wednesday and Saturday: by appointment

Pathway

PathwayConnect is an excellent opportunity to further your education! For more information, go to [PathwayConnect | BYU-Pathway](#).

Contact your ward Self-Reliance Specialist, or myself, for more information. If you have any other questions or concerns, please let me know.

*The Lord has declared,
It is my purpose to provide for my saints.*

D&C 104:15



JustServe Spotlight

by Cindy Dahl, Akron Stake Just Serve Specialist

Every month we will be spotlighting a JustServe opportunity in various areas of our Stake. This month is OPEN M.

OPEN M is in Akron and provides an excellent opportunity to serve.

The mission of OPEN M, a Christian ministry, is to provide pathways out of poverty by feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, and strengthening the community.

You can serve by doing the following;

Emergency Food Pantry: Package and distribute food bags; M-Th 9 am - 2 pm (pick one day); weekly commitment required.

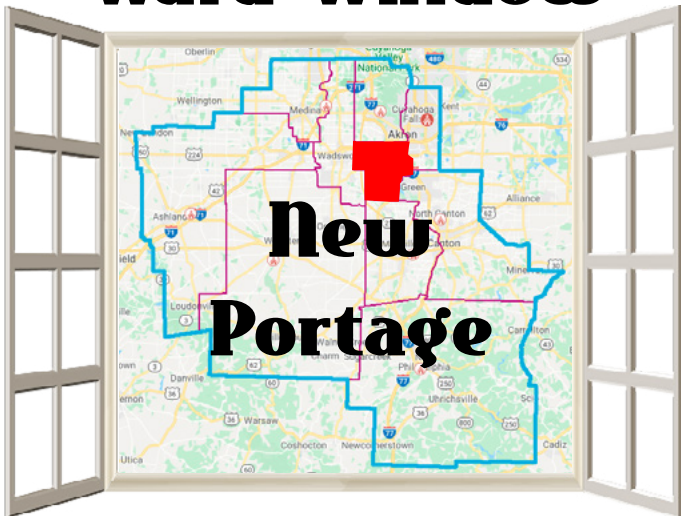
Mountain of Food: Package and distribute 20,000lbs+ of food on the 3rd Friday of each month from 7:30 - 11:30 am.

Hot Lunch: Provide, cook and serve a hot lunch to 100 - 200 people. Hot Lunch is served during the last two weeks of each month from 10 am - 2 pm (choose one day a month). Ideal for groups of 8 - 12 people.

Community Garden: Assist in the planning, planting, and maintenance of our “Lettuce Give Thanks Community Garden.”

For more information, click the link below.
<https://www.openm.org/volunteer>

Ward Window



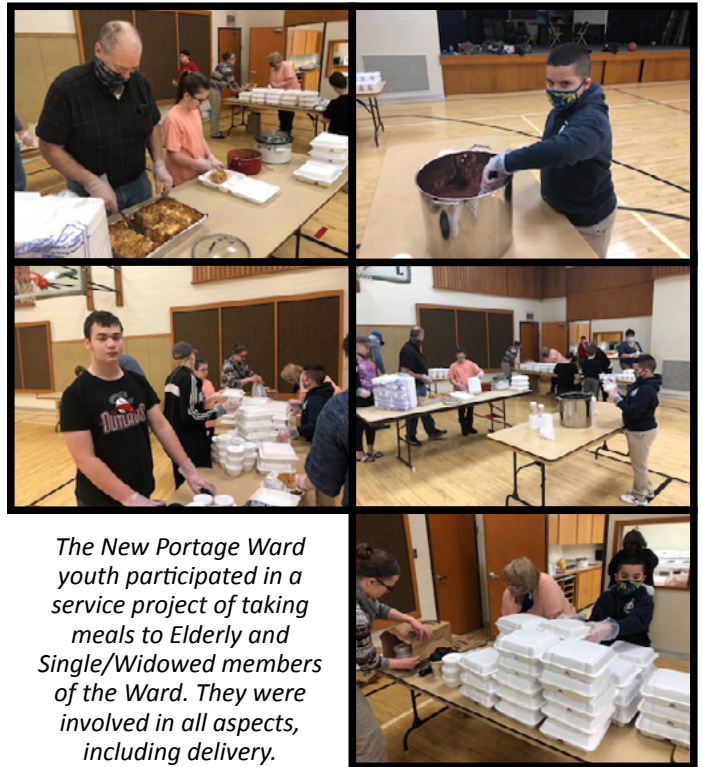
submitted by Sister Pamela Kremer

The Betty Beaver Conversion Story

When Betty Beaver was a child, she had a neighbor who taught Bible School on Tuesdays. Betty would sneak out of her parent's home to attend this little class and thought her mom and dad wouldn't miss her too much since she was the tenth of thirteen children. She learned a lot about Jesus and Heavenly Father, and as she grew up, she wanted to know more about God. She was part of another church and enjoyed attending with her aunt, who was there, but in 1988 she moved to Akron and didn't feel the same way about the churches in her new area. She felt a bit uncomfortable and not as much at home but continued attending since her children enjoyed going. She felt that something was better than nothing.

Betty was introduced to the Gospel of Jesus Christ when she was in the middle of raising her teenage daughter and enjoyed fellowshiping with the Elders as well as the Couple Missionaries who came into her home. She attended some but was unfamiliar with the 'language' which was spoken in church, like discussions on Brigham Young and such, and was somewhat confused. She stopped going but had good feelings about those who had introduced her to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Even after her difficult divorce, Betty knew that God still had a plan for her, and she wanted to be worthy of the future she knew He would provide. She stayed true to herself and what she had learned growing up.



The New Portage Ward youth participated in a service project of taking meals to Elderly and Single/Widowed members of the Ward. They were involved in all aspects, including delivery.

They provided lasagna, green beans, breadsticks, salad, and fruit cup. Everything was very tasty and such a welcome treat!

What a wonderful opportunity to serve as the Savior would!

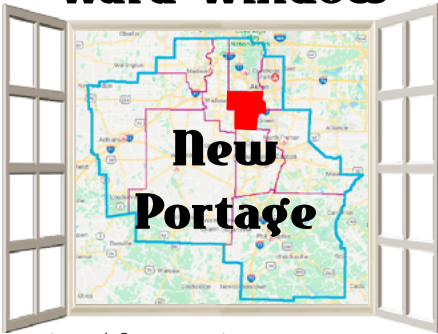
When her daughter grew up and married, she wanted to find her own church, eventually finding the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and invited Betty to come along with her to meetings and special events. Her daughter introduced her to sisters from the Relief Society who were so friendly and welcoming, even though they hadn't met her before. Betty felt loved and included like they had all known each other forever.

Her sweetheart Eddie came into her life after being a longtime friend, and Betty knew he was an answer to her prayers. She knew God had sent him to her. As she began attending church with her daughter, she felt God acknowledged things she experienced during the week as He worked through others. She found personal messages and answers in the testimonies each week. She found that things felt smoother and that there was less struggle than before she found the Gospel. She knew as she "opened her ears and shut her mouth and stopped denying wanting to be there," she would hear what she was feeling and recognize it more easily.

She had been feeding the missionaries often,

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Ward Window



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especially when she found out the couple missionaries who had been teaching her had eaten Easter dinner alone. She chose to make it her mission to ensure missionaries were never forgotten again. All through this time, she loved their company, loved feeding them, and loved the spirit they brought into her home, but she kept saying, “I’m not gonna join your church.”

Betty was baptized one week after she was married to Eddie and became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the autumn of 2019. She could tell the adversary tried her patience when she was choosing to be righteous and do what the Lord wanted. Others have told her they could see the light of Christ in her countenance, the “glow” of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and that makes the difference. The truth of the Gospel helps her rebuke the adversary and keep on the covenant path. She feels like everyone in her New Portage Ward is her family and loves them all so much. She strives to remain teachable and is happy to continue learning. She is excited to attend the temple as soon as she can to take out her endowments and has completed the Temple Preparation class with other friends in the ward.

THE GREATEST WORK ON EARTH

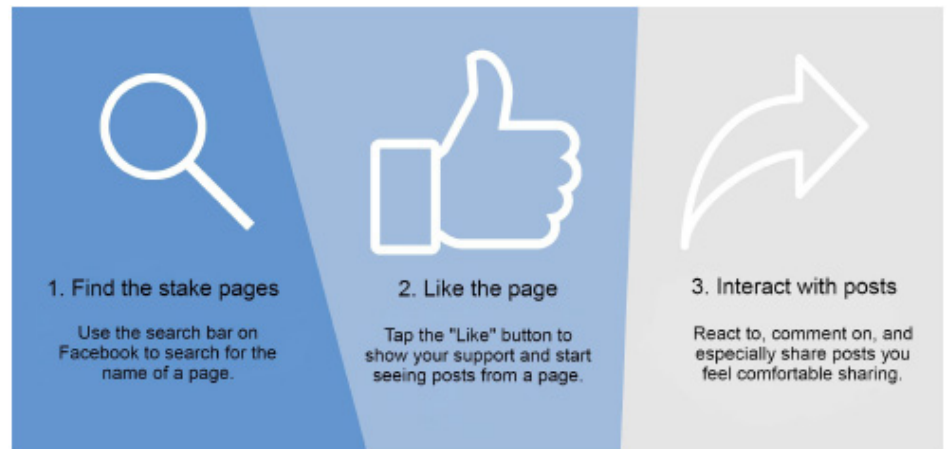
In mid-April, President Coburn sent out an email to all the members of the Akron Ohio Stake with an invitation. If you missed it, try searching in your email with the following - “the greatest work on earth” (include the quotation marks). In the past couple of years, we have all learned to do things in a new way. Included in the email is an attachment with information put together by the Ohio Columbus mission leaders that can help many of us continue learning new ways to share the gospel.

New missionwide social media!

<https://www.instagram.com/ledtolight/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ledtolight>

LedtoLight is a **collective effort** between all stakes in the mission, it is where the best of the best content is displayed.



Check out the different stake pages through these links and then follow the inspiration you receive as to how you can participate

Kirtland Stake

<https://www.facebook.com/christ.in.kirtland>

Youngstown Stake

<https://www.facebook.com/youngstownchristians>

Akron Stake

<https://www.facebook.com/AkronOhioChristians>

Columbus, Columbus North, Columbus East, and Columbus South Stakes

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristiansofOhio>

Spanish Page (Missionwide)

<https://www.facebook.com/CristianosOhio>