

# AKRON OHIO STAKE

## Girls Camp

*submitted by President Jessica Wilkinson*



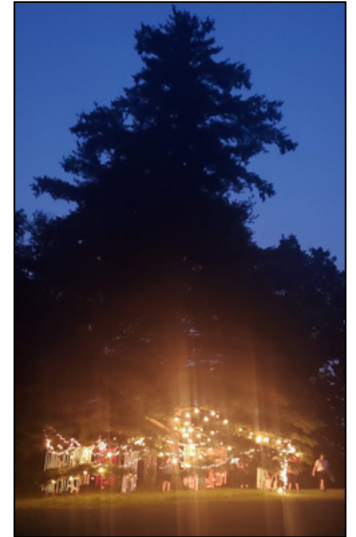
This year the young women were so excited to be able to gather for camp since it had been so long since our last camp. The theme was “Faith to Move Mountains” from President Nelson’s recent conference talk. We enjoyed beautiful weather and the Spirit in abundance. At Camp Butler, the young women were able to swim, shoot BB guns, stand



up paddle board, and shoot archery. We were privileged to hear from two recently returned sister missionaries in our stake, Jewel Foutz and Claren Huffaker, who shared their mission experience. The young women completed a service project for the camp, survivor games, lots

of braiding hair, bracelet making, yummy food,

and had a beautiful faith walk that ended with receiving notes from their family. We all felt the love of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and the connection with one another. It was a special week.



## Youth Conference

Nearly 100 youth attended the Stake Youth Conference in June this year. The conference’s theme was “One Life, One Soul, One Work” and focused on understanding and further developing a relationship with Jesus Christ.

On the first day of Youth Conference, the youth met at the Tallmadge Stake Center. They were able to participate in classes focused on the four-goal areas of the Children and Youth Program: Spiritual, Social, Physical, and Intellectual. The Youth were able to help the stake missionaries create video content that the Missionaries shared on the Akron Ohio Christians page linked here. They also got to enjoy time outdoors with inflatables. The evening concluded with our keynote speakers

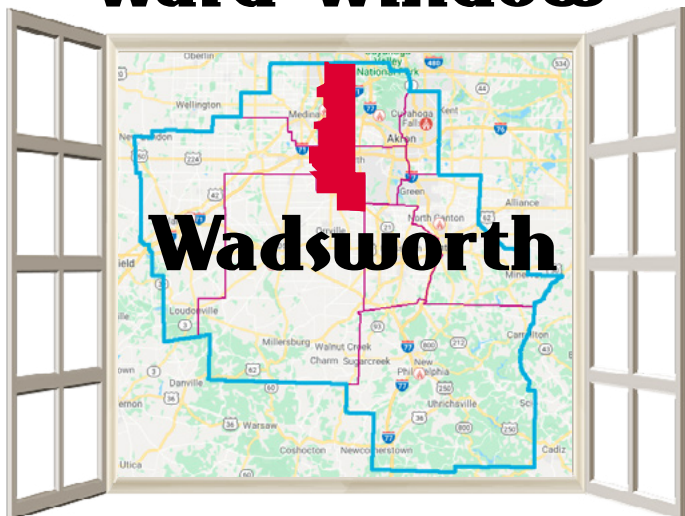


Brother and Sister Rogers, who gave a powerful talk on the Great Work the youth are called to participate in.

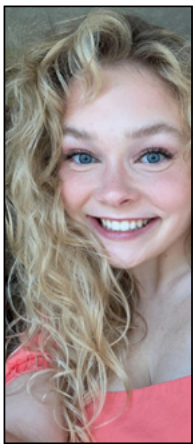
Saturday morning, the youth met at Camp Butler, where they completed a service project and learned about strengthening their relationship with Jesus Christ. They got to participate in fun, outdoor water activities, including canoeing and swimming! The youth shared their amazing testimonies, which was a

highlight for most. We ended youth conference with an awesome dance. The Akron Ohio Stake is blessed to have such amazing and diligent youth. The Stake Young Men and Young Women presidencies are grateful for all of the youth who attended and their parents and leaders who helped make it possible.

# Ward Window



submitted by Sister Rachel Tefteller



girl, I would attend church every Sunday and a fair amount of Bible studies. (My dad is a pastor, which makes my life just a bit spicy!) I questioned many beliefs that I had been taught growing up, and when I was a sophomore in high school (which was four years ago!!) I made it clear that I needed to find what I believed for myself. It was not until a few years later that I discovered a piece of truth that would spark the flame inside of me to learn more about the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. I learned that families can be together forever. This doctrine blew my mind, as I grew up learning that my parents would not be married in Heaven, and I would be living in a nice little cottage all by myself there. Those thoughts terrified me! I did not want to be alone; I wanted to be with my family! Heaven was a big fear of mine! Obtaining the sweet knowledge that I could live forever with my family urged me on to learn all that I could about this gospel. I was given my very first Book of Mormon in June 2019 from someone very special. Before I began reading, I prayed to Heavenly Father that I would in some way know that what I was about to read was true. I am thankful that He has answered that prayer every single day since. Some would say I was a bit obsessed with that wonderful book because I could not put it down. I spent every spare moment of my day reading and absorbing the information that I had longed for my whole life. (Considering my circumstances, I have to agree about the obsession!) In two months, I had read the entirety of the Book of Mormon for the first time, and my life was completely changed. My relationship with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ had grown immensely. I remember as soon as I finished, I thought to myself, "I cannot just sit around and do nothing about this."

While my newly found love for the restored gospel was continuing to grow, I had to pray for a while about getting baptized because my family was very unsupportive of my decision. I knew in my heart that it was the right thing to do, and I asked Heavenly Father a million times throughout my year and a half of investigating, "why is it so hard to do the right thing?" I believe my question was answered in so many ways, but mainly by the peace that would wash over me as I would study scripture and pray. Keeping the Spirit with me as I went through hard days kept me going and continues to help me along my journey. It is a reminder that Jesus is with us at all times, with one of His arms lovingly wrapped around our shoulders.

I am still ecstatic that on September 5th, 2020, I was baptized! It was a wonderfully bright day that I will never forget. Unfortunately, the trials regarding my family did not end there. I faced pretty harsh words from them about my decision. Some even told me, "this was the worst decision of your life!" Oh, how I disagree! Becoming a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is, in stark contrast, the very best decision of my life. While some burdens seem so heavy, I would face anything to be able to believe in and live like Jesus. I know that through any trial, I have the Savior of the world right next to me, guarding my heart.

I have an infinite gratitude list, but I would be remiss if I did not share just a few of my favorite blessings. I am so incredibly grateful for my firm and solid testimony of the restored gospel, of our gracious Savior, and of our loving and

*Greetings from the Wadsworth Ward!*

*We hope that you all will enjoy reading about these amazing individuals in our ward and the wonderful things that they are doing. We are so blessed to have them not only represent our ward, but also our church, and more importantly, the Savior, and we are truly grateful for their example!*

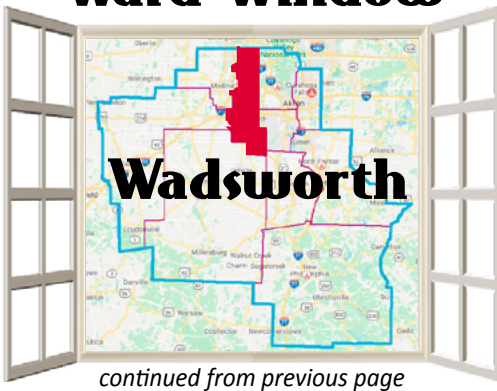
**HANNAH SAYLOR (recent convert)**

Hello! My name is Hannah Saylor, and I am a member of the Wadsworth Ward. I am so privileged and excited to have this incredible opportunity to share my conversion story within this newsletter. I pray that my story can touch hearts, and bring others closer to our Heavenly Father and Savior.

I grew up with the knowledge that God is real, that He is alive and constantly in our hearts. Although, I did not consider myself to really know God personally. As a young

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# Ward Window



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almighty Heavenly Father. I am thankful for the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost; it is an amazing gift. I am filled with gratitude for a Savior who bore all burdens and pains to save me. What I am most thankful for is my continually growing knowledge of the restored gospel, that I can continue to grow my amazing and huge relationships with Jesus Christ and Heavenly Father. I am grateful that I can live my life here for the exact reason I came; Him.

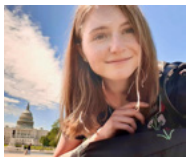
## **PRESIDENT AND SISTER TALLEY (California Roseville Mission)**

Greetings from Roseville, California! We are one year into our mission, and the work continues to roll on despite us. We have a great group of young missionaries – around 170 in number. They teach in three official languages: English, Spanish and Hmong. But one day, a set of sister missionaries came upon some East Indians who wanted to hear more about the restored gospel.

The problem was, they spoke little English. Their native language was Punjabi. So we now have a companionship devoted to that language as well. We also located a population of Mien people in our mission and have some of our Hmong missionaries learning that language, too. It's amazing to see how the Lord brings people into our path so that they may hear the gospel message as well. We also have a terrific social media district. They continue to create content for members to share. If you'd like to see some of their work (they have a terrific series of videos entitled Learning God's Plan), just check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/FollowChrist.NorCal>. We continue to encourage members to Love, Share, and Invite their friends and families with opportunities to feel our Savior's love and to remember that anything we do to help others come closer to Christ is missionary work. We've also learned that almost any occasion can be an opportunity to invite someone to learn about the restored gospel. Several months ago, on our way home from a zone conference, we were rear-ended by a young man named Jose. There was little damage to either car, but we traded contact information. Later that day, the young man called to make sure we were okay. President Talley chatted with him for a few moments, then told Jose that maybe this accident was no accident and invited Jose to meet with the missionaries. And let's just say, he is progressing nicely. We love and miss the Akron Stake and appreciate all your prayers and well wishes...especially from the youth! We received some wonderfully delightful notes from them, along with a box of candy. It was great! Stay faithful and share the gospel at every opportunity! The Talleys.



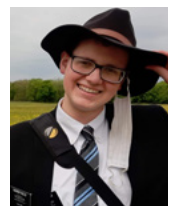
## **SISTER ELLA FOUTZ (Washington DC Mission)**



Sister Ella Foutz is serving in the heart of Washington DC, where she can walk to the monuments on her p-day. She loves teaching people from all over the world and learning about different cultures. Sister Foutz also loves to see how the Book of Mormon gives hope to all who will read it. She is still hoping to share the gospel with a congressman or ambassador!

## **ELDER MATTHEW HERRON (Mexico Torreón Mission)**

After spending about ten months serving in the Texas Dallas East Mission, Elder Herron traveled to the Mexico Torreón Mission at the end of June. He is busy adjusting to a new country and language. A highlight of his first few weeks in Mexico was helping with the local FSY conference. He is now in San Pedro, Mexico, and is looking forward to serving the people there.

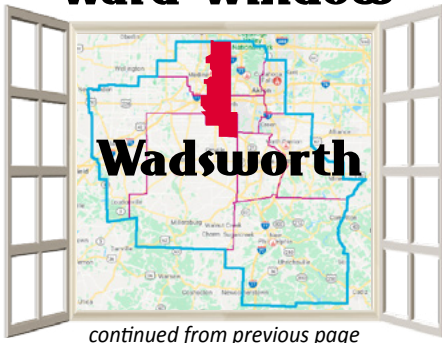


## **ELDER NATHAN WEBB (California Anaheim Mission)**



Elder Nathan Webb has been serving in the California Anaheim since April, after spending six weeks in the home MTC. He was happily surprised to be serving in Elder Richard's (from the Wooster ward) district upon arriving in Anaheim. He is quickly learning Spanish and has recently taught and baptized a young woman from Columbia. He lives right next to Knotts Berry Farm and can hear the screams from people on the roller coasters from his apartment. Elder Webb has especially enjoyed the many service opportunities he's had as well as the local food.

## Ward Window



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### ELDER STANLEY BINGHAM (Panama Panama City Mission)

Elder Stanley Bingham has been called to serve in the Panama Panama City Mission. He started his mission on July 7th and is currently learning Spanish and preparing to teach the gospel via Zoom at home MTC. He is scheduled to leave in mid-August and has been temporarily reassigned to the Boise Idaho Mission due to COVID issues in Panama.



# FAMILY HISTORY FEAST

**"COME FEAST ON MANY WAYS TO  
FIND YOUR ANCESTORS"**



**Akron Ohio Stake  
WILL PRESENT A VIRTUAL  
FAMILY HISTORY FAIR  
Saturday, October 16, 2021  
9am to 2pm  
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**You may also find additional information at  
[www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/  
Akron\\_Ohio\\_Family\\_History\\_Center](http://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Akron_Ohio_Family_History_Center)**

# Self-Reliance Corner

## Self-Reliance Groups

It's time to register for our virtual groups starting in September! Email me or register on our stake website - <https://akronohiostakenews.com>.

These are the available groups. They will be provided as need dictates.

- Emotional Resilience
- Personal Finances
- Starting and Growing My Business
- Find a Better Job
- Education for Better Work

To view a copy of the manuals, go to <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/self-reliance/manuals-and-videos>.

## Pathway

Registration has started for the Fall semester and continues through August 24th. Classes start in

September and are totally virtual. Tuition is \$77 per credit. This is such a wonderful opportunity that ranges from refreshing basic skills to obtaining a degree. It is also an excellent way to increase your spirituality and develop a relationship with your Savior. I speak from experience!

For more information, go to <https://www.byupathway.org/pathwayconnect>

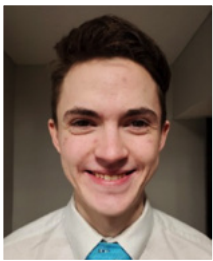
Our stake Pathway Missionaries, Dave and LuAnn Jentzsch, would love to explain further or answer any questions you may have. They can be contacted at [lajentzch@gmail.com](mailto:lajentzch@gmail.com)

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).

Diane Burgoon  
Stake Self-Reliance Group Coordinator  
330-430-9912  
[diane.burgoon@yahoo.com](mailto:diane.burgoon@yahoo.com)

## MISSIONARY UPDATES



**TRENT HIGBEE**

Leaving August 2021  
Washington  
Tacoma Mission



**SPENCER JONES**

Leaving August 2021  
Argentina Buenos  
Aires Mission



**SABINA MAGAR**

Leaving August 2021  
Utah Salt Lake City  
Temple Square Mission

## Family History Corner



Brother and Sisters:

Due to the increasing Covid cases and with the possibility we will be going back to masks, we will host this year's Family History Fair virtually. All our instructors are more than willing to comply. Please mark your calendar, and more information will be in next month's newsletter for sign-up and sign-in information. There will also be times and a list of classes. Any questions, please feel free to contact Jeanne Peugh, Director [330-631-3225, [djpeugh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djpeugh@sbcglobal.net)].

## 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