

# AKRON OHIO STAKE

## Stake Presidency Message Bearing All Things

The Pauline admonition about bearing and enduring (1 Corinthians 13:7), as reiterated by the Prophet Joseph (13th Article of Faith), is a cogent cue that, after all said and done, life is yoked with pain.

The oft tormented Emily Dickinson, with the anguish of poets, understood that inevitableness and poignantly asked for excuse from pain and, if that's not possible, anodynes, followed by unawareness, followed by the liberty to die (*The Heart Asks Pleasure First*).

Who can fault Dickinson, or not lament with her, or those who suffer tremendously and sue for escape?

Paul's counsel to embrace bearing is hard. And it's harder yet when it asks that we bear *all*, for *all* is open-ended. It includes everything and anything. It encompasses the undeserved and the unexpected, and the unreasoning. It becomes unconditional.

O the things we bear (even without counting the self-inflicted): The struggle of making a living, the daily distresses, the recurring bad luck, the undoing of a loved one, helplessness, loneliness, offenses, abuse, betrayals, false accusations, contention, abandonment, poverty, confusion, depression, silence, failures, rejections, regrets, sicknesses, injury, growing old, paralysis, grief, sorrow, losses, separation, death. That's not all, only the burden of an ordinary mortal's existence. But all are real; all are heavy.

Dickinson, knowing that excuse from pain was impossible, turned to other prospects which, being earthbound, unavoidably became moribund. Paul, knowing that the bearing can be unbearable, that, despite our best efforts, there is often no other way than bearing, turned heavenward instead, and invoked believing all things and hoping all things.

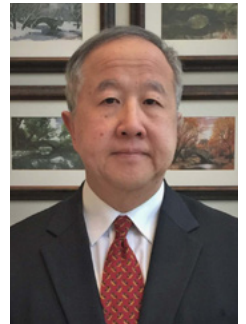
Believing Christ and all that He taught and promised. Putting all our hopes in Christ and looking forward to Him and His kingdom.

Still, there are extraordinary times, as in the act under the cross where they affixed our Savior, where beliefs turned hollow, and hope fell to pieces, and all we can do is to look up to Him, weeping. Yet it is also in those times that we may most keenly see our innocent, wounded Lord, and our heart breaks with His breaking

(or the other way around), and we suffer what He bears (or the other way around) and our spirit, despite our flesh, cries out and says: "I, too, will bear."

And so it is, Christ's bearing all is He bearing for all. And so it seems, we bearing all (as opposed to bearing) is we knowing and becoming Him who bore all. And in the suffering and the "at-one-ment" of the Bearer and bearers, a higher mortal and a demi-god emerge, for they are indeed astonishing, bearing crosses like Christ, even partaking bitter cups without being bitter.

To my hero and exemplar brothers and sisters who are backbreakingly, heartbreakingly heavy laden: as some of you allowed me humbling glimpses into what you bear, I have no words, only tears, and a pointing to Paul, who points to his and our Lord, in whom all our faith and hopes meet, even He who will, when this is over, prepare us for our next encounter with *all*—the receiving of all that the Father hath (D&C 84:38).



President Wen

### Family History Fair

by Jeanne Peugh, Director



Please mark your calendar for October 16th for our annual Family History Fair - "Family History Feast."

This year, you will view classes at home, and the presenters are well prepared to give you information that will help you in your research. Our English/Welsh records class will not occur due to recent deaths in the presenter's family.

Available classes will be :

- ☉ African-American Records
- ☉ Family Search I
- ☉ Polish Records
- ☉ Newspapers
- ☉ Indexing
- ☉ Family Search II

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# FAMILY HISTORY FAIR *continued*

How exciting this (see excerpt below) is for all of us - even though several of these records have been indexed, there is still much more to be done. We will be hosting a class on learning how to do indexing. With cooler temperatures in the forecast, it is the perfect season to participate and help others easily find their ancestors. Need something to do on Sunday afternoon? What a blessing the Lord has provided for

us. If you have not indexed before or need a refresher course, please attend our “Indexing” class. A separate email will be sent out for

the link to participate in the Family History Fair. Also, please go to our website for further information that is listed on the flyer.

## Self-Reliance Corner

### Self-Reliance Resources

*Did you know there is a toolbox full of resources to help with self-reliance needs?*



Excerpt from 21 September 2021 - Salt Lake City News Release: Church Completes Major Microfilm Digitization Initiative Billions of historical family history records are available to the public with the completion of a microfilm digitization initiative by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

“This is a really incredible milestone,” said Joseph Monsen, director of preservation services for the Church History Department. “For 83 years, the Church has been collecting and using microfilm records to support genealogical research. ... 2.4 million rolls of microfilm are all digitally saved now and available.”

“These family history records are now available to anyone who has a computer, anyone who has an Internet connection, and you can find documents and records now anywhere in the world that relate to your family,” explained Kris Whitehead, a manager for FamilySearch International, based in Salt Lake City

For full article, see <https://newsroom.churchofjesuschrist.org/article/church-completes-major-microfilm-digitization-initiative>

Members of the Church covenant to “bear one another’s burdens, ... mourn with those that mourn ... , and comfort those that stand in need of comfort” (Mosiah 18:8–9). Caring for those who have temporal needs is part of the work of salvation and exaltation (see 1.2). This responsibility applies to all members of the Church as they minister to one another.

Church members are also counseled to strengthen their own self-reliance through diligent work and with the help of the Lord. Self-reliance is the ability, commitment, and effort to provide the spiritual and temporal necessities of life for self and family. As members become more self-reliant, they are also better able to serve others.

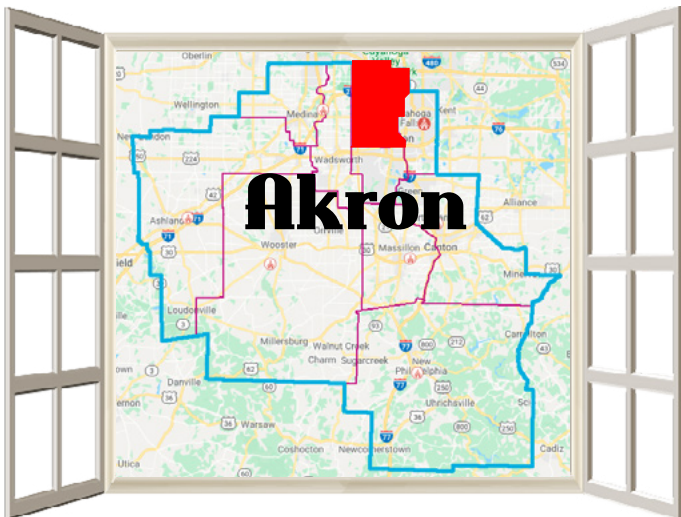
*Church Handbook 22.0*

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).

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# Ward Window



The Akron ward has recently had several activities, classes, and projects designed to help ward members increase their understanding of the meaning and power of family history and their desire and ability to engage in it.

Our ward is urging members to work on their **4-generation information**. Temple and Family History consultants and ministering brothers and sisters are being asked to help, where possible. A beginners' FamilySearch class was held, with Brother and Sister Peugh, Stake Family History Consultants, giving a great introduction for several ward members.

We use the **weekly newsletter** to make members aware of what "nearby" temples are open and what family history events are scheduled in the area. We also encourage members to use the Church News to find this information.

Adults in the ward were invited to sign in to RelativeFinder.org and join the **ward Relative Finder group** that we initiated. Close to 50 did sign up and discovered that they were related to many ward members, usually in more than one way. Most were about 6th cousins or farther, but it did give new and special meaning to the concept of us all being brothers and sisters. This site also shows relationships to famous current and historical musicians, presidents, inventors, etc.

After reading in the History of the Church that on April 19, 1834, Joseph Smith had stopped for lunch at Joseph Bosworth's home in Copley, the Relief Society decided to research the event and have a **Bosworth luncheon** on April 19. They discovered where Bosworth

## 2021 FALL INSTITUTE



AKRON, CLEVELAND, KIRTLAND INSTITUTE OF RELIGION  
**FALL SCHEDULE STARTING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30**

All Classes taught **In Person** and over Zoom!!

WED. 7:00-8:30PM: Presidents of the Church \*

THUR. 7:00-8:30PM: The Divine Gift of Forgiveness\*\*

\*Taught at Akron Stake Center (Tallmadge)

106 East Howe Road (starts September 8th)

Zoom Login: 97001162900 Passcode: 443458

\*\*Taught at YSA Church Building

7600 Euclid Avenue

Zoom Login: 8016026601 Passcode: 1234



myinstitute.church  
ofjesuschrist.org

**REGISTER HERE!!**

**GOT QUESTIONS?**

Brother Aardema

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## MISSIONARY UPDATE



**MARIA KREMER**

Leaving October 2021

**Colorado Fort Collins  
Mission**

likely lived at that time and asked permission from a gas station to have a picnic on that property. Historical documents were passed out during the get-together, and attendees were asked to formulate questions, study the document, and come up with some likely scenarios. One sister was handed, as her document to study, a list of members of the church in the New Portage branch at that time. She saw Joseph Bosworth on the list, but she also discovered her fourth great-grandfather, David Evans. She knew he had lived in Nauvoo but

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# Ward Window: Akron continued from previous page

had not known that he had lived in this area earlier. She immediately called her grandfather to verify the information and discovered that Brother Evans had also attended the school of the prophets. Our sister felt things had come full circle with this connection, as she and her family live here now, having recently moved into this area. In addition, another sister lives on Bosworth Drive, a fairly new Copley street, named after Joseph's family.

We recently had a **YW family history night** to help the YW log onto and explore the FamilySearch site. They had fun looking up famous relatives, uploading their faces to see which ancestors they resembled, and using the relative finder feature. They also talked about other ways to do family history, such as collecting family recipes or writing their own histories. Hopefully, the activity got them a little more curious about family history.

The ward organized a **family history booth** for the annual Copley Heritage Day Festival. The focus was to interest and encourage people who do not (yet) know about temple work. Attendees could do a variety of activities at the booth, including:

- ▶ *Present a great-grandparent's name and be shown a census or cemetery record about them*
- ▶ *Sign up with FamilySearch and learn a bit about it*
- ▶ *View family history projects completed by ward members (hand-crafted items, family trees, scrapbooks, photo organizing, family books, journaling ideas, family reunion ideas, family-made games, etc.)*
- ▶ *Discuss family history they had already done and find ways to continue it*
- ▶ *Participate in children's activities*
- ▶ *Mark on a world map the cities or countries their ancestors had lived in*
- ▶ *Draw to win DNA testing kits, journals, etc.*



Individuals and families were invited to participate in two different **Family History Exploration months**. Each month, we presented ideas, general and specific, simple and complex, to discover our past, enrich our present, and prepare for our family's future. Have you ever:

- 🕒 *Made a jigsaw puzzle out of an ancestral photo?*
- 🕒 *Written down what you predict each family member will be doing in 2040?*
- 🕒 *Visited an ancestor's cemetery?*
- 🕒 *Found an ancestral couple married over 40 years?*
- 🕒 *Created a Word Search or Crossword puzzle with family names?*
- 🕒 *Found an ancestor who looked a lot like you?*
- 🕒 *Written a memory of something you like(d) to do with a grandparent?*
- 🕒 *Recited one ancestral line back to the 1800s (without peeking)?*
- 🕒 *Made a family cookbook?*
- 🕒 *Learned to index?*
- 🕒 *Found an ancestor with a cool hairstyle or beard, then shared it on social media?*

We hope that we are helping our members strengthen family connections (past, present, and future), prepare to pass on family values and history, and feel and live the Spirit of Elijah.