

PRIMARY

Yearly Theme: I Know the Scriptures are True

December Theme: The Scriptures teach me about the Savior's birth and Second Coming

December Scripture: *"For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works"* (Matthew 16:27)

We want to thank all the Primary Children for performing in the Sacrament meeting program. It was such a beautiful meeting with a strong spirit.

We have such a wonderful primary and are grateful for each child who has been in primary this year. A special thanks to our awesome Barbara Pasker for working with the children all year on the songs and being such an important part of the program. Also, thanks to Annette Webster for playing the piano for the program, we appreciate you being our last minute replacement.

Hope you will all enjoy the holiday season and remember our Savior for all he has done for us. We are coming to a close of another year. And are very excited for a new year.

CHOIR

For the next two Sundays we will meet at 1pm at Mary Bye's to practice for our Christmas program. Christmas Sunday we will meet at 8 am. New voices are always welcome to join us!

BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd- Joel Weight
- 5th- Rita Kelly, Allyn Thompson, Jayne Hartman
- 9th- Jennifer McLaine, Larry Curtis, Christian Diaz
- 10th- Amanda Messerly
- 12th- James Thomas Hook
- 13th- Dale Hanson
- 17th- Erik Barnhart, John Williams, Adam James
- 18th- Dorothy Mahler
- 22nd- Marlene Baarz
- 23rd- Amber Williams
- 26th- Lynn Marie Jensen
- 28th- Kristina Ann Ellis, Jean Lewis
- 30th- Scott Williams

MISSIONARIES

Elder Richard Rawlings
19 Clairedan Dr.
Powell, OH 43065

Elder Clayton Williams
MTC Mailbox 195
MEX-MORE 0917
2005 N. 900 E.
Provo, UT 84604-1793

Elder Kenneth Milne
MTC Mailbox 205
PAR-ASUN 0926
2005 N. 900 E.
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WILLOW CANYON 1ST WARD



DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

A CHRIST CENTERED LIFE

BISHOPRIC MESSAGE

In the 13th chapter of John the Savior taught us some valuable lessons as he proceeded to wash the feet of the apostles. Peter had reservations about this –

6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

Perhaps Peter didn't fully understand the symbolism in the Saviors actions, but this is a beautiful lesson to remind us that through Christ we can change and become clean. Jesus went on to state that he was setting an example to be followed. He taught –

15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

He then said these simple words to live by –

17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Serving one another is a key component to living a Christ centered life. In this world of distractions giving of ourselves can help us find happiness. This allows us to keep focused. Elder Neil Andersen taught -

"You will remember Jesus's experience in Capernaum as disciples who had followed the Savior would not

accept that He was the Son of God. The scripture reads, "From that time many of his disciples ... walked no more with him." Jesus then turned to the Twelve and asked, "Will ye also go away?"

In my own mind I have answered that question many times: "Absolutely not! Not me! I will never leave Him! I am here forever!" I know you have answered the same way. But the question "Will ye also go away?" makes us think about our own vulnerability. Life is no spiritual picnic. The words of the Apostles from another setting come quietly into our mind: "Lord, is it I?"

We enter the waters of baptism with joy and anticipation. The Savior beckons, "Come unto me," and we respond, taking His name upon us. Not one of us wants this journey to be a brief flirtation with spirituality or even a notable but finite chapter. The road of discipleship is not for the spiritually faint of heart. Jesus said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

As we follow the Savior, without question there will be challenges that confront us. Approached with faith, these refining experiences bring a deeper conversion of the Savior's reality." (October 2010 Gen. Conference)

It is our wish as a bishopric that we will all have a very merry Christ centered Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

YOUNG WOMEN

Dec. 4 Stake Conference

Dec. 7 Young Women in Excellence

Dec. 11 BYC at 12:10

Dec. 14 Combined YMYW

Dec. 18 Christmas Lesson

Dec. 21 Caroling

Dec. 25 Merry Christmas

Happy birthday on Dec. 28 to Kristina (a.k.a. Nina) Ellis. We are so excited to welcome you to Young Women's. We look forward to getting to know you. We love getting our new Beehives. We also want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and blessed New Year. We feel so blessed to serve with the Young Women in our ward. They are such amazing young women. We love your daughters.

RELIEF SOCIETY

The Relief Society sisters enjoyed a wonderful morning at Marilyn Crapo's doing mints. It was very gracious of Marilyn to volunteer her home as we were bumped out of our spot for the activity at the ward house. We enjoyed the activity and especially each other's company. Thank you to the sisters who helped out with the luncheon for Jane Hartman's family, the love that you have for her and her family was evident.

During the Christmas Season reading Luke 1-2 is usually the scripture that is read as we celebrate the birth of the savior with our loved ones. In the December 2010 Ensign we were given extra scriptures to consider. As your Relief Society Presidency we felt that you may want to take advantage of these scriptures again during this wonderful season:

Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1-2, John 1:1-14, Alma 7:9-13, Micah 5:2, Helaman 14:1-9, 1st Nephi 11:13-21, 3 Nephi 19:6-7, D&C 76:41, D&C 93:1-4, Moses 5:5-7

May you and your family enjoy the happiness, love and peace this season brings!