

# WILLOW CANYON 1st WARD

SEPTEMBER 2012

THEME - THE PLAN OF SALVATION

## Bishopric Message - THE PLAN OF SALVATION

Our theme for this month is the plan of salvation and as I have contemplated what I will share with you, I reflected on the lessons learned and investigators taught while on my mission to New Zealand. Our 4<sup>th</sup> discussion was "The Plan of Salvation" and was designed to answer the questions why am I here, Where am I going, and Where was I before this earth life? It included a discussion of the three degrees of glory and most importantly outlined the purpose and importance of The Atonement. I would like to focus this message on the importance of this mortal life and the lessons we need to learn and understand to be able to accomplish the purpose of our mortal existence.

The world has just witnessed another Olympic competition. We were excited for those who exceeded their expectations and our hearts ached for those who stumbled or made mistakes. I will always remember the moment when Oscar Pistorius 'the blade runner' ran on two uniquely designed artificial legs. Closer to home, our daughter Cindy, recently participated in a Triathamom. She swam 300 yards, biked 12 miles and ran a 5k. As I kept track of her training and watched her participate in this event, I reflected on the parallels of her Triathamom and our earth life experience I will refer to as our "lifeathon".

Whatever we achieve in this life begins with desire. In April conference 2011, Elder Dallin H. Oaks said, "desires dictate our priorities, priorities shape our choices and choices determine our actions. The desires we act on determine our changing, our achieving and our becoming." Cindy's Triathamom began with her desire to participate just as our experience to come to this mortal existence started with our desire in the preexistence. The experiences of our first estate created a desire in us to become mortal and do all we needed to learn and do to return to the presence of a loving Father In Heaven.

During Cindy's event I took a number of photos and surprisingly her favorite wasn't the one I took with her arms raised, in triumph, as she crossed the finish line but was taken when she was swimming, capturing a moment when she was in "perfect form". In your lifeathon what is your perfect form? What defines who you are at your best? As with any sporting event training is the key to success and so it is with our own lifeathon. We recently studied Alma 34:32 in Gospel Doctrine; "For behold this life is the time for men to prepare to meet God; yea, behold the day of this life is the day for men to perform their labors". Each of us should have a consistent training schedule that keeps us at the top of our game and helps us, not only to achieve our personal best, but constantly redefine what our personal best is.

During Cindy's event many spectators were present cheering their champion on. I was saddened as I observed one participant return to her car alone and drive off by herself after participating in such an important event. Of the 400 plus participants many were there alone with no one cheering them on or waiting at the finish line. In our lifeathon we are never alone. On our darkest days, to feel the support, love and cheers from our Heavenly Father and our brother Jesus Christ we need simply to look heavenward. They are not just anxiously waiting for us to finish but are lifting us forward, lightening our burdens and when necessary carrying us in their arms until we reach the finish line of our mortal lives.

May we all have great success and eternal joy as we go through life's experiences, knowing we are never alone. We love you, pray for you and cheer for the best for each of you, in your personal lifeathon. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Your bishopric

## RELIEF SOCIETY

The Relief Society was in charge of the Ward Summer Party in August and we would like to thank all those who brought wonderful food, who cooked the meat and who helped clean up the park after the party. It was a fun party and enjoyed by all.

We have been encouraged by our Stake Presidency to study the candidates who are running for office, pray about your decision and be sure to Register and Vote on November 6th.

We are so happy to welcome Shawna Strong to our Relief Society. Shawna recently married Martin Strong and they have bought the James home on 1380 East and she is a nurse at the Huntsman Cancer Center.

We are also happy to have Julie and Derek Bawden back in the ward and we have put Julie to work in the Relief Society as our assistant Chorister. Julie is doing a great job.

We have some outstanding teachers in the Relief Society and we are grateful for their faithful studying and presentation of the lessons. Nancy Williams, Terri Williams and Susan Johnson are always well prepared and present wonderful lessons. Thank you sisters for your great service to us.

Sisters, remember our special evening on Sept 18th at 6:30pm. It will be a social dinner and our guest speaker is Carrie Wrigley, a very talented sister and great speaker. This will be at the Stake Center.

A reminder also about our Service Opportunity and General Relief Society Broadcast on Saturday Sept 29th at the Stake Center. A service opportunity will be from 3 to 5pm, dinner 5 to 6pm, and the Broadcast at 6pm. More details in the weekly announcement sheet.

As the summer winds down and vacations will soon come to an end, comes a thought. "A vacation consists of 2 weeks, which are 2 short, after which you are 2 tired 2 return 2 work and 2 broke not 2."

## CHOIR

Regular Choir Practices will resume on Sunday, September 9th at 9:45 a.m. in the Relief Society Room.

We encourage anyone who loves to sing (or would like to learn how) to join us. It won't be long until we begin to practice for Christmas. We especially encourage the youth to join.

## ICE CREAM FAMILY SOCIAL

This fun event will be held at the Cleggs' front yards on September 6th at 6:00pm. We are encouraged to bring our neighbors. The YW will be painting faces. Enjoy a wonderful variety of home made ice cream. Come and share in a fun evening.

## BIRTHDAYS



### September

- 5 Angela Trujillo
- 6 Rieko Hilton
- 7 Edwin McLain  
Sandy Reynolds  
Joseph Viehweg
- 8 Veronica Trujillo
- 9 Tori Weight  
Merrill Scott
- 10 Robert Marx  
Michael Jones
- 11 Lane Clark
- 12 Perry Tucker
- 13 Andrea Marx
- 14 Bill Schmitt
- 16 Vernon Nichols  
Zamara Pendleton
- 19 Paul Visser  
Michael McKlesky  
Dave Hilton
- 20 Seth Wells
- 22 Mary Deming  
Suzanne Morris
- 23 Danielle Fritzsche
- 28 Adam Jones  
Rachelle Wells
- 29 Jordan Weight  
Georgann Lloyd
- 30 Roger Sullivan

### October

- 2 Sandy Gao  
Earl Mackintosh
- 3 Oriana Reyes
- 11 Stephen Horstmanshoff

## MISSIONARY ADDRESSES

### Elder Kirk and Sister Marie-France Arnold

Tahiti Papeete Mission  
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### Elder Clayton Williams

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## PRIMARY

Yearly Theme: Choose the Right

September Theme: The Ten Commandments  
Teach Me to Love God and His Children

September Scripture: "If thou lovest me thou shalt serve me and keep all my commandments." (D&C 42:29)

Congratulations to Carson Clegg on his baptism last month!

We are excited for a primary activity this month. September 22 at 10 am be ready to take a Pioneer Trek. We will be as Pioneer children with games, crafts, singing and lots of fun.

Our Primary Sacrament program will be October 28th. Except to see parts for your children the end of the month or beginning of the next one. Also listen to your CD's and practice the music for the program.

## YOUNG WOMEN

Wed., Sept. 5th: Stake laurel/priest activity--no activity for Mia Maids and Beehives.

Thurs., Sept. 6th: Neighborhood Ice Cream Social (YW doing face painting)

Fri. Sept. 14th: 5 p.m. Baptisms for the Dead

Wed., Sept. 19th: Stake Garden

Fri., Sept. 28th: Mother/Daughter Sleepover

Happy Birthday this month to Veronica Trujillo (8th) and Tori Weight (9th)!!!!

Volleyball starts this month and will be held on Thursdays on the following dates: Sept. 13th, 20th, 27th, Oct. 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, Nov. 1st. Any Young Woman who wishes to participate will be greatly appreciated. Vanessa Pendelton will be our YW leader assisting with these events. Please contact her with any questions.

## GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE WOMEN

*"May the Light of His Presence Guide You"*

Tuesday, Sept. 18th

Dinner at 6:30pm at the ward

A special evening for the wonderful women in our ward.  
Guest speaker after dinner is Carrie Wrigley of the 8th ward.

## EMPTY NESTERS

Join with the Empty Nesters as we read *Jesus the Christ*. Tamalge gives some interesting insights into the life of Christ. Our September meeting will be hosted by Mary Bye on the September 10th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Note: October's Empty Nesters will meet October 8th at the Marxes.

## FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

.... will be starting September 8th. Someone will be knocking at your door. If you want to contribute earlier you may call Michael Jones at 801-572-3383.

## SEALINGS

Will **NOT** be at the Draper Temple Tuesday, September 18th.  
LISTEN FOR DATE CHANGE AT CHURCH MEETINGS.  
For your information, Sealings will be at 6:00pm the third Tuesday of each month unless otherwise notified.

## GENERAL CONFERENCE

October General Conference will be held October 6th and 7th, 2012, As noted in the Stake Calendar, Fast Sunday will be October 14th.

### Parents Have Hope That Wayward Children Will Return

The Prophet Joseph Smith declared -- and he never taught more comforting doctrine -- that the eternal sealings of faithful parents and the divine promises made to them for valiant service in the cause of truth would save not only themselves, but likewise their posterity. Though some of the sheep may wander, the eye of the Shepherd is upon them, and sooner or later they will feel the tentacles of divine providence reaching out to them and drawing them back into the fold. Either in this life or the life to come, they will suffer for their sins and may tread a thorny path; but if it leads them at last like the penitent prodigal, to a loving and forgiving Father's heart and home, the painful experience will not have been in vain. Pray for our careless and disobedient children, hold on to them with your faith. Hope on, trust on, till you see the salvation of God.

"Who are these straying sheep -- the wayward sons and daughters? They are children of the covenant, heirs to the promises, and have received, if baptized, the gift of the Holy Ghost, which makes manifest the things of God. Could all the go for naught?"

(Orson F. Whitney, Conference Report, April 1929)

"I would not force people to live up to my ideals but rather love them into doing the thing that is right."

--- President George Albert Smith ---

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

**DATE FOR OCTOBER WILL BE OCTOBER 9TH.  
PLEASE FORWARD YOUR AUXILIARY INFORMATION TO ANDREA MARX  
AT:  
[sistermarx@gmail.com](mailto:sistermarx@gmail.com)**

**It is desired that all the auxiliaries contribute to the newsletter.**

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SEPTEMBER 2012

An article written in the Deseret News August 17, 2012 by Amy Joi O'Donoghue stated "All of Utah's 29 counties are on the drought disaster list with 45% of the state's rangeland rated as 'poor' or 'very poor' in terms of vegetation." In July more than 50% of the country was declared drought-stricken, the largest area of drought since 1956. Seventy-one (71) percent of the country's cattle is located in drought stricken areas, 72% of the soybean crop and 73% of the corn crop is being affected. Wildfires throughout the country have contributed to the drought. The national weather data reported July being the hottest month on record ever in the U.S. Several countries in the world have also reported record temperatures. China reports their major agricultural regions are facing their worst drought in 60 years.

On this note, what are the characteristics of a drought and the causes? Droughts can last from a month to years depending on the amount of water in the water table but there is no time limit. Most areas of Australia have permanent drought conditions. Rachele O'Black wrote an article stating, "Unlike other forms of severe weather or natural disasters, droughts often develop slowly. Droughts are caused by a depletion of precipitation over time. It is one of the top 3 threats to population in the world along with famine and flooding. Somewhere in the U.S. in any given year, a drought is occurring. Droughts are completely natural but then devastation can be far-reaching and severe. Climate changes, ocean temperatures, changes in the jet stream and changes in the local landscape are all contributors to the causes of drought."

The 3 main ways droughts impact lives and communities are:

1. Economic impacts- include losses in timber, agricultural and fisheries communities. These losses create increased prices for the consumer. NBC News reported "federal forecasters are predicting record prices for corn and soybeans, raising fears of a new world food crisis as the worst U.S. drought in half a century continues to punish key farm states." U. S. Drought Monitor reported that 88% of this year's corn crop and 77% of the soybean crop are now affected by the most severe drought since 1988. Consumers will experience the aftermath of price increases in the form of more money spent on poultry, beef, pork and dairy products. Almost 1/2 of all domestic corn production is used as livestock feed. The U.S. is the world's largest corn producer.

2. Social impacts include the increase chance of conflict over commodities, fertile land and water resources. Other social impacts include loss of homelands, changes in lifestyle and an increase chance of health risks due to poverty and hygiene issues.
3. Environmental impacts of drought include loss of species biodiversity, migration changes, reduced air quality and increased soil erosion.

When our water table was low we were practicing rationing water. The motto was "Slow the Flow." We need to make these practices a way of life for we cannot predict our seasons of drought. Conservation plays a major role when it comes to our precious resources.

In closing, Carly Burton, executive director of the Utah Water Users Association, stated that he hopes "people get over the idea that because water comes out of a tap, or even out of streams fed by reservoir storage, there is some sort of endless supply." "If you can get by with a little less, use a little less. Conservation in a year like this is extremely important to survive next year."