

WILLOW CANYON 1st WARD

AUGUST 2013 THEME - MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

I served a mission back when the family was able to come into the airport terminal and spend some time with the missionary before embarking. My family lovingly brought me so many packages that I could barely carry it all on to the plane, including a chocolate chip cookie bigger than my head. They were very thoughtful and wanted to spend time with me. I spoke with them and caught up on what had happened during the 18 days I had spent in the MTC, but I was distracted. I was anxiously waiting for my girlfriend to show up. When she did I spent the bulk of the remainder of my time in the terminal with her at my side; my parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters gently shuffled to second or third place.

My thinking was, "They're family. I'm certain they'll be here when I get home, we're sealed already, but my girlfriend is another story so I better spend extra effort on her." Sure enough, I returned 2 years later and my family was still there, eager to have me back home. They have never said anything about that day at the airport. Perhaps they didn't even notice, but I noticed. I have regretted that I didn't spend more time with the people who matter most to me. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:21) That girlfriend has been married to someone else since before I returned, and my life is better for it.

For the Strength of Youth states, "Strong families require effort. Your family will be blessed as you do your part to strengthen it. Be cheerful, helpful, and considerate of family members. Many problems in the home come from family members speaking and acting selfishly or unkindly. Seek to be a peacemaker rather than to tease, fight, and quarrel. Show love for your family members each day. Share your testimony with your family through words and actions. Your righteous example can make a difference in strengthening your family."

This is obviously counsel that makes sense regardless of your role in the family. Whether father, mother, brother, sister, or child we should all do our part to strengthen our family. Rather than keeping score and looking for ammunition to use in a future altercation we can forgive and forget. The world is ready to tear us down in order to feel better about themselves, let us make our families and homes a place of peace, refuge and recovery rather than another battleground. The way to do this is succinctly outlined in *The Family: A Proclamation To The World* which states:

"Happiness in family life is most likely to be achieved when founded upon the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. Successful marriages and families are established and maintained on principles of faith, prayer, repentance, forgiveness, respect, love, compassion, work, and wholesome recreational activities."

In the last conference, Elder L. Whitney Clayton said, "Faith is the foundation of every virtue that strengthens marriage. Strengthening faith strengthens marriage. Faith grows as we keep the commandments, and so do the harmony and joy in marriage. Thus, keeping the commandments is fundamental to establishing strong eternal marriages." (*Marriage: Watch and Learn*, Ensign May 2013) I would suggest that we could extend this to *families* and not just *marriages*.

Through obedience to the commandments and focus on what matters most, may our homes be "a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God;" (D&C 109:8)

Your Bishopric.

MISSIONARY ADDRESSES

Elder Kirk and Sister Marie-France Arnold

Tahiti Papeete Mission **(To return in Sept)**

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Welfare Resource Center

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FAMILY HISTORY - INDEXING

Summer is a great time to learn about your family history at family gatherings. It's also a great time to write your history to share with your children and grandchildren.

PRIMARY

Yearly Theme: I am a Child of God

August Theme: Heavenly Father Hears and Answers My Prayers

August Scripture: "Be thou humble; and the Lord thy God shall lead thee by the hand, and give thee answer to thy prayers" (D&C 112:10)

We would like to congratulate Maddie Wright on her baptism. She was baptized August 3rd. You can welcome her as the newest member of the church in our ward.

The children in primary have been challenged this quarter to do acts of Service. They were given Service Coupons in primary and are to give this coupon to someone and then perform an act of service to them. After this is done the person they served is to sign it and the child can then bring that back to primary for a reward. The children can see how good it feels to serve others.

September 7th at 10:00 AM.- we will be having a primary activity. The theme will be "Putting on the Armor of God". We will have lots of fun and it could get pretty messy so have your children wear clothes that are ok to get dirty.

Parents, please keep in mind our Primary Program on November 10th. Please continue to help your children learn the songs by listening to the CD's that were sent home. We will be working on the children's parts in the next couple of months. We love the opportunity to work with your children and love seeing them grow in the gospel.

SEALINGS

Our Ward Temple night for sealings will be Tuesday, August 20th. The session will start at 6:00 PM.

Young Women



We want to send another Thank You to Gina and Russ Messerly, and Susan and the Bishop for spending time at camp with the Young Women. We had a fabulous time and appreciate all that you did to make camp a wonderful experience.

Upcoming Activities

August 7: Personal Progress

August 14: Back to School Party

August 21: Combined games at park with Young Men

August 29: Baptisms

We are so sad to be losing our wonderful Emilie Wright to another ward in Spanish Fork. We thank you for your service to the Young Women's. You have been such a wonderful example to the girls and the leaders. Your service, kindness, and love have been felt by us all. You and your family will bring many blessings to your new ward. We love and will miss you!

August Lessons: Marriage and Family

CHOIR

Our only practice this month will be on August 18 at 12:15 in the Chapel. We'll be singing that day. Everyone welcome.

EMPTY NESTERS

Empty Nesters FHE group will be meeting for our annual bar-b-que on August 19 at 6:30 at the Scott's. Bring your own meat and a salad or dessert to share. Our theme is red, white and /or blue Any empty nesters may join us. Just RSVP @801-571-4952.

BIRTHDAYS



August

- 1 Madeline Wright
- 3 Greg Miles
- 5 Gayle Hansen
- 6 Al Walkenhorst
- 8 Rex Cook
Thomas Huerta
- 9 Darrell Clegg
John Strong
- 10 Crystal Weight
- 11 Alexis Marie McMullin
- 17 Nicole Miles
- 18 Marie Rawlings
- 19 Glayde Wells
- 21 Sarah Trujillo
Amanda Rich
- 22 Florence Nunley
Christian Mc Lesky
- 25 Teri Rousseau
- 26 Lori Hanson
- 27 Tom Hook
- 29 Izacc Coles
Melissa Huerta
- 30 Erica Diaz
Mason Tuft
- 31 Nancy Parsons
Brayden Ellis

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

DATE FOR SEPTEMBER WILL BE
AUGUST 27th.

PLEASE FORWARD YOUR AUXILIARY
INFORMATION TO ANDREA MARX AT:
sistermarx@gmail.com

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

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

We are encouraged to complete as much formal, full-time education as possible. This can include trade schools as well as apprentice programs. Even though education can be costly, it is money well invested. There are many avenues available to acquire your education, including correspondence classes and night school. As a back-up to your formal education, it is wise to acquire a special skill or ability that can be put to use in case one has to supplement an income or necessary to use in case of prolonged unemployment. Sometimes its not always convenient to acquire an education but anything worthwhile acquires a price to be paid. It's nice to be able to look back sometime in the future and be able to say to yourself that you are glad that you made the effort.

WARD AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

August 6th -- **Al Walkenhorst is turning 85!** Come celebrate with Al from 7:00 - 9:00 PM on Al and Joyce's front lawn. Cake and ice cream will be served.

August 9th -- The **Annual Ward Picnic** will start at 6:00 PM at Granite Park, 2700 East 10000 South. Look for a signup sheet in Relief Society.

August 24th -- **Southeast Township Days** : This annual event has a great Car show and lots of vendors and Free activities for the kids. It will be at Big Bear Park, 9708 S Poppy Lane from 2:00 PM – 10:00 PM. Vortex Fireworks Show to finish

September 6th -- The **ice cream social** will start at 6:30 PM in the Cleggs' driveway.