

# WILLOW CANYON 1st WARD

DECEMBER 2014 THEME - THE LIFE OF CHRIST

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, many miraculous events occurred. In the gospel of Luke, we learn that an angel of the Lord came to share the good news with shepherds in the field watching over their flocks. The angel said to them; "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Following this declaration, there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host [a multitude of angels] "praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2: 8-14.

In the gospel of Matthew, we learn that a new star appeared. "Behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him . . . , the star which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2: 2-11.

Of these wise men, Elder Bruce R. McConkie, in his book "The Mortal Messiah", wrote: "There has been more speculation about, and more legends created concerning, the so-called Magi who visited Joseph and Mary in their house in Bethlehem than about almost any other biblical event. . . . They are presumed to be kings because of the richness of their gifts; it is said they were Gentiles, showing that all nations bowed before the newborn King.

"As to these men themselves, one thing is clear. They had prophetic insight. It was with them as it had been with saintly Simeon: the Lord had revealed to them, as it were, that they should not taste death until they had seen and worshipped the Christ. They knew the King of the Jews had been born, and they knew a new star was destined to arise and had risen in connection with that birth."

Besides these wise men, there were others watching for the birth of the Savior. The scriptures tell us about Simeon, a just and devout man who had the Holy Ghost with him, and Anna, a prophetess who served the Lord in the temple through fasting and prayer night and day. Luke 2: 25-38.

And today, there are still many searching for the Savior; to know Jesus Christ and to feel the peace that the multitude of angels shared with the shepherds many years ago. During this holiday season, with the hustle and bustle that comes with it, each of us should take some time where we can focus on the meaning of our celebration. We need to seek out the Savior; to remember what Jesus Christ has done for us and to share his message of life eternal with family and friends. We should do as the Prophet Nephi indicated the Nephites did; we should talk of Christ, rejoice in Christ, preach of Christ, and prophesy of Christ, so that "our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins." 2 Nephi 25: 26.

The Bishopric

# RELIEF SOCIETY

Thanks once again to Shelly Glauser for the successful and fun activity day in November. We look forward to next year's activities.

We continue to be grateful to all you sisters who are looking after your neighbors as they deal with illness, surgeries, etc. We're thankful for your service by taking dinners in, babysitting, and other types of service you render to help those in need.

With the end of this year coming to a close, we ask a special favor to our visiting teachers. Would you make an extra effort to make sure you see all your sisters this month? Please let the presidency know if we can help out in any way.

"I am grateful for Christmas. I am grateful for the spirit of the day and grateful for the outreach that comes into our hearts at this season of the year when we think a little more kindly of one another, when there is a little less of bitterness, when there is a little less of hate, when there is more of love and more of a reaching out to those in trouble and need and distress. I thank the Lord for Christmas."- Pres. Gordon B. Hinckley.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

"Time Out for Sisters" was a huge success. It was so nice to get together with all of the sisters the 3<sup>rd</sup> hour of our meetings on Sunday November 30<sup>th</sup>. We had many requests to make this a yearly event. We could feel the strong testimonies of our sisters as well as the love they have for each other. Thank you Bishop Milne for giving us this opportunity and thank you to the priesthood holders for your service in the Primary and Young Women so the sisters could meet together.

December is such a special month celebrating our Saviors birth. We have included an Advent Calendar; hopefully it will help keep us focused on what is most important this season.



### 2014 Remember in December

A Scripture Advent Calendar to Help Keep Christ in Christmas



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Isaiah 7:14	2 Isaiah 9:6	3 Micah 5:2	4 Jeremiah 23:5	5 Luke 1:32-35	6 Jeremiah 33:14-15
7 Isaiah 40:1-4	8 Isaiah 40:11	9 Psalms 24	10 Isaiah 11:1	11 Malachi 3:1	12 Jacob 7:11-12	13 1 Nephi 10:4
14 1 Nephi 11:18	15 1 Nephi 11:20-24	16 1 Nephi 11:27	17 Helaman 14:3	18 Helaman 14:5-6	19 Luke 1:30-31	20 3 Nephi 1:13
21 3 Nephi 1:19	22 Luke 2:4-7	23 Luke 2:8-11	24 Luke 2:12-14	25 Matthew 2:1-14	26 2 Nephi 25:26	27 Alma 7:11
28 Mosiah 3:7-8	29 3 Nephi 11:10-11	30 Helaman 5:12	31 D&C 110:4-5			

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# BIRTHDAYS



## December 2014

- 1 Joel Weight
- 2 Cael Sipes
- 4 Matthew Miller  
Mackenzie Glauser  
Mark Brandt
- 5 Rita Kelly  
Allyn Thompson
- 9 Jennifer Mc Lain  
Larry Curtis  
Richard Saddler
- 13 Dale Hanson
- 17 Erik Barnhart  
John Williams  
Chloe Smith
- 18 Dorothy Mahler
- 19 Logan McLeskey
- 22 Marlene Baarz
- 23 Amber Williams
- 24 Liam Ellis
- 26 Lynn Jensen
- 28 Kristina Ellis
- 29 Kurt Young
- 30 Scott Williams
- 31 Bob Thompson

## January 2015

- 1 Warren Metcalf
- 4 Doris Mendenhall

*Merry Christmas*

*to all and a*

*Happy New Year*

## MISSIONARY ADDRESSES

### **Elder Zach Rigby**

South Carolina Columbia Mission  
110 Oak Park Dr. Suite B  
Irmo, SC 29063 - 6110

(The Leshers and Farris have the same mailing address:)

### **Elder Nelson and Sister Kim Leshar**

Ensign Ranch Mission  
3551 Hundley Rd.  
Cle Elum, Washington 98922 - 9435

### **Elder Jerry and Sister Charlene Farr**

Ensign Ranch Mission  
3551 Hundley Rd.  
Cle Elum, Washington 98922

### **Sister Sarah Jones**

Texas Houston South Mission  
602 Eldridge Rd  
Sugar Land, Texas 77478 - 2804

### **Hermana Samantha Josie Ellis**

mision san jose costa rica  
apartado postal 249-2010  
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san jose, costa rica

### **Elder Jared Rigby**

Mississippi Jackson Mission  
1875 Burnham Road  
Brandon, MS 39042

## PRIMARY

Yearly Theme: Families are Forever

October Theme: "We remember and worship our Savior, Jesus Christ"

October Scripture: "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6)

The presidency would like to congratulate Bonnie Ellis on her baptism on November 29th. We are proud of her and the decision she made to become a member of the Lord's church. We are glad to have her in primary and for the wonderful example she sets for others.

It has been a wonderful year and we are grateful for the opportunity to work with your children and watch them grow in the gospel. They all have such sweet spirits and they are always so willing to help out by giving prayers, scriptures, and talks. We love and appreciate them and we also appreciate you parents for help and support. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas!

## WARD AND STAKE EVENTS

December 7th - First Presidency's  
Christmas Devotional 6:00 PM  
December 13th - WC1 Ward Dinner 6:00 PM  
December 25th - Merry Christmas  
January 1, 2015 - Happy New Year  
January 4, 2015 - Ward block schedule changes  
to 11:00 AM

## CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM THE LESHERS

Wanting to wish a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to our ward family. Thank you for all your love and support and the many prayers. We have felt them. Thank you also for your wonderful, loving examples throughout the years. We are thankful to be serving at Ensign Ranch at this Christmas time as we celebrate the birth of our Savior and His wondrous gift to all. We love the gospel and are so thankful for our many blessings. We love and miss you, Elder and Sister Leshar

## YOUNG MEN

**Deacon's** reading schedule for December

Dec 6 Ps 26  
Dec 13 Ps 106  
Dec 20 Prov 28  
Dec 27 Isa 30  
Jan 3 Jer 8

The **Deacons** completed the Emergency Preparedness merit badge in November.

The Willow Canyon Community was able to purchase an emergency response trailer using funds allocated from SL County. Three Eagle Scout projects, with the help of the scouts and the young men, have outfitted the interior of the trailer with shelving, supplies, & emergency response equipment.

### **Priests/ Teachers**

Here is the schedule for the month of December for the teachers and priests:

Wednesday, December 3 - Temple Square -  
Meet at my house at 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 10 - Service Activity

Wednesday, December 17 - Combined Activity

No YM activities on December 24 and 31.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Priests and Teachers are also finishing the Doctrine and Covenants this month!

## CHOIR

The Choir needs some more singers to fill out our numbers for Christmas. All ages welcome. We especially would encourage some of our Young Men and Women to give the Choir a try – if only for Christmas. The Choir will be practicing on the following Sundays in December at 1:00 at Mary Bye's on Dec 7 and Dec 14.

We will practice in the Chapel as follows:

December 14 at 8:15 am

December 21 at 8:00 am

## YOUNG WOMEN

Young Women's Activities:

Dec 3: Ice skating

Dec 10: Indexing with Gwen Brandt at Chloe Smiths house

Dec 17: Combined activity - Christmas service

Dec 24: Cancelled

Dec 30: Sacrament meeting program

Dec 31: Cancelled

## FAMILY HISTORY

If anyone would like to learn to index as part of the family history program, please contact Gwen Brandt at [435-770-3410](tel:435-770-3410).

## EMPLOYMENT

For employment opportunities and information please contact Lane Clark at: [info@SmashCRM.com](mailto:info@SmashCRM.com) or call at home 801-571-7857

## WEDDING BELLS

Klarissa Wells & Devin Wheelwright, Dec 30

## CUB SCOUTS

Pack meeting is **DEC 10th**, not the usual 4th Wednesday of the month. Cubs only, no parents or families. Pizza will be provided for the boys. The boys will be brought home by the cub leaders.

## EMPTY NESTERS

We are now reading "The Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt." Our annual Christmas Potluck will be on December 8. We will be signing up for 2015 Hosting Assignments.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

DATE FOR JANUARY WILL BE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30th.  
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.