

# Willow Canyon First Ward

July 2015 - The Atonement

Elder Holland stated:

The Savior's spiritual suffering and the shedding of his innocent blood, so lovingly and freely given, paid the debt for what the scriptures call the "original guilt" of Adam's transgression (Moses 6:54). Furthermore, Christ suffered for the sins and sorrows and pains of all the rest of the human family, providing remission for all of our sins as well, upon conditions of obedience to the principles and ordinances of the gospel he taught (see 2 Ne. 9:21-23). As the Apostle Paul wrote, we were "bought with a price" (1 Cor. 6:20). What an expensive price and what a merciful purchase!

That is why every ordinance of the gospel focuses in one way or another on the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, and surely that is why this particular ordinance with all its symbolism and imagery comes to us more readily and more repeatedly than any other in our life. It comes in what has been called "the most sacred, the most holy, of all the meetings of the Church" (Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, comp. Bruce R. McConkie, 3 vols., Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1954-56, 2:340).

Perhaps we do not always attach that kind of meaning to our weekly sacramental service. How "sacred" and how "holy" is it? Do we see it as our passover, remembrance of our safety and deliverance and redemption?

Here are some idea's that Elder Holland gave on what we could think about during the ordinance of the sacrament:

We could remember the Savior's premortal life and all that we know him to have done as the great Jehovah, creator of heaven and earth and all things that in them are. We could remember that even in the Grand Council of Heaven he loved us and was wonderfully strong, that we triumphed even there by the power of Christ and our faith in the blood of the Lamb (see Rev. 12:10-11).

We could remember the simple grandeur of his mortal birth to just a young woman, one probably in the age range of those in our Young Women organization, who spoke for every faithful woman in every dispensation of time when she said,

“Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word” (Luke 1:38).

We could remember his magnificent but virtually unknown foster father, a humble carpenter by trade who taught us, among other things, that quiet, plain, unpretentious people have moved this majestic work forward from the very beginning, and still do so today. If you are serving almost anonymously, please know that so, too, did one of the best men who has ever lived on this earth.

We could remember Christ’s miracles and his teachings, his healings and his help. We could remember that he gave sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf and motion to the lame and the maimed and the withered. Then, on those days when we feel our progress has halted or our joys and views have grown dim, we can press forward steadfastly in Christ, with unshaken faith in him and a perfect brightness of hope (see 2 Ne. 31:19–20).

We could remember that even with such a solemn mission given to him, the Savior found delight in living; he enjoyed people and told his disciples to be of good cheer. He said we should be as thrilled with the gospel as one who had found a great treasure, a veritable pearl of great price, right on our own doorstep. We could remember that Jesus found special joy and happiness in children and said all of us should be more like them—guileless and pure, quick to laugh and to love and to forgive, slow to remember any offense.

We could remember that Christ called his disciples friends, and that friends are those who stand by us in times of loneliness or potential despair. We could remember a friend we need to contact or, better yet, a friend we need to make. In doing so we could remember that God often provides his blessings through the compassionate and timely response of another. For someone nearby we may be the means of heaven’s answer to a very urgent prayer.

We could—and should—remember the wonderful things that have come to us in our lives and that “all things which are good cometh of Christ” (Moro. 7:24). Those of us who are so blessed could remember the courage of those around us who face more difficulty than we, but who remain cheerful, who do the best they can, and trust that the Bright and Morning Star will rise again for them—as surely he will do (see Rev. 22:16).

On some days we will have cause to remember the unkind treatment he received, the rejection he experienced, and the injustice—oh, the injustice—he endured. When we, too, then face some of that in life, we can remember that Christ was also troubled on every side, but not distressed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed (see 2 Cor. 4:8–9).

When those difficult times come to us, we can remember that Jesus had to descend below all things before he could ascend above them, and that he suffered pains and afflictions and temptations of every kind that he might be filled with mercy and know how to succor his people in their infirmities (see D&C 88:6; Alma 7:11–12).

To those who stagger or stumble, he is there to steady and strengthen us. In the end he is there to save us, and for all this he gave his life. However dim our days may seem they have been darker for the Savior of the world.

In fact, in a resurrected, otherwise perfected body, our Lord of this sacrament table has chosen to retain for the benefit of his disciples the wounds in his hands and his feet and his side—signs, if you will, that painful things happen even to the pure and perfect. Signs, if you will, that pain in this world is not evidence that God doesn't love you. It is the wounded Christ who is the captain of our soul—he who yet bears the scars of sacrifice, the lesions of love and humility and forgiveness.

Those wounds are what he invites young and old, then and now, to step forward and see and feel (see 3 Ne. 11:15; 3 Ne. 18:25). Then we remember with Isaiah that it was for each of us that our Master was “despised and rejected ... ; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief” (Isa. 53:3). All this we could remember when we are invited by a kneeling young priest to remember Christ always.

We no longer include a supper with this ordinance, but it is a feast nevertheless. We can be fortified by it for whatever life requires of us, and in so doing we will be more compassionate to others along the way.

One request Christ made of his disciples on that night of deep anguish and grief was that they stand by him, stay with him in his hour of sorrow and pain. “Could ye not watch with me one hour?” he asked longingly (Matt. 26:40). I think he asks that again of us, every Sabbath day when the emblems of his life are broken and blessed and passed.

Our Prayers, The Bishopric

## Happy Birthday!!!



### July 2015

- 2 Jennifer Milne  
Sawyer Glauser
- 4 Hattie Ellis
- 5 Lothair Pendleton
- 6 Richard Clegg  
Mariah Wells
- 11 Nancy Williams
- 16 Kent Nunley
- 17 Marilyn Crapo
- 19 Margie Guest
- 21 Marion Stoof
- 25 Robert Rawlings
- 26 Jerry Farr
- 27 Brent Gardner  
Frank Davis  
Beth Ann Little
- 28 Jay Wallace Smith
- 29 Gerry Visser  
Monica Jensen  
Steven Rich
- 30 Robby Reynolds  
Maxine Hoyt



## Relief Society

We can't thank you enough for all the good that you do. We have amazing sisters in this ward and we love you.

We were saddened to hear that a former member of our ward, Sandra Shurts passed away recently from breast cancer.

Thanks to those who provided meals for our missionaries. We have this opportunity every eight weeks. We also appreciate those who can help out for the welfare assignments that we get. Those "little" acts of service all add up to great and important things. I would like to encourage all visiting teachers to do the best they can to visit their assigned sisters—in the home if at all possible—especially those that are in great need of a personal visit. Visiting teaching is an inspired program that will bless both those that are visited and those that visit.

May the Lord bless all of you wonderful sisters!

Love,  
The Relief Society Presidency

## Ward Summer Party

will be held on Friday,  
August 21st at 6:30 p.m.  
at the church

More details to come...



## Upcoming Welfare Assignments

**Wednesday, August 5th - Welfare Square Cannery**  
730 West 800 South (Packaging)  
11:30 am to 3:30 pm - 4 people needed

**Thursday, September 10th - Deseret Dairy**  
784 West 700 South (Packaging) - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
5 individuals needed

Please contact Mike Jones if you can help.

## Young Men

### Priests/ Teachers

Congratulations to Josh Ellis on becoming an Eagle Scout!!

Activities for July:

July 8 - Golfing at Mulligans  
July 15 - Bee's game  
July 22 - Community pool party  
July 29 - Donut Falls hike

### Deacons:

Liam Ellis has been called as the new Deacon's Quorum President. We are pleased to welcome Lothair Pendelton and Dresden Curtis as new members of the quorum.

July Book of Mormon reading schedule  
July 5 - Alma 37  
July 12 - Alma 60  
July 19 - 3 Nephi 7  
July 26 - Mormon 7  
Aug 2 - Moroni 10

Summer Camp August 3rd through 8th at the BSA Bear Lake aquatics camp!

The Scouts had the great opportunity to work on the cooking merit badge with Steve Riep during the month of June. Steve is an excellent cook and the boys learned a ton. The culmination of the merit badge was a combined delicious dinner prepared by the boys for their families.

## Young Women

July 13-17 - Beehive Camp  
July 22 - Community pool party

## Missionary Addresses

**Elder Nelson & Sister Kim Leshner**  
(Ensign Ranch Mission)  
3551 Hundley Road  
Cle Elum, WA 98922-9431  
lesher100@msn.com

**Elder Jerry & Sister Charlene Farr**  
(Ensign Ranch Mission)  
3551 Hundley Road  
Cle Elum, WA 98922-9431  
jerrykfarr@gmail.com

**Sister Sarah Jones**  
(Texas Houston South Mission)  
215 Mechanic Street, Apt L104  
Galveston, TX 77550  
Sarah's missionary blog address:  
**findingthepointe.blogspot.com**  
(remember to put a "e" on the end of pointe like a ballet pointe shoe)

**Hermana Samantha Josie Ellis**  
mision san jose costa rica  
apartado postal 249-2010  
zapote  
san jose, costa rica

**Elder Jared Rigby**  
(Mississippi Jackson Mission)  
1875 Burnham Road  
Brandon, MS 39042

## Employment

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



## Cub Scouts

The religious portion of the new Wolf, Bear and Webelos books **are to be earned at home:**

The **Wolf** requirement is called  
**Duty to God Footsteps**

The **Bear** requirement is called  
**Fellowship and Duty to God**

The **Webelos** requirement is called  
**Duty to God and You**

**These should be  
accomplished this summer.**

Also, please google "**cub scout cyber chip**" and click on the school grade that best matches your child.

Please also finish this during the summer. Your blue Cyber Chip card will be awarded at the Pack meeting on August 26th.

Questions: call or text Kristy  
at 801-518-1699.

There will **not** be a  
Pack meeting held in July.

## Empty Nesters

FHE will be held July 13th at 7:00 pm.  
Annette Webster will be hosting.  
We are enjoying reading the  
"Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt."  
We welcome all Empty Nesters  
to join us on the  
second Monday of each month.

## Primary

**Yearly Theme:** I Know My Savior Lives

**July Theme:** I can follow Jesus Christ's  
example

**July Scripture:** Jesus said, "Come follow  
me" (Luke 18:22)

Cameron Clegg will be turning 8 years old and will be getting baptized on July 11, 2015 at 1:30. He would love to see you there to support him.

Just a reminder that we would like the parents of the Primary children to sign a permission slip so that we can take their picture and send it to the Friend Magazine. We would like to show them the service the children have performed by taking their picture in front of the wall of hands in the primary room.

Thanks,  
The Primary Presidency



I love to read  
the Scriptures

Since the bishopric extended a  
**Book of Mormon reading challenge**  
to all Ward members to completely read the  
Book of Mormon during the months  
of June and July,  
how are you doing?  
Are you half-way through yet?



Do you know the history of this special song? Frank Sinatra considered Kate Smith the best singer of her time, and said that when he and a million other guys first heard her sing "God Bless America" on the radio, they all pretended to have dust in their eyes as they wiped away a tear or two.

Here is the story behind the very first public singing of "GOD BLESS AMERICA". The time was 1940. America was still in a terrible economic depression. Hitler was taking over Europe and Americans were afraid we'd have to go to war. It was a time of hardship and worry for most Americans.

This was the era just before TV, when radio shows were HUGE, and American families sat around their radios in the evenings, listening to their favorite entertainers, and no entertainer of that era was bigger than Kate Smith.

Kate was also large; plus size, as we now say, and the popular phrase still used today is in deference to her, "It ain't over till the fat lady sings." Kate Smith might not have made it big in the age of TV, but with

her voice coming over the radio, she was the biggest star of her time.

Kate was also patriotic. It hurt her to see Americans so depressed and afraid of what the next day would bring. She had hope for America, and faith in her fellow Americans. She wanted to do something to cheer them up, so she went to the famous American song-writer, Irving Berlin (who also wrote "White Christmas") and asked him to write a song that would make Americans feel good again about their country. When she described what she was looking for, he said he had just the song for her.

He went to his files and found a song that he had written, but never published, 22 years before - way back in 1917. He gave it to her and she worked on it with her studio orchestra. She and Irving Berlin were not sure how the song would be received by the public, but both agreed they would not take any profits from "God Bless America". Any profits would go to the Boy Scouts of America. Over the years, the Boy Scouts have received millions of dollars in royalties from this song.

To this day, "God Bless America" stirs our patriotic feelings and pride in our country. Back in 1940, when Kate Smith went looking for a song to raise the spirits of her fellow Americans, we wonder whether she realized just how successful the results would be for her fellow Americans during those years of hardship and worry....and for many generations of Americans to follow.

## Choir



As the singing group "The Happenings", in their 1966 song, would say.....  
"SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER"

## Community News

The annual Willow Canyon Community Council Pool Party will be held Wednesday July 22 at the Crestwood Pool. Watch for the flier that will be coming out in the next two weeks. There will also be more information about the vote this Fall on whether we remain as a county island or annex into Sandy City.