

Willow Canyon First Ward

September 2015 – Prayer

Keeping the Commandment to Pray Using a 20-Minute Plan

“Draw near unto me and I will draw near unto you; seek me diligently and ye shall find me; ask, and ye shall receive; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” D&C 88:63

This is one of my favorite verses of scripture. Like many church members, I’ve accepted the Lord’s invitation in this verse. I’ve sought to do my part to realize the promise of receiving answers to prayer.

I have no hesitation in saying that the promises made in this verse of scripture are obtainable. I’ve had many wonderful experiences with the things of the Spirit when I have sought to draw near to the Lord in prayer.

I’d like to offer a few ideas on how to draw near to Heavenly Father in prayer.

Our spirit and our body need to be fed daily. If we fail to take those things into our body to sustain life we will quickly begin to lose physical strength. The same is true of our spirits. If we don’t nourish our spirits then we begin to distance ourselves from the things of the Spirit. The scriptures refer to this starving-of-the-spirit as hardness-of-heart and blindness-of-mind (3 Nephi 2:1).

I learned, many years ago, that spending time with the Lord each day is vital to spirituality. This can be done in many ways. One way is to use a timer. I suggest setting a timer for 20 minutes and put all the demands on your time on hold for that 20 minutes. During this time, focus your attention on your relationship with Heavenly Father.

Sometimes I read scriptures or a conference talk for a few minutes and then spend the rest of the time in prayer. It is also worthwhile to memorize a scripture. Often, I spend all of the time, and more, thanking and asking Heavenly Father for blessings needed, and received. It is also important to pray for others who are in need.

I like doing this in the morning. It is a great way to start the day. You can even do this more than once each day. I’ve found it a simple but effective way to draw nearer to our Heavenly Father.

One reason I favor this approach to prayer is that it helps me to avoid the practice of a hurried, mechanical prayer. You know the kind, where you direct Heavenly Father to do a check list of things, offer a quick “thank you”, and then you’re off to do the important things of the day, having started your day with prayer.

Prayer is vital to our spiritual well-being, just as food is to our physical well-being. The 20-minute plan is one of the many ways to draw near to Heavenly Father. If you’re interested, give it a try for twenty days or longer, and let us know if it makes a difference in your life.

–Your Bishopric

Happy Birthday!!!



September 2015

- 2 Bryan Benson
- 4 Brandon Smith
- 5 Angela Trujillo
- 6 Reiko Hilton
- 7 Edwin McLain
Sandy Reynolds
Joseph Viehweg
- 8 Veronica Trujillo
- 9 Merrill Scott
Tori Weight
- 10 Michael Jones
Robert Marx
- 11 Lane Clark
- 12 Perry Tucker
- 13 Andrea Marx
Jared Hansen
- 16 Zamara Pendleton
- 19 Paul Visser
Michael McLeskey
Dave Hilton
- 21 Ryan Banks
- 22 Dave Maurer
- 28 Rachelle Wells
Adam Jones
- 29 Georgann Lloyd

October 2015

- 2 Sandy Gao
- 3 Oriana Reyes

Relief Society

"The world's greatest champion of women and womanhood is Jesus Christ." (James Talmage)

The Lord gives us so many opportunities to love and lead within our church responsibilities. The largest women's organization in the world is the Relief Society! As we serve quietly and deliberately among our neighbors, may we be blessed to know how much the Savior trusts us to do His work. May we see how He is able to bless others through our simple acts of kindness.

Thank you once again for helping with compassionate service!

Thanks to all those who attended our neighborhood picnic and shared your delicious dishes.

And... a reminder that the "Earthquake Lady" will be presenting a fireside on September 18th at 7:00 p.m. for those interested in getting the latest preparedness information.

Your Relief Society Presidency

Upcoming Welfare Assignments

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

Teachers/ Priests

September 2 - YM activity

September 9 - YM activity

September 16 - Baptisms for the Dead at the Draper Temple

September 23 - YM/YW Combined activity – Outdoor dinner at Milne's at 6:00 pm

September 30 - YM activity

Deacons

The Deacon's quorum was reorganized in August. The new presidency is:

President: Liam Ellis

1st Councilor : Spencer Ellis

2nd Councilor: Lothair Pendleton

Secretary: Kendon Riep

The Deacons will be reading and discussing the book of Matthew in September.

Young Women

September 2 - Personal Progress

September 9 - Canyon Activity at Silver Lake. Walk, Dinner, Treats, & Devotional

September 16 - Baptisms for the Dead at the Draper Temple, Meet at 5:30 pm
Baptistry time is 6:00 pm

September 23 - YM/YW Combined activity – Outdoor dinner at Milne's at 6:00 pm

September 26 - General Women's Broadcast. Watch at church or online.

September 30 - Conference preparation game night

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



Choir

WARD CHOIR MEMBERS

We will be practicing on the third Sunday of each month, (the day of our performance). We will practice in the chapel from 10:15 am to 10:50 am. This will make it simple and painless but still enjoyable for choir members and the congregation.

Our next performance will be September 20th.

The song we will be singing is on page 220 of the Hymn Book, "Lord, I Would Follow Thee".

Please invite young and old to join us in supporting our ward with beautiful music.

See you on the 20th.

Donna Strong
Ward Choir Director



Empty Nesters

Family Home Evening will be held September 14th at 7:00 pm. Mannette Murri 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.

Community News

September is Emergency Preparedness month. If you are CERT trained and/or you are interested in participating in a neighborhood exercise, please contact us at council@willowcanyoncommunity.org

If you want to be involved on the Community Council, also contact us at that email address.



Cub Scouts

We are discussing a new date and time for Pack Meetings. Watch for future information.

Newsletter Submissions

Please submit your contributions for the October newsletter no later than September 29th to dbmahler@velvetshadow.com

All auxiliaries are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter each month.

Primary

Yearly Theme:

"I Know my Savior Lives."

September Theme:

"I obey Jesus Christ because I love Him."

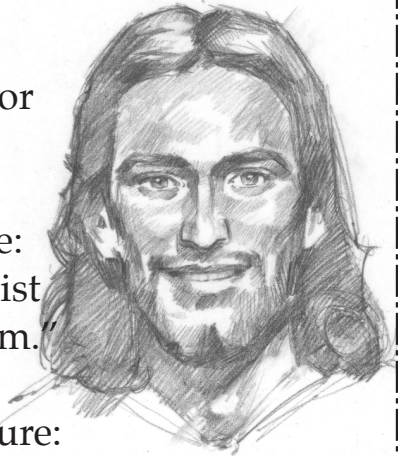
September Scripture:

"If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15)

Our primary program will be on September 27th which is coming up quickly. We have given the children a CD to help them learn the songs and we will be handing out the children's parts in the next week or two so that they can learn them. We would appreciate it if you could please help your children continue to learn their parts and the songs. The children are doing great so far and we are thankful they are so willing to help out and we enjoy the spirit they bring as they sing about Heavenly Father and Jesus.

We would also like to welcome Chloe Smith to primary as a teacher for the 5-7 year olds. She will be a great asset to us and appreciate her willingness to serve.

Thanks,
The Primary Presidency



Provident Living Ideas from the Stake Specialist

Our Stake Emergency Preparedness Specialist, Jeri Russell, has organized a wonderful event to help us be prepared for earthquakes. There will be a special Relief Society and Priesthood get-together on Friday, September 18th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Stake Center.

Be Prepared – Not Scared!

Come and learn what to expect and how to keep your family safe when an earthquake hits. Maralin Hoff, know as the "Earthquake Lady", is a community outreach specialist with Be Ready Utah.

She is highly sought after and has expert, practical advice on earthquake preparedness.

Her presentation is on Friday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stake Center.

Everyone who is interested is welcome.

Our Stake Provident Living Specialist is Cassie Broadhead.

Employment

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