



Waldo Avenue
Restoration Branch

October, 2023

Vol 4 #10

Minutes from the September Women's Meeting

*REJOICE ye Saints of latter days,
lift up your hearts and sing.*

*With one accord unite to praise
your Everlasting King!*

Eight of us met in the sanctuary Saturday, Sept 9th rejoicing as we worshipped and fellowshiped together. Tressie started us off with a lovely worship on rejoicing, this month's theme. After which, Regina Sperry shared with us her thoughts, insights, and experiences with rejoicing.

We received updates on the well being of a few of our members and talked about our next women's meeting which will be Saturday, Oct. 14th from 1 to 3 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will have a guest speaker, Marilyn Middleton, who will share on **Praise**, next month's theme.

Closing the meeting we heard a story about being thankful not only for what we have but, experimenting on being thankful for what we do not have. Examples of not having and being thankful might be: discord within our families, strife in our neighborhood, or an uncaring church.

We sang several hymns- Rejoice Ye Saints of Latter Day, Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee, and closed with singing I Love You, Lord.

Notes from Regina Sperry's talk -

Regina felt that Rejoicing encompasses three words:

- ◆ **Praise** which is the expression of approval or gratitude expressed in words or song.

- ◆ **Thanksgiving**—gratitude for a favor and
- ◆ **Joy**—well being.

Rejoicing is the feeling or showing of great happiness, something we, as Latter Day Saints, should be abounding in.

In the presence of praise, that honors and glorifies God, satan cannot abide, she stated. She then reminded us of scriptures which tell us to -

- ◆ Rejoice in the Lord always
- ◆ The joy of the Lord is our strength
- ◆ Be thankful in all things.

Quoting from Oscar Case she pointed out a series of four things we do to begin to rejoice, they are:

- ◆ Look at ourselves, we need a clean body, mind, and spirit. How do we obtain this? Ask God how to clean up our lives, He will tell us. We must be willing to change.
- ◆ Go to our Prayer Closet at least twice a day, tell the Lord of our sins and repent. The angels rejoice when we do this.
- ◆ Get our homes in order, what doesn't glorify God isn't necessary for us to have if we desire to please Him.
- ◆ Practice now being in God's presence. Ask Him to show us our weaknesses and to guide us.

Her emphasis was *If you love Me, you will never stop rejoicing!*

She pointed out this all takes patience. How long did Moses wait for the flood? How about Joseph in Egypt - how long was he in prison for a crime he did not commit? *Continued on page -3-*

*As the five wise virgins did in the parable of the last days,
Gather and sanctify your oil, before the cry at midnight.*

Prepare yourself through scripture, prayer, fasting, and humble service.

You must take the holy Spirit as a guide in all things that you do in your life.

Heavenly Messenger

In May we sat under the ministry of Elder Gary Hawley who shared his testimony of the events brought to him in the 1970's. Those who were there will recall he said he would be teaching this information in the future at Living Hope R.B. The classes have been live-streamed. For those interested go to LHRB live-stream, click on classes and you will find the heading Heavenly Messenger. These classes are very worthwhile and Spirit filled (even online), and of great benefit. #

*I say unto you, I would that ye should remember to retain the name written always in your heart, that ye are not found on the left hand of God, but that ye **hear and know the voice** by which ye shall be called, and also the name by which He shall call you. (Mos. 3:16)*

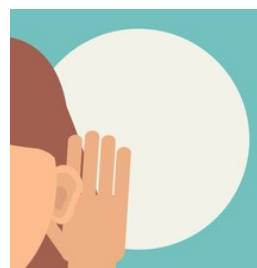
Hearing God by Peter Lord

One of the common problems people have is not being able to recognize the voice of God when they hear it. They do not know Him; consequently His voice is unfamiliar to them.

There is a delightful story in the Old Testament about Samuel's first experience with hearing the voice of the Lord. Young Samuel was learning about God in the temple and was assisting Eli. He did not recognize God speaking to him until Eli enlightened him. (1 Sam 3:1-10)



Not recognizing God's voice is more common among beginners, learners like Samuel. Either they have no idea about God and His manner of speaking or they have preconceived ideas that are wrong. One of the most common experiences I have in encouraging people to listen to God is that they hear Him but cannot believe that it is really the Lord communicating with them. #



Some of the Many Ways God Speaks to us are -

- ⇒ Through the *Scriptures*. Sometimes I open them up to just the right place to see Him speaking to a specific need or task He wants me to do.
- ⇒ Through others. Not only sermons but *testimonies* at Prayer services, through a *word of knowledge* some one has been given to give me or a *remark* they don't even know is speaking to me.
- ⇒ When I am praying He answers my questions right then.
- ⇒ After I have asked—later in the day when I'm not even thinking of what I have prayed about the answer will come *out of the blue*. #

Rejoicing, from page –1– continued

What about Abraham - how long did he wait to have Isaac? And how long did Jesus wait to begin His earthly ministry?

Regina spoke about fear, how fear postpones our rejoicing. Quoting Joshua 1:9, Deut. 31:6, and Isa. 41:10, she spoke first hand about being faced with death through their experience in Guatemala and admonished us: ***No one will take our lives unless God allows it.***

- ◆ Don't postpone the time of your rejoicing.
- ◆ Find our rejoicing in what is happening today with praise, joy and thanking Him.
- ◆ Rejoice in the Lord and take refuge in Him.
- ◆ We are privileged to live in this time and
- ◆ If God has granted you grace—rejoice!

These were the things the Lord brought to us through Regina, we REJOICE that He has cared so much for us to speak to us of His wishes.#

Women's Fall Classes 2023

Tuesday Mornings at 10 a.m.

Sept. 5 through Nov. 21

Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On

Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion (DC11:3).

And this is mine everlasting covenant, that when thy posterity shall embrace the truth, and look upward, then shall Zion look downward, and all the heavens shall shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy (Gen. 9:22 IV).

- ⇒ Sept. 5th *Enoch and the City of Zion*
taught by Pat Chadwick
- ⇒ 12th *Marching to Zion, in Victory, Under God's Banner* Connie Smith
- ⇒ 19th *The Everlasting Covenant and Our Personal Response* Synthia DeBarthe
- ⇒ 26th *The Zionics Principles of Belief and*

Being Poor in Spirit (from the Sermon on the Mount) Sheila Schrunk

- ⇒ October 3rd *Prophecies of Zion and Principles of Zion* Pat Chadwick
- ⇒ 10th *We Are a Called People*
Sylvia Thomas
- ⇒ 17th *Daily Living Out the Kingdom Agenda in Our Lives* Sylvia Powell
(including testimonies from others)
- ⇒ 24th *The Zionics Principles of Becoming the Pure in Heart, the Peacemakers, and Our Response When Persecuted* Bonnie Anderson
- ⇒ 31st *The Zionics Principles of Hungering and Thirsting for Righteousness and Being Merciful to Others* Susan Freeze
- ⇒ November 7th *The Zionics Principles of Becoming Salt and Light* Cara Smith
- ⇒ 14th *The Zionics Principle of Loving Our Neighbors and Our Enemies* Debbie Norman
- ⇒ 21st *Wrap up of the Sermon on the Mount and Zionics Principles for Building the Kingdom* Pat Chadwick

Classes will be held at the OGRB located at 1203 N. Broadway, Oak Grove, Mo. 64075 but, will also be live-streamed. To watch go to OGRB website. For notes and other links click on Restoration Women's Council Facebook page.

These classes are sponsored by Restoration Women's Council and Church of Jesus Christ, Oak Grove R.B.

There is something very special that happens when we physically come together as sisters in Christ to study and pray in one accord. We have found that when we come together in this manner there is a sweet spirit of enlightenment, hope, uplift and encouragement that attends. So it is that we sincerely invite you to come and join with us for the full experience of the morning and partake of this good Spirit, Pat Chadwick.#

Barbara's Testimony

At 6 a.m., Wednesday 9-13th I went to the basement to empty the dehumidifier. When I opened the basement door there was water everywhere, about two feet deep. The sump pump didn't work, the cord had slipped out of the socket and as soon as I plugged it in, it worked great taking all the water out. But, I didn't want to get in the water to do that just then. I did later.

I sat down and asked the Lord who to call, I was in shock at the moment and couldn't think clearly. I called several people, got answering machines. I just wanted referrals, a good plumber they might recommend. I finally got someone who answered, but she didn't know of any and suggested I try calling someone else. I woke him up and he couldn't help me either. Soon a calmness came over me. I had referrals previously for a plumber, I did call them at 7 a.m. but again got a recording. I called one more friend and she recommended Mary, a licensed plumber. I called Mary and she answered the phone!

She came about 10:30 a.m. but right before she came one of the calls I made showed up and found that it was the hot water heater, that is when I plugged in the sump-pump, figuring if he walked in that water and wasn't electrocuted, I could too. The first thing Mary did was to secure that cord so that wouldn't happen again. She assessed the situation and told me they could bring a new water heater the next day.

My friend said to me -

So, you remember Moses parted the red sea, right?

I wasn't there but I've read the story, so?

*"They came across on dry ground, right? That is what you need to pray over your basement, **Lord dry up this ground.*** I did.

The next day one of the things Mary said to me

*When you are tempted to lose patience with someone, think how patient God has been with you **all the time.***

was — *I'm surprised this basement dried up so quickly.* I failed to tell her of my prayer — a missed opportunity.

They replaced the water heater we purchased in 1996,

she told me this one will last 6 years, if I'm lucky maybe 10. Hmm — I prayed that the Lord would keep it going at least as long as I live, after that I won't care.

There are blessings in every challenge we face, some I believe I received are:

- ⇒ My basement floor is clean!
- ⇒ I found a plumber who responded quickly and encouragingly
- ⇒ That *peace that passes understanding* was with me during these two days, a calmness and assurance.
- ⇒ He gave me a sense of humor during this.
- ⇒ My freezer, in the basement, was not damaged, the water was just underneath it as it sits on concrete blocks.
- ⇒ I didn't lose anything of value. Most everything was in plastic containers and on bricks. The only thing I believe I lost was a drill, two lithium batteries and a charger which were in Ziploc bags but water got inside the bags. So I learned not to depend on Ziploc bags.

I have learned to be thankful in all circumstances and am very thankful for these blessings. I KNOW the Lord is with us in all situations and I felt His presence during this whole experience which is evidence to me that He will be with us in the days ahead, we just need to trust Him.#



Faith is not about everything turning out okay. Faith is about being okay no matter how things turn out.

I Know He Lives and Cares for Me

by Phillis Bailey, from Zion's Call spring, 2022,
Vol.31 #1, used with permission.

God has blessed me so many times through my life. He has let me know He is with me and protecting me each and every day.

On a Thursday in April, 2019 while at the Odessa library for quilting group, I was taking some empty plastic sacks and other things to my car and going to bring in something else to work on. The wind was gusting. I lost some bags under my car. Not wanting to litter, I tried to grab them with my long-handled windshield scraper.

As I reached the two under my car, another one got away. I went to chase it, and as I bent down I lost my balance. The wind knocked me over. My glasses went flying. I landed on my face with a cut above my left eye from my glasses. My left hip and shoulder were hurting.

Several people came to my aid. A lady from the library went back in and called an ambulance and brought paper towels for my bleeding face. I was able to move my arms and legs. I could see out of both eyes. I rolled to my back.

When the ambulance arrived, they took my blood pressure and asked questions about sight, blood sugar, and movement. I agreed to be taken to St. Mary's emergency department for further examination. They started I.V. fluids and drew blood at the same time.

My friends from the sewing group gathered my things. They placed them in my car, locked the car, and gave me my purse and keys. They also called my husband to meet me at the hospital.



I left a light on for you, - God.

Upon arriving in the emergency department, the blood was sent to the lab, X-rays were ordered, vital signs were taken, and ice was applied to my forehead, left hip, and left shoulder. I was glad I could see out of my eyes, because I had recently had cataract surgery on both eyes.

The cut above my eye was bleeding a fair amount even with pressure and an ice pack. The cut was through my eyebrow. They cleaned the blood off and put *Steri-strips* on the skin with some glue to help keep the strips in place long enough for healing.

My husband was at the hospital shortly after the ambulance arrived. The emergency staff was very efficient. They got the lab results, the X-ray and CT scan results and the cut fixed up quickly. Instructions were given for care and follow-up with my family practice doctor. I was ready to go home within two hours from arrival.

I was very blessed by our Lord. I had no serious cuts, no broken bones, and no serious head or neck injuries.

I have a very personal testimony of the loving care of our Lord that day right before Christ's Resurrection Day. I know He lives and watches over and cares for me each and every day.#

The Requirement:

Believe in God;

Believe that He is and that He created all things, both in heaven and in earth; Believe that He hath all wisdom and all power, both in heaven and in earth; Believe that man doth not comprehend all the things which the Lord can comprehend.

And again, believe that you must repent of your sins and forsake them, And humble yourselves before God and ask in sincerity of heart that He would forgive you;

*And now if you believe all these things,
see that ye do them!*

And again, I say unto you as I have said before, that as ye have come to the knowledge of the glory of God,

Or if you have known of His goodness and have tasted of His love and have received a remission of your sins, which causeth such exceeding great joy in your souls,

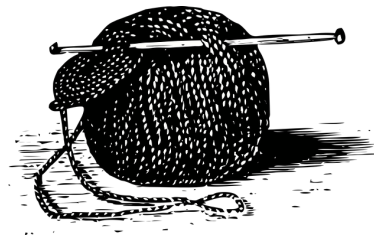
Even so, I would that ye should remember and always retain in remembrance the greatness of God and your own nothingness and His goodness and longsuffering toward you unworthy creatures;

And humble yourselves, even in the depths of humility, calling on the name of the Lord daily, and standing steadfastly in the faith of that which is to come which was spoken by the mouth of the angel.

The Promise:

*And behold, I say unto you that if you do this,
you shall always rejoice and
be filled with the love of God and
always retain a remission of your sins;
and ye shall grow in the knowledge of the glory of Him that created you, or in the knowledge of that which is just and true. (Mos. 2:13-23). #*

***It's not about your ability,
it's about your availability.***



Julies' Testimony

A few weeks ago I started crocheting a pink blanket. I thought I had enough yarn, but since I use leftover pieces people give me, it's sometimes hard to tell. I've made 1/3 of the blanket and last night I realized that I didn't have enough yarn to finish it. I figured I'd need at least three more skeins. I asked the Lord for that.

This morning someone unexpectedly brought me some yarn including a little bit of pastel pink and three balls of variegated pink and purple. The Lord not only sent a little bit more than what I asked for, He sent beautiful colors to match what I had. Thank you Jesus. Julie Schroeder.#

Prayer for Kirtland

Eight of us met (5 from Waldo and 3 from other R.B.) at the home of Sharon Bauman, Friday Sept. 22 at 6:45 p.m. Why 6:45? The priesthood were to gather at Kirtland at 8 p.m. (EST) for a *worship service of preparation* and we met to pray with them at the very time they were meeting. We shared in prayer, sang a couple of hymns and read the following:

Where two or three with sweet accord, obedient to their Sovereign Lord, meet to recount His acts of grace and offer solemn prayer and praise;

There will the gracious Savior be to bless to little company, there to unveil His smiling face and bid His glories fill the place.

We meet at thy command, O Lord, relying on Thy faithful word. Now send Thy Spirit from above and fill our hearts with heavenly love. Amen.
(Gray Hymnal #108).

We indeed had the Holy Spirit present.#