



Waldo Avenue
Restoration Branch

December, 2023 Vol 4 #12

**Minutes from the November
Women's Meeting**

We met Saturday, November 11 with Donna Vasquez sharing the opening worship.

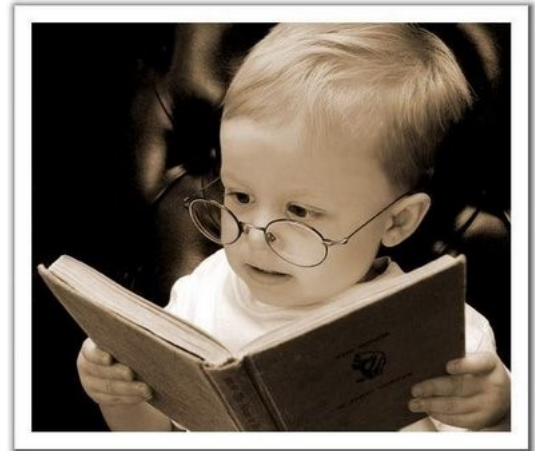
Tressie and Donna were in charge of the service project this month which was Thanksgiving gift bags to several in the branch. We bagged up snacks, devotionals, and various *thinking of you* items.

Our next meeting will be December 9th when Rebecca Griffin will lead us in a service project. We will put together bags for 18 children who currently reside at Hope House. These bags will have small toys, books, crayons, coloring books etc. The women are asked to bring fresh fruit like apples, oranges, tangerines, mandarins and such, please no bananas, candy or unhealthy treats. Any questions, ask Rebecca. All women of the branch are encouraged to participate and bring a friend. We will deliver the bags to Hope House.

Women's meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month, from 1 to 3 p.m. usually in the Cry-Room or the sanctuary. All women are invited.

Upcoming meetings: we will be watching Gary Hawley's Angelic Messenger classes taught at Living Hope Restoration Branch this past year. We also anticipate a few more guest speakers. Hope to have you join us.#

*The best way to keep children home
is to make the home atmosphere pleasant
and let the air out of the tires.*



**Read Any Good
Books Lately?**

Just as we do not understand the Lamanite thinking and culture—see Marlin Guin POZ sermon 10-20-23 live-streamed at WARB website—do we understand the Jewish thinking and culture? Those whom God tells us are His own?

I've been reading a book a friend gave me entitled Called to Breakthrough, an Autobiography by Rabbi Kirt A. Schneider. Charisma House publishers, 2021. In his book he goes into great detail about the Jewish community he grew up in outside of Cleveland, Ohio. He talks about his own life of not knowing God. He discusses the culture and thinking of the Jewish community. His own personal *breakthrough* when Jesus, someone he had never known, appeared to him in a dream. He discusses the gathering of Jews to Jerusalem and why Christian Jews are not allowed to gather, in fact are very much hated by the Jews, explaining why Jews dislike Christians. I believe this is a must read if we are ever going to be able to fulfill the Lords commands.#

*If you will be obedient to keep the two great commandments of
Love for the Father, Son,
and the Holy Ghost,
and one another as your neighbors,
I will yet use you for this purpose
and stewardship that I have given you.
If not, my purposes will not fail,
but, as I said in former years,
I will raise up another people.*
(Kirtland message 9-2022).

What Impedes the Coming Kingdom?

From the Seminar on Zion, 1967 and Selected Writings by Arthur Oakman

Seminar on Zion, Oakman said

What impedes the coming kingdom?

Not lack of wealth, not lack of gifts or talents, not lack of opportunity. **The thing that impedes the coming of the kingdom is the fact that we have not learned the truth of the first commandment...** And if you love God with all your heart, mind, might, and strength then your “self”, which is you, will be cleansed and purified and made white and clean, and with such of self you can be left safely to love your fellow men. This is the essence of the kingdom of God.

From Selected Writings

Competition, hatred, and malice have released tremendous powers in our world. But in so doing, they have destroyed men and cities and nations. Love, mutual regard and fraternity have also released tremendous powers; and these have exalted people. As Paul says, *they have come unto mount Sion and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels* (Heb. 12:23).

Zion’s foundation are in the love of God and love of man. When these two commandments prevail on the earth in a modern city, heaven and earth shall come together; those who have from the realm of light visited this benighted world shall be reunited with their children on earth. The day of preparation will be complete. The hearts of the children will be tuned to the fathers and the fathers to the children and the city will be set upon a hill, no more to be hid.

Let the members and ministry of the Church in these the last days practice these two commandments; and they shall find themselves **Living Stones**, *built up to God on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, a habitation of God through the Spirit*. Then let there come disaster, war, famine, whirlwind, depression, and what not—such things shall not move Zion but simply increase the love and pity that her inhabitants have for all men and cement her firmer on the foundation of Christ.

Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ (1Peter 2:5).#

Unity Center Needs

Blankets! If you have new or gently used, clean, and in good condition—no stains, rips, etc. you would like to donate to Team Jesus, they will be very happy to receive them. Usually when we take blankets in they don’t even make it to the distribution center shelf, they go straight to Beloved’s in need.#



Praise

*By Him therefore let us offer the **sacrifice of praise** to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. But, to do good and to communicate forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased (Hebrews 13:15-16).*

So what is the sacrifice of praise?

It's praising God in all circumstances, all situations, **even when we don't feel like it**, in spite of our emotions or even when our situation doesn't make any sense to us. **We praise Him!**

Although (even if) the fig tree does not bloom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls; Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and He will make my feet like hinds' feet and He will make me to walk upon mine high places (Hab. 3:17-19).

You know, when it really comes down to it — do we depend upon ourselves or on God? We know *with God nothing can be impossible* (Luke 1:37).

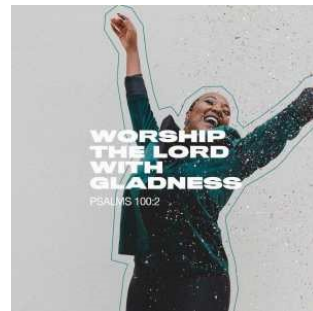
It is always easier to praise God when everything is going well, but, the true test of our faith is when things are difficult, we meet challenges or walls that seem too high to climb over, that is when we need to be constantly bringing our hearts and minds into agreement with our Father in praise.

Praise shifts the atmosphere and translates us into the presence of the Holy Spirit.

- ⇒ When things seem insurmountable—Praise Him Anyway!
- ⇒ When we or a loved one is sick or going through a trial—Praise Him Anyway!
- ⇒ When the world is out of control and seems full of confusion—Praise Him Anyway!

No matter what it appears like, God is faithful.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted? Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance (Ps. 42:5).



O then, if I have seen so great things, if the Lord in His condescension unto the children of men hath visited me in so much mercy, why should my heart weep and my soul linger in the valley of sorrow?

...awake, my soul! No longer droop in sin; Rejoice O my heart! And give place no more for the enemy of my soul; ...Rejoice, O my heart! And cry unto the Lord and say, O Lord, I will praise Thee forever! Yea, my soul will rejoice in Thee, My God and the Rock of my Salvation (2N3:42-50).#

A Prayer for Women's Ministries

Lord, I lift up our Women's Ministry. Encourage our older women to train the young in family issues. Teach our women to be virtuous, women with gentle and quiet spirits who put their hope in You. Let this ministry produce women who feel Your passion for them and who choose to spend time at Your feet. Train them to contend for the gospel side by side with the men. In Jesus name, Amen.

That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children. To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed (Titus 2:3-4).

Additional reading — 1Pet. 3:4-5; Prov. 31; Luke 10:38-42.#

How Well Do You Know The Book of Mormon?

1. What is the purpose of the Book of Mormon? (Forward)
2. Who quoted the Ten Commandments in the Book of Mormon? (Mosiah 7:95)
3. Who is referred to who went from among the Gentiles upon many waters and came to the promised land? (1Nephi 3:147)
4. What prophecy of Christ's birth is given in the Book of Mormon but not in the Old Testament? (Helaman 5:59)
5. Where did the people of Zarahemla come from? Omni 1:26)
6. What does Abinadi emphasize about the Godhead? (Mosiah 8:28-32)
7. What title was given Melchizedek? (Alma 10:14)
8. In what year did the great storm begin? (3Nephi 4:6)
9. Who appeared after the great destructive storm? (3Nephi 5:8-11)
10. What was the key issue Jesus taught the Nephites about Baptism? (3Nephi 5: 23-27)
11. The Book of Mormon makes it clear that what type of baptism is not of the Lord? (Moroni 8:11-17)
12. When Alma was finished preaching to the church in Zarahemla he ordained priests and elders by what principle of the gospel discussed by Paul in Heb. 6:2)? (Alma 4:1)
13. Paul in Hebrews 6:1 enumerates the first basic principle of the *doctrine of Christ*. Is this found in the Book of Mormon? (1Nephi 3:28)
14. Where did Jesus go when He left the Promised Land? (3Nephi 8:4)
15. If the Book of Mormon had been written in Hebrew, what would have been eliminated? (Mormon 4:99)

Julies' Testimony



Several months ago as a way of practicing listening to the Lord and planting seeds, I started giving out scripture cards I'd made to store clerks and people I'd meet. I used the supplies I had to make the cards and after I'd given these out I went through the cards I'd already made and added a scripture verse to those that weren't *birthday* or *get well* cards, etc. Last week I was down to one card left to hand out. I again looked through my supplies, but didn't have what I needed to make more cards. I decided I would wait a few days and then make what cards I could even if it was only two or three cards. That was Tuesday.

On Saturday I went to women's meeting and a lady handed me pieces of whole cardstock, exactly what I was needing to make my cards. Four days later on Wednesday I used all the cardstock for my scripture cards. I also wanted to make cards for the Thanksgiving baskets and winter bags that the women's department gives to various people.

I asked the Lord to provide what I needed. Today, Friday, I needed a plastic storage box for some items so I went through what I had downstairs. All the boxes were sorted and labeled and everything was in its proper place except in one box I found some cards I'd made in 2016 and also a few more supplies. I have no idea how they got where they were.

Thank you Jesus. Julie Schroeder.#

Steady,

patient,

preserving thinking

will generally surmount every obstacle

in search of truth.

Nathanael Emmons

