



Waldo Avenue

Restoration Branch

January, 2024

Vol 5 #01

Minutes from December, 2023 Women's Meeting

The last women's meeting for 2023 was held Saturday, December 9th in the Cry-Room. Rebecca gave us a thought-provoking story of Jesus birth. We then bagged up 18 gift-bags for children currently living at Hope House. Each bag had a lovely new, plush blanket along with fresh fruit, snacks, coloring books, crayons, story books and more. The bags were delivered the following week.

We ended our meeting with a reading from Max Lucado's book reviewed in this newsletter and listening to a song by Steve Greene entitled *He Who Began a Good Work in You*.

Next Women's meeting is Saturday, January 13th at 1 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will be watching Part #4 of *Heavenly Messenger*, a series of classes taught by Gary Hawley and live-streamed at LHRB. There are some who do not have computer access and this is a good way to view these important classes.

January's theme is Praise, Daniel 2:23 which says *I thank Thee, and praise Thee, O Thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, ...#*

24 Hour Prayers

A few months ago I received a request from another Restoration Branch to help them with their once-a-month 24 hour prayer vigil. An opportunity to help another branch and to join with others in praying for the city, our children, our schools and other requests.

How it works: people sign up for one-hour

increments, then right before the 24 hour period, which is on a Saturday they are emailed the topic for that times prayer vigil.

We've helped three times, I've called various women asking them if they will take on an hour. My own personal experience has been very rewarding. First of all, I am amazed I can pray continually for an hour, however, as we all know a hymn is a prayer too and I love to sing the hymns.

If you would like to join in this endeavor contact me, Barbara Dutton, and when they call again for assistance I'll give you a call.#

Oats in a Jar #2

In a jar put

1 cup almond milk or any kind you like

2 T Protein Powder of your choice

1/2 cup oat flake, preferably old fashioned not quick

1 ripe banana cut into bite-size pieces or dried fruit of your choice like currents or raisins

2 T Chia seeds

2 T nut butter of your choice

1 T or less sweetener ie. honey, maple syrup.

Stir and cap, put in refrigerator over night.

Top it with nuts of your choice in the a.m.#

***I will praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart;
I will show forth all Thy marvelous works. I will
be glad and rejoice in Thee; I will sing praise to
Thy name, O Thou Most High. Ps. 9:1-2***

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 anyway!

*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 — *For 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. We need to be constantly bringing our hearts and minds into agreement with our Father.

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.

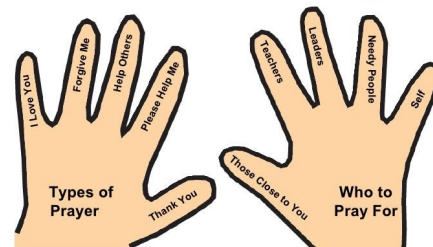
No matter what it appears like, God is faithful.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art

thou disquieted I me? 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).

Hands For Prayer



A grandfather was walking through his yard when he heard his granddaughter repeating the alphabet in a tone of voice that sounded like prayer.

He asked her what she was doing.

The little girl explained: *I’m praying, but cant think of exactly the right words, so I’m just saying all the letters, and God will put them together for me because He knows what I’m thinking. #*

A Worship Opportunity

Saturday evening at 5 p.m. January 6, 2024 the CRE is sponsoring a combined worship service led by Jay Havener who is from Michigan. Come and worship together, this is not a women’s ministries event but open to all Restoration branches.#

Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither; the LORD GAVE, AND THE Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. Job 1:21

The Signs

There were signs in the heavens at the birth of Jesus, both in Jerusalem and in the land of the Nephites. The wise men found Christ by paying attention to the star and following it. Twenty-five times in the scriptures we are told that in the last days, before Christ's return, there will be signs and wonders in the heavens and to be watching for them.

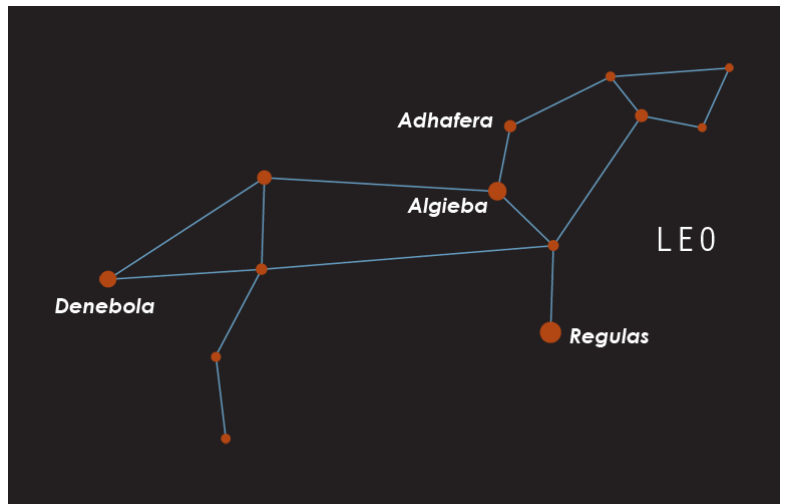
In 2014-15 we had several examples of signs with four Red-Blood Moons and two Solar Eclipses. Another Red-Blood Moon is due in 2025. There have been abundant signs already given.

Pat Chadwick received the following information from Aaron Smith: in August the comet Nishimura was discovered. The path of this comet is significant. The comet comes down through Leo the Lion, who represents Christ. The stars in Leo's constellation are very meaningful, with names such as,

- **Arich** = a Lion coming vehemently, leaping forth as a flame,
- **Regulus** = Treading Under Foot,
- **Denebola** = the Judge, or the Lord Who Cometh.
- The star in Leo's mane is **Algiebha** = Exaltation.
- The star on Leo's back is **Zosma** = Shining forth.
- Then the comet splits Virgo in half. **Virgo** not only represents the Virgin Mary but also the Church.

Can you see what this comet is telling us? Did Jesus ever speak about such a time when people in the church would be cut off? The parable of the Ten Virgins tells us of just such a time. This is to occur as the Bridegroom cometh.

The Jews in Jesus day missed the signs and did not know that Christ had come. Will we miss the signs and be unprepared today at His return? Will you be cut off as He quietly comes before His coming in glory? Are you ready? Let us be excited and



prepared for His return this time, as a *King of Kings* and the *Lord of Lords*. The signs in the heavens are telling us it is the *season* right before His return. Get excited, get busy, get oil in your lamp and be ready.

Pat Chadwick, OGRB December, 2023#

Julies Testimony

Last week my phone went out. I called the phone company and they said they would send a technician Saturday or Monday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. I called the request in Friday morning.

I waited all day Saturday—nothing . About 3:30 p.m. Monday I got the feeling that no one was going to come so I called again. They said the line had been fixed the previous Friday. After much insisting on my part, they agreed to send someone out by 6 p.m. Monday.

About 5:40 p.m. the technician arrived and said the problem was not outside. That meant that I would be charged \$100. for the service call. He also said that it was probably a complicated problem. He couldn't fix it which would have meant that I wouldn't have a phone. As he worked I continued praying a prayer I had started 4 days earlier.

The result was it was a simple thing to fix. I have a phone again. And he didn't charge me the \$100. service charge. Thank you Jesus! Julie Schroeder, Nov. 2023. #

How Does the Book of Mormon Enhance What is Taught in the New Testament?

Believers should read and study the New Testament, the Old Testament, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, excellent writings of the New Testament era such as the Letter of Clement, etc. in particular, Ezekiel 37:16-17 ...*take one stick and write upon it, For Judah, ... then take another stick and write upon it, For Ephraim (Joseph), ... and join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.*

Some things are mentioned in the New Testament, but more fully explained in the Book of Mormon, some of these follow:

- ⇒ That Christ did visit the Americas would seem to be an expansion of the comment at John 10:16 *Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold...* (Third Nephi).
- ⇒ The New Testament has a few, sparse comments on life after death, but the Book of Mormon has more information on where the spirit goes at death, and information on resurrection (3Nephi 7:16-23).
- ⇒ How to gain true faith is given more detailed in the Book of Mormon (Alma 16:125-173).
- ⇒ The inter-relationship of mercy and justice is discussed in more depth in such passages as Alma 19.
- ⇒ The Book of Mormon offers more information on the *fall* of human beings (Alma 9:38-10:32).
- ⇒ Closely related is the subject of the atonement. This is certainly explained in the New Testament, but perhaps given more emphasis in the Book of Mormon (2Nephi 6:10-56).
- ⇒ There is still debate in the Christian world as to whether the bread and wine literally become the body and blood of Christ or not. The Book of Mormon clarifies that the bread and wine are symbols: ... *eat in remembrance of the body of Thy Son* ... (Moroni 4:4).
- ⇒ The concept of two Jerusalem's in the Millennial age is taught in the Book of Mormon, but the New Testament refers only to one holy city ... the holy city ... coming down from God ... (Ezek. 48:35, Rev. 3:12, Ether 6;5-8).
- ⇒ Some Christians have read the New Testament in a way to conclude that only good human beings or faithful Christians are to be resurrected. The Book of Mormon makes clear that every human who has lived on this earth will be resurrected, and with a marvelous body free of defects (2Nephi 1:65-80, 6:31-32).
- ⇒ The New Testament seems to be reasonably clear that the law of Moses ended with the death of Christ. Still, some groups have continued to parse the words in a way to try to retain the law of Moses as lawful for Christians now. The Book of Mormon is clear that the law of Moses ended with the death of Christ. Such things as burnt offerings are ended under the New Covenant (3 Nephi 7:3-12). The New Testament does not clarify that.
- ⇒ Slavery is absolutely wrong. King Benjamin in essence says this, and it is never contradicted in later portions of the Book of Mormon (Mosiah 1:44).
- ⇒ A man should have but one wife while the two are alive. It seems safe to say that more than once the Book of Mormon speaks against a man having a second wife or a mistress (Jacob 1:15, 2:33; Ether 4:45).
- ⇒ One should not discriminate on the basis of skin color. *Wherefore a commandment I give unto you, which is the word of God, that ye revile no more against them (Lamanites) because of the darkness of their skins...* (Jacob 2:60). Putting 11 and 12 together, where is there any room for human slavery?
- ⇒ Two things are never clarified about children, in the New Testament. First, if a child dies without baptism, are they saved? The New Testament is unclear. The Book of Mormon teaches that ...*all little children are alive in Christ*, and also they that are without the law. (Moroni 8:25). The small child who dies is immediately in the arms of his or her loved ones above, and blessed by Christ.
- ⇒ Second, should an infant or small child be baptized? The New Testament is unclear. The same chapter of Moroni quoted above is adamant that small children need no baptism.

To be fair some matters receive more attention in the New Testament than they do in the Book of Mormon. Both books have unqualified value. We need both. We should study both. *The above is from Roundtable, P.O. Box 138, Independence, Mo. 64051#*

Called to Duty Through a Vision

The following comes from Marvelous and Manifestations of God's Power in the Latter Days, compiled by Elder Rannie, Published by Ensign Publishing House, Independence, Missouri 1912. Selected and edited by Paul Ludy, Copyright 2012 by Paul Ludy and Associates, used with permission..

In the spring of 1864 I attended General Conference at Amboy, Illinois. One day during an intermission between meetings, Brother W. W. Blair came to me and asked me if I did not desire to be ordained an elder. He told me he had received the evidence of the Spirit it was my calling.

The duty of a teacher was quite enough responsibility for me, and I told him so. I further told him I had been taught—in fact, he had taught me—that no man should accept that office, nor indeed should he be ordained to the priesthood, except he be called of God as was Aaron by revelation. I argued that if God desired me as an elder, He ought to manifest to me individually that I might know He had called me.

He asked me if I had ever made it a subject of prayer. No, I never had. He then told me that he had received the testimony of the Spirit of God that it was my calling; and if I would make it a special subject of prayer, I would receive the evidence—that God would manifest Himself to my satisfaction that I was in titled to it.

That night before lying down to rest, I engaged in earnest prayer to know God's will in the matter, for in my heart I wished to do what my heavenly Father desired me to do. I lay down on my bed thinking upon the matter—not having received any manifestation. As I thus meditated, I became conscious of a change in my surroundings. I remember the thought being in my mind: *Am I asleep and dreaming?* The change was so great, I wondered what the end would be. I became so intensely interested in what I saw that I forgot all else.

I seemed to be standing on a plain; and to the westward rose a large mound, sloping gradually in every direction. On top of this mound was a speaker's stand beneath a few trees. The stand was built of heavy two-inch pine lumber, such as we used to call *grub pine*. I could see two-inch auger holes through them. While I looked upon the stand and wondered, my attention was called to the sides of the mound. I looked, and as far as my sight reached, each way was a mass of people, all standing up.

I turned to look again at the stand; I saw two men on the platform with two books on the rest before them. I was conscious these men had been or were then speaking to the multitude. I was filled with a desire to get near and hear what was said. I began to push the folks either way and crown forward, when the two men on the stand stepped down and came directly toward me. The people separated and moved back, leaving a pathway just about wide enough for two to pass comfortably. As they came directly toward the east, they were chatting with the people. I stopped and waited until they drew near.

One of them, who seemed a little the taller of the two, first spoke to me, calling me by name and shaking my hand. I remember I thought it strange that he should be the taller. As he released my hand, the other man, who had been speaking to someone, turned toward me and grasped my hand.

Calling me by name, he said, *Alexander, you go on up and take your place. We are going away. We will be gone for a season, but we will return again.* He held my hand while he was talking and pointed up toward the stand. I looked,; and the multitude stood just as they did when the two passed through, leaving a clear pathway up to the stand. The two men bade me good-bye and walked on toward the east. They walked upward through the air until they went out of sight. Oh, what grand sensations came over me!

When I realized my surroundings, I was sitting up in bed, weeping with joy. It was my father (Joseph Continued next page

Read Any Good Books Lately?

No Wonder They Call Him the Savior

by Max Lucado, from the back of the book:

When your life feels hollow, what can fill it with meaning? If someone asked you What makes Christianity different from any other religion? How would you respond? When you need

reassurance that someone deeply loves you, where do you go?

The Cross

You have seen it. You have worn it. Maybe you have even prayed to it. But do you know it? Any serious study of the Christian claim is, at its essence, a study of the cross. To accept or reject Christ without careful examination of Calvary is like deciding on a car without looking at the engine. (Well, for some of us that really wouldn't matter, I don't really know what I'm looking at.)

So take a good look at the cross. Examine this hour in history. Look at the witnesses. Listen to the voices. Watch the faces.

Most of all observe the one they call The Savior. Because what He did is the one thing that matters most of all.

I have read some of Mr. Lucado's writings, my favorite is the story of—Max and the Rabbi. I've read this book and found it compelling. It's like being right there and hearing, seeing and watching everything that went on, as the above review says. There are stories that seem to come alive. At the end of the book is a study guide for further in-depth study.

I found this book at a thrift store, while looking for other materials about *hearing God*. I am so thankful I was led to pick it up.#

Called to Duty Through a Vision

Smith, Jr.) and Uncle Hyrum (Smith) whom I had seen. My uncle had spoken to me first, but it was my father who held my hand and bade me go ahead and take my place. I was satisfied God had made my duty plain, and I offered no further objection.

While the Spirit was still on me, ere I fell asleep after the vision, the interpretation was given me in full—except the statement, *We are going away. We will be gone for a season, but we will return again.* I have never received the meaning to my full satisfaction of that part, *We will be gone for a season.* I can understand their coming again in the morn of the resurrection; but the period of time—a *season*—what does it mean?

On the next day, or possibly the second following the vision, I met Brother Blair. He inquired of me, *Have you received any testimony yet?*

I answered, *Yes.*

I thought so, he remarked. I felt impressed that you had.

I was ordained an elder, and since then have had many interesting experiences, some of which I feel like making a record of for the benefit of others.

(Early Ministerial Experiences by Alexander H. Smith, *Autumn Leaves*, volume 10, pages 529-530).#

Unity Center Update

Team Jesus went on a life saving journey the end of December to El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico taking a semi-truck load of much needed shoes, winter clothes, coats, hats, gloves, scarves, for men, women and children. This endeavor was to help clothe refugees in dire need.

Needs still exist at the Unity Center especially blankets, new or gently used, clean, no rips, tears, stains etc. Coats, gloves and hats are needed, as well. If you would like to give service, a few women from WARB go on Tuesday mornings, 10 a.m. until noon. Contact Barbara Dutton if you would like to help, all hands are welcome.#