



BOUNTIFUL NORTH CANYON FIFTH WARD

SPIRE

January 2020

The Spirit of Conversion *by Bishop Michael Wright*

During the holidays, I was reflecting on the Savior and what it means to be converted to His Gospel. As I took the time to celebrate his birth, I have been thinking about the joy, happiness, and comfort the Gospel brings to my life and how I could be a better neighbor and friend.

I continue to reflect on the blessings received by those that live in our neighborhood and how so many people benefit from service and faith. There have been many wonderful miracles come to pass in 2019. I am excited to see what miracles come about in 2020. I have seen the spirit of Alma's discourse alive in our neighborhood as spoken in Mosiah 18:9-10:

9. Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life—

10. Now I say unto you, if this be the desire of your hearts, what have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you?

I have witnessed the comforting of those who needed comfort and friends and neighbors have answered the call to bear one another's burdens. There have been visits, calls, meals, selfless acts of service, blessings to heal and comfort the sick, all rendered from neighbor to neighbor. Our youth continue to serve those around us with their acts of service. Undoubtedly, there are more acts of service and comfort that we don't even know about and probably never will, but these kind gestures do not go unnoticed by those who receive them and certainly don't go unnoticed by heavenly witnesses who record these acts as our testimony of living the Gospel.

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In keeping with Stake President Cory Coleman's desire for more brethren to have the opportunity to serve in bishoprics, Randon Jensen (left) has been called as the new 2nd Counselor and Bishop Martel Steckler (right) has been called as 1st Counselor to Bishop Wright. The ward loves and is so appreciative of Brothers Andy Schnebly and James Gardner for their wonderful service the past few years.

Congratulations!

Nathaniel Rodgers who entered the MTC on December 4

Elizabeth Barnett who returned from her mission to the Phillipines

Michael & Codee Hansen on their marriage

New Ward Callings

Bishopric

Bishopric 1st Counselor - Martel Steckler

Bishopric 2nd Counselor - Randon Jensen

Relief Society

Kathy Gardner - Relief Society President

Linda Schneider - RS 1st Counselor

Tamara Brice - RS 2nd Counselor

Elisa Felley - RS Ministering Secretary

Kristy Andersen - RS Compassionate Service Committee

Dana Jankowski - RS Humanitarian Committee

Elders Quorum

Cody Reed - EQ Assistant Secretary

Robert Aycock - EQ Instructor

Matthew Brice - EQ Instructor

Young Women

Amy Hunter - YW Advisor

Jessica Ericksen - YW Ward Camp Director

Sunday School

Britnie Larsen - Sunday School Teacher

Bailee Cooper - Sunday School Teacher

Robert Aycock - SS Gospel Doctrine Teacher

Holley Morrill - SS Gospel Doctrine Teacher

Young Men

Aaronic Priesthood Advisors: Josh Hansen, Priests; Casey Miller, Teachers; Brian Green, Deacons

Aaronic Priesthood Specialists: Steve Freebairn, Nate Barton - Priests; Mark-David Freebairn, Brandon Miller - Teachers; Todd Jankowski, Matt Draper - Deacons

Primary

Elena Davis - Primary Girls Act. Days Leader

Darryl & Susan Brown, Andrew Morrill, Robin Phillips - Primary Boys Act. Days Leaders

Tiffanie Hansen - Primary Worker

Jenna & Joe Cutler - Primary Workers

Ken Barnett - Building Coordinator

James Gardner - Ward Mission Leader

Heidi Holmes - Ward Activities Leader

Stake Choir callings: Nathan Davis, Reed

Hunter, Jana & Todd Jankowski, Diana Rogers, Wendy Hooker

Thoughts & Prayers

There are many in our neighborhood who have been ill, have experienced an accident and/or surgery. Please keep all those in our midst in your prayers.

Welcome New Neighbors!

Christine Applegate

Laura Fisher & children

Many thanks to all those who have served so diligently in the Scouting program, some for many, many years. Their service has been invaluable for so many young men.

Girls Advancing to Young Women for 2020

Lily Freebairn, Bo Tippetts, Grace Baker and Elsa Jensen

Boys Advancing to Young Men and Aaronic Priesthood for 2020

McGuire Barton, Ammon Erickson, Cedric Hunter, Bowen Reed and Jayden Sorensen



Evan Phillips (Steve & Shannon) had his birthday in late December and is excited to be 12! He is sweet, dependable, artistic and funny. He loves hanging out with friends, playing video games, and watching YouTube. Evan loves fishing, riding bikes, go-carting and all things cars. He wants to drive rally cars when he grows up. He will forever be the best Christmas present his parents ever received. Evan is a great brother and his family loves him!



Sadie Stats is turning sweet 16! Her family is so proud of her and the young woman she has become. She is kind, loving, thoughtful and smart. She has a love for all things related to paleontology, pokémon, Harry Potter and legos. She loves pretty much everyone she meets

and everyone she meets loves her. She is such a wonderful blessing to her family and everyone who knows her!



Benjamin Freebairn (Mark-David & Jessie) is the newest eight-year-old in the ward and super excited to be baptized! He has been looking forward to this for a whole year. He has been preparing by reading The Book of Mormon. Ben is a great brother and loves to be a helper in his family.

Ben enjoys serving and cares about others. Happy Birthday, Ben!



Bo Tippets is an amazing, kind, thoughtful and sweet young woman who is turning 12. She gets top grades in school and is a social butterfly. If she isn't making funny videos with her friends and siblings, then she can be found with her three adored dogs. Bo loves the beach, is a skilled swimmer and loves to snow ski. Bo loves to make people laugh! She is very excited to enter the Young Women's program.



Lily Freebairn (Steve & Brooke) turns 12 with this new year and is delighted to "finally" be starting YW. She has loved her years in Activity Days and Primary and is grateful to have had such wonderful leaders and teachers. She is smart, spunky and always helpful and optimistic. With a house full of boys, she's ready for a class full of girls! Have a great 2020, Lily!



Bowen Reed has just turned 12. He enjoys anything outdoors - loves camping, four wheeling, archery and shooting guns. He is very helpful and likes to help his dad fix things and learns very quickly when working with his hands! Bowen loves animals, especially dogs. He loves pickles and lemons - he even drinks the pickle juice! He makes his family laugh, and has a great sense of humor. Life would be very dull without our Bowen! His family loves him very much.



We, the new Relief Society Presidency, are truly grateful for the opportunity to serve and to get to know you better than ever before! We are so thankful for the sacrifice and love from Holley, Amy, Anita and Lindsay. They left a beautiful legacy of love to follow.

We are so thankful for the opportunity we had to meet with so many of you during our special Relief Society meeting this past Sunday. What a treat it was to join with our sisters serving in Primary and Young Women! We also are thrilled to have so many ministering sisters that are Young Women. The focus of our meeting was “Seeing the 2020 Vision of Ministering.” Sister Jean Bingham, our General RS President taught, “We need to understand that all assignments, interviews, and visits should be prayerful, personal, simple, and flexible.” We have great confidence in each of you sisters to try this year to be a true friend to your sisters and be the first line of help reaching out to them. We need you! We are so thankful for every tiny, simple, inspired thing you do.

If one woman is a great force for good, just imagine what 126 sisters all working together could do to bless our ward and neighborhood! Lets make 2020 a year filled with genuine friendship and love!

Kathy Gardner, Linda Schnieder and Tammy Brice

RS Lesson Schedule

January 2020

- **Jan. 12** - “Power to Overcome the Adversary”
• by Elder Peter M. Johnson/Brooke Freebairn
- **Jan. 26** - “Honoring His Name”
• by Sister Lisa L. Harkness/Mindie Dalley
• Ward Conference - lesson subject to change



The new Relief Society presidency for the North Canyon 5th Ward is Tammy Brice (left) 2nd Counselor, Kathy Gardner, President and Linda Schneider, 1st Counselor. It's with much love and appreciation that we say goodbye to the outgoing presidency - Sister Holley Morrill, Anita Ralph, Amy Hunter and Lindsay Pearson.

Bishop's Message Continued from Page 1

“Nevertheless, ye are blessed, for the testimony which ye have borne is recorded in heaven for the angels to look upon; and they rejoice over you, and your sins are forgiven you.” (D&C 62:3) Without a doubt, 2020 will bring more opportunities to comfort those that need comfort.

I have watched our ward help friends and neighbors come to a greater knowledge of the Gospel as neighbors stood *“as a witness of God at all times and in all things, and in all places.”* There have been great strides made in strengthening each other’s testimonies of the Gospel through teaching and example. Again, this work is not done. There will be many opportunities to “stand as a witness” in 2020.

ELDERS QUORUM

Dear Brethren,

As the old year fades and the New Year approaches we wanted to take this time to reflect on our progress as Priesthood holders. We as a presidency want to thank the brethren that have dedicated themselves to the Lord and that our walking the covenant path. We want those that have had a tough year and are struggling to know that the Lord is aware of you and loves you, as do we.

We wish to extend a warm welcome to those who have accepted callings in the quorum: Cody Reed, as assistant secretary, and Robert Acock and Matt Brice as instructors.

Please take a few minutes when you can and ask yourself these few questions with honest answers.

1. How are my families getting along temporally and spiritually?
- 2a. What are their challenges?
- b. How are those challenges being met?
3. Are my family's current efforts and long-range plans moving them closer to the Lord?
4. Am I praying specifically for my families and their needs?
5. Would the Lord be happy with me and the way I am honoring his Priesthood?

We look forward to the upcoming year with excitement to work with you on building the Lord's kingdom here in Bountiful. We love you more than you know and are grateful for the privilege to work side-by-side with you. Happy New Year!

Your Elders Quorum Presidency

Temple and Family History January 2020

What do you know about your ancestors? Do you have a favorite story about an ancestor? Perhaps you have some pioneer ancestors. There are many stories about our pioneer ancestors. Do you know how your ancestors became acquainted with the Gospel? Do you know when an ancestor was baptized?

Many families have stories that have been passed down. Some of these stories have been posted to Family Search and by going there you can often learn much about your family history. If you do not have a Family Search account, it's time to get one. It is not hard. If you need help there are ward temple and family history consultants who are willing to help.

Believe it or not, it is great fun to learn about our ancestors, where they came from, what their occupation was and many other things about them. Be sure to share stories with your family especially with your children.

If you need assistance with your family history, you may email Brother Schreiner at: lschreiner@earthlink.net and his phone number is 801-295-4785.

***Sunday, January 26
Ward Conference***

As we make goals this New Year, may we keep in mind the strength, comfort and happiness the Gospel brings and be willing to share that with those around us. May we follow the counsel of Alma to "to bear one another's burdens, to mourn with those that mourn, to comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as a witness of God at all times and in all things, and in all places." As friends and neighbors follow this council, we will receive those blessings promised from Heaven "to be redeemed of God and have eternal life." We pray for all to have a prosperous and happy New Year.

Love, Fifth Ward Bishopric

Fifth Ward Sub-4-Santa Brings Shoes to Elementary Children

Starting in November, the Young Women got our ward started by creating ornaments on a tree with children's names and shoe sizes that we chose. Then on December 4, we had a fun wrapping party, with stories and refreshments. More than 100 presents of shoes, blankets and other necessities were gaily wrapped and then, the real fun started!

The presents were delivered to elementary students in Salt Lake, much to their amazement and delight. What fun the children had opening their gifts! Later they sent thank-you letters to all of us. (Please see facing page for some of their tender remarks.) One of the most touching comments was from a child who said, "I like them because I nevr have a new shoes."

Many thanks to all those who organized, purchased, donated, wrapped, delivered and helped in any way. Special thanks to Sister Judy Wilson who has been helping and donating her time, energy and money to this endeavor for several years.





I like my shoes so much.

"I like my shoes so much. Thank You for giving me thees nise shoes. I like them because they are like my friends."

Dear Donor
I love the shoes you gave me. They will help me run faster and keep me awake. They are awesome and make a big stomp.

Shoppa

"I love the shoes you gave me. They will help me run faster and keep me awake. They are awesome and make a big stomp"

"Thank you for the shoes and I like them because tha are prfec (perfect). I love the shoes."

Dear Donor,
thank you for the shoes and I like them because they are pink.

LOVE, Harmony

I hope you have happy holidays with your family Christmas Shoes

"Dear Donor, thank you for the shoes and I like them because they are pink. I hope you have happy holidays with your family." Love, Harmony



Love
Jasmin

"Thank you for gingn me shoes. I like them because they are so pride."

Dear Donor

Thank you for a new shoes
I like them because I never
have a new shoes
Christmas

"Thank you for a new shoes. I like them because I never have a new shoes."
Christmas Love April

"Thank you for giveing me dos nice shoes. I like them because they are nice. I like how you work hard."

"I like my shoes kus its the best kулr (color?).
Yu are the best kus you are the best."

"Thank you for gif me des nis (nice) shoes.
You are nis. I am so habe (happy)."



"Thank you for giveing me new shoes because new shoes are the best." (In the photo the little girl says, "Mom! We have presents!" The mom by the tree says, "Wow!")

Dear Donor

Thank you for breenging the nise shoes to us. I like them because they have flowers on it. I hope you have a happy holidays with your family.

LOVE
Mak



"Thank you for giveing me shoes and its OK if you spend your moeny because you can get more moeny at the stor."



The end of 2019 has been a busy time for the Young Women. We said goodbye to the YW Personal Progress Program with a visit from Ardeth Kapp at our “YW in Excellence” in November.

Congratulations to several of our Young Women who worked to receive their medallions this year: Leslie Butler, Becca Draper, Kathy Gardner, Dylan Hansen, Savanah Hooker, Breanna Mortensen, Kienna Stats and Loni Tippets. We are looking forward to the new Personal Development program to come.

We have been enjoying the “Season of Service” with our tree decorating/shoe organizing activity, treat-giving/visits to ward members and creating and assembling crafts for the Ronald McDonald house. We also managed a game of glow in the dark volleyball with the Young Men.

The new youth theme for 2020 is “GO and DO” (1 Nephi 3:7). We are excited and energized for the year ahead. Stay tuned for info on Girls Camp and FSOY. What a great time to be a young woman in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints!

The YW Presidency



Above, YW and their leaders enjoyed their “Night of Excellence” with Sister Ardeth Kapp (pictured center).

(Left and below) The leaders and girls were involved in many service projects in December, including creating and assembling crafts for Ronald McDonald House.

Young Women Calendar January

- Jan 8** - YW activity 7:00 p.m.
- Jan 12** - Stake Youth Fireside 6-7 p.m. at the Stake Center
- Jan 15** - YW activity 7:00 p.m.
- Jan 22** - YW activity 7:00 p.m.
- Jan 29** - Stake Fireside 6:30 p.m. at the Regional Center **-FOR PARENTS AND YOUTH.** Collin Kartner, presenter and social media presentation



CUB SCOUTS

As a “swan song,” the Cub Scouts and their dedicated leaders held an abbreviated Pack Meeting the first week of December so that many of the boys could receive the awards and advancements they had accomplished. A special thanks to **Shannon and Steve Phillips** who have been such great Cubmasters, and also the great Den Leaders who have served the boys so well.

Two Cubs were advanced to the 11-year-old Scouts, received their Webelo rank and the Arrow of Light Award. **Caleb Stats** and **Ammon Erickson** worked hard to complete the requirements. In addition, Caleb earned his First Responder, Building a Better World, Scouting Adventure and Aware and Care. Ammon earned his Duty to God and You, Duty to God in Action, Scouting Adventure, Art Explosion and Outdoor Adventurer.

Other Cubs earning awards were **Tyler Freebairn**, Baloo the Builder, Critter Care; **Carson Hansen**, Baloo the Builder, Critter Care; **CJ Leavitt**, Baloo the Builder, Critter Care, First Responder; **Carson Freebairn**, First Responder, Outdoor Adventurer.



Left, Caleb Stats pins his mom, Randi, with his Webelo Rank emblem at a Cub Scout Pack meeting in December.



Below, Jessica Erickson gets a Webelo Rank pin from her son Ammon.

Our Newest Missionary



On Sunday, November 24, Nathaniel Rodgers spoke in Sacramento Meeting prior to his departure to the Cambodia Phnom Penh Mission. He entered the MTC in Provo on December 4.

Elder Rodgers spoke about the joy that the gospel brings to us. He quoted President Nelson, who said, “The joy we feel has little to do with the circumstances of our lives and everything to do with the focus of our lives. When the focus of our lives is on God’s plan of salvation ... and Jesus Christ and His gospel, we can feel joy regardless of what is happening - or not happening - in our lives.” Elder Rodgers also quoted one of his favorite scriptures from Alma 29:1: “O, that I were an angel, and could have the wish of mine heart, that I might go forth and speak with the trump of God, with a voice to shake the earth, and cry repentance unto every people!” He spoke to

us about repentance trying to rid ourselves from sin; to have righteous desires and not get harrowed up on our earthly desires.

Nathaniel is excited to serve as Christ serves and reminded us that temple work is missionary work. He bore a strong testimony that Jesus Christ is our Savior and that The Church of Jesus Christ is the true and living church of God.

We are so happy to have Elder Rodgers going out to share the “Good News,” and look forward to his reports.

WARD DAY OF SERVICE

As has been the custom for many years, one of our biannual (spring and fall) service projects has been to help our friends and neighbors with projects that require many hands. Most of these tasks are related to helping clean yards and areas that need special attention. Willing neighbors came together on Saturday, November 2, to move, rake, cut down, weed and haul away. Many thanks to all the project captains and those who came with cheerful hearts to use their “elbow grease!”



Neighborhood Christmas Celebration

On the evening of December 7, the North Canyon 5th Ward gathered as families and loved ones in the Little Town of Bethlehem for our Ward Neighborhood Christmas Party. The cultural hall was turned into a scene one might have found had they traveled to the Holy Land around the time of the Savior's birth.

Most of the attendees wore period costumes as they went from shop to shop in the Bethlehem marketplace to gather the elements for their dinner and then sat on blankets on the ground or at tables in the "inn" to eat and visit.

An uplifting program included a live nativity and spiritual music to remind us why we celebrate Christmas.

A big "thank you" goes to Sister Cami Jensen and the party committee, those who decorated and manned the "shops" in the market and to those who participated in the program, as well as those who did the setup and cleanup.





Happy Birthday!

- 1.....Pam Duncan
Sharlene Morrill
2.....Bowen Reed
3.....Dominique Condie Albright
Lily Freebairn
5.....Alex Sorenson
8.....Leilani Porter
Brad Samuelsen
Adeline Zubal
9.....Dana Jankowski
Nathaniel Rodgers
10.....Kathi Shelley
11.....Leland Morrill
Bo Lisa Tippetts
12.....Wayne Carlson
Cassandra Opheikens
Sadie Stats
13.....Helen Jane Midgley
15.....Becky Andrews
17.....Kaitlyn Gardner
18.....Teresa Andersen
21.....Joshua Minson
24.....Kim Shirley
26.....Haylee Shirley
27.....Judy Kelly
Kody Reed
Katherine Thompson
28.....Sister Maggie Draper
Samantha Draper
Chessa Phillips
Stephen Phillips
29.....Don Clifford
30.....Clark Loftus
31.....Joyce Craig
Vanessa Wright

February

- 1.....Matt Brice
Indie Creighton
Finn Larsen
2.....Kody Samuelsen

Missionary Returns with Honor



Sister Elizabeth Barnett returned home from the Phillipines Cauayan Mission in early December and spoke in Sacramento Meeting on the 8th. She was still glowing with that “missionary glow” and radiated her spirit as she bore her testimony.

Sister Barnett spoke about miracles and said that, “As long as you are serving the Lord, the miracles will come.” Some things we don’t realize as miracles, but as we look

back, we can see the hand of the Lord. She told us about a young sister, Jamica, nine years old, whose father gave permission for her to be baptized, when previously he was not willing.

Elder Donald Hallstrom taught that a miracle comes by faith and divine intervention. Sister Barnett told how she saw the truth of that statement many times. She explained how the Phillipine people are so humble and ready to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They have a focus on spiritual things and not material. She encouraged us to have that same outlook and be willing to share the the Gospel with others.

We wish Sister Barnett all the best in her future endeavors. She probably won’t be living in the Fifth Ward, but we can get reports from her dad, Ken, and grandparents Phil and Barbara Barnett!

(Editor’s note: Apologies for using an older photo of Elizabeth.)

