



BOUNTIFUL NORTH CANYON FIFTH WARD

# THE SPIRE

May 2020

## In Faith We Feel God's Love *by Randon Jensen*



I am loving the quarantine. I love the extra time with my family. I love home church. I love the change of pace. I love the altered focus and priorities. And I love seeing how President Nelson and church leadership instituted specific changes to church policy and procedure months in advance that just happen to adapt to and accommodate current circumstances. Consider just these two:

Despite temples being currently closed, young couples who have been engaged for months and planning for a spring wedding are able to proceed with their marriages knowing they can be sealed in the temples as soon as they open again, without having to wait a full year as was previously the case.

Children turning eight during this time who have a desire to be baptized now instead of waiting until restrictions are lifted on the sizes of social gatherings can do so with just their immediate families physically present since their mom and any other previously baptized member of their family can stand in as a witness to the baptism.

So many things in life are a choice. Faith is a choice. So is ascribing certain situations to either coincidence or divine guidance. In this case, I choose to believe these - and other changes - were instituted intentionally by a loving Savior who knows the beginning from the end, who knows us, who wants us to have happiness in abundance and who wants what is best for us, as well as how to help us get it, as long as we trust and obey Him.

Granted, this quarantine comes with a unique set of stressors and creates much anxiety. I do not wish to ignore or underplay that, especially for those who are struggling at this time. But God is good. He is good to us. He loves us. If we approach each day with gratitude, looking for His blessings in our lives, we will find them in abundance and feel His love.



## UPDATES

### *Congratulations!*

OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!!!

Sabrina Hooker, Dylan Meldrum  
and Kayla Ralph

### *Welcome New Neighbors*

Emilie Turpin  
Jose Gomez Martinez Family  
Susan Davis

### *Welcome Home*

Sister Talicia Porter

### *Condolences*

Sister Elsa Voorhees and family on the  
passing of Brother Doug on April 29th.

### *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*

Martha Ann Munn  
Ada Knocke



*Ryan Freebairn is turning eight this month and is eagerly awaiting his baptism! He has been reading eight pages a day of the Book of Mormon to keep up with his goal to complete it before his birthday. His parents, Brooke and Steve and his grandparents Janene and Robin Phillips are so proud of his happy nature, hard work and kind heart. Happy Birthday, Ryan!*



*Breanna Mortensen is now officially 16! When she isn't doing school work and being a busy high schooler, she is an avid singer, writer, music enthusiast and martial artist. Her favorite scripture is John 14:18, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." We will all be looking for her to be driving around the neighborhood! Happy birthday Breanna!*



*Sister Talicia Porter has temporarily returned home from the Missouri St. Louis Mission because of the pandemic. She is awaiting news of a new assignment. We are so glad she is safe at home with her family for this time.*

### Flag Assignments

#### Memorial Day - May 25th

1. Davis Family
2. Todd Porter Family
3. Mortensen Family
4. Mark Anderson Family
5. Stephen Freebairn Family



#### Flag Day - June 14th

1. Davis Family
2. Todd Porter Family
3. Stats Family
4. Mark Anderson Family
5. Stephen Freebairn Family





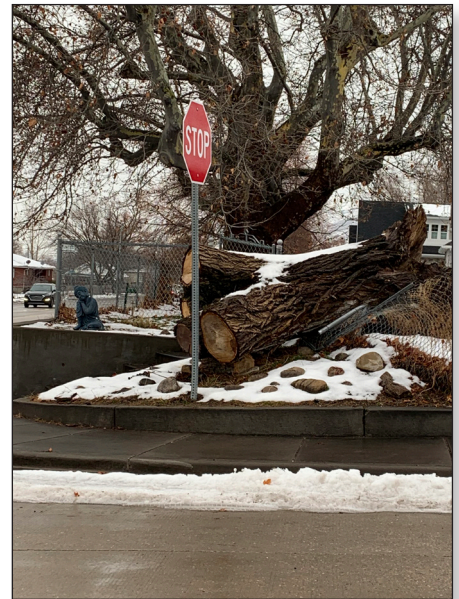
I am sure many of you have noticed this scene (photo below) on about 100 South as you drive north on Orchard Drive. As the snow in this picture shows, this tree did not recently collapse this fence. In fact, I know I have driven past this scene for many, many months. And, every time I do, I think about how it serves as a metaphor for those times in our lives when something drastic happens. When life, a tree, or coronavirus hits and we just think, “Oh man, that is too much! I can’t fix that. I can’t deal with that right now.”

And sometimes, that may be true. Maybe, full [tree] removal is impossible for the time being; maybe there is a bone-deep sadness that is too tender to face in full; maybe there is a heart break that is just out of our control to fully heal or avoid; maybe there are earthquakes that come in the night, or pandemics that cross oceans. Sometimes, we all have to sit with grief, or as Eli Wiesel put it once, “to know the dark [we] go dark.” That is part of mortality. And, we have eternity to make things right in partnership with our Savior. We don’t have to face all our fallen trees and fix them now.

What I also love about this scene is what HAS been done. The tree has been cut down to lessen the damage and reach of the destruction. And I love the little Buddha statue placed to the side of the smashed fence, its head resting on its knee in peaceful repose. Calm amid the storm. To me, the picture says, “I may need help beyond what I can do right now to remove this tree, fix the fence and get ‘back to normal,’ but I can control the tree’s influence and reach. Most importantly, I can choose to find peace in the storm. I can find a buddha, next to the smashed fence, creating a place of calm in a scene of derailment.”

My prayer is that we can all find ways to find that peace and resilience while we deal with the derailment of quarantine: walks outside, warm showers, honest and open personal prayer, dark chocolate .... I hope we don’t spend too much time worrying about the things that are out of our control.

Sisters, we love you! “Thank you” to each of you for your beauty and strength and humor in this time of quarantine. We are so grateful for every act of love and service and kindness. And a special “thank you” to all who sewed masks for Project Protect. You are just incredible.



*It’s okay if we can’t deal with our “fallen trees” immediately or all at once.*

*With Love,  
Tammy Brice and The Relief Society Presidency*

## ELDERS QUORUM

Dear Brethren,

The Elders would like to thank the brethren for all their quiet service. Whether it is an email, a wave, a text or a meal dropped off, it means a lot to your families and to the Lord. Our neighborhood is so blessed to have your devotion. Please keep those struggling with health, employment, finances, conversion and family in your prayers. We love you and miss rubbing shoulders with you!

*Sincerely, Your Elders Quorum Presidency*

## Come Follow Me - in the Book of Mormon



**Mosiah 14:3-5**  
**He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with**

**grief .... Surely he has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows .... and with his stripes we are healed.**

"When the priests of the misguided King Noah brought the prophet Abinadi into their courts, they tried to overwhelm him with questions from a difficult passage in the writings of Isaiah. As part of his response, Abinadi quoted to them an entire mini sermon from Isaiah on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

"These words that Isaiah first wrote and Abinadi then spoke to the priest are some of the most beautiful verses on the Savior's gift that can be found in ancient scripture. The prophecy of what Jesus would come to do is filled with descriptive words that turn my heart to Him with more tenderness and gratitude. In His life He was despised, rejected, stricken, wounded and filled with sorrow and grief so that in my life I could be healed, carried, and filled with peace."

Excerpts from "Don't Miss This in the Book of Mormon,"  
by Emily Belle Freeman and David Butler

## Temple & Family History May 2020

Temples are still closed. It is expected that they will be closed through the month of May. After that we are not sure how long the closure will last. In the meantime, there is a great opportunity to prepare for when the temples will be open again.

During this closure period we can spend time in Family Search online. There is a lot that we can do. For example, do you have buried in a box somewhere a history of an ancestor or an experience that might be shared about an ancestor? These things can be added to the ancestor's page in family search under "Memories".

There are also a lot of fun activities that an individual or a family can do in Family Search. When signed into Family Search you will find at the top of the screen a list of things to do. One of those is "Activities." Just click on it and you will find a list of things to do that might be fun, entertaining and informative.

Most individuals who sign in to Family Search will find hints and other bits of information about an ancestor or several ancestors. In our ward there are at least 255 members who have a record hint or a discovery experience available about an ancestor(s). Let's take the opportunity to log in to Family Search and check things out.

*Lawrence Schreiner, Ward FH Chairman*



**Lynn & Kevin Allcott enjoy an al fresco lunch on their patio.**



## May

- 5..... Vickie Springer
- 6..... Matt Stats
- 7..... Natalie Christensen  
Randon Jensen  
Jensen Radley
- 9..... Todd Porter
- 10..... Gloria Campbell  
Heidi Holmes  
Keith Wilson
- 11..... Kelly Lee  
Kaitlyn Jane Petersen
- 13..... Elle Freebairn  
Grant Jensen
- 14..... Linda Clifford  
Caleb Stats
- 16..... Bryan Hardy  
Linda Schneider
- 18..... Lillian Gardner  
Ted Nielsen
- 19..... Bill Albright
- 20..... Dan Higgs
- 21..... Kienna Stats
- 22..... Gabriella Gomez  
Cameron Morrill
- 23..... Lee Carter
- 26..... Chris Applegate  
McKenzie Barton  
Hadlee Schnebly
- 28..... Breanna Mortensen
- 29..... Ryan David Freebairn
- 30..... Isaac Ericksen  
Asher Phillips  
Marlin Shelley
- 31..... Robert Draper

## June

- 1..... Clark Sabey
- 2..... Gladys Carter  
Eliza Davis  
Jordan Wilson
- 3..... Elliot Ericksen  
Britnie Larsen  
Rhett Phillips
- 5..... Henry Davis
- 6..... Frank Alexander
- 7..... Wirtjo Leonard  
Robin Phillips

**Ryan Gardner celebrated his 4th birthday with a Harry Potter parade around the neighborhood!**



**Twins Wren and River Larsen had festive decorations at their house for their birthdays!**

## Spreading a Little Sunshine



**Alex Harris enjoys an outing around the neighborhood with his children.**



**More fun chalk art.**



**F-35 jets from HAFB fly over our neighborhood on their trip around the state to honor healthcare workers on April 30.**