

North Canyon 5th Ward Spire

Merry Christmas! This holiday season is sure to be unlike others we have known in the past for a host of reasons. One thing will be the same, though: Jesus Christ. He is unchanging. What a great opportunity to remember Him and to set Him as the constant in this inconstant world.

This year, as we remember Him, I wanted to share an interesting thought my wife, Cami, shared with me. She was listening to author and teacher, David Butler, share an experience a friend of his had recently while contemplating the Savior during the administration of the sacrament. As we take of the sacrament, we renew our covenant to “take upon [us] the name of [the] Son.” While contemplating this, David’s friend said the Spirit asked him, “Yes, but which of His names will you take upon you?”

What an interesting question. Some that come to mind, especially this time of year, are those Isaiah memorialized, viz., Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. He is also known as the Good Shepherd, the Lamb of God, the Living Water, the Light and the Life, Master Healer, and our Advocate with the Father. The list is extensive.



<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/scriptures/bd/christ-names-of?lang=eng>

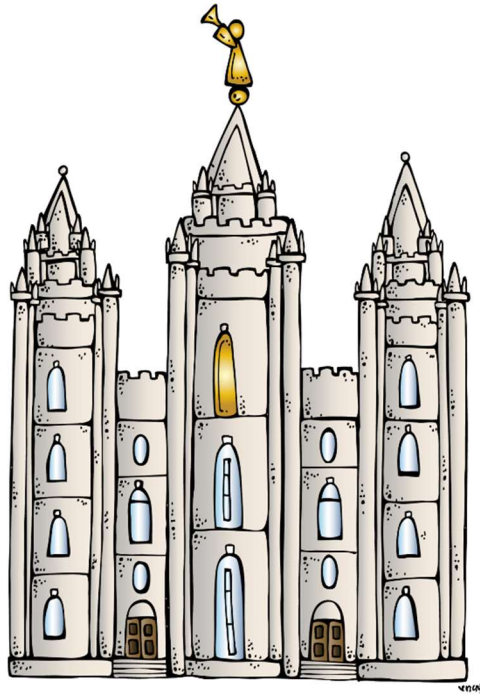
*As you contemplate the various names of Christ, which name will you choose to take upon you this Christmas season? Will you be a Prince(ss) of Peace? Will you be a Counselor? Will you be an Advocate for the downtrodden and marginalized? Will you be a Good Shepherd for those prone to wonder or are lost? Will you reach out to others with words that heal? - 5th Ward
Bishopric Message*



Elder's Quorum Message

"We are wishing you a Christmas that's merry and bright! We hope you have a safe and relaxing holiday season. Keep the Savior at center of your celebrations! We hope your holiday season is full of **peace, joy, and happiness**. **Merry Christmas** with lots of love."

Your 5th Ward Elders Quorum Presidency



Primary Message

This month, we will be having the Temple and Priesthood Preview for all of our primary children who are moving on to Young Women's and Young Men's. Be on the lookout for an invitation to this special evening, where you can learn a little bit more about all of the exciting things you'll be a part of as a young woman or young man! The meeting will be held at the church, with the children joining us from home via Zoom on December 27, 6:30 pm.

Temple and Family History – December 2020

A recent article in the local newspaper, *The Davis Clipper*, suggested that each of us should write something about our life. A biography or history about our life will provide information for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren about our life, our activities, and our feelings. Without something written about us, we will virtually be forgotten other than possibly our name. We all have some life history and experiences. Why not put some of that information in writing so that future generations of our family line will know something about us, some of the things that we did and some of the exciting experiences that we had. We can even post a short biography or history about ourselves on Family Search so that some information about us will be available for many generations.

Many of us, prior to this current pandemic, enjoyed regularly attending the temple to perform proxy ordinances for our deceased ancestors. The Bountiful Temple is still closed for proxy work. Why not take this opportunity to accomplish some family history work. There are several things that we can do. Above is mentioned that we can write something about our life. We can write something that we know about an ancestor. We can do some indexing, and we can identify ancestors who need temple ordinances. Let's each of us, while we cannot attend the temple regularly, do something about our individual family history.

Lawrence Schreiner

Ward Temple and Family History Leader

Relief Society Message

As we pondered the beautiful counsel on **gratitude** from our beloved Prophet, we simultaneously experienced a spiritually uplifting stake conference as we were taught by President Coleman about **hope**. The connection between the two is inseparable. One cannot be grateful without also feeling hopeful about the present as well as the future, and one cannot be hopeful without feeling grateful to those who love, inspire, serve, and watch over us.

When President Coleman spoke of the hope new life brings, of the hope we feel when we are able to recognize tender mercies in our lives, and the hope we experience when angels literally rescue us, we silently took inventory and gave thanks.

Hopefully, both inspired messages can lead us to a greater awareness of God's watchfulness and take more time to express sincere, heartfelt gratitude to Him for His mercy, His graciousness, and the love He extends to each of us. Then, may we take daily steps to spread those feelings and expressions of gratitude and hope to others. By doing so, we can truly help to #Light the World.

As a presidency, we express our thankfulness to our ward family for the kindnesses extended to fellow members and neighbors. Additionally, we are thankful for our sisters, for their gifts of love, for their goodness, and for the support they provide to others.

We extend special appreciation to Mindie Dalley who has served faithfully as an excellent teacher in Relief Society during two presidencies. We thank Brooke Freebairn and Courtney Morrill who presently teach via Zoom, and we welcome Lelani Porter who is the newly sustained leader of the humanitarian committee which is playing a key role in the ward's Sub-for-Santa project this year. We look forward to participation in this annual tradition.

For those participating in Relief Society via Zoom, please check your emails on Saturday to get the link. The following is the schedule for lessons during the months of December and January:

December 13th— "Eyes to See," by Michelle D. Craig (Brooke Freebairn)

December 27th— "I Believe in Angles," by Elder Carlos A. Godoy (Courtney Morrill)

January 10th— "We Will Prove Them Herewith," by Elder David A. Bednar (Brooke Freebairn)

January 24th— "Recommended to the Lord," by Elder Ronald A. Rasband (Courtney Morrill)

Sisters who will be celebrating birthdays during the month of December are the following:

9th--Holley Morrill

10th—Marian Meldrum

14th—Phyllis Atwood

17th—Tammy Jespersen

17th—Karen Mulitalo

22nd—Rebecca Simpson

31st—Courtney Morrill

We wish all in our neighborhood a joyous Christmas season and look forward to the months ahead when we are able to meet more completely in person and strengthen our priceless relationships.

The North Canyon 5th Ward Relief Society Presidency

LightTheWorld

ONE BY ONE

December
2020

When Jesus Christ was born, angels proclaimed, "Peace on earth, good will to men." This December, the promise remains the same. As we serve others the way Jesus served, we can end 2020 on a hopeful note. Use this calendar for inspiration as you use every day as a new opportunity to **#LightTheWorld**.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FAST RELIEF Fast as Jesus did. Go without a meal or two and donate the cost to a food charity. Share a link to the charity. 06	SIGNS OF CHRISTMAS Lift others like Jesus did. Decorate a neighbor's door with Christmas greetings. Then share a picture of what you wrote on social media. 07	GIVING TUESDAY Give like Jesus did. Make a donation to charity, or volunteer with a local nonprofit, and post a link so others can participate. 01	HERO HIGHLIGHT Who represents Christlike love to you? Highlight them on social media. 02	PEACE ON EARTH Help others feel peace as Jesus did. Post a picture or video to social media that brings you peace and calm. 03	THE CHRIST CHILD Jesus's birth brought hope. Watch <i>The Christ Child</i> , screenshot a moment that gives you hope, and share why on social media. 04	PAY IT BACKWARDS Show gratitude like Jesus did. Think of someone who served you and return the favor. 05
SERENE SUNDAY Take time to reflect like Jesus did. Tune out distractions and find a quiet place to think about what brings you closer to God. 13	SOCIAL SING AND SERVE Gather together with those you love to sing and serve. Learn more at LightTheWorld.org/sing . 14	LOVE MOM & DAD Honor your parents (or a parental figure in your life). Call them, visit them, and post about them on social media. 15	SHINING STAR Dedicate the star on your tree to an influential friend. Share a photo of it along with a tribute to your friend on social media. 16	CHRISTMAS DINNERS Just like Jesus, you can feed the hungry. Make a donation to a local food bank or drop off food to someone who could use it. 17	CHRISTMAS STORIES Make time for children like Jesus did. Read a beloved children's story to a child. 18	LETTERS OF LIGHT Contact a local nursing home and ask what you can do to safely bring holiday cheer to the residents. 19
LOOPING LUKE 2 Share a video of yourself reading a verse from Luke 2. Tag a friend to do the next verse and start a chain to verse 20! 20	TOGETHER TIME Invite as many family members as you can to get together for a virtual hangout. 21	SHARING LIGHT Like Jesus, you can teach through stories. Share an inspirational story from your life. 22	GIFTS FROM GOD You can express gratitude as Jesus did. Reflect on the gifts God has given you and share your gratitude online. 23	GOODWILL TO FAM Jesus cared for His loved ones: Go around the dinner table tonight and tell each person why he or she is loved. 24	LIGHT OF THE WORLD Open your Bible to John 8:12, take a picture, and post it to social media with a message about how Jesus brings light into your life. 25	LIGHT 2021 Turn the challenge to #LightTheWorld every day into a New Year's resolution. Don't be afraid to share your goal online. 26

Come Follow Me - December



December Come Follow Me

November 30-December 6

Moroni 1-6

December 7-13

Moroni 7-9

December 14-20

Moroni 10

December 21-27

Christmas

Moroni 10:32

Book of Mormon

32 Yea, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness; and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; and if by the grace of God ye are perfect in Christ, ye can in nowise deny the power of God.



Suggested Readings from CFM – December

Excerpts from:

The Hope of God's Light

By President Dieter F. Uchtdorf

Second Counselor in the First Presidency

Light Cleaveth unto Light

There may be some among you who feel darkness encroaching upon you. You may feel burdened by worry, fear, or doubt. To you and to all of us, I repeat a wonderful and certain truth: God's light is real. It is available to all! It gives life to all things. It has the power to soften the sting of the deepest wound. It can be a healing balm for the loneliness and sickness of our souls. In the furrows of despair, it can plant the seeds of a brighter hope. It can enlighten the deepest valleys of sorrow. It can illuminate the path before us and lead us through the darkest night into the promise of a new dawn.

This is "the Spirit of Jesus Christ," which gives "light to every man that cometh into the world."

Nevertheless, spiritual light rarely comes to those who merely sit in darkness waiting for someone to flip a switch. It takes an act of faith to open our eyes to the Light of Christ. Spiritual light cannot be discerned by carnal eyes. Jesus Christ Himself taught, "I am the light which shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not." For "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

So how do we open our eyes to the hope of God's light?

First, start where you are.

Isn't it wonderful to know that we don't have to be perfect to experience the blessings and gifts of our Heavenly Father? We don't have to wait to cross the finish line to receive God's blessings. In fact, the heavens begin to part and the blessings of heaven begin to distill upon us with the very first steps we take toward the light.

The perfect place to begin is exactly where you are right now. It doesn't matter how unqualified you may think you are or how far behind others you may feel. The very moment you begin to seek your Heavenly Father, in that moment, the hope of His light will begin to awaken, enliven, and ennoble your soul. The darkness may not dissipate all at once, but as surely as night always gives way to dawn, the light will come.

Second, turn your heart toward the Lord.

Lift up your soul in prayer and explain to your Heavenly Father what you are feeling. Acknowledge your shortcomings. Pour out your heart and express your gratitude. Let Him know of the trials you are facing. Plead with Him in Christ's name for strength and support. Ask that your ears may be opened, that you may hear His voice. Ask that your eyes may be opened, that you may see His light.

Third, walk in the light.

Your Heavenly Father knows that you will make mistakes. He knows that you will stumble—perhaps many times. This saddens Him, but He loves you. He does not wish to break your spirit. On the contrary, He desires that you rise up and become the person you were designed to be.

To that end, He sent His Son to this earth to illuminate the way and show us how to safely cross the stumbling blocks placed in our path. He has given us the gospel, which teaches the way of the disciple. It teaches us the things we must know, do, and be to walk in His light, following in the footsteps of His Beloved Son, our Savior.



Birthdays

December

1 - Hannah Wilson
3 - Grace Baker
3 - Brodie Jespersen
4 - Elsa Jensen
5 - Harold Groberg
5 - Dylan Meldrum
6 - Bradley Hood
7 - Byron Nielsen
9 - Calista Minson
9 - Holley Morrill
10 - Marian Meldrum
10 - Ammon Rodgers
13 - Preston Hooker

14 - Phyllis Atwood
14 - Abigail Baker
14 - Ammon Ericksen
14 - Andrew Morrill
17 - Tamara Jespersen
17 - Karen Mulitalo
22 - Rebecca Simpson
24 - Evan Phillips
26 - Stefan Leonard
27 - Olivia Driggs
29 - Michael Freebairn
30 - Ken Barnett

30 - Jameson Gardner
30 - Chloe Harker
30 - Elli Harker
30 - Zachary Rogers
31 - Jaina Davis
31 - Benjamin Freebairn
31 - Courtney Morrill

January

1 - Pam Duncan
1 - Sharlene Morrill
2 - Bowen Reed

