

# OLYMPUS COVE CONNECTIONS

## From the editor...

I write each year about my love of this season. This is a time when we find many ways to honor and remember the birth of the Christ child, and the many characters involved in the story of his birth. The nativity sets that I set out each year depict this through the eyes of the individual maker of each set. I love seeing the unique way each figure becomes a part of this beautiful story of God coming into the world. I know that people throughout history yearn to hear that Jesus will soon return again. One thing I love about the story of Christ's birth is that so many were a part of it. Mary who formed him, providing physical life with faith and strength even when her own was threatened. Joseph had the courage to hear personal divine guidance that went against societal customs, and provide belonging and safety for his unconventional family. The animals provided comfort and warmth. The



shepherds heard the good news from angelic messengers, and responded, being essential witnesses. And so many others are a part of the story. This story is played out each time any of us, anyone inspires life and Godlike love in the world with faith, courage, love, strength, offering comfort, shelter, company, witness, nourishment, inspiration, good news of Christ's gospel. In this way, I think our Heavenly Parents invite us to be a part of Christ being born into the world every time we do any of these things for one another. Christ was an example of one who provides all of these qualities - faith, courage, sustenance, life, comfort, nourishment, witness, shelter, inspiration, mercy, love. He asked us to follow him. I think each time we do, we are a part of Christ returning to the world, each and every moment.

Merry Christmas to all of you.

Thank you to all who helped with this issue. [Please send me information for the ward newsletter and history.](#) My phone is 303-902-7062 and my email is [hansen\\_home@comcast.net](mailto:hansen_home@comcast.net). Thank you for your help!- Jody Hansen

## Inspirational message for December - by Bishop Randle

Dear Ward Family,

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to share this message in our newsletter. A special thanks to Jody for her dedication in creating and curating uplifting content that continually reminds us of our Savior's love.

On the front page of our church's website, in large, bold letters, we read, "**Christ is Christmas.**" Beneath that, it states, "*Christ's birth is evidence that our Heavenly Father loves His children so much that He sent His Son to show us the way to true happiness.*"

As we enter this season, I hope we each take the time to pause, reflect, and feel the deep love our Heavenly Father and Savior have for us. I am continually blessed by the example of love and care that our ward family shows for one another. Your genuine concern for each other is a powerful reminder of Christ's love.



## December Birthdays

### Happy Birthday!

December 2 - Kathleen Clifford  
 3 - Celia Scowcroft  
 4 - Bill Bailey  
 5 - Jody Hansen  
 11 - Olivia Heiner  
 13 - Todd Hamblin  
 14 - Craig Clifford  
 15 - Nanette Benowitz  
 16 - Annabelle Boyden, Roger Knight  
 25 - Liz Phillipps, Lisa Tecklenburg  
 28 - Marylin Dahlstrom, Sophie Sunderland  
 29 - Rashelle Birkinshaw  
 30 - Derek Cornaby, Chelsea Gardner  
 31 - Kjerstin Phillipps

January  
 1 - Louise Edelman  
 4 - Kristin Hart, Abigail Moss  
 5 - Julie Zabriskie  
 6 - Brett Stephens  
 7 - Jack Cannon, Jack Fredrick, Genevieve Romney  
 8 - Kristin Sapp, Susan Wagstaff

Please notify me of any preferred nicknames or proper names for the birthday list. I will try to update the official birthday list to honor that.

Thank you for being such a wonderful support to one another. I wish you all a Merry and peaceful Christmas.

With love,  
 Bishop Randle

### In Memoriam -

We are sad to make you aware of the passing of Sylvia Robb, a long-time former ward member, on December 7, 2024.

### Relief Society Temple Outing - from Susan Smith

The RS Temple trip for November will be on December 19th. The 10 am session in the Jordan River Temple. Please meet in the church parking lot at 8:30. Please make a reservation online. All are enthusiastically welcomed!

### Worship through Sacred Music -

Thank you, again to all who participate in worshipping through sacred music. I invite you to check out these new hymns on the gospel app or on the church website. I look forward to introducing these for congregational singing and worship in Sacrament Meeting.

### Hymns for December.

#### Please raise your voices and sing!- from Chorister Jody Hansen

Here are the hymns for the next few weeks. I invite you to please take a look, and possibly play the recording of any that are unfamiliar to you. You can pull the recordings up on the Gospel App under Sacred Music/Hymns for Home and Church. I love to hear you participate when we worship through song. And please remember, when I invite you to stand during the intermediate hymn, please only do so if it is comfortable for you. There are reasons that some need and want to stand, and reasons that some need and want to remain seated. I hope everyone will appreciate that each is participating in a way that works for them.

December 15 - 210, 180, 212, 1203

December 22 - 203, 193, 204

December 29 - 69,190, 214, 218

### Christmas Activity - A Night in Bethlehem - December 7, 2024

We had a wonderful gathering on December 7, our annual ward Christmas activity with the theme A Night in Bethlehem.

Amy and Seth Sunderland did an incredible job in organizing an amazing experience for us. We are so grateful for them!

Thank you to the many people who helped with food and decorations and performances that made this a unique event for us.

From the moment we entered the foyer, we were immersed in wonderful sets, and costumes, and background that transformed our building to help us feel like we were walking into Bethlehem.





















### Ward Building cleaning assignments for October -

Thank you, Brother Warren Wadsworth, for organizing this and making sure our building is clean.

The following families are scheduled to help clean the church in December. We will begin each Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., unless the building is scheduled for some other activity like a ward brunch. In that event, we will begin cleaning at 4:00 p.m. If you cannot fulfill this assignment for any reason, please arrange for someone to take your place. Thank you for your service.

Dec. 14th— Bruce & Melanie Decker, Eric Edelman & Lisa Tecklenburg, and Lan & Carrie Sue England.

Dec. 21st— Nate & Natalie Fredrick, Tom & Barbara Fredrick, and Jeremy & Cynthia Grant.

Dec. 28th— Todd & Alisa Hamblin, Mike & Jodie Hansen, and Tyler & Carrie Lamprecht.

### Temple and Family History resources -

**We are here to help you.** Temple & Family History Leader Lynn Collins 385-272-5969. Consultants: Karen Collins 385-272-4094, Gail McComas 801-580- 5468, or Alison Wilde.

### Mt. Olympus Stake Family Search Center

Family History Center 2024 Hours

HOURS

Sundays - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Mondays - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Thursdays - 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**Missionaries...** We really appreciate the service of our full time missionaries. Please send any messages or news from them so I can include a few things in the newsletter.

Dear Stake Family,

The Adult Religion class with Armand Johansen will continue on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the stake center chapel.

Brother Johansen will teach from [\*Come, Follow Me—For Home and Church: Book of Mormon 2024\*](#).

We hope you will join us in person or online! And please feel free to pass this information on to anyone else who would be interested in being uplifted and learning with us.

[Click here for the YouTube Live stream.](#)

**FYI: Those who are unable to watch the class during the live broadcast can view it later at the same link as above.**

**-Temple Recommends -** Contact a member of the Bishopric for a phone interview. The stake interview can be arranged with one of the Stake Executive Secretary's ( Andrew Olson)  
Stake Temple Recommend Interviews: Standing time on Sundays from 1:30 to 2:30pm (the 4th Sunday is skipped)