

# OLYMPUS COVE CONNECTIONS

## From the editor...

On December 22, the morning of our Christmas Program, I was able to walk into the chapel before anyone else arrived. It was quiet, and I felt much needed peace as I walked toward the front to enjoy my favorite part of our chapel - the tall windows that surround the stand, and give us a stunning view of Mt. Olympus. I remember the first Sunday Mike and I walked into the building, more than 8 years ago. When we entered the chapel and saw that view, we knew we were where we belonged. At the time, belonging is something I had been desperately praying for. There have been many difficult, and many wonderful things that have happened for us since moving here. Each time I enter the chapel, and recall that moment of belonging, to God, to this community, to this beautiful place, I feel connection to so much more than myself. I know I am not alone. On December 22, as we prepared to honor this season of remembering the birth of Jesus, I took this picture to capture the moment. Thank you to all who help me, and everyone, experience belonging, and love, and the presence of God in the world.



As we begin this new year, some might be celebrating beginnings, some might be mourning losses, and others a mixture of all things.. I hope we can make room for all to feel welcome, needed, and loved, even and especially if they come into our building for a short visit, or for the umpteenth time in a lifetime of living here. Those who made us feel welcome that first Sunday over 8 years ago might never know how desperately we needed that. I hope anyone who comes among us will feel that belonging as well. Happy New Year to all of you.

I will be traveling most of February and March, so I will be combining the newsletter for those months into one issue. Please get all items for February and March to me by February 2. I really appreciate it!

Thank you to all who helped with this issue. [Please send me information for the ward newsletter.](#) 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 Craig Clifford

**Happy New Year to all!** What does a new year symbolize? When I was a young boy, my mother would come into the room at bedtime and open the windows to allow the cool fresh air to come into the room and allow the old air to escape. In the morning, she would close the window allowing the new cool air to linger throughout the day. The New Year is analogous to the story of my mother opening the window and allowing the old to go and the new to enter. The New Year is a time of reflection, celebration, and anticipation. It marks the end of one year and the beginning of another, symbolizing a fresh start and new opportunities from our Heavenly Father. Similar to the adage "out with the old and in with the new," leaving doors and windows open on New Year's Eve is said to let out the old year. With all the fresh air circulating, you're sure to also welcome in the new year (and maybe a draft).

Yes, the most prominent example in scripture that talks about the changing seasons of our lives is found in The Byrd's famous hit and Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, which states "To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot" - essentially highlighting that life cycles through different phases like the seasons of the year, with periods of growth, harvest, and decline. We accept change by acknowledging the cyclical nature of life, the verse encourages acceptance of different phases and transitions.



## January Birthdays

### Happy Birthday!

#### 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
  - 9 - Jessica Winward
  - 10 - Jeffrey Poore
  - 11 - Megan Murdock, Susan Smith
  - 12 - Joshua Hart
  - 13 - Cooper Madsen
  - 17 - Seth Sunderland
  - 21 - Marsha Atkin, Thomas Mickeleen
  - 22 - Annie Mae Smith
  - 25 - Michelle Davidson
  - 26 - Sandra Hartley
  - 27 - Beck White
  - 31 - Luke Hamblin, David Strong
- Feb 1 - Mark Langheinrich, Rich Smith
- 3 - Jeff Wadsworth
  - 4 - Euan Lamprecht
  - 5 - Ann Crocker
  - 7 - Davis Grant, Kim Roberts
  - 8 - Callin Randle
  - 9 - Gabriel Phillipps
  - 10 - Bailey Randle

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.

As we move into this new year, might I suggest a consideration of **Elder Holland's Six Crucial Questions** to put into our list of personal improvements.

1. Do our children know that we love the scriptures?
2. Have our children ever found us on our knees in prayer either with them or praying for them?
3. Do our children know we believe in fasting for very specific things?
4. Do our children know that we love being in the temple because of the sealing power that binds us together?
5. Do our children know that we support all of our church leaders regardless of our shortcomings in their quest for a standard of righteousness among all the saints?
6. Do our children know we love God with all our heart and hope to see his face and his sons'?

May we find joy in this coming season of change and refreshment as we reflect on our lives, develop greater personal relationships, take us out of our comfort zones and improve our overall health both spiritually and physically in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Brother Craig J Clifford

#### In Memoriam -

We mourn the loss of our beloved ward member William Charles Bailey, who passed away on December 17, 2024.

We appreciate all those who helped with his funeral, which took place in our chapel on Saturday, December 28, 2024.

Our love and prayers are with his family, and especially Shirley Bailey.

Here is a link to the obituary of this good man.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/millcreek-ut/william-bailey-12134311>

#### Relief Society Temple Outing - from Susan Smith

The RS Temple trip for January will be on January 23rd. The 10 am session in the Bountiful Temple. Please meet in the church parking lot at 8:30. Please make a reservation online. All are enthusiastically welcomed!

#### Worship through Sacred Music -

The last Sacrament Meeting of 2024 was one of my favorite programs - the sharing of hymn testimonies. I really appreciate the bishopric choosing to have this for our worship on December 29th. It was a wonderful meeting, and I appreciate everyone's patience when I made mistakes in leading some of the hymns on short notice. But I love this opportunity to hear about how different hymns have inspired and impacted people in our ward family. I look forward to doing this again, and I hope it helps more of

you have a desire and willingness to lend your voice when we worship through music. Thank you, again to all who participate in any way you can. 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 January.

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.

January 12 - 1015, 174, 3, 61

January 19 - 31, 188, 59, 65

January 26 - 45, 177, 68, 81

February 2 - 4, 184, 76

### Young Women Activities -

Christmas Brunch - December 15, 2024

Thank you, Susan Smith, for sharing the photos and information about the activities with us.

The Young Women enjoyed a lovely Christmas Brunch on December 15, hosted by the Larsons.





**Welcome party - December 18, 2024**

On December 18, Ruby Stagg and her mom, Jen, hosted a welcome party for the new Young Women. We played games, made pizza and got to know one another. It was so fun!





### Ward Building cleaning assignments for February -

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.

1st— Stewart & Kelly Landau and Stuart & Briana Larson.

8th— Matt & Katie Lowe and David & Sue Lundberg.

15th— Mitchell & Courtney McBeth and Aaron & Cynthia Moffett.

22nd— Gordon & Lisa Monson and Brad & Sarah Moss.

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)