

OLYMPUS COVE CONNECTIONS

From the editor...

This will be a shorter newsletter issue. I was not able to gather all the usual items in time, so I will have some of the items, such as the inspirational thought, doubled up for the next issue.

I appreciate your patience.

I was honored to be invited to lead the hymns at the funeral of Merle Strong last week. It was a loving and lovely service. I appreciated learning more about this good sister when her children and grandchildren shared their love and memories of her. The musical numbers were amazing, and I was so grateful to be able to hear the extraordinary talent and skill of Bonnie Goodliffe (Tabernacle Organist) when she accompanied both the soloists.

I was very moved by the closing remarks offered by Bishop Randle, when he quoted from the conference talk of Sister Runia. After he read this quote, he said Merle Strong was an example of this. I think her talk is one of the best talks from General Conference. I strive to follow God's example of this.

"Your worth isn't tied to obedience. Your worth is constant; it never changes. It was given to you by God, and there's nothing you or anyone else can do to change it. Obedience brings blessings; that is true. But worth isn't one of them.

Your worth is always "great in the sight of God," no matter where your decisions have taken you." Sister Tamara Runia, General Conference - April 2025

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. Thank you for your help!- **Jody Hansen**

In Memoriam -

We mourn the loss of our beloved Merle Strong. Merle has been a long time member of the ward. She made a great difference to several generations of our ward family. Her love and generosity impacted many. She is greatly missed. She passed on, June 12, 2025.

Her funeral was held on July 26 at the Stake Center. We appreciate all those who helped with the service, and provided food and help for the luncheon afterward.

Here is the link -

https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/deseretnews/name/merle-strong-obituary?id=58656635&utm_source=webshareapi&utm_medium=share_button&utm_campaign=wsapimobile_beta

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We are sad to announce the passing of Sally Davis, a long time member of our ward.

Dear Sally Davis was in our ward for many years, and served in her callings faithfully, even when it was hard to get out and about. Our prayers go out to her son Gary, and Carrie Davis, who are still in our ward.

A celebration of Sally's life was held on June 23, 2025, at Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park and Mortuary, located at 3401 S Highland Dr, Millcreek, UT 84106.





Here is the link:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/millcreek-ut/sally-davis-12424907>

Ward Relief Society Temple Trip for June 19th - Thank you, Susan Smith for this information.

Please make an online reservation for the July 17th, 10:00 am session in the Jordan River Temple. Please meet in the church parking lot at 8:30. Thank you, sisters, for the love you feel for service in the temple. All are enthusiastically welcomed!

July Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

June 30 - Jonathan Stagg
 July 2 - Peggy Plumb
 3 - Daniel Ellis
 4 - Carol Lavigne, Mark Sansom
 6 - Carrie England, Jeffrey Hardin
 7 - Luke McBeth
 8 - Ellie Black, Olivia Lowe
 9 - Michael Young
 12 - Curt Crowther
 14 - Samuel McBeth
 15 - Garr Vincent, Tom Fredrick
 17 - Ron Hanks, Evan Madsen
 18 - Shannon Scott, Colette Winward
 19 - Bret Wilde
 21 - Lisa Monson
 22 - James Birch, Romaine Marshall, Kay Randle
 25 - Ethan White
 27 - Mitchel Johnson, Victor Miller
 28 - Barbara Fredrick
 30 - Grey Randle
 31 - Derek Dahlstrom, John Morris
 August 2 - Steven Lavigne
 3 - Matt Lowe
 5 - Jacob Young
 7 - Alisha Van Wagoner
 9 - Josie Larson

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.

Olympus Cove July 4th Breakfast Activity

Hello everyone!

Start your Independence Day with pancakes, patriotism, and a whole lot of fun! 🥰🇺🇸

Join us for a FREE neighborhood pancake breakfast on Thursday, July 4th from 8:00–10:00 AM at 4176 South Adonis Drive (Stake Center). Olympus Cove Ward, Neffs Canyon Ward, and Olympus Hills Ward are helping organize this event.



We'll have:

- Patriotic Flag Ceremony
- Delicious breakfast
- A kids' bike parade
- Epic kids water fight
- Pickleball Tournament
- Watermelon eating contest

... and plenty of festive fun for all ages!

All are welcome—please invite and bring your family, friends, and neighbors!

A Flyer with all the details is attached in pdf and png format. Feel free to share email or text this flyer to your neighbours!

See you there!

Olympus Cove Ward.

Worship through Sacred Music - Hymns for July.

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

Thank you to all who participated in our wonderful “Hymn Testimony” Sacrament Meeting today. It continues to be my favorite program for Sunday. I am glad several new members of the ward introduced themselves by sharing favorite hymns! Welcome!

And I was especially grateful for the superb Piano solo by Austin Li, of Chopin Sonata No. 3. It moved me to tears.

Here are the hymns for the month of July.

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.

July 6 - 339, 194, 338 - Thank you, Marsha Smith, for subbing as Chorister.

July 13 - 90, 178, 129, 130 - Thank you, Josie Larson, for subbing as Chorister

July 20 - 36, 180, 128, 87 - Thank you, Gwyneth Daybell, for subbing as chorister

July 27 - 30, 195, 5, 1013

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)