

OLYMPUS COVE CONNECTIONS

From the editor...

The lazy days of Summer have not been very lazy. Between travel and conferences and family events, schedules have been full and time has passed quickly. I would have liked to release this newsletter sooner, and appreciate patience.

I have really appreciated the discussions I have heard in Sunday School and Relief Society this month. I heard a number of comments about how people have felt the love and closeness of God, even at times of challenge and hardship. As I mentioned in Fast And Testimony meeting, I was moved by the remarks of a friend speaking about what strengthens her faith. She spoke of gospel hymns that were about our relationship with the Divine, how God connects with us and shows us love - and how those had shaped her faith more than hymns about us needing to do more and try harder and be busier. I try to seek inspiration and guidance when I am selecting hymns for Sacrament Meeting. I find that I am

usually led to hymns that are about God's love and mercy and inspiration. I am seeing this theme in many of the new hymns being released, and am grateful to have more options.

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



Inspirational Thought - by Jeff Simmons

Years ago, while serving a mission in Australia, I had regressed quite a bit in terms of my physical conditioning. Because of an extremely busy schedule, I had neglected my health for several months. Determined to do something about it, I started riding a bike. Riding the streets of Sydney suburbs, was extremely dangerous so I figured out a back route to a park where no cars were permitted. In that park there was a 1-mile paved climb which I repeated 5-10 times depending on how much time I could dedicate to that day's exercise. At first, the climb was extremely arduous and my times going up the hill were very slow. Gliding down was a welcome relief and with 235 pounds on the bike, I sailed back down the hill I had just climbed, turned around and commenced another ascent. After a few months of being able to ride 5 days a week, my times got faster, and the climb became much easier. One day while pedaling up the hill, I almost felt giddy as I climbed, thinking about how far I had come in my conditioning, how fast I was climbing and with more ease. In that moment of pure joy, a pack of 7-10 cyclists, sped by me with so much speed that I felt I was going backwards. Of course, I wasn't, but that was the illusion. The joy I had felt just moments earlier, turned to discouragement and dejection and I stopped pedaling right there and then and came to a sudden stop. When I paused, I took time to think about the how the joy I was feeling had so suddenly turned to discouragement and despair. Why did it happen?

It happened because I compared myself to the cyclists who had blazed by me. I thought further...wait Jeff, they are 30 years younger than you, they were on road racing bikes, probably carbon frames, 7-10 pounds lighter than the 15-year-old Trek Mountain bike with thick knobby tires that you are riding. They probably ride 6 days a week for several hours, hundreds of miles each week. You are lucky to ride an hour a day, 7-10 miles. As I thought about those things, my discouragement vanished. I had been making the progress I had intended. I had been accomplishing what I set out to do when I started riding. I got back on my bike, focused on the top of the hill, and started my ascent once again.



August Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

August 2 - Steven Lavigne
 3 - Matt Lowe
 5 - Jacob Young
 7 - Alisha Van Wagoner
 9 - Josie Larson
 11 - Reed Nelson
 12 - Darren Bolingbroke
 14 - Craig Christensen, Steve Scott
 15 - Edith Murdock
 16 - Brian Smith
 18 - William Harker, Oliver Randle
 20 - Karen Rose Johnson, Dean Sapp
 21 - Riley Davis
 22 - Luke Hardin, Aksel Lamprecht
 23 - Aiden Phillipps
 26 - Torr Hardin
 27 - Stephen Black
 29 - Aaron Daybell, Brett Mann, John Markosian, Nyah Young
 30 - Henry Randle
 September 1 - Dave Black, Doris Memmott
 3 - Linda Schoepf
 4 - Annie Murdock
 5 - Meg Madsen
 6 - Jacob Morris, Phil Johnson
 9 - Todd Johnson
 10 - Ann Benton

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.

It can become debilitating when we compare our progress (emotional, physical, intellectual, or spiritual) to others. Yes, it is important to have examples to look towards and goals to strive for in each of these areas in our lives, but it is important to not allow the progress or accomplishments of others to cripple us in our own efforts to progress and achieve.

Mosiah 4:27 states: “It is not requisite that a man should run faster than he has strength”. While this counsel **does not dismiss the need for constant personal effort**, it does allow for personal pace in that effort. Yes, our efforts should be continuous and consistent and our focus metaphorically toward the top of the hill or Christ. As Elder Holland once stated: “God doesn’t care nearly as much about where you have been as He does about where you are and, with his help, where you are willing to go”. **Let’s each of us, just keep going, keep climbing always headed in His direction** while not comparing ourselves to how others are doing in their own ride. - by Jeff Simmons

Ward Relief Society Temple Trip for August 21st - Thank you, Susan Smith for this information.

Please make an online reservation for the August 21st, 10:00 am session in the Draper 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!

Upcoming Activities

Save the dates...

Fall Harvest Party - October 14th at 6:30 pm

Ward Christmas Party - December 6th at 6:00

Stake Primary Choir

Practices for all children who wish to participate will be in the Stake Center Primary room on Sunday afternoons 2:30 - 3:00

Utah Area YSA Temple Night

Thursday, August 28, 2025, 4:00 - 9:00 pm at the Jordan River Temple for all round single adults in the stake.

Worship through Sacred Music - Hymns for July.

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

I really appreciate the willingness of so many to sing new and not yet familiar hymns. It is wonderful to hear old favorites we have not sung in a while, as well as learn the new, beautiful additions. 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.

August 24 - 133, 1016, 142, 1015

August 31 - 1038, 174, 119, 166

September 7 - 1040, 172, 157

September 14 - 305, 188, 116, 113

Youth Carwash and Lunch Fundraiser

The Ward Youth Organizations held a carwash and lunch fundraiser on Saturday, August 9th. The youth and leaders did a great job of providing entertaining and effective cleaning of many vehicles, with wonderful grilled hamburgers to enjoy afterwards.

Thank you to all who volunteered and arranged to make this a successful fundraiser!





Stake Blood Drive

Dear Stake Members,

This is a final reminder of the stake blood drive that will be held in the stake center this week on August 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You may sign up by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter MOUNTOLYMPUS to schedule an appointment. We look forward to you support for this potential life saving event.

Tom Fredrick - Stake High Council

Ward Assignment for Church Building Cleaning

The following is the cleaning schedule for the remainder of the month of August. We will begin cleaning each Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., unless the building is scheduled for another activity such

as a funeral or family reunion. The alternate time for cleaning will be 4:00 p.m. If you cannot attend on your scheduled morning, please arrange for someone to take your place.
Thank you to Warren Wadsworth for his service in arranging this.

August 23rd— Aaron & Heather Daybell and Bruce & Melanie Decker.

30th— Lan & Carrie England and Nate & Natalie Fredrick.

Stake Blood Drive -

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, from 1:00-7:00 pm, at the Stake Center for all stake members, neighbors, and friends 16 years or older willing and able to donate blood.

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 - The Doctrine & Covenants 2025.

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)