

OLYMPUS COVE CONNECTIONS

From the editor...

Mike and I were able to see the Utah Symphony perform in front of the State Capitol on July 3. I felt so grateful to be able to enjoy this extraordinary orchestra, especially as part of the celebration of July 4th, and also the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was very moving to stand at the beginning as a wonderful Girl Scout troop Color Guard, presented the flag as the symphony played the national anthem. There was an excellent variety of music performances, and I loved the quotations about the music that the conductor shared. It was powerful to think of the poem "The New Colossus", by Emma Lazarus, written in 1883 to raise money for the building of the pedestal for the Statue of Liberty, and inscribed there. It is not often I read the entire poem, but I looked it up again after the program.

"Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame, With the conquering limbs astride from land to land; Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame. "Keep, ancient lands, your storied pond!" cries she With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-most to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

This poem reminds me that this country exists and is great because many people sought to make a home here in this vast land. Some going back for thousands of years (including the Lehi's family seeking refuge when they immigrated from Jerusalem), and some seeking refuge from danger today. My ancestors came here hoping for safe harbor, helped create a land where they sought to follow the invitation of Christ, to welcome the stranger and comfort the weary. I am grateful to live where a creed that aligns so completely with the central teaching of Christ, as well as the central teaching of every major religion, is what greets all who entered at one of its main gateways. I am also grateful for the many ways I see my ward family following this creed.

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 for July - by Stuart Larson

This week we received a video call from our missionary daughter, Josie, who is currently serving in Gallup, New Mexico. During her call, she shared with us the story of a "minor miracle" where she and her companion had been led to the apartment of a young man they had met earlier in the week who didn't know his own address. All he knew was the street name. So, with a lot of faith and some prayers, she and her companion went tracting on the street he had named, with the intention of knocking on every door to ask if that young man lived there.



July Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

July 7 - Luke McBeth
 8 - Ellie Black, Olivia Lowe
 9 - Michael Young
 12 - Curt Crowther
 15 - Tom Fredrick, Garr
 Vincent
 17 - Ron Hanks, Evan
 Madsen
 18 - Shannon Scott, Colette
 Winward
 19 - Bret Wilde
 21 - Lisa Monson
 22 - James Birch, Romaine
 Marshall
 25 - Ethan Willhite
 27 - Mitchel Johnson, Victor
 Miller
 28 - Barbara Fredrick
 30 - Grey Randle
 31 - Derek Dahlstrom, John
 Morris
 August 2 - Spencer Moss
 3 - Matt Lowe
 5 - Jacob Young
 7 - Alisha Van Wagoner
 9 - Josie Larson
 11 - Reed Nelson

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.

At the very first door they knocked on, they were met by a skeptical mom who slowly warmed up to them as they explained who they were. Apparently, she and her family were attending a different church that they were not enjoying. But then, they asked if the young man they had met earlier lived there, and he did! They invited the whole family to attend church this Sunday and they said they would! We're anxious to hear if that happened.

As we talked with Josie, her eyes sparkled with the humble enthusiasm of someone who has been an instrument in the hands of the Lord. We talked with her about the elements that allow any of us to have that privilege, including living close to the Spirit through faithful prayer and study, keeping the mission rules, and having the courage to take action even when there isn't an obvious path forward.

Interestingly, as we talked with Josie, my mind went to our country's 250th anniversary and the brave founders who were also instruments in the hands of God in establishing the United States of America. There are many stories of minor and major miracles associated with our country's revolution and subsequent independence. And those who were witnesses to it humbly and thankfully acknowledged that they could not have done it without divine assistance.

George Washington himself said in a letter to Thomas Nelson in 1778:

"The hand of providence has been so conspicuous in all this, that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations."

Like Josie, these leaders exhibited great faith, they supplicated their God for assistance, and then they took action even and especially when there was not an obvious path forward. And 250 years later, we are still the beneficiaries of their divine instrumentality!

In April 2021, President Dallin H. Oaks shared the following:

*"The United States Constitution is unique because God revealed that He 'established' it 'for the rights and protection of **all flesh**'... Our belief in divine inspiration is not a belief that God dictated every word, **but rather that the Holy Ghost inspired the Founding Fathers to bring forth a system of government that would best protect the moral agency of His children.**"*

I am so grateful for this country and the light that it has been and can be to all the world. And I'm grateful to all those who, like our founding fathers and Sister Larson, are humble seekers of divine guidance, live close to the Spirit through prayer, study, and faithful obedience to His laws, and have the courage to take the next step forward in faith to become an instrument in the hands of our Heavenly Father and our

Savior Jesus Christ! - by Stuart Larson

Relief Society Temple Trip at the Jordan River Temple - Thank you, Susan Smith for this information.

Please make an online reservation for the July 16, 10 am endowment session, or 10 am initiatory session, in the Jordan River Temple. Please make an appointment online.

All are welcome to meet at the church at 8:30 to carpool. Thank you, sisters, for the love you feel for service in the temple. All are enthusiastically welcomed!

Activities for Seniors - Thank you to Robyn and Kim Roberts for arranging these.

Seniors Lunch Bunch times for the Summer!

Come mingle, have a light lunch & enjoy a brief spotlight. It will be fun!

Tuesday July 28, August 25 - 11:30 - 12:30 at the Fortuna Building.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need a ride to any of these events. – Kim & Robyn 801-718-5335

Stake Presidency Heart-to-Heart Fireside for All Youth Entering 6th Grade -

Sunday July 12, 2026 at 5:00 to 6:00 pm. at the home of President and Sister Young, for all youth entering 6th grade in the Fall, along with their parents.

Worship through Sacred Music -

Hymns for this month.

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

Please take a moment to look at the gospel app or church website, and listen to the new hymns. They are excellent, and we can look forward to adding a wonderful spirit to our meetings.

For now, there will not be any presentation about the new hymns during sacrament meeting. I will try to include some information in the program. But I encourage you to go to the home page of the gospel app, and click on the music link. If you select the hymn number, and scroll to the bottom of the page for that music, there will be an option that says "About this hymn." I encourage you to take a moment and learn a bit about the hymns we are singing. For this coming month, I especially mention hymn 1022, Faith in Every Footstep. This has been around since the Utah Centennial, but it is new to the hymnal. Also hymn 1050, which is a wonderful gospel spiritual written by Charles Tindley who was born during the era of slavery. This hymn is also about journeying through hardship with deep faith.

I am very grateful for the hymns that help us appreciate the great variety of experiences in countless faith journeys that shape our communities all over the world.

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.

July 12 - 17, 188, Congregation hymn selection Sacrament Meeting

July 19 - Honoring Pioneer day - 1022, 185, 44, 30

July 26 - 1050, 181, 49, 15

August 2 - 20, 178, 1015

Ward Assignment for Church Building Cleaning - Thank you Warren Wadsworth!

The following families are scheduled to help clean the church in April. We will begin each Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., unless the church is scheduled for another activity such as a funeral or a family gathering. The alternate time for cleaning will be 4:00 p.m. If you cannot attend on your scheduled Saturday, please arrange to have someone take your place.

Please watch for the announcement about cleaning assignments in August.

NOTABLE!

I like to include mentions of notable events and accomplishments in connection with our ward family. Please let me know when there is something of interest you would like to include.

- Thank you, Shannon and Steve Scott for sharing great news about their family. "Hallie and Jack are finally settled in their apartment in Hillsdale, Michigan. Hallie is pursuing a degree in History. She completed the Spring Semester and made the Dean's list with a 4.0 GPA. She loves the curriculum, the school and her professors. She was also thrilled to go on a two week school tour of the key places related to the Revolutionary War. After weeks of intensive interviews, and competing against 400 applicants, Jack was hired by Stryker to serve in their global marketing group. He is as thrilled in his work as Hallie is in her studies."

Missionary Updates -

From Sister Charlie Hillery, currently serving in France...

Please follow news from Sister Hillery at charliecehillery.blogspot.com. My email is charliece@gmail.com. Please reach out to say "Hello" or if you have family history questions I might be able to help with.

Link to the livestreams for Sunday Meetings -

SacramentMeeting.OlympusCoveWard.org

ReliefSociety.OlympusCoveWard.org

EldersQuorum.OlympusCoveWard.org

SundaySchool.OlympusCoveWard.org

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 - located at the Millstream (north) building

Family History Center 2026 Hours

HOURS

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

Wednesdays - 10 am - 12 noon

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 Old Testament 2026.

[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)