

Zion's Advocate

*"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;"*

I Nephi 3:187

Volume 69

Independence, Missouri — June 1992

Number 6

He Chose This Path for Thee

He chose this path for thee—
No feeble chance nor hard relentless fate,
But love—His love—has placed thy footsteps here;
He knew the way was rough and desolate,
Knew how thy heart would often sink with fear—
Yet how tenderly He whispers, "Child I see,
This path is best for thee."

He chose this path for thee,
Though well He knew sharp thorns would tear thy feet,
Knew how the branches would obstruct the way,
Knew how thy faith would tested be each day;
And still the whisper echoed, "Child, I see
This path is best for thee."

He chose this path for thee.
And well He knew that thou must tread alone
O'er rocky steeps and where dark rivers flow,
His loving hand will bear thee all thy days,
A few days more and thou thyself shalt see
This path is best for thee.

—Selected

Featured in This Issue

Time to Shine (Apostle Jay Moser)-75	82-Pathlights-A Wonderful Experience
Great Views of Things to Come (Apostle Don McIndoo)-76	83-'92 Conference Report
Our Heritage (Apostle William A. Sheldon)-78	85-Obituaries
Sunday School (Apostle Robert H. Jensen)-81	86-News from Locals
	87-Reunion Announcements

Zion's Advocate is the official publication of the Church of Christ, with headquarters on the Temple Lot, 200 S. River Blvd., P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472. Telephone (816) 833-3995 or 833-3914.

Published monthly by the Church of Christ. Second Class Postage paid at Independence, Missouri.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Zion's Advocate (USPS 6993-0000), P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Church of Christ members' subscriptions are paid from general Church funds, but donations are requested (suggested: \$4.00 each year). In bundles of 12 or more for missionary purposes: \$2.00.

Non-member rates: \$4.00 (one year); All foreign add 50¢.

Send Subscription requests with appropriate fees; Donations to Church funds (Temple & Storehouse); Consecrations; Tithes; and all other Offerings to the **Business Manager** at Church headquarters as listed below.

THE APOSTLES' MISSIONARY FIELDS

NORTHWEST: Marvin E. Ely, 236 32 Road, Grand Junction, Colorado 81503. In charge of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, and Western Canada west of a line between Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

NORTHEAST: Don W. Housknecht, 1909 E. Grovers, Space 15, Phoenix, Arizona 85022. In charge of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, the provinces of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, and east of the St. Lawrence River and the Maritime provinces, Canada.

MIDWEST: Robert H. Jensen, 2230 Clay, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005. In charge of Montana, North & South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nebraska and Iowa.

SOUTHWEST: Donald E. McIndoo, 18830 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85024; Alvin J. Moser, 4062 E. Danbury, Phoenix, Arizona 85032. In joint charge of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana and the Republic of Mexico.

CENTRAL: Roland L. Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terrace, Independence, Missouri 64055. In charge of Missouri and Oklahoma.

EAST: William A. Sheldon, 1011 S. Cottage, Independence, MO 64050. General Church Representative in the office. **Smith N. Brickhouse**, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, MO 64136. In joint charge of all Atlantic coast states and Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Vermont and the European field.

WORLDWIDE: Contact the Secretary, Council of Apostles.



GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF APOSTLES

Apostle Smith N. Brickhouse
5317 Logan Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF BISHOPS

Elder Leslie P. Case
8312 Lee's Summit Rd.
Kansas City, Missouri 64139

GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY

Elder Robert W. Oldham
5709 Logan Rd.
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

BUSINESS MANAGER

Elder Alvin L. Harris
Church of Christ
P. O. Box 472
Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

ZION'S ADVOCATE STAFF:

EDITOR

Priest Michael McGhee
18907 E. 6th Street N.
Independence, Missouri 64056

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Ron Temple
5621 Logan Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

David Rudd
4917 Casey Court
Independence, Missouri 64055

FEATURE EDITOR - "Path Lights"

Melissa McGhee
2533 Glen Lane
Independence, Missouri 64052

Zion's Advocate is ...
To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour;
To promote His Teachings & His Church, the Church of Christ;
To be a voice of warning to His people; To be Zion's advocate.

WRITTEN MATERIAL REQUESTED

Priesthood articles and sermons, testimonies for "Path Lights," submissions to other regular monthly Z.A. features, and news items of Church-wide interest are requested, and should be sent to the Editor as listed above. Deadline for material requiring publication in any certain month is the 10th of the previous month.

Format of Submitted Material: Please type all submissions (if possible), on one side of the paper only. Please

avoid overuse of underlining, ALL-CAPS, and *italics*. The most important thing, though, is to send the material — the staff can arrange for typing or otherwise prepare anything you send.

Word Processors/Computers: We can utilize text files on an IBM® or compatible computer floppy disk of any size or format and nearly any word processor. If you have this capability, it is a *big* help to our process.

STATUS OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Articles published in this paper do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church nor the opinions of the editorial staff.

Declarations and notices authorized by the General Conference reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

Editorial...

Time to Shine

Apostle Jay Moser

Most of us were probably not surprised by the violence which erupted in our nation recently over the decision by the jury in California who acquitted four policemen for the beating of Rodney King. I'm sure that most of us were saddened to see the thin exterior of civilization. It should prepare us for future outbreaks, and also warn God's children of the consequences of sin.

We have been warned for years of such things occurring in our nation. We are experiencing financial reversal. Many of us are not doing as well today as we were just a few years ago. Lost jobs, lower wages, plant closures, and higher prices are things that grip us all. We must keep in view the reason for these things. Sin! Iniquity is the reason and destruction is the result. There is only one answer for America. Repentance!

Today people are reacting to the sin that is in our nation. In our newspaper recently an article appeared giving the chief reason for the deaths of men between the ages of 25 and 40 as suicide. Why are these men taking their lives? Is it because people's foundations are crumbling beneath them? Is it because our nation has become a nation of idolaters who have placed all things in their lives before the true God?

I heard from the radio that 90% of all abortions in our nation are performed on unwed mothers, and that fully 99% are simply performed because the pregnancy is unwanted. We have become a nation of practicing fornicators. How long will these things be tolerated? We must pay the cost of our follies. The truth is that it is not being tolerated. Millions of families are already paying for the follies of their loved ones. Broken homes, children divided, and children hurt are only a scratch on the surface of the sins of our nation. Poverty, inequality, resentment, envy, hatred, guns blazing, blood, fire, and smoke are all related to the great sins of our land. What about you?

Are there great sins in your life? Are you spending time justifying your own sins? Was your divorce based on the one scriptural reason given? Do you want what others have? Are you argumentative? Do you get angry often? Are you lusting in your heart? Have you stolen something from your employer? Do you do things in secret that you want no one to know?

The Church of Christ can make a difference in this world. We are not helpless to change our own lives. The power of God can work through you. As a country we have forgotten the great power that resides in His spirit. Today would be a good time to show the world that God dwells in us. The potency of God's love shin-

ing from your life can reach into the lives of others. The peace that passes understanding can be passed on to others.

Perhaps the questions that are more fitting are positive ones. Do you have the love of Christ that overshadows all things? When was the last time you experienced joy? Is your spirit at peace when there is trouble near? Are you long-suffering with your neighbor? Your brother? Have you been gentle this week to someone in need of kindness? Do you take pleasure in doing good? Do you still have faith in God? Do you work hard to be meek? Today, meekness is not taught; however, assertiveness is taught! Do you contain yourself, in self control over your body and its appetites?

If you can answer these questions favorably then you can be a light for God set on a hill that all may see and glorify Him. If the questions asked have been answered incorrectly, stop and take an inventory of your life. Perhaps it is good that we have less money today than before. Perhaps we have trouble in our lives and God is seeking to bring us to our senses. We must realize that sin in our personal lives puts us in great danger of being recipients of the curse of a righteous God upon a sinful nation. Our protection is in obedience to God's basic gospel law. Its time to shine.

Great Views of Things to Come

by **Apostle Don McIndoo**

This morning Brother Moser told us the beautiful story of the calling of a young man to be an Elder in the Church of Christ. For several years the local at Yobain and others had prayed faithfully that the Lord would send other laborers into His vineyard. This experience of Brother Placido was the realization of all our hopes and prayers. I do not consider it to be the culmination of our desire—it is, rather, but a beginning. Already this young man has given up a day's work each week to have a weekly cottage meeting in the home of shut-ins; he has developed a strong young people's group, and has begun services in a neighboring town. His calling is like spring's promise in a rosebud as it slowly unfolds to reveal the complete beauty and fragrance of the yet-hidden flower.

Editor's Note:
On April 5, 1992, the new headquarters building of the Church of Christ, Temple Lot, was dedicated. This month's "Great Views of Things to Come" and "Our Heritage" conclude a two part series covering the dedication service.

So it is with the dedication of this beautiful building. Many of us have longed for this day. Many have contributed in some way to the completion of this project. Some of you have made great sacrifices to see this work to its conclusion. As I think of your diligence in completing this project in so short of time, when I realize that it is paid for to the last nail, it causes me to think of the words of Zenos in his prophetic parable of the olive tree—that part of his prophecy which applies to our day: "And it came to pass that the Lord of the vineyard sent his servant; and the servant went and did as the Lord had commanded him, and brought other servants; and they were few. And the Lord of the vineyard said unto them, go to, and labor in the vineyard, with your mights. And it came to pass that the servants did go, and labor with their mights; and the Lord of the vineyard labored also with them..." (Jacob 3:136,137,140).

Hopefully we will each recognize that the realization of this goal and the dedication of this building to the Lord is not an end in itself. We must see it as just one step in the continuous unfolding of God's purpose in this latter day. You recognize that my use of the prophecy concerning the "olive tree" was a misapplication of the words of the prophet. The labor to which we are called is the great Latter-day work of Jesus Christ among the lost sheep of Israel. You are each called to labor with that same dedication, spirit of sacrifice and zeal exhibited by those who brought this great undertaking to its conclusion.

Experience has taught me that often, upon the completion of some project of gigantic proportion which demanded that we labor with all our might and energy of soul, there is an emotional letdown with a subsequent diminishing of effort. This we cannot afford, for the larger task is yet incomplete. As I consider what lies before us now, I am reminded of the pronouncement of King Benjamin's people: "...we, ourselves, through the infinite goodness of God...have great views of that which is to come..." (Mosiah 3:4).

Hopefully, from this experience we shall all learn two invaluable lessons for the future which is racing toward us. The first is that out of tribulation, trouble or persecution can come great, inconceivable rewards. It is what Paul meant when he told the church in Rome "...all things work together for good to them that love God..." (Romans 8:28). The second lesson is just as important: We must learn that when we are united in God's purposes a small group of people can attain, with His help, unimaginable results.

While in America, the resurrected Christ prophesied of events which would have great effect upon this land and upon this people. Some of His prophecies have been fulfilled; some are being accomplished, while others await the future.

He prophesied (III Nephi 9:85) that Jerusalem would be liberated. Jerusalem was to be destroyed in the year 70 A.D. by Roman conquerors. Later they would rebuild the city and make

it the heathen capital of the Middle East. It would remain under Gentile domination for 2000 years. Even in 1829, when the Book of Mormon was published, the liberation of Jerusalem—then under the rule of the Ottoman Turkish Empire—was so inconceivable that the Lord gave us a sign which would indicate when it would come to pass.

This sign (found in verses 87 through 92) was to be when Gentiles would preach the Gospel and bring forth the Book of Mormon to the descendants of the very people to whom Christ spoke. That the hearts of these people would be prepared to receive this record, the Lord, in 1914, sent a prophet among them. This prophet, whom I believe to be one of the Nephites who tarried, prophesied that one day the gospel of Christ would come to the home of the hereditary ruler of the Maya, an old man named Nemensio Xiu who lived in Ticul, Yucatan.

In a most unusual way Clarence and Angela Wheaton, on February of 1951, were led to the very home foretold by the prophet. Clarence was given opportunity to preach to the people. Among those invited to hear him were the very men who heard the words of the prophet many years before in a distant city. Though neither ever accepted the gospel, both Nemensio Xiu and his son Dionicio proved to be witnesses to the divinity of the Book of Mormon and the divine nature of the Wheatons' visit. A few years later, when Dionicio died, the 700 year reign of the Maya royal family came to an end and a new priesthood, that of Jesus Christ, was initiated. Just fourteen years after the church was organized and the priesthood restored, Jerusalem

was miraculously liberated for the first time in almost 2000 years. A mere series of unlikely coincidences? We think not!

But this is not the conclusion of the matter, merely a beginning. Geographical clues in the Book of Mormon indicate the Lord gave these prophecies in the ancient homeland of the Maya. Now their history has been restored to them and an active church established among them, but we have only begun, for the realm of the Maya includes 37 dialects and covers three more Mexican states and three other nations. This is to say nothing of all their Indian brethren scattered across the Americas. What we have achieved, compared to what lies before us, is like a bucket of water drawn from Lake Michigan.

In III Nephi 7:34-35 Jesus prophesied of the Gentile rejection of the gospel in the latter day. As they do this their understanding shall be darkened and the gospel removed from them. In more ways than I have time to enumerate, this is now being accomplished. Justo Gonzalez, in his *History of Christianity*, wrote in 1984 that only 10% of Europeans have any contact with Christian religion. Today this figure has dropped to 8%. While in our own nation esteemed theologians of the Jesus Seminar meet quarterly to detract from the divinity of Christ, depreciate His ministry and reject His words.

Therefore, the Lord prophesied in III Nephi 9:56 that the sword of justice will fall upon the Gentiles in the last day. An awareness of current events reveals that the fulfillment of this prophecy is beginning. We must recognize that our future efforts shall be played out against a back drop of

tribulation, trouble and ever increasing persecution. Even now third-world rebels are making Christian missionaries their special political targets.

Now, let's consider what lies just ahead of us. Jesus made promise to the Indian people, telling them "...this people will I establish in this land, unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob; and it shall be a new Jerusalem" III Nephi 9:58. Repentant Gentiles who receive the gospel are to be numbered among this remnant of Jacob, "...and they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob; and also, as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city which shall be called the New Jerusalem..." (III Nephi 10:1 & 2).

Do you long for the redemption of Zion and the building of the New Jerusalem? If so, consider well the injunction found in the tract, *Zion and the Temple of the Lord*, page 6, long published by the Church of Christ. "The Gathering of the saints with the building of Zion upon this land... shall be the result of the fullness of the Gospel having been proclaimed in power among the Lamanites.

"The endowment of greater power to the priesthood, and a concentrated mission to the 'Indians', who are of the seed of Joseph, the son of Jacob, must now become the object of diligent, consistent prayers by all saints everywhere!" I would emphasize the words of the author; this must be our immediate objective and concern. To this end we must labor with our might.

Then, said the Master, "At that day shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people; yea, even the tribes that have

been lost..." (III Nephi 10:5). This will perhaps encompass the period when the prophecy in Matthew 24:14 shall be fulfilled, when "...this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come...."

In the past few years we have seen marvelous events unfold which no one could have predicted. With an understanding of scripture we recognize that most of the important happenings are paving the way for the fulfillment of prophecy. As we gain a clearer view of all the marvelous things which are to come, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the magnitude of the unfolding purposes of God in this latter day. So we do not wonder that in Zenos's parable of the "olive tree" the Lord of the vineyard told his servants, "Go to, and labor in the vineyard with your might" (Jacob 3:127). And as they did the Lord of the vineyard labored with them and most assuredly magnified their efforts.

This might best be illustrated with one final story. In his all encompassing vision, Nephi saw that the wrath of God "...was upon the seed of

my brethren; and they were scattered before the Gentiles, and were smitten" (I Nephi 3:150). That this prophecy was known to all the great civilizations of the Americas is recorded in their own histories. Huayma Capac, the Inca ruler of Peru, stated, "Our father... has revealed to me that after the rule of twelve Incas, his children, men of a kind unknown to us, will come into our country and subjugate our states...." Six years later, Francisco Pizarro began his conquest of Peru.

With but 160 soldiers he marched down the coast of Peru. Inland, the Inca ruler, Atahualpa, was also marching southward to put down a rebellion. Sometime in November of 1532, Pizarro made an important and fateful decision to turn inland. His soldiers literally dragged their equipment and few horses up the steep canyons to the highland of the Andes. There his 160 looked down upon Atahualpa and his army of 80,000 in the city of Cajamarca. They said their prayers and engaged the Incan army. In two hours 7,000 Indians lay dead and Atahualpa, the twelfth Inca, was captured. An unidentified soldier

summed it up correctly: "It was not accomplished by our own forces, for there were so few of us. It was by the grace of God, which is great."

We find ourselves too few and the task too great, but this is the prophesied day of Israel, and by the grace of God, all His promises shall be accomplished. Even as the prophecy of Gentile dominion of the mighty American Indian tribes could not be delayed beyond its appointed time, so the prophecy of Jesus Christ shall be fulfilled by the grace and power of God working through His people. But, like the completion of this beautiful building we here dedicate, it shall not come without great effort, determination and sacrifice. Perhaps the Lord has allowed us this opportunity to discover our ability to rise above adversity, to unite our prayers and efforts, for God's great purpose looms upon the horizon. Time, as it were, is being telescoped, and our destiny races toward us. May God grant us that our clarity of view, strength and courage are equal to the task!

Our Heritage

Historical Presentation for Temple Lot Building Dedication

by Apostle William A. Sheldon

Having gathered at this time to dedicate this building to the service of our Heavenly Father, and in hope thereby to advance the cause of Christ, and to build up Zion in

preparation for a gathering of His saints, it is well to remember the labors of those who have gone before us, whose lives were dedicated to these same ideals. If their desires were good and noble, it behooves us to build upon those same principles in confidence that God will

bles, in His own time and way, that which we may perform in righteousness and faith. If we may detect error in our history by the Holy Spirit of truth, then we are justified in an alteration of those aspirations so far as we are concerned, but we truly believe their course which en-

abled this people to occupy this sacred spot of ground to have been fundamentally sound. Indeed it is apparent that divine wisdom directed those early efforts to a considerable degree, notwithstanding their desires were not fulfilled in their time.

Very early in the history of the Church, through a conviction of truth in prophecies found in the Book of Mormon concerning the American Indians in the latter days, a mission was sent to those people in what is now the state of Kansas, which eastern line was considered as the "border of the Lamanites." The mission was short-lived due to opposition by those from the other churches which had been established among the Indians. Viewing the matter from our point in time, it seems that the work among the Indians which was attempted then was premature, so far as it could have been expected to have a great success. The times of the gentiles, according to scriptural prophecies, had not yet been fulfilled. This was a prophetic milestone to be passed before the Lamanites, in a significant number, should be moved to receive the fullness of the gospel of Christ.

Nevertheless, the Lord used the circumstance of that hardy mission to prepare for the beginning of the gathering of His saints to Missouri, the land of promise, and to Independence, destined to become the city of Zion. The following revelation through Joseph Smith was given here in Independence in July 1831:

"Hearken, O ye elders of my church saith the Lord your God, who have assembled yourselves together, according to my commandments, in this land which is the land of Missouri,

which is the land which I have appointed and consecrated for the gathering of the saints: wherefore this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion. And thus saith the Lord your God, If you will receive wisdom here is wisdom. Behold, the place which is now called Independence, is the center place, and the spot for the temple is lying westward upon a lot which is not far from the courthouse...."

In faith, many of the saints endured much hardship to plant their feet in the goodly land, and laid a log for the first house in Kaw township, which was at that time (Aug. 2, 1831) about twelve miles west of Independence. This was done in ceremony to mark the beginning of the establishment of Zion. The following day, eight elders solemnly dedicated this very spot of ground upon which we are gathered today, as the place where a holy temple was to be erected to honor the Lord of hosts. This was done, not through human imagination or ambition, but by the commandment of God given in a revelation in September 1832, stating that the New Jerusalem as referenced in the Book of Mormon shall be built in this present community of Independence by the gathering of the saints, beginning here at the very spot appointed by the Lord for His holy temple. This New Jerusalem is to be mount Zion, or the mountain of the Lord, including the house of the God of Jacob, as prophesied in Isaiah 2:2, from whence the law of God is to go with power to the nations in these last days. Please be assured that our faith in this precept shall not have been in vain, and may we never lose the vision, however dimmed by intrusion of the mundane or obscured by tragic events

such as the burning of our former building, or by the occurrence of earth-shaking human events. The word of God stands sure.

Because of pride, contention and unworthiness among those who gathered in those early days, as well as outright persecution by others, including many who claimed a faith in Christ, our early members of the Church were driven from their inheritance, obtained by purchase and through back-breaking, honest labor. Included in their loss was this spot of ground, known as the Temple Lot or Temple Block.

Joseph Smith had dedicated this spot on August 3, 1831 by laying a stone to mark the northeast corner of the projected temple. At the same time, there was a tree about 2-1/2 feet north of the corner marker which was blazed; that is, bark was removed on two sides. We are told by an observer that there was inscribed on one side of the tree the letter "T", signifying temple; on the other side was the word, "Zoma," which is reported to be an ancient word meaning, "Zion." Blazing of the tree was done to notify all observers that a patent would be applied for to obtain possession of the property. This was a common practice in those times. In December following, which was four months after the dedication ceremony, a man named Flournoy made a partial payment to the state of Missouri for 80 acres of ground, which included that spot of ground. However, he probably realized he was encroaching upon the claim of those elders of the Church, or discovered it to be so, for we find that the same month of December he sold 63 acres of those acres to Bishop Edward Partridge, in purchase for the

Church of Christ.

The stone placed by Joseph Smith is presently in our possession, having been found in May 1929 while we were excavating for a foundation of the temple, the north line of which is only a few feet south from where we now sit. About a month later, a second stone was found in the roots of a large tree which was uprooted, approximately 90 feet south of the first stone. The history of this stone is more obscure than of that stone placed by Joseph Smith, but it was probably placed in 1839, according to the account of the before-mentioned observer, when some of the Twelve in the Church re-dedicated the site. Both of these stones are rudely inscribed to indicate the northeast and southeast corners of the temple.

Time will not permit an elaboration on the events surrounding the discovery of these stones, nor to make defense as to their historical validity, and as to this being the genuine spot for the temple, nor as to why that temple has not been built, nor, even more importantly, why it should yet claim our earnest attention and faith toward its ultimate fulfillment. We have not the time here to do justice to this matter.

Suffice it to say that early members of the body were first located in Woodford County, Illinois, in the general vicinity of Bloomington, when Joseph Smith and others came through the area enroute to Independence. They organized four local branches of the Church in that area. It is evident that some of those members migrated here about the same time, imbued with a vision of Zion, for they were among those driven from here in 1833. Rather than flee to adjacent counties,

they returned to the area of their former residence in Illinois, remaining true to their faith in the mission of Joseph Smith as a prophet of God and founder, with others, of this Church of Christ. There they remained as isolated branches of the early Church, under the leadership of such elders as Granville Hedrick, Adna C. Haldeman, David Judy and Jedidiah Owen. At a conference held in 1863, Granville Hedrick was nominated and sustained as the president of the high priesthood. In our time, we have seen the fallacy of such an office from a scriptural standpoint. Yet, nevertheless, we are informed that Hedrick was a man given to much prayer for the welfare of Zion. As a result, he received several revelations from God. In one given in April 1864 the saints were instructed to prepare themselves to return to Jackson County, Missouri, in 1867; that the Lord would open up the way before them to that end. In consideration that the nation was engaged in a civil war in 1864, and that Independence was a battleground of that war; further, that they had only been driven therefrom 31 years before, it was truly a test of faith that such an expedition should be undertaken. Yet, about 60 of them traveled by covered wagons in the winter of 1866-67 to Independence. They held a conference here in March 1867. They were the first latter-day saint group to return to Jackson County after the expulsion in 1833, and they openly declared their intention to remain. True to His promise, the Lord did open the way before them, and here we have been as a people since 1867. Their primary purpose was to obtain the temple lot property. Remember: some of them at least had been here before in 1833, so they knew

where the spot was located. During the course of ten years, or by 1877, they acquired by purchase the eight lots comprising this Temple Lot property. Efforts were made in the 1890's through civil court actions to deprive us of this sacred spot, but through considerable sacrifice, and by the grace of God, we have retained possession.

A small meeting house was erected on the Temple Lot in 1889, but it was destroyed by an arsonist in 1898. A second structure, somewhat larger, was completed in 1902. This too was destroyed by an arsonist on January 1, 1990; but fortunately, important documents, books and matters of historical interest were saved. Aside from these buildings and the present structure, there has never been any other buildings upon the Temple Lot property of a permanent nature. In this fact, we think we see the evidence of Divine providence.

Ever since the return by this body, this property has been the location of our general church headquarters, and the site for local church functions, with the view ever before us that a holy temple will yet be built upon the premises as the seat of the government of Christ upon the earth for 1,000 years. To this end, we look to the gathering here of all saints of God, and that this Church of Christ is in fact the nucleus of that gathering.

Correction:

In the May, 1992, issue, in *Behold, The Bridegroom Cometh*, on page 64, 3rd column, 2nd paragraph, 3rd line, the word *is* should be *He*: "...when He (Christ, w.a.s.) will return from the wedding."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes in the Church are of great importance. It is there that the children begin to learn of God the Father, and of the Lord Jesus Christ. At that point in life is when they are most receptive to learning and retaining things taught them. They must be taught the Scriptural truths to complement all of the other lessons in life necessary for them to learn.

Teaching children is one of the greatest responsibilities and most rewarding endeavors in which a person can give of their abilities and love. These elements also continue on into the teaching of adults.

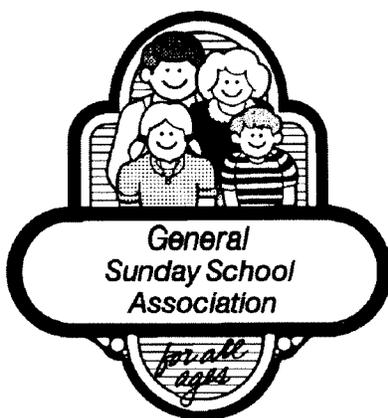
One of the magnificent instructions from the Divine Word of God for teaching is:

“Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbor hath put thee to shame.” (Proverb 25:8).

This admonition can be applied equally to the teaching of children and adults. Many adults have read the Scriptures to the point of having a great majority of them committed to memory, though they might not have a full understanding of them.

In a university class many years ago I remember a professor stating: “If you want to learn a subject well, teach it.” At first it might seem to be in reverse order, but in order to teach a subject the teacher must first learn the subject very well. It is necessary, therefore, for a teacher to study lessons beforehand

to the point that all questions by the students might be easily answered. The questions for which there is no immediate answer by the teacher, can be studied and the answer brought back to a future class. It is



much better to acknowledge a lack of knowledge or understanding of a matter at the moment than to give an inaccurate or meaningless answer.

Effective teaching must involve the participation of the members in the class in order to keep interest. Children must be given materials suitable for their level of understanding and ability. Depending upon their ages, story books and “quarterlies” with factual presentation of Scriptural record events are vital. Also, projects of picture drawing, coloring, and explanation are valuable. Visible objects such as these help to greatly increase the memory retention. Frequent questions should be asked the children, and an equal opportunity given to each child to offer their answers,

comments, and questions. Participation in class discussion is a big factor in helping them to retain the substance of the lessons.

Adult Sunday School members should be asked in turn to help in the reading of lesson Scriptures or other material. They should also have posed to them questions and opportunity to give answers, comments, and further questions. It is an effective form of “learning by doing.”

Techniques and materials for use in teaching can be developed as time progresses, limited only by the innovativeness of the teacher.

(2 Peter 1:1-4) “Simon Peter, a servant and an Apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

May God bless mightily all who enter into the teaching of others whether they be either children or adults.

— Apostle Robert H. Jensen

A Wonderful Experience

My husband, Fred, passed away in September of 1988, and as all know who have lost their companion this leaves a great emptiness in ones life. With the love of God and the love of children and grandchildren, plus brothers and sisters and friends, one is strengthened each day.

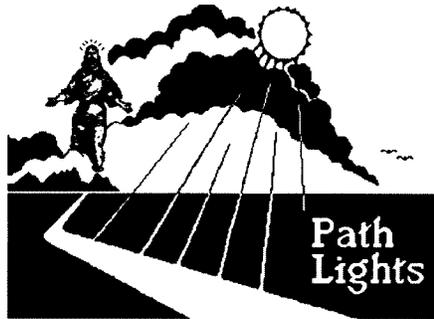
In August of this year, 1991, I and my daughter, Margaret Smith and her two sons, Don and Ian, went to the Missouri Reunion. While there, I was given this wonderful experience, although I didn't fully realize it until a few days later.

On Sunday morning during the Sacramento, prayer and testimony meeting, I saw a man in a brown suit sitting on the platform where the ministry sat. I supposed he was one of them and I thought, "I know that man," but I couldn't think of who he was. He was sitting facing the side of the room where I and my daughter and her sons were sitting, as well as many others.

I glanced at him two or three times, but couldn't think who he was. Then, different ones were bearing their testimonies and I forgot about him and didn't think of him the rest of the day, nor did I see him. Then after the close of the afternoon services, which closed the Reunion, people were saying their good-byes. Many were in the outer room visiting before leaving, some were in the kitchen and dining area, but few if any were in the room where we held the services. I walked out the door to the outer room to tell people good-bye and visited awhile too. Then I started back into the meeting room,

when suddenly this man in the brown suit was right beside me and wrapped both arms around me in the most gentle squeeze and then was gone. I didn't see his face, nor look to see where he went, but I saw the brown suit coat and heard the slight crackle of it as he gave me such a gentle hug.

I didn't think about it again until I was at Doris Jensen's in Bellview, Nebraska, on Monday evening, where



we stopped on our way to Bemidji, Minnesota.

I was telling Doris about seeing this man in the brown suit who looked so familiar, but I couldn't think who he was. She couldn't think who he might be either. I said something to Margaret and Don about him while we were driving to Bemidji.

After we got to my sister's (Amy Shrader) place at Bemidji, Minnesota, I told her about seeing this man and that I felt I should know him. But still, I couldn't think of who he was. Amy named a few whom he might have been, but I said "no, he was none of those."

Then early Friday morning following the reunion, I was waking up and it dawned on me, this man in brown was sitting in plain view of everyone there (if they could have seen him). He had been sitting in front of the altar table, where none of the ministry nor anyone else would normally be sitting.

Then it came to me and I knew

who he was. I asked Margaret if she'd seen a man in a brown suit sitting on the platform in front of the altar table. She said she had not. I told her, "Now I know who he was. He was your dad." Then I asked Don, "Did you see a man in a brown suit sitting on the platform in front of the altar table?" He said, "No, I didn't see anyone." I said, "I know now who he was. It was your grandpa I saw sitting there." He was the one who gave me such a gentle hug. I didn't look up to see his face, but if in that fleeting moment when his arms were around me, had I looked up into his face and saw it was Fred, my strength would have been gone and I would have fallen sobbing to the floor unless he had held me up or placed me in a chair. Had I been allowed to recognize him at the time, as he sat on the platform facing the direction where I sat, I would have called out his name and jumped up to run to him. For this reason, I was not allowed to recognize him at the time. I see him yet, in the memory just as he sat there and I know it was Fred.

When I told my brother Arlo Gould and his wife Lillian, at Bemidji about this experience, she said, with tears in her eyes, "as soon as you said a man in a brown suit, I thought, Fred." Lillian is Fred's sister and Fred was partial to brown suits when he was a young man.

We do not know how often our loved ones who have gone on before may be near us, but it is wonderful to be allowed to see or to sense the presence of a dear departed one, even though we cannot see or touch them. How good the Lord is to us, in our loneliness.

There is peace and strength in the Everlasting Arms of Jesus our Savior!
*Stella Winegar
Montana*

'92 Conference Report

"Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly." The words of the prophet Joel were read in the first services of the 1992 solemn assembly on Friday, April 3.

During Friday and Saturday's services, the first solemn assembly in the new church, the concern in the prayers and scriptures read was one of urgency. We were told that someday the prayer in Joel of "Spare my people, O Lord" would be done in earnest. We were admonished to be like the sons of Mosiah, as recorded in Alma 12: 4-5: "For they were men of a sound understanding, and they had searched the scriptures diligently, that they might know the word of God. But this is not all: they had given themselves to much prayer, and fasting, therefore they had the spirit of prophecy, and the spirit of revelation, and when they taught, they taught with power and authority, even as with the power and authority of God."

We were reminded by the ministry that our brothers and sisters of old had met their troubles with mighty fasting and prayer. The two days of fasting and prayer (of subjecting the carnal law to the spiritual law, as one minister explained) seemed inadequate time for the concerns we were praying for; but it served as a time of humbling ourselves before the Lord and drawing closer to him and to one another.

Saturday evening, a 7:00 program was presented by the CARE group. The group, made up of families from the Temple Lot and East Local, have monthly meetings and activities to strengthen the family. The congregation saw two doors before them, representing choices that face our young people. "What can we do to make a difference in their lives?" was the question put forth. We were sobered to hear, "Fifty percent of our young people may be lost to the church if we don't do something."

A large congregation gathered in the chapel Sunday, April 5th, at 9:00 a.m. Apostles Smith Brickhouse and Jay Moser presided over the sacrament service. The sweet spirit continued as we shared in prayer, testimonies and songs.

As 3:30 approached, soft guitar and cello music, played by Dan and Manon Lawrence, gathered us into the chapel for a time of dedication and thanksgiving for the general church headquarter's building. After a brief welcome from Apostle Roland Sarratt, we lifted our voices together and sang, "Let Us Go To The House Of The Lord." We knelt with Elder Nicholas Denham in prayer and God opened up his blessings upon us as Sister Martha Bruner led the Independence Choir through a beautiful presentation. Their words were like a lovely sermon of praise, thanksgiving, instruction, promise and dedication. The songs were a mixture of familiar hymns and unfamiliar melodies that flowed gently into one another, carrying our hearts along and renewing our commitments. The choir's plea was ours as they sang: "O mighty Father, give us a vision, for a dying world needs our love and care...that our lives may be a beacon in the dark, a light that others may see." Then we were reminded in melody of Christ's instruction in songs that quoted the Beatitudes, the two greatest commandments and the qualities of charity. The presentation continued with songs that thanked the Lord, praised him and dedicated our lives to his cause. They sang as one body and brought ministry to us.

Apostle Roland Sarratt followed the choir, speaking on "A Sense of Direction." He reminded us of the events that took place after the January 1, 1990 burning of the previous building. It would be impossible to estimate the number of hours the General Bishop dedicated and Brother Sarratt saw a sense of direction in the people

as well, with their volunteer labor, financial contributions, fund raisers and prayerful support. "He has prospered us," Brother Sarratt affirmed. "We have learned to exercise our faith in him in time of trial. Let us continue to dedicate ourselves to God in the fulfilling of his purposes and in the promotion of the Gospel of Christ."

Apostle William Sheldon reminded us of "Our Heritage," a short, thorough history of the saints who had "endured much hardship to plant their feet in this goodly land. May we never lose the vision. The word of God stands sure."

Sisters Martha Bruner and Cerna Kaufman then sang "Bless This Church," a special version of a familiar hymn, "Bless this church, O Lord we pray. Help us keep the narrow way. Gather all who wait for thee in the bonds of charity."

Elder Alvin Harris, "Rebuilding the Church," reminded us that it had been a series of miracles from the architectural plans being inspired in the mind of a church woman, to the Independence City Council approving plans rapidly. One of the first \$20 contributions came from the past. It was found under the pulpit when it was removed after surviving the fire. Brother David Rudd and Sister Martha Bruner sang "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place."

The quiet comfort that this song seems to always inspire carried us into Apostle Don McIndoo's talk on "Great Views of Things to Come." He admonished us that each of us was called to labor. "Dedicate yourselves and work with zeal and with all your might." Brother McIndoo stated that several lessons could be learned from the tragic burning of the church. We should learn that out of tribulation, marvelous blessings can come with God's help. He also reminded us that when we are united in God's purposes, he will give us the blessings to obtain

unimaginable results.

We knelt as Apostle Jensen offered a dedication prayer over the church building. "We dedicate this house unto thee. We beseech from thee a divine blessing upon it and thy decree that it shall be kept safe from the storms of the earth and heavens and from the hands of adversary power." It was silent. Hearts were full and from the front of the church we heard the Lord's Prayer sung. As Leslie Case offered the closing prayer, I remembered Apostle McIndoo's opening remarks: "Finishing the church is not the finishing of a work, but a rosebud beginning to unfold. The realization of the goal is not an end in itself, but a challenge. It is one step in God's purpose for people in the latter day."

Apostle Robert Jensen reminded us of the hope of the resurrection in Monday night's preaching service, on April 6. The service was presided over by Elder Gale Brantner. Though giving us hope, Brother Jensen also gave us warning. "We sing, pray, and talk a lot about when Christ will return and reign for 1,000 years. We're going to have to be ready to meet him. Every word we speak, every deed we perform, every thought we think is made a matter of record in the hallowed halls of heaven where the Book of Life is kept. We'll be reminded of them when we meet the Lord at the judgement bar. Many will have great difficulty in convincing the Lord that they did the best they could while in this life."

Brother Jensen concluded by reading Revelations 21: 1-7. His final words were, "The sacred words of the holy scriptures, the Bible and the Book of Mormon, and the things that have been given to us since, where it is promised that there shall be added line upon line and precept upon precept are to bring to us the fullness of joy. That we not be downtrodden or depressed, but that we live with joy in our hearts, anticipating those blessed things that are to come upon the face of the earth to the faithful and believing."

Early morning prayer services prepared us for Tuesday and Wednes-

day's activities. On Tuesday, April 7, Elders Eugene Gould and Gale Brantner presided over the hour. A season of prayer was given for Brother Roma Harrison; on his way to conference the day before, he'd become seriously ill and had driven himself to the hospital.

Elder Gordon McCann and Priest Placido Koyoc led us in Wednesday's a.m. service. We were thankful to learn of the blessing our brother Roma had received during our season of prayer for him the day before. When he was at his worst, he'd seen a dark brick wall ahead of him. He knew death was on the other side and prayed to cross over to that side to be relieved from the pain. Then feeling it was wrong to pray that way, he began praying to live. He began to recover at that time and testified that he'd never been that sick and recovered that quickly. We offered prayers of thanksgiving.

2:00 Wednesday afternoon Elder Bill Zabriskie and Priest Bill Malone presided. Brother Zabriskie felt impressed to admonish us to pray for unity and oneness within the church. "You can only glorify Christ by becoming like him," was our brother's encouragement.

The song service ended early Tuesday, April 7, as the Independence Children's Choir sang "Father, We Adore You" in English and Spanish. Preceding the preaching service, Elder Alan Kaufman was set aside as a bishop. Apostle Jay Moser, assisted by Roland Sarratt, laid hands on Brother Kaufman and prayed that God would bless him with the gift of wisdom in making decisions for the well-being of the people.

Priest Bill Malone presided over the evening service with preaching by Elder Brian McIndoo. Brother McIndoo asked, "What is required of me to be a Christian?" and went on to explain the differences between a "cultured Christian" and a "converted" one.

The cultured Christian is usually raised in the church, taught to pay tithing and to attend services. Outwardly,

he seems to do all the right things. Though those are fine habits, he explained, somewhere along the line we need to become a converted Christian. As a converted Christian, we strive to change our attitudes so that we respond to trials and temptations as Christ would. "We must mortify our human natures," Brother McIndoo said, referring to Colossians 3:5. He explained that "mortify" meant to "put to death." "Put to death any emotion contrary to Christ." He specifically pointed out the Beatitudes. "What Christ requires is impossible as natural man."

Elder Samuel Gould presided over the closing service of conference Wednesday evening, April 8. Apostle William Sheldon preached concerning the New Jerusalem.

"In our building of the New Jerusalem, the important thing is that there be building blocks erected in our lives - spiritual building blocks without which a New Jerusalem could never be a reality," Brother Sheldon continued to say that it is a mistake, though, to believe the New Jerusalem or Christ's coming is only "in our hearts."

"The time is literally coming upon the earth that the Savior, the redeemer of all mankind, is going to be revealed in the flesh. He is going to set up his kingdom on the earth and He is going to reign in the New Jerusalem. Yes, it's going to be a reality."

Brother Sheldon was specific as he said, "It's going to be upon the North American Continent, in the center part of the Nation. It's going to be right here."

"Perhaps some of us need to have some idols torn from our breast, to be brought in greater humility and faith toward God in order that we may be numbered with the people of Israel and might receive the inheritance he has for the people in this choice land," he said.

As he concluded his sermon, the urgency that I'd felt in the prayers, testimonies and sermons during the previous day seemed even more pro-

nounced. We'd been warned several times during Conference of the hardships ahead of us, but we'd also received instruction and hope.

Conference ended with the traditional tears and good-byes and many left with an anticipation of what God's plan would bring in 1992.

*Debbie Vogel
Conference Reporter*

Obituaries

BRYNA MAE GROOMS

Bryna Mae Grooms entered into Eternal rest Tuesday morning, March 3, 1992. Services were held Thursday, March 5, at Ridgeway Morticians, with Elder Robert Oldham and Apostle Smith Brickhouse officiating. She was 62, born July 6, 1929, at Puryear, Tennessee. She married on March 16, 1946, to James H. Grooms, who survives. She was a member of the Foundry Hill Church of Christ, Temple Lot, of Puryear.

Survivors include two daughters,

Zetra Gail Crabb of Jackson, Tn.; Teri P. Dowdy of Big Sandy, Tn.; two sons, Tony Grooms of Paris, Tn. and Gary Groom, of Puryear, Tn., and five grandchildren. Preceding her in death was a daughter, Scarlett Teresa Grooms.

The members of the Foundry Hill Local will miss this dear sister and prayers for our brother James and her family, that the Lord will comfort them and strengthen them in this their time of sadness.

ELDER JOHN T. REED

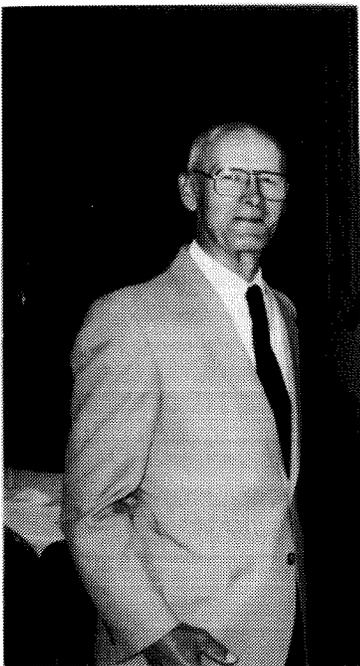
Elder John Thomas Reed, of Twin Lake, Michigan, passed from this life at the age of 76 years, on May 16, 1992.

Brother John Reed had been a member of the Church of Christ for 62 years and an Elder in the Church for 51 years prior to his passing. John is survived by his wife, Sister H. Irene Reed, of Twin Lake; his children: Oscar (& wife Darlene) Reed; Joy (& husband John) Chalko; Sue (& husband Gary) Monson; Renee (& husband Mark) Schaab; 9 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren; 1 sister, Sr. Marie (& husband, Br. Loren) DeVries; 2 brothers, Br. Thomas (& Beatrice) Doyle;

and Br. Chris (& wife Marion) Wagbo.

John loved his God and his Church, his family and friends. He loved to hunt, travel, and fish. His favorite hymns were "Old Rugged Cross," "Jesus Calls Us," and "Admonition," and his favorite scriptures were the Psalms. John was known and loved by many and will be missed by his family and church family.

Services were held at the Sytsema Funeral Home of Muskegon, Michigan, on May 19, 1992. Interment was at Twin Lake Cemetery, Twin Lake, Michigan, with Elder Gale Brantner officiating and Priest Aaron Heath assisting.



NEWS

COLLINS LOCAL NEWS

Hi folks! I'm tardy, but willing to be forgiven. We have held our annual election of officers in our local. Brother Jack Martin will serve as our pastor for another year and Brother Allen Kauffman will serve as assistant pastor. Our brother Roma Harrison was elected to another term as Sunday School Superintendent.

We enjoyed Easter Sunrise Services with our friends and neighbors of the community at the Collins Christian Church. Then at 10:00 A.M. we gathered at our own church and enjoyed a nice volunteer Easter program, followed by a sermon by our guest speaker, Brother Gerry Case. We had several guests in attendance that day, among which were Marvin Cook and daughter, Samantha, from Nebraska. Following the services and lunch together, Sister Norma Cook left with her son Marvin, for a short stay in Nebraska. She should be home toward the end of May. We sure miss her. Perhaps you wouldn't think the absence of one person would make such a hole in your congregation, but when Aunt Norma isn't there we're missing a lot.

Our sister Gussie Martin has sure been having a rough time. She has been in and out of the hospital for various reasons, one of which was due to a fall where she injured her back. At the present time she is there because of stomach problems in which she is unable to eat very well without getting sick.

Sister Irene Shaw is still able to greet people with a smile and declare her faith in God. She may get confused about her surroundings or who has been to visit her, but is quick to giving testimony to God's blessings and the visitation of angels.

Brother Harold Adams has undergone some tests and found a 90% blockage of one of the arteries to his heart. I don't know what is to be done about this. I only know that he (as sisters, Irene and Gussie) is fully reliant on God. Each of these people are so special to me. Without meaning to, they have taught me great lessons about faith and prayer and patience

and love. The very least I can do is offer prayers for them in their time of need. Won't you please add their names to your prayer list too?

Now I'd like to offer you a few gleanings from some sermon notes. I hope you enjoy them and give them some thought. God can do any of the things we need if we are doing his will and keeping his commandments. Focus on God, not the pitfalls of Satan—that your attention be not divided. Prepare yourself within, so you can fight the battle without. Sin may be as simple as omission...failing to say a kind word, etc. Can we blame God for our tragedy? No, we can cling to Him for our strength. Love is an action word. We need to show love to our enemies. We can all hold on to each other...and wander off. We must be fastened to the Rock.

*Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman*

Farmington Local News

In the trust of the blessings of Jesus Christ in each of your lives, the Farmington local also adds its testimony in this monthly report. God has continued to hear and answer our silent and spoken prayers. God has directed His ministry to lay on hands for administration. God has also been with us in spirit as we partake of sacrament and listened to words given through inspiration. Our Heavenly Father has continued to provide fellowship for Wednesday night and Sunday services.

We are thankful here for everyone's effort in assisting our local's growth and appreciate visits from the ministry. On April 26, the Farmington local choir visited the Bengidji Church of Christ and offered a song special. Brother Merlin Eddy provided sacrament to the local in the absence of Brother Arlo Gould who was hospitalized. However, sacrament was given to Arlo in the hospital. Please pray for Brother Arlo Gould in his weak condition.

The warm weather has enabled the youth group, "Zion's Children," to work cooperatively in planting a garden. We

welcome all to come and enjoy the beauty of Minnesota during August and September for our fair booth and Tri-State Reunion.

Patricia Gould

RAVENNA, MICHIGAN, LOCAL NEWS

At our Wednesday night prayer meeting Priest Alan Scott talked to us about our missionary work with the Indians. We are wonderfully blessed with ministry in our local having two elders and two priests.

March twenty-second we heard a good sermon by Priest Aaron Heath. Asking; does it make a difference what church you belong to? March twenty-fifth Elder Max Spencer was in charge of first prayer meeting. Text used was prayer. Everyone's testimony was on prayer.

March twenty-ninth sermon by our guest, Priest Adam Porter. Started with the song "The Sun Is Shining Somewhere," and said that sunshine can be within us. I want to thank everyone who remembered my sister Alice Westveer in prayer.

April twelfth sermon by Priest Aaron Heath assisted by Elder Max Spencer. He spoke on the proof that the ministry is not to be paid. He told of a wedding someone went to and the father of the bride asked to pass the plate. The brother said isn't that unusual. Yes, but pass the plate. He needed help with the cost of the wedding. Our ministry must be willing and with a ready mind. No pay as well as no work-no eat.

April nineteenth the world celebrates Easter. We enjoyed seeing brother Max Spencer, our new Elder, opening the meeting. Brother Gale Brantner our Pastor, gave us an explanation of how Easter came about, the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. About thirty six attended.

*Sister Lois Heath
Advocate reporter*

Reunion Notices

Missouri Reunion

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 1992 Missouri Reunion, which will be held August 14th, 15th and 16th, 1992. Our meetings will be held in Independence, Missouri, at the Temple Lot Church of Christ. Noon and evening meals will be served Friday and Saturday, with a noon meal only being served on Sunday.

For the out-of-town guest, we will reserve a group of motel rooms in one of the local motels. For information concerning reservations, please contact:

Isaac Brockman, Sr.
1203 Baker Dr.
Independence, MO 64050
(816) 254-8190

Roland Sarratt
15910 E. 36th Terr.
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 363-6605

Smith "Buzz" Brickhouse
5613 Logan Road
Kansas City, MO 64136
(816) 356-9214

Arizona Camp For All Ages

The Arizona Camp For All Ages will be held again this year at Walnut Ranch near Heber, Arizona. The camp will begin on Friday, July 3, 1992 at 2:00 and end Sunday, July 5.

As before, there will be a camp fee for those who are able to pay. The fee is not mandatory.

This will be a special camp. We will be celebrating our tenth anniversary so be prepared for great spiritual growth and physical fun! We also hope to sell commemorative T-shirts.

If you have any questions or if you are planning to attend, please contact:

Jim Yates, Jr.
Coordinator
1449 E. Rockwood Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 582-4163

John Yates
Assistant Coordinator
18648 N. 30th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 865-7232

Tri-State Reunion

The 1992 Tri-State Reunion to be held on September 4, 5, & 6, will be held at the Whitewater State Park Group Camp eight miles north of St. Charles, Minnesota, on road number 74.

The camp is the site of our first Tri-State Reunion years ago and has proved well as a place to entertain people for a faith tryst.

Come! A required use-stamp for your car is available at the park office at entry.

Bring some plain warm clothes, bedding (cots with sanitary mattresses are furnished), and yourselves. Friends are also welcome.

Address inquiries to:

Merlin Eddy
3370 West 203rd
Farmington, MN 65728
612-463-2218

The Minneapolis, Minnesota Church of Christ;

The Farmington, Minnesota Church of Christ.

1992 Phoenix Reunion

The 1992 Phoenix Reunion will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 27, 28, 29th, at the Phoenix, Arizona Local. We would like to invite all to come and worship with us at that time.

For information or housing contact:

Elder Brian E. McIndoo
18824 N. 39th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
602-867-7063

or

Elder Gordon McCann
18808 N. 39th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
602-867-7681

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1993 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 4. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 5. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 2 and 3. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1992 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 19 through 21, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to the Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

	Price Each
Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate:	
Members (optional)	\$ 4.00
Non-Members	4.00
Foreign	4.50
Book of Mormon (1908 Authorized Edition - Leather)	20.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition - Missionary)	7.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition - Cloth)	18.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition - Leather)	24.00
Book of Mormon Concordance	8.00
Outline History of the Church of Christ	4.00
Book of Commandments (paper bound)	4.00
Book of Commandments (plastic bound)	5.00
Book of Commandments (hard bound)	9.00
Book of Commandments Controversy Reviewed	4.00
The Marvelous Work and a Wonder - by Daniel MacGregor	3.50
What the Restoration Teaches Concerning God	2.50
Historical Facts Concerning the Temple Lot	1.30
Temple Lot Deed	.30
Changing of the Revelations	.50
Comprehensive Comparison of Changes to the Revelations	1.30

The balance of these General Church Publications are free of charge.*

- A Brief History of the Church of Christ
- The Principles of the Gospel - Faith & Repentance
- The Principles of the Gospel - Laying on of Hands
- The Principles of the Gospel - Baptism
- The Latter Day Restoration
- The Book of Mormon (tract)
- Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
- Articles of Faith & Practice (Spanish)
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- What the Church teaches about Matrimony (Spanish)
- Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
- Priesthood - Divine Authority
- Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
- A Synopsis (Compares beliefs of 3 Restoration churches)
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
- Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
- Zion and the Temple of the Lord
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
- God's Purpose in America
- The Great Plan of Redemption
- The Cost of Salvation

*NOTE: Donations will be accepted to cover postage & printing costs.
(Multiple copies available: 6-50¢ / 100-\$5.85 plus postage)

Sunday School Materials

Send orders for SS Materials to Becky Sheldon, 31607 E. Major Rd, Grain Valley, Mo 64029. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

- Church History for Juniors - includes a Teachers Guide
- The Book in the Stone Box - About the Book of Mormon
- Bible Stories to Grow By - 52 lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7
- Jesus' Life and Teachings - 4 quarterlies for ages 8-10
- Who Am I? - Bible game on cards; Free to Sunday Schools / \$1.30 individuals.

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Speed delivery of your "Advocate" by sending us your new address immediately. Each undeliverable "Advocate" costs the church more than the value of a first class stamp, in addition to regular postage.

ZION'S ADVOCATE
(USPS 6993-0000)
P.O. Box 472
Independence, Mo 64051-0472

Second Class Postage Paid
Independence, Mo 64051

AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

The following materials are available on loan to members of the Church of Christ from the Audio, Video, Visual-Aid and Archeology Committee:

Slide Programs with Taped Narration

Specify program(s) wanted, anticipated dates of use, and the make of your projector. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided except in the Independence, Missouri, or Phoenix, Arizona, areas.

Allow adequate advance time for handling and shipping, and for your own preview of the programs. Write to the AVVAA Committee, Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64051.

Out of the Dust (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.

Light at Evening (27 minutes) — Story of the bringing forth of the Book of Mormon and the restoration of the Church of Christ in the 1820's and 1830.

A Lamp Unto My Feet (32 minutes) — Directed specifically toward American Indian viewers, compiled from three other programs.

The Return (12 minutes) — Reveals the significance of the return to the "land of Zion" in 1867 by the members of the Church of Christ especially as holders of Title to the previously dedicated Temple Lot.

Holy Scriptures on Audio Cassette Tapes

Complete set narrating the King James Version of the Bible New Testament and a set for the entire Book of Mormon. Write to Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136. Specify which set is desired and the estimated length of time you expect to use it

Sermons on Audio Cassette Tapes

For a sermon on cassette tape write to Mike Kelley, 1949 E. Libby St., Phoenix, AZ 85022, or Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136.

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION

If you or someone you know (member or non-member) would like to be visited by a member of the Priesthood of the Church of Christ, please call or write to the Council of Apostles at Church Headquarters in Independence. The phone numbers and address are listed on the inside front cover.