

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...."*
1 Nephi 3:187

VOLUME 78

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Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waiteth for the Lord: he is our help and our shield. For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name. Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

—Psalm 33:18-22

~ In This Issue ~

ARTICLE—A Voice of Warning - <i>Harvey E. Seibel</i>	83	PATHLIGHTS—God Sees All Things - <i>Joel Yates</i>	92
MOTHER'S DAY—I'm Just a Mother - <i>Submitted by Patsy Case</i>	88	ANNOUNCEMENTS	93
MOTHER'S DAY—Motherhood - <i>Submitted by Janice Welch</i>	89	REPORT—2001 Solemn Assembly and Conference Report - <i>Darl Temple</i>	96
POEM—Peter Remembers - <i>Donna Moser</i>	90	ADVERTISEMENT—Join the CCEG Today!	100
ADVERTISEMENT—Teen Challenge 2001	91	NEWS	101
		OBITUARY—Charles Edward Pinder	102

SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION: CAMP TEEN CHALLENGE REGISTRATION!

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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 preparing anything you send.

Word Processors/Computers: We can utilize text files on 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.

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.

A Voice of WARNING

(3999 B.C. - 1999 A.D.)

3999BC — 1444BC — 728BC — 597BC — 460BC — 6BC — 570AD — 1830AD — 2002AD



By Harvey E. Seibel

SIGNIFICANCE

- 3999 BC - The date of Creation - based on both the Bible and Astronomy.
- 1444 BC - Joshua's Long Day - based on both the Bible and Astronomy.
- 728 BC - The carrying away of Israel into the Assyrian captiv-

ity.

- 597 BC - The carrying away of Judah into the Babylonian captivity.
- (527 BC - The return of Judah after 70 years of captivity.)
- 460 BC - The commencement of the 70 weeks of Daniel - Jerusalem rebuilt - the walls finished in 52 days. (Nehemiah 6:15)
- 6BC - Jesus is born. (Discussion based on Matthew, Luke and historical sources, pp. 47-48 of *Chronology of the Bible Augmented with Time Prophecies*.)
- (25 AD - Christ commences His ministry.)
- (28 AD - Christ is crucified in the midst of the 70th week.)
- (31 AD - Christ completes His week of ministry in America and among the other tribes. The conclusion of the 70 weeks of Daniel.)
- 570 AD - Commencement of the 1260 years of apostasy - the rule of the Antichrist - the beginning of the 4th Seal. (Revelation 6:7)
- 1830 AD - The end of the 1260 years of apostasy - the opening of the 5th Seal. (Revelation 6:9)
- 2002 AD - The end of 6000 years of history, likely sometime in the spring - the opening of the 6th Seal and the Day of the Lord? (Revelation 6:12).
- (2005 AD? - The time of blessedness spoken of by Daniel.) (Daniel 12:12)

“Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh” (Matthew 25:13).

“So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors” (Matthew 24:33).

“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21:34-36).

There are two great signs and a number of lesser ones which pinpoint the day in which we live. We are not left in doubt concerning these matters. The Lord spoke to the Pharisees and Sadducees as follows:

“When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of

the times?” (Matthew 16:2-3).

And so it is with us today.

THE TWO GREAT SIGNS

The First:

“*And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed*” (Luke 17:26-30).

Other than eating, drinking, and giving in marriage, etc., *how was it in the days of Noah and Lot?* Gen 6:11 says, “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.” This was the condition that existed in the days of Noah. In the days of Lot it was rampant homosexuality. Christ is telling us that when these two conditions exist

again as they do today, it would be a sign that His coming is near. In fact, these signs are now speaking to us in thundertones.

The Second:

Both Matthew 24 and Luke 21 speak of tumultuous events occurring in the end times. Concerning Jerusalem he says, “Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled” (Luke 21:24). After likening these events to the fig tree signifying the close approach of summer or the imminence of the kingdom of God he says, “Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled” (Luke 21:32), speaking of the generation when these things were to come to pass. The trodding down of Jerusalem ended in 1948 with the creation of the state of Israel, the Jews once again regaining sovereignty over their own land after more than 2000 years of Gentile rule.

Shall we remain forgetful of these things? Do we not realize how close we are to the conclusion of the matter? We urgently need to awaken from our slumber and begin to prepare for the return of our Lord and Saviour, lest we be found not to be ready, nor have the oil we must have in our lamps if we desire at all to

enter in. Must we wait until the midnight cry before we begin our preparation for our Master's return? According to a spiritual dream had by our late Apostle E. Leon Yates in 1957, it was then 5 minutes to midnight. Only a few seconds must remain before that cry.

Our responsibility is, perhaps, threefold. The **first** is that we need to awaken to our situation lest we be caught both unaware and unprepared.

Paul gives warning as follows:

"For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober" (1 Thess. 5:2-6).

The **second** is that we need to depart from evil. Included in this is the instruction to:

"Flee out of the midst of

Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the Lord's

We urgently need to awaken from our slumber and begin to prepare for the return of our Lord and Saviour, lest we be found not to be ready, nor have the oil we must have in our lamps if we desire at all to enter in.

vengeance; he will render unto her a recompence" (Jer. 51:6).

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Rev. 18:4).

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (2 Cor. 6:17).

The **third** is that we are responsible for taking the gospel to all the world in ful-

fillment of the scriptural prophecy found in Matthew 24:14:

"And *this gospel of the kingdom* shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

But what will likely happen? We know that, no matter how one may look at it, six thousands years of history are practically concluded. Yet the world is continuing headlong as if there will be no end. It is true that there are some Christians who are aware of the time in which we live, but how many of us have been lulled into a false security? The scriptures declare that if we are not watching and waiting we shall find ourselves unprepared to meet the Lord, and our situation will be one of weeping and many tears of sorrow.

The Consequence if we are not ready:

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" (1 Pet. 4:17-18).

And again,

"The Son of man shall

send forth his angels, and *they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity*; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 13:41-42).

This purging will fulfill the scripture which says,

"And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem" (Isa. 4:3).

A Word to the wise:

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. *Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.* Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. But and if that evil servant shall

say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and

The scriptures declare that if we are not watching and waiting we shall find ourselves unprepared to meet the Lord, and our situation will be one of weeping and many tears of sorrow.

drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 24:42-51).

Though there is woe pronounced against the sinner in Zion; there is a promise held out to the righteous in the time of trouble ahead. We find this as follows:

"The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites.

Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? *He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high: his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure"* (Isa. 33:14-16).

The early elders of the Restoration were aware of the measurement of time, for they wrote in the *Times and Seasons* that 6000 years would wind up the scene and usher in the return of Christ. This knowledge seems to have left the collective consciousness today. Even the early church fathers, writing in the first and second centuries of the Christian era, declared their understanding of this matter. One example follows:

"For in as many days as this world was made, in so many thousand years shall it be concluded. And for this reason the Scripture says: 'Thus the heaven and the earth were finished, and all their adornment. And God brought to a conclusion upon the sixth day

the works that He had made; and God rested upon the seventh day from all His works.' This is an account of the things formerly created, as also it is a prophecy of what is to come. For the day of the Lord is as a thousand years; and in six days created things were completed: it is evident, therefore, that they will come to an end at the sixth thousand year" (*Irenaeus Against Heresies, The Ante-Nicene Fathers, vol. 1, p. 557*).

Question: If we knew for a certainty that approximately three years was all that remained, that sometime during that interim Christ could very well make His appearance, what changes would we make in our lives, what preparations would we make, etc.? Or would we continue as we always have? We need to think very seriously about these things for Christ will, at some point, surely come, and it is evident that we are living in both the last time and the last generation.

Here follows a summary of events yet remaining. It could be argued from this that 3, 5 or even 10 years is not sufficient time for all these events to take place. Nevertheless I present these to you for your consideration of those things that remain. Whatever the case, God's

word will not return unto him void and neither will He delay His coming.

If we knew for a certainty that approximately three years was all that remained, that sometime during that interim Christ could very well make His appearance, what changes would we make in our lives, what preparations would we make, etc.?

- The Mark of the Beast
- The Coming of Gog, the King of the North, the northern army
- The Fall of Babylon
- The work of the Marred Servant
- The work of the mighty one among the Indian
- The work of the few servants who will prune the vineyard for the last time
- The redemption of Zion and

Jerusalem

- The building of the city New Jerusalem
- The carrying of the gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people
- The great gathering of the house of Israel back to the lands of their inheritance
- The coming clean of the Gentiles and their arriving to the faith of the Brother of Jared
- The coming forth of the other records which are hid up
- The opening of the sixth and seventh seals
- The First Resurrection, the sixth seal
- The coming of the Day of Wrath or the Day of the Lord, the sixth seal
- The battle of Armageddon, the Kings of the East, 200 million strong, during the 7th seal
- The millennial reign of Christ with his saints

I'm Just a Mother

A few months ago, when I was picking up the children at school, another mother I knew well rushed up to me. Emily was fuming with indignation.

"Do you know what you and I are?" she demanded. Before I could answer—and I didn't really have one handy—she blurted out the reason for her question.

It seemed she had just returned from renewing her driver's license at the County Clerk's office. Asked by the woman recorder to state her "occupation," Emily had hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself.

"What I mean is," explained the recorder, "do you have a job, or are you just a...?" "Of course I have a job," snapped Emily. "I'm a mother." "We don't list 'mother' as an occupation... 'housewife' covers it," said the recorder emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own Town Hall. The clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high-sounding title, like "Of-

ficial Interrogator" or "Town Registrar." "And what is your occupation?" she probed. What made me say it, I do not know. The words simply popped out.

"I'm a Research Associate in the field of Child Development and Human Relations."

The clerk paused, ballpoint pen frozen in mid-air, and looked up as though she had not heard right. I repeated the title slowly, emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pompous pronouncement was written in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire.

"Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?" Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing program of research (what mother doesn't) in the laboratory and in the field (normally I would have said indoors and out). I'm working for my Masters (the whole darned family) and already have four credits (all daughters). Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities (any mother care

to disagree?) and I often work 14 hours a day (24 is more like it). But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are in satisfaction rather than just money."

There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door. As I drove into our driveway, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants—ages 13, 7, and 3. And upstairs, I could hear our new experimental model (six months) in the child-development program, testing out a new vocal pattern.

I felt triumphant. I had scored a beat on bureaucracy. And I had gone down on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another...."

What a glorious career.

*Submitted by Patsy Case
Round Rock, TX*

—Posted on the CCEG

Motherhood

A conversation between friends... We are sitting at lunch, when my friend casually mentions that she and her husband are thinking of 'starting a family.'

"We're taking a survey," she says, half-joking. "Do you think I should have a baby?"

"It will change your life," I say, carefully keeping my tone neutral.

"I know," she says, "no more sleeping in on weekends, no more spontaneous vacations..." But that is not what I meant at all.

I look at my friend, trying to decide what to tell her. I want her to know what she will never learn in childbirth classes. I want to tell her that the physical wounds of child bearing will heal, but that becoming a mother will leave her with an emotional wound so raw that she will forever be vulnerable. I consider warning her that she will never again read a newspaper without asking, "What if that had been my child?" That every plane crash, every house fire will haunt her. That when

she sees pictures of starving children, she will wonder if anything could be worse than watching your child die.



I look at her carefully manicured nails and stylish suit and think that no matter how sophisticated she is, becoming a mother will reduce her to the primitive level of a bear protecting her cub. That an urgent call of "Mom!" will cause her to drop a soufflé, or her best crystal, without a moment's hesitation. I feel I should warn her that no matter how many years she has invested in her career, she will be professionally derailed by motherhood. She might arrange for child-care, but one day she will be going into an important busi-

ness meeting and she will think of her baby's sweet smell. She will have to use every ounce of her discipline to keep from running home, just to make sure her baby is all right.

I want my friend to know that everyday decisions will no longer be routine. That a five year old boy's desire to go to the men's room rather than the women's at McDonald's will become a major dilemma. That right there, in the midst of clattering trays and screaming children, issues of independence and gender identity will be weighed against the prospect that a child molester may be lurking in that restroom. However decisive she may be at the office, she will second-guess herself constantly as a mother.

Looking at my attractive friend, I want to assure her that eventually she will shed the pounds of pregnancy, but she will never feel the same about herself. That her life, now so important, will be of less value to her once she has a child. That she would give

it up in a moment to save her offspring, but will also begin to hope for more years—not to accomplish her own dreams, but to watch her child accomplish theirs.

I want her to know that a cesarean scar or shiny stretch marks will become badges of honor. My friend's relationship with her husband will change, but not in the way she thinks. I wish she could understand how much more you can love a man who is careful to powder the baby or who never hesitates to play with his child. I think she should know that she will fall in love with him again for reasons she would now find very unromantic.

I wish my friend could

sense the bond she will feel with women throughout history who have tried to stop war, prejudice and drunk driving.

I hope she will understand why I can think rationally about most issues, but become temporarily insane when I discuss the threat of nuclear war to my children's future. I want to describe to my friend the exhilaration of seeing your child learn to ride a bike.

I want to capture for her the belly laugh of a baby who is touching the soft fur of a dog or a cat for the first time. I want her to taste the joy that is so real, it actually hurts.

My friend's quizzical

look makes me realize that tears have formed in my eyes. "You'll never regret it," I finally say. Then I reach across the table, squeeze my friend's hand and offer a silent prayer for her, and for me, and for all of the mere mortal women who stumble their way into this most wonderful of callings—the blessed gift of God and that of being a Mother.

Please share this with a Mom that you know, or a future Mom you know.

—Author Unknown
Submitted by Janice Welch

—Posted on the CCEG

Peter Remembers

Sometimes—as though 'twere yesterday I think of when we were together.

How rough I was, and poor. To live I fished, in every kind of weather.

And then He came along the beach. He held his hand out and He smiled.
'Come now and fish for men, and teach, and learn to have faith like a child.'

How I loved that Man! For Him I walked on water. But I sank!
Again He stretched that loving hand. For life itself I'd Him to thank.

I wanted Him to be our king. I'd not deny Him. Rather die!
Then terror struck. 'I know Him not,' I said. Three times I spoke the lie!

Then He was gone. But the Comforter came, made all things known.
With His help, I will spread the Word. The price is low; life's just on loan.

—Donna Moser

ADVERTISEMENT

TEEN CHALLENGE 2001

Titus 2:11-12 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

WHEN WILL CAMP BE?

July 29th through August 3rd 2001.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

If you are between the ages of 12 and 18, then we want to see you!!!

WHERE WILL CAMP BE?

Camp Far Westa, a beautiful, spacious, well-kept facility that is only an hour away from Independence, near Stuartsville, Missouri.

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

You will have the time of your life!!! Camp Activities include Scriptural Studies, Classes, Sports, Campfires and Group Activities.

HOW MUCH WILL TEEN CHALLENGE COST? \$110.00

You can SAVE!!!

If paid prior to July 1st 2001, you will pay: \$100.00

If paid after July 1st, you will pay: \$110.00

If paid after July 15th, you will pay: \$125.00

DO YOU WANT A SHIRT?

If you would like to purchase a "Teen Challenge 2001" shirt, please include an additional \$5.00 with your camp fee. For example, if you pay prior to July 1st (\$100.00) and would like a shirt (\$5.00), please send a total of \$105.00 with your camp registration.

LOOK FOR YOUR REGISTRATION FORM IN THIS ADVOCATE!!!

=====

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CIT's...if you would like to be a Counselor-In-Training (CIT), please e-mail Brother Bob Hedrick at: (Robert_Hedrick@CI.Mesa.AZ.US), or call at 602-494-9661.

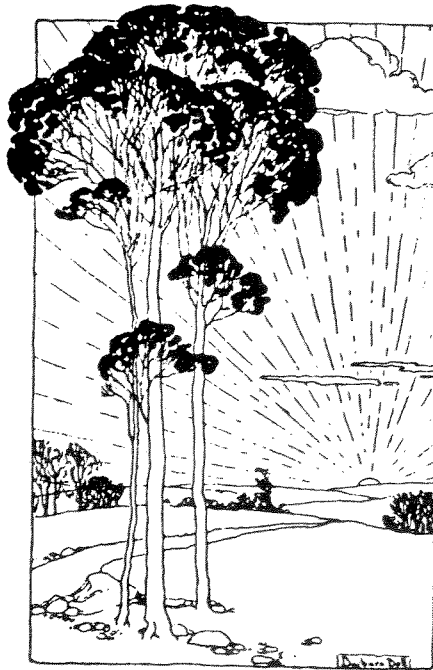
God Sees All Things

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Last evening I was working at the fire department and responded to a 5-alarm fire. During the fire one of our firefighters was killed when he was trapped in a collapse and ran out of air. Numerous crews worked for 25 minutes to bring him out; it was a very difficult and emotional time for all of us. This man's name was Bret Tarver and he was a friend of mine, and well thought of by all of us who knew him.

He was forty-one years old and leaves behind a wife and three girls; the oldest is ten years old. Having a daughter that is ten myself it was a very long night for me, realizing how hard this will be on his family. Please pray for this family in this time of grief and pain.

This was especially hard for us in the fire department because we have not lost a fire fighter on a fire in a number of years. Some of my station crew members were on one of the crews that were used to reach this man and were not able to get him all the way out before a collapsing roof and low air bottles made them leave him. Our

truck should have been one of the first units on scene, but for some reason we kept getting tied up on other calls and got



P A T H L I G H T S

there late in the fire. This was an extremely dangerous fire and several crews became lost in the building and five firefighters had to be rescued. I continue to wonder why we were kept away, and realize that we would have been right in the middle of all the collapses had we responded earlier. We would have been involved in the searching

for the firefighters that were down and may have been in a position to lose our own lives. I know that God sees all things, and even though we wished we were there to help rescue our fellow brothers I must acknowledge that the Lord protected us and kept us out of harm's way, and for this I must praise him.

I know that God is always watching out for us and we have no need of fear with Him in control, yet I was awakened again to the need that I have to better prepare my life to meet my Savior. I thank him for letting me go home to my wife and kids and for another day of life to prepare for the day when I shall see my Savior face to face.

Thank you for your prayers and letting me get some thoughts off my chest.

Joel Yates

—Posted on the CCEG

WHAT TO BRING LIST

This is a “suggested” list. Where clothing items are listed, bring enough for the five days, packing may be in a suitcase, duffel bag or camp box.

Please see that all items are marked with your name or initials.

PLEASE BRING:

- **Bible, Book of Mormon, book bag and notebook are a must!**
- Flashlight
- Light weight sleeping bag or 2 twin size sheets and 1 light blanket.
- Pillow and pillowcase
- Tennis shoes (old and worn are best)
- Extra shoes
- 6 pairs of socks
- 1 pair of jeans/pants
- Modest shorts or cutoffs
- Short sleeve shirts
- 1 long sleeve shirt
- 1 lightweight raincoat, poncho or jacket.
- 1 laundry bag/pillow case
- Kleenex
- Underclothes
- Sandals
- Modest 1 piece swim suit

PERSONAL ARTICLES:

- Toothpaste, toothbrush, comb hairbrush, shampoo, soap, towels, deodorant, etc...
- Insect repellent (we recommend Cutters or Deep Woods Off).
- Please do not bring expensive jewelry which might be lost or broken.
-

OPTIONAL ITEMS TO BRING:

- Camera and film
- Fishing pole and favorite lures.
- Stationery, envelopes and stamps.

- Musical instrument
- Day pack or knapsack
- Baseball gloves
- Bring money for snacks—canteen will be available for snacks.
- Alarm Clock (**no radio clocks**)

PLEASE LEAVE AT HOME:

- *Immodest and inappropriate clothing.*
- *No fear and concert-shirts*
- *Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes*
- *Video games*
- *Knives of any kind*
- *Electronic games*
- *Radios, players, cell phone, pagers etc...*
- *Candy or pop*
- *Fireworks or firearms*

RULES:

- *You will be expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times.*
- *No leaving the camp grounds.*
- *You are required to stay with the group unless special permission is granted.*
- *Phones will be available for emergency calls only.*
- *You are expected to wear modest apparel*
- *You are asked to follow all safety rules.*
- *Each camper is required to participate in all activities.*
- *If cars are brought to camp you will be required to leave the keys with the camp counselor.*
- *There will be no pranks—any materials for pranks will be confiscated!*
- *All tank tops must have a minimum of 1 1/2 inch wide shoulder straps and completely cover midriff*

Remove from Advocate and make copies as needed

T—shirt order will be sent in July 15th Cost \$ 5.00 extra over camp fee. Order and money must be received before July 15, 2001

To Register for the Classes you want, you must complete and return the following 2000 Teen Challenge class schedule.

How to fill the class schedule form:

1. Write your name, social security number, and phone number in the spaces provided on form.
2. If you plan to ride the bus from the East Local to camp, write **“YES”** in the space provided
3. Mark Camp T—shirt, size If paid for.
4. Mark the 9:00 a.m., 10:05 a.m., and 1:15 p.m. 2:10 p.m., classes you would like to take, Indicate 1st 2nd 3rd choice!!
5. Mail your complete class schedule and registration form. **IMPORTANT: We must have your registration fee before we can process your class schedule.**

Direction to Camp Far Westa from Kansas City:

Take Interstate 35 north to 36 Highway, west at Cameron, Missouri. Continue west on 36 for approximately 5 miles. A sign for Camp Far Westa will be on the right side of Highway 36. (The camps grounds are approximately 1 mile east of Stewartsville, Missouri.)

Transportation:

For those needing a ride from the Kansas City area, a bus will be leaving the East Local at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, the 29th of July. **Check-in for campers is from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Check List:

- We must have the following before we can assign your classes to you:
- Registration fee—**make check out to Teen Challenge.**
- Class schedule form—completed 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for each open hour.
- Registration form with parents and camper signatures.
- Notarized

MINISTRY: There will be Priesthood in attendance at all times.

CHAPERONS: There will be one adult for every eight campers.

LIFE GUARD: The camp provides a certified life guard.

FOOD: The camp provides the food service—**SNACK BAR AVAILABLE.**

AGE GROUP: JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH—AGES 12—18

DATES: July, 29 — August, 3, 2001

TOTAL COST: \$ 110.00 (**\$100.00 IF PAID BEFORE JULY 1 \ \$125.00 AFTER JULY 15, 2001**)

Mail Forms to:

Michelle Oldham
1109 N. Oak
Creston, IA.
50801
Fax — (641) 782-7953

Mailing Address for Kids at Camp:

Camp Far Westa
P.O. Box 257
Stewartsville, MO
64490 (816) 669-3359

Teen Challenge 2001 Summer Youth Camp Registration form

Camper's name _____
Camper's years in school fall 2001, _____ Age _____
Camper's SSN# _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone number (include area code) _____
Parent's name _____
Street address _____
City, Date, Zip _____
Home phone number _____
e-mail address _____
Insurance Carrier & Policy number _____
Mark T—shirt size S (___), M (___), L (___), XL (___)
Bus ride to Camp—Leaving from East Local Sunday 2:30 Yes (___) No (___)

I have read the rules of the camp and my Signature shows I will comply with the stated rules and will bring Bible, Book of Mormon and book bag. **NOTE: Campers are asked not to arrive before 3:00.** In the event of medical emergency, by my signature on this document, I give permission for the camp personnel to administer and or obtain the necessary treatment for my minor child, **NOTE:** please have this notarized and list any medical conditions (allergies, asthma, etc.) that we should be aware of.

Parent or Guardian's signature: _____

Campers signature: _____

MEDICAL: Any medication brought to camp must be in the original container and given to the camp nurse to be dispensed. Please list medications that will be brought to camp.

Please List all medications here : _____

Note to Parents: Campers will be dropped off at the Missouri Reunion on August, 4. If other arrangements are needed, please specify. If Parents are unable to attend the Missouri Reunion and youth is to be the responsibility of another adult for the balance of that weekend, please specify who: _____

Those riding the bus to camp must leave on the bus unless written permission is given.

NOTARIZATION

Subscribed & sworn to me this ____ day of _____, 2001

Notary Public _____

County of _____

State of _____

My Commission Expires: _____

2001 Teen Challenge Information and Registration Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Class/Activity	Days	Time	1 st	2 ^{ed}	3 rd					
Choose 1 daily 9:00 class below, include a 2nd and 3rd choice										
Book of Mormon Geography	Daily	9:00 am								
Creation \ Evolution										
To Be or Not to Be										
Marvelous Work & Wonder										
Combating Depression / Suicide										
Women in the Bible										
A Few Good Men										
Basic Beliefs Defended										
Comparison /Bible Time Our Time										
Choose 1 daily 10:05 class below, include a 2nd and 3rd choice										
Choir	Daily	10:05 am								
Camp Journal										
Money Management										
Volleyball										
Wood Carving										
Soccer										
Canoeing										
Science Experiments										
Beginning jewelry making										
Scrapbook Memories										
Archery										
Study										
Lunch										
Choose 1 daily 1:15 class or 1 Mon. & Wed. and 1 Tues. & Thurs. include a 2nd and 3rd choice										
Orienteering	Daily	11:05 am 12:05 pm								
Archery										
Aerodynamics		1:15 pm								
Sailing <i>MUST KNOW HOW TO SWIM</i>										
Sign Language										
Volleyball										
Character Building										
Wood Carving										
Advanced Jewelry Making										
Photography: combining artistic composition and dark room work, adjustable 35mm. Camera required										
Circle —a= All 4 days, b=Mon. & Wed., c=Tues. & Thurs., include a 2nd and 3rd choice										
Leather Stamping						Circle a b c				
Beaded Embroidery										
Glass Etching										
Fishing										
Beaded Baskets										
Weight Lifting										
Free Time swimming, boating, Challenge Course, games, quiet time, etc. Free Time										
Planned organized Group activities available if desired.										
Cabin Time										
Dinner										
Quest Class										
Camp Fire 8:30 pm Thursday 8:15 pm										

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE THEME CAMP

Date: May 18, 19, 20, 2001
Place: Shawnee Group Camp,
Knob Knoster State Park,
Missouri
Theme: Personal
Responsibility in Today's
World.

Scripture Theme Camp is a family oriented weekend of studies and activities relating to the theme and recreational opportunities for the family. The agenda will include prayer meetings, discussions and Sunday services, all with a camp setting

and flavor. Scriptures that relate to the theme are offered at the various meetings. Everyone is encouraged to find and offer related scriptural references. Housing (cabins on site) and meals are provided (donations accepted). A separate fee camp ground is available at the state park for pop-ups, RVs, etc. Check-in time begins at 4:00 pm, Friday, May 18. Check-out time is 2:00 pm, Sunday, May 20. Come with a theme related scripture to share and a desire to have fun and fellowship with others who love the Word of God. Please contact one of the Theme

Camp Committee members listed below if you have questions.

- In Gospel Bonds,
- Glenn Gill**, Camp Director
(816) 842-4062
- Steven Gill**, Sunday School
Supt.
(816) 452-9258
- Jon Geier**
(816) 836-0035
- Tim Eddy**
(816) 230-1681
- Luke Sheldon**
(816) 229-6712

COLORADO REUNION

The 2001 Colorado Reunion will be held June 8, 9 & 10, 2001, at the Orchard Mesa local in Grand Junction, Colorado. Please let a member of the reunion committee know if you will be attending, how many are in your group, and if you will need lodging.

The RV parks in the area are

always full at that time of year. If you need assistance in locating the parks please let us know and we will forward information to you.

We look forward to seeing you in June!

Karen Bell
kbell@gvii.net
P.O. Box 1137
Palisade, CO 81526
970-464-4624

Daniel Carroll
dan@colorado.edu
417 Ironwood Court
Grand Junction, CO 81504
970-523-9047

John Bell
572 34 Road
Clifton, CO 81520
970-434-7100

MICHIGAN REUNION

The Bradley Michigan Local invites you to the CHURCH OF CHRIST MICHIGAN REUNION.

WHEN: June 23 & 24, 2001
WHERE: Bradley, Michigan
WHAT: Sermons, Music, Singing, and Good Christian Fellowship.
WHY: Phillipians 1:5, "For your fellowship in the gospel."

WHO: People to contact:

HOUSING
Duane Lee
2053 Fawn Ave
Middleville, MI 49333
Phone: 616-795-7420

Randy Lee
2953 Wing Rd.
Hastings, MI 49058
Phone: 616-948-8971

LOTS OF ROOM FOR CAMPING AT:

Bernie Ritsema
4889 Chief Noonday Rd.
Hastings, MI 49058
Phone: 616-945-5173

PASTOR:

Elder Adam Porter
616-795-2694
Thank you so much,
Joyce Lussenden
Secretary Bradley Local

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IDAHO REUNION

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We wish to extend an invitation for all to join us in Cataldo, Idaho, for the Idaho Reunion. We will be meeting on Friday evening, **July 13th**, for campfire and snacks, and on Saturday and Sunday, **July 14th and 15th**, with services beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please join us for fellowship, prayer and preaching services, and in between you can enjoy Idaho's beautiful scenery,

or try your luck fishing in the Coeur D'Alene river.

Lunch and dinner will be provided; be sure to bring something for your own breakfasts. If it is convenient, please bring one large salad and one dessert for the group meals. The reunion will be held at the same location as last year, at Stan and Phyllis Wilk's campground on Interstate 90 off exit 40 (south side) next to the Coeur D'Alene river.

For directions or questions

e-mail **Mike Kelley** at technomn@micron.net <<mailto:technomn@micron.net>>, or **Roy Coon** at raccon21@juno.com <<mailto:raccon21@juno.com>>, or call Roy at 1-208-365-3410. If any wish to stay overnight with the Coons or Kelleys on their travel up to Cataldo we would be delighted to have you over.

We look forward to meeting everybody in Christian fellowship,

The Treasure Valley Local

TREASURE HUNT SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE

Join us for Treasure Hunt Scripture Adventure!

Attention all children ages 5-11 (and their parents). Get ready to dig into the scriptures at **TREASURE HUNT SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE!** The Expedition is set for Thursday, **August 2, 2001**, from 9:00a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the annex at the Church of Christ, East Independence Local (Independence, Missouri).

This year our children are searching for the greatest treasure ever. We're setting off for **TREASURE HUNT SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE**, where kids won't find any boring reminders of tedious schoolwork. Our **TREASURE HUNT SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE** program will provide fun, memorable scripture-learning activities for kids of all ages. Kids will sing catchy songs, play team-

work-building games, nibble tasty treats from Treasure Treats, dig into adventures, and create Craft Cave creations. The Kids will join the Jaredities on the journey of faith, and learn as the Jaredites learned of God's great love, protection, and power! We'll conclude the day with a festive Treasure Time Finale program that gets everyone involved in celebrating what they've learned.

TREASURE HUNT SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE is an exploration of God's Word. We hope **TREASURE HUNT SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE** will help our children discover the treasure of Jesus and form the bonds between our children that they will use and cherish for their lifetime.

Please fill out and send us this registration form as soon as

possible, so we may get an accurate count to provide the correct amount of treats and crafts for the day camp. Lunch will be provided and there will be a member of the priesthood in attendance. A donation of \$5.00 per family is asked. For any more information, please contact **Jennifer Yates** or **Holly McIndoo**. Thank you, and we hope to see you at the Adventure!

Holly McIndoo
18824 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-1900
Hollooo@juno.com

Jennifer Yates
2924 E. Rockwood Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-9296
2zyates@earthlink.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSOURI REUNION

Dear Brothers & Sisters:
The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 2001 Missouri Reunion, which will be held **August 3rd, 4th and 5th**, 2001. All meetings will be held at the Church of Christ headquarters building located on the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri.

We will again organize an ice cream social for Saturday evening after the final preaching

service of the day. The social will be held either just outside the Visitors' Center or in the basement.

For information please contact:

Roland Sarratt
15910 E. 36th Terr.
Independence, MO 64055
816-373-6605

Mike McGhee
18907 E. 6th Street North
Independence, MO 64056
816-796-6255

TRI-STATE REUNION

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
This is an invitation for all to attend the Tri-State Reunion. This year the reunion will be held in Wisconsin.

Where: Indoor Group Camp at Wyalusing State Park. The Park is just South of Prairie du Chien, where the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers converge.

When: The camp is available from 3:00 PM Aug. 31 to 3:00 PM Sept. 3. There is

no admittance to the park between 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM.

There are four dorm buildings, which can house up to 27 persons each. Campers must provide their own bedding.

FYI—Wyalusing is a Munsee-Delaware Indian word meaning "home of the warrior."

For more information please contact:

Merlin L. Eddy
3370 203 r, St. W.
Farmington, MN 55024
(651) 463-2218

CHURCH OF CHRIST 2001 REUNIONS AT A GLANCE

May 18-20

Scripture Theme Camp

June 8-10

Colorado Reunion

June 23-24

Michigan Reunion

July 13-15

Idaho Reunion

August 2

Treasure Hunt Scripture Adventure

August 3-5

Missouri Reunion

Aug 31-September 3

Tri-State Reunion

November 23-25

Arizona Reunion

ARIZONA REUNION

The Church of Christ, Phoenix Local, will be hosting our annual reunion. Services will begin on Friday morning, **November 23rd**, and will continue through Sunday evening, **November 25th**, 2001.

Those who plan to attend, or requiring more information,

please contact the following people:

Pastor Elder Gordon McCann
18808 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-2341
glpdmccann@aol.com

Asst. Pastor Priest Duane Ely
18814 N 30th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-1516

Asst. Pastor Priest Glenn Orsted
1327 E. Wescott Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85050-2393
(602) 780-8764
borsted@ix.netcom.com

We invite everyone to come and share the Thanksgiving holiday and worship the Lord with us!

2001 SOLEMN ASSEMBLY AND CONFERENCE REPORT

The gathering of the Saints of the Church of Christ on the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri, for a Solemn Assembly and Conference beginning Friday, March 30, and continuing through Wednesday, April 4, 2001.

Areas represented: AL, AZ, CO, KS, MI, MN, MO, NY, OK, Honduras (Forgive me if I left any out).

Total attendance: 383

SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

The Saints gathered together in fasting and prayer at the Temple Lot on Friday and Saturday at 9 A.M. We had three sessions on Friday and two on Saturday.

Important thoughts of the Solemn Assembly:

- We were counseled to have a hungering soul for the Spirit of God as did Enos. We were warned that we are seeing the signs of times leading up to the fulfillment of Joel 2 for which purpose we were gathered. There will be destruction but there will also be deliverance by God's power as long as we are humble and serve the Lord.
- We are not totally in unity but we are being perfected. Prayer and fasting will bring answers. Nothing will be hid from us if we have sufficient faith as did Daniel and the Brother of Jared.
- We were told that many times our prayers are "shotgun prayers." We must seek His direction in a specific way for our needs as defined by the stated purpose.

HIGHLIGHTS

- There were petitions for the Lord to speak to us, to unite us, to give us direction for the times that we are facing in these latter days.
- We were united in sincere prayers for our sons and daughters to come back to the Body of Christ and to serve Him.
- A dream was shared by one of our elders for our consideration in prayer for an interpretation.
- The power of the spirit of healing came for several in administration.

SACRAMENT SUNDAY

Good counsel was given to look past our wants for ourselves in this service but to look to Jesus Christ for our needs. We need the sacrament to remember Jesus. If we are obedient the spirit of Jesus Christ will abide with us when we go out of these doors to bring all things to our remembrance and to guide us.

HIGHLIGHTS

- We prayed for many sick and afflicted among us and for some of our friends and relatives not of the Body of Christ. There was an administration for a healing.

Testimonies:

- An immediate healing from a severe headache in administration during the Solemn Assembly
- A miraculous experience in baptism 80 years ago
- A dream given concerning the mission of the Church of Christ
- An answer to prayer in the use of the scriptures
- Several other uplifting testimonies
- An admonition that, if we are having trouble in our lives, to pay tithing. The Lord will meet your needs if you do.

***There was a musical program in the afternoon.**

***Each morning of the week we met at 8 A.M. for prayer**

SERMONS OF THE CONFERENCE

Answered. The Lord *did* speak to us in thunder tones! All of the sermons were powerful! The ministry that the Lord used were (In order alphabetically): Apostle Frank Fann, Elder Robert Hedrick, Elder Allen Kauffman, Apostle Don McIndoo, Apostle Roland Sarratt.

Brother McIndoo told us before he began

his sermon that his throat had been giving him trouble, that he couldn't project his voice without coughing. He said we needed a miracle. Well, we sure got it! He spoke with conviction and power without coughing or hesitating through the whole sermon. We want to praise the Lord for His goodness!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SERMONS

- We are beginning to see fulfilled the scripture that states that in the last days there will be just two churches—The Church of the Lamb of God and the Church of the Devil.
 - We are commanded to come out of Babylon (the World) that we will not be partakers of her sins and her plagues. Listen to those chosen to be our overseers, the called ministry of the Church. Their duty is to warn and direct.
 - Nephi's vision, I Nephi 3: Opposition of the World. Deception surrounds us; The Great and Spacious building is the wisdom and pride of the world; A Beast would raise up which is the Roman Empire; The fall of the Beast will be great; Foundation of a great church, The Great and Abominable Church. The devil is the founder, I Nephi 3:139-141.
- The Great and Abominable church:** "The man of sin speaks blasphemy and assumes the position of God," II Thessalonians 2:3-4. The church of the devil, the whore of all the earth, is in all the nations, and has brought millions of Christians into captivity and caused to be put to death over 50 million Christians, and this because of riches and the praise of the world. This church took away the plain and precious things. There are no libraries and bookstores in the villages of 3rd world countries so they don't know about these things.
- God's wrath will be poured out upon all

nations, kindreds, tongues, and people that fight against the Lamb.

- There are **7 identifying elements of all denominations of the world** in opposition to the little flock:

1. **Opposition to the Book of Mormon** - A great and marvelous work is the restoration of the gospel and coming forth of the Book of Mormon "to the convincing... unto peace and life eternal or unto the deliverance... to the hardness of their hearts and the blindness of their minds, unto... captivity and destruction, both temporally and spiritually," I Nephi 3:216. Acceptance of the words of the Book of Mormon indicates the softness of one's heart to the truth.

2. **Priestcraft** - men who preach to set themselves up as a light and to get gain.

3. **Popularity** - All churches want power and popularity and seek things of the flesh and the world. People don't want to hear about repentance or the doctrine of Jesus Christ.

4. **A relaxed standard of morality** - It's coming into the Church of Christ. If it applies to you, you have aligned yourself with that opposing church.

5. **A new viewpoint of the Book of Revelation—the rapture**. The popular "Left Behind Series" is selling a lie. God has taken away the understanding. Isaiah says that Babylon was destroyed because they lived carelessly.

6. **A spirit of rebellion** - No one wants to be told anything, not open-hearted and humble, not willing to accept chastisement for their soul's sake. Jeremiah spoke: "Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, but they said, We will not walk therein... I set watchmen over you... But they said, We will not hearken," Jeremiah 6:16.

7. **Doctrine of the church is perverted** - The Church is called by Christ's name, if they're living His doctrine, III Nephi 12:18-19. His doctrine is taught by the apostles.

- The House of Jacob will go through and tread down. The indigenous people of many Central and South American countries are bringing their governments down. It can happen here also. We're scared to talk about the Catholic Church or any other philosophy. It isn't politically correct anymore. We're at war. **If you aren't aware of these things,**

then you are a potential victim.

- Nephi, in his vision, saw the mother of abominations gathered in multitudes all over the earth to fight against the Lamb of God, I Nephi 3:229. Verse 32, The wrath of God will be poured out on the great and abominable church. There are wars and rumors of war among nations that belong to her. **When you see these things lift up your head and rejoice for your salvation draweth nigh.** Then the work of God shall commence among His scattered people, fulfilling of His covenants. The power of the Lamb of God will be upon His Church and covenant people. They will be armed with righteousness and power of God. There is no reason to fear if our heart is right.

- God is jealous. He doesn't want His people to worship idols. Man has the disposition to lower God to man's humanness, and at the same time elevate himself. We become used to society's mockery of God and Christ. We are conforming to the attitude of the world, which is an anti-Christ viewpoint.

- Ephesians 4:11-16: He gave the priesthood in the church "...for the perfecting of the saints... That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine (change our minds)..." **This is the day of deception,** Matthew 24:24. We want to be the elect and not be deceived. We must know the truth. Joseph Smith was told by the Lord not to join any of the churches because their creeds are an abomination.

- There has been an explosion of knowledge in the latter days. A lot of information is available to us. Do not go to any source for the truth but the Lord. Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, not man. In the early church Satan created an office, the Presidency. Some have said that Christ appointed Peter to be the head, which led to the Pope as "head" to the influence of false doctrine. We do not recognize His position. We need to consult the Lord in the affairs of the Church. The Lord is right. No one else is. **"One Lord, one faith, one baptism..."** There is only one way and one doctrine. The Church is subject unto Christ. "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father, but by me" John 14:6.

- There must be no disputations among us, III Nephi 5:29. "Blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve which I have chosen from among you to

minister unto you, and to be your servants" Verse 45.

- Controversies in the Church can be resolved only if the Lord makes the correction. When the disciples debated over the name of the Church, Jesus asked them why they were disputing over the name. Would He say, for example, "Why do you dispute over the Sacrament?" We don't want to talk about controversial issues for fear of offending and stirring the people up, but there will come a day when Jesus will confront His people.
- It takes faith to forgive. **It takes faith to get along with each other.** This gospel is simple so that even our children can understand. We must be pliable so that the Lord can use us. If we live a decent life and are prayerful, we will come to the unity of the faith. The Lord will bring this people into a oneness. Find a way that you and your brother or sister can agree. **"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity"** Psalm 133:1-3!
- II Peter - Elders, feed the flock of God. Christ suffered persecution in His ministry. Christ calls us blessed when we are persecuted for righteousness' sake. There is persecution coming from within the Church, from our own people. Persecution causes us to grow if we don't let it overpower us. Verse 12 says that we should be glad when we are persecuted and that our reward is great. God has promised us that if we are faithful, He will give us a way to overcome persecution. It makes a *better* Christian or a *bitter* Christian. We must become stronger, more loving, kind. We are told to love our neighbor and our enemies.
- We must have unity. A kingdom divided against itself shall not stand. We can have unity through prayer and gatherings to discuss our disagreements. Let's talk about it. Ask God to reveal the truth.
- By love, serve one another. Differences will melt away. Set aside the attitude that, "We know all." The opposite of humility is when we think we know all the answers. Humble yourselves. Don't let Satan drive a wedge between us. Paul feared when he returned to the Corinthians that he would find debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, back-bitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults, II Corinthians 12:20. When we have unity we don't have these.
- Ephesians 4:11- God set up the Church.

There is no other Church. We can't drag people to Church to enjoy the gospel of Jesus Christ. They must desire to come. They must desire to work toward perfection. That love is perfection.

- Ephesians 4:13 - He set the ministry in the Church to perfect us, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" Ephesians 4:14. People today are tossed to and fro. They don't want to be told they must come to perfection. The church is a social function where they have a good time. What is your purpose for going to Church? We go to church to worship God through song, preaching, prayer and fellowship. If it's for any other reason we are fooling ourselves.
- **The Apostles are our spiritual leaders.** They're not better than anyone else. But they have a job to do. Your job is to come and be fed the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Word of God.
- Psalm 24 - Who shall ascend? Examine our lives to see if we qualify. We come together to be reminded and not stumble and fall into pitfalls. I have to be reminded daily. Do we love God with all of our heart, mind, and soul? Enough to sacrifice our life for the gospel of Christ? I think you would, because when I go to Conference and Reunion, you're there. I think you will stand steadfast in the face of the storm.
- **The scripture says we are to be a peculiar people.** Our belief in the Book of Mormon sets us apart from the churches of the world. We need to pray for those who do not know Jesus Christ and the gospel. Pray for those who ridicule us for our beliefs.
- There are always two sides to a coin. Which side is right? Ask God to reveal the truth to us.
- **"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." Examine yourself before God. Are we truly submitting ourselves to God?
- **This is a serious business.** What is going to happen to your soul? Where will you spend eternity? We are trying to make you consider, "Is my life right before God? To the young people. Young people can die too. Today is the day of your salvation. Today is when you need to prepare for tomorrow. All must consider, "How do I stand before

God?" How do you conduct yourself? We need to prepare our lives. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up. **Be a doer and not hearers only.** Consider the life to come.

- A question I hear all the time, Why? Why were you created? To glorify God. He created our weaknesses (Ether 5:26) that man might be humble. If men humble themselves, the weak things become strong. Weakness is for a purpose. Why did God create the beauty of the earth and our ability to see it, a variety of foods, animals for pets, music and ears to hear?
- Revelations 4:9 - John's vision of heaven. He created us for His pleasure. Everything we do should be an effort to please Him, to serve and be an example. Colossians 12:9 - Redemption is through Him. By Him were all things created, and for Him. God gives us opportunity to have joy in our lives. All things of the earth pale in comparison to eternity with Him. He wants us to have joy, but it's not an excuse for bad behavior. Our joy is subject to our obedience (John 4:15).
- Ecclesiastes 12:13 - "Fear God and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." This is our whole job.
- Mosiah 1:119 - **"The natural man is an enemy of God."** Put off the natural man. Become like a child "willing to submit to all things that the Lord seeth fit to inflict upon him." "The child is the 'natural man.' The world revolves around Me. If I'm not happy nobody is going to be happy." We spend our whole life fighting that. We weren't created for our own pleasure but to please God. The difference between the natural and spiritual man is like the difference between dogs and cats. The dog says (of humans), "Look at those things. They feed me and give me water. They let me in and out. *They* must be gods." The cat says, "Look at those things. They feed me and give me water. They let me in and out. *I* must be a god." The natural man will say, "I can't submit. What about my feelings? What about my rights?" We submit to all kinds of things in our lives, our employers, the law of the land, to our animals. We're willing to submit because we learned through experience that we will receive an immediate reward or punishment. But with God we have a different attitude, the reward or punishment might not be immediate, and might even not be in this lifetime. **God is worthy to be praised.**

He hears and answers prayer. We please Him by following His commandments and being an example to all around us. He didn't create me to be a parent or to have a job. That's part of it. But He created me to please Him. As soon as we start bringing praise to ourselves, the natural man comes in. For example, in singing specials, it's hard not to let the natural man take over when someone compliments us. We might say to ourselves, "Yes, I do have a good voice." Moses in the desert let the natural man take the glory for providing the water. We have to be careful.

- Alma 16:152 compares the word to a seed. When we plant a seed we don't know if it's a good seed. Plant the Word in your heart. It continues to grow and bear fruit. Reach out and try to please God. It becomes a habit and grows. It becomes delicious to us and to God. III Nephi 12:25. He will be lifted up to draw all men unto Him. It's how we live our life.
- There are things in this world to separate us from God. **We're living in a day of deception.**
- We hope and pray that we are the children of God. At our baptism we told the Lord that we were going to do His will. How does God see you in your relationships? Every time you say or do something contrary to God's law, you have part in Satan.
- Matthew 4:1-10 - Christ's temptation. Every day we are tempted by the devil. Every day we have to fight the devil. The devil tempted Christ to ask Him to turn the stones into bread. **The devil holds out enticements to you to tempt you.** This story is an example of Christ and how we can overcome temptation like Him. If we succumb to these enticements, we will be separated from God. **The Book of Mormon says that temptations blind the eyes and harden the hearts of men.** Be careful of temptation, even if it looks like something good. We can be enticed to miss a service for sports or other things. We say, "It's just one service. That won't hurt." Be careful of enticements that put you in debt so that you can't pay tithing. These separate you from Christ. The list could go on and on of things that entice us to do other things than what we're told to do.
- **Doubt can separate us from God.** III Nephi 1:38. The people forgot the signs and wonders that had been experienced. They began to harden their hearts and their

minds were blinded and they began to disbelieve. Satan led them to believe that the doctrine of Christ was foolish and vain. In the early Church they had such great faith that the Church grew and they were blessed. Then doubt entered in, doubt in the Word of God, that maybe there wasn't a Restoration. I believe that we're the only Restoration church left. Luke says, "Neither be ye of a doubtful mind." Doubt starts out small. Eventually you doubt the whole Book of Mormon. That little doubt leads to a separation from Jesus Christ. When we start to doubt a word, a phrase, we had better ask God for deliverance and guidance lest we separate ourselves from God.

- **Satan has put pride in our hearts to separate us from God.** The pride of man is an enemy of God. The devil uses pride because it's natural to man. The Book of Mormon says the pride of your hearts can destroy your soul.
- Alma 16:98 - Do we praise God in the sanctuary and then walk out the door and never mention His name until the next time we are in church? He sees our hearts. He knows. James 4 - "God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble." God must have a humble, submissive people to work with so He can mold this Church. We are growing in numbers. We had 260 and more baptisms this year. For God to do more we must become less proud.
- **Satan puts greed in our hearts to separate us from God.** James 5:1-5 - We all need money to sustain us, but we shouldn't live our lives to make money. The Book of Mormon says that if we live a Christ-like life, He will give us wealth, IF we use it for good. Psalms 112:1-3 - Pray that we delight in His commandments. It is the wealth of Jesus Christ and His goodness of the Scriptures, His Holy Word, that is much more precious than silver and gold.
- **The hunger for power will separate us from God.** This was more evident in the early Church. The Church was organized in 1830 simply, then entered a hunger for power to rise above one another, to be someone of authority, to have the last say. Thus, the First Presidency, the office of one who has the final say and that power. There was a power struggle at the death of Joseph Smith. The church split because men wanted that power. If we hunger for power we are separating ourselves from God.

- **The works of the flesh separate us from God.** Galations 5:19 - "The works of the flesh...are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings...." Are any of these in the Church today? Have any of these separated us from the love of Jesus Christ? Most of these have crept in. Shame on us! It is because we have gone the way of the world to lessen our chances to come closer to God. Is it because we aren't strict enough or haven't preached enough? **The world does not think these are wrong. They should be an abomination to us.** It's going to be hard for us to stand before the Judgment bar. The Lord will ask, "What about the works of the flesh? We will say the world and my friends were doing it." That answer will bring punishment and damnation.
- **Our conduct can separate us from God.** Our attention, quietness, reverence. Many times we're doing something else instead of paying attention to that which will give eternal life. How about respect of the church building and the preacher? He sees several conversations going on and people wandering in and out. Church attendance? Do we see you only at Conference and social events? How about taking and not giving? We're like sponges. There's work to be done. There are takers and there are givers. If you're only a taker, you're separating yourself from God. Mark 7:7 calls those hypocrites.
- Be a believing people, not doing those things which separate us from God. **Obey His commandments and live a Christ-like life so that you can stand before His judgment seat and hear, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."**
- Ephesians 6:10 - "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

BUSINESS MEETING

There were 2 business meetings on the week days of the Conference.

INSPIRING OPENING REMARKS

We are all members of one body. We have a responsibility to one another. Helps and governments are placed by the Lord in His

Church so that His will can be accomplished. There must be no disputations among us. Satan has many devices. Don't let your guard down.

James 1: Man is not tempted of God but is drawn away of his own lust, which makes us sin. Every good gift is from the Father. "...The wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God."

Mosiah 13:34 - We are judged by the Word in the Scripture. It is not common for the voice of the people to desire that which is not right. We do business by the voice of the people for decisions concerning the affairs of the Church. The judgments of God will come with great destruction if the voice of the people choose wrong. The people of the land need to be governed by the Lord, Jesus Christ. Otherwise His judgments will come upon them.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES ELECTED AND APPOINTED

General Church Secretary, General Church Recorder, General Church Chorister, Board of Publications, Dining Hall Committee, Committee on Indian Mission, Auditing Committee, Referendum Committee, General Church Historian, Assoc. Church Historians, Editor of Zion's Advocate, Assoc. Editors of Zion's Advocate, Library Board, Archive Committee, Conference Coordinator, Audio, Video, Visual Aid and Archaeological Committee, Conference Reporter, Committee To Study Zion, Business Manager, Ass't Business Manager

REUNIONS AND CAMPS FOR 2001: Scripture Theme Camp (May 18-20), Colorado Reunion (June 8-10), Michigan Reunion (June 23-24), Idaho Reunion (July 13-15), Teen Challenge Youth Camp (July 29-August 3), Tri-State Reunion in Wisconsin (Aug. 31-Sept. 3) Arizona Reunion (November 23-25)

A VERBAL PRESENTATION: Concerns the reprinting of the Book of Mormon. The elders explained the reasons and showed examples of changes and their sources. The committee was instructed to continue their work.

SOLEMN ASSEMBLY FOR 2002 - March 29 and March 30

MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS

MISSIONARY REPORTS

TWO DOCUMENTS WILL BE SENT TO REFERENDUM FOR THE VOTE OF ALL THE MEMBERS

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

United Workers Lunch Tuesday at the East Local

Meeting Missionary Appointees & interested ministry at the Temple Lot

Sunday School Association

Other Committee Meetings

6:30-7 P.M. Song Services each evening

APPRECIATION TO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS CONFERENCE:

the Apostles; the Bishops; those ministry who gave us such wonderful spiritual direction; the Conference Business Secretary and his Assistants; Business Manager; the Assistant Business Manager; the AV-VAA Committee (for sound and recording management) and microphone managers; all Committee Chairmen and Officers; the Dining Hall committee and helpers; Conference Coordinator; those who took charge of daily clean-

ing of the church and those who helped; the Chorister, Pianist, Choirs, and others who sang specials.

CONFERENCE NOTES FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2001

8 A.M. Prayer Meeting

9 A.M. Business Meeting - Chairman, Apostle Don McIndoo, Assisted by Apostle Roland Sarratt

III Nephi 9:57-59 - Jesus said, "I will establish My people, O house of...in this land (America). It shall be a new Jerusalem...and the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of...you...even I will be in the midst of you."

IV Nephi 1:1-4, 17-19 - The disciples formed a Church of Christ. Those who repented were baptized and received the Holy Ghost. They were all converted. There were no contentions and disputations. They had all things common among them because the love

of God dwelt in their hearts. These are conditions we long to see. "There were no envyings, strifes, nor tumults..." There were no happier people created.

- The approval of amendments to the new document concerning the "Procedure Against Iniquity." This document, as amended, will be sent to referendum for the vote of all the membership.
- AVVAA report of appreciation of young people who handled the microphones.
- Standing vote of appreciation to the kitchen committee and those who clean after the day's service.

6:30 P.M. Song Service

7:00 P.M. Sermon

Darl Temple

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NEWS

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Greetings from Phoenix! One of the first duties for the month of January was the election of officers. Unlike the national election, the incumbent was held over. Gordon McCann will serve as our pastor for another year, and Glen Orsted and Duane Ely will be the assistant pastors. We also embarked on the ambitious project of planning some remodeling: an indoor baptismal font, a more accessible bathroom for the handicapped, classrooms and a media room.

January 31 was a day of special services. We began the evening with a Memorial Service for our Sister Jaunita Owen. The Memorial Service was followed by a fasting and prayer service for the gospel work and our Brother Chuck Pinder.

During January: Apostle Brian McIndoo was laboring in Africa; Elders Hube and Jim Yates in Ohio, New York, Ontario and Nova Scotia; Apostle Don McIndoo in Honduras and Mexico; and Apostle Jay Moser and Elder Ken Oar in Mexico. Apostle Moser and Elder Andy Brown traveled to Oregon as well to administer to Chuck Pinder.

February was a month when we remembered the love of God. On Valentine's Day eve, the husbands expressed their appreciation for their wives. At the end of the touching service our Sister Chris Moser testified that the love ex-

pressed and felt in the room was not an accident. These marriages were blessed because God was a third partner in each union. She went on to say that as you look around, you see many women sitting alone because their husbands are in the missionary field. More women will be alone in the future, but the touch of the Lord in their marriages will outweigh the sacrifice.

In late February some of us were privileged to attend the 50th Anniversary of the gospel in Yucatan. Several pioneers of the gospel work there were remembered. They risked their lives to begin a powerful ministry that still lives on. What a thrill it was to see the pyramids and visualize the epoch events that transpired there. The greatest joy of all was experiencing the love of our beautiful brothers and sisters in Yucatan. It is a memory that we will treasure all of our lives.

In March Apostle Brian McIndoo returned from Kenya with the joyous news that 60 new souls had joined the family of Christ!

Elder Bob Hedrick has been elected as the new pastor of the Payson local, with Elder Andy Brown serving as assistant pastor. Priest Jim Yates, Jr. will help out as able. He traveled to Idaho to shepherd the flock there while Pastor Elder Roy Coon labored in Alaska with Apostle Brian McIndoo. Brother Jim's family was again blessed with the opportunity to travel with him.

On March 9 we held a day of fasting and prayer for our Brother Chuck Pinder. We've

beaten a well worn path between Arizona and Oregon this month. Brothers Jay Moser and Andy Brown have made several trips there to administer to Brother Chuck. Brother Moser also visited our Yucatecan Brother Wenseslau, who now lives in Oregon. On returning, Apostle Moser testified that this is a time of trial for the Pinder family, but Chuck and Amy are a great example to all of us in the way they are handling their trial. Toward the end of March, Sister Debbie Brown flew to Oregon to help out as long as she was needed.

Thursday, March 29, Chuck Pinder went to his heavenly home. We do not feel that our many hours of prayer for him were in vain. Just a few weeks ago, Chuck himself admonished us of the importance of being united in prayer, not just for him but for the gospel work. We thank the Lord for the blessing of knowing Chuck, if only for these few brief years. Goodbye Chuck, we'll miss you...but we'll be seeing you again. This sermon quote was chosen before Chuck's passing. How appropriate it seems now:

"It's not where we start our lives spiritually, but where we end our lives spiritually, that will determine our salvation." Priest Duane Ely.

*May God be with you all,
Marlene Oar*

COLLINS, MISSOURI

Oh glorious spring! It's funny how the air seems fresher when the cold of winter begins to pass on and tiny little buds begin to appear on all the trees. The chubby little robins are back and hunting those "early-bird worms!" The morning air is filled with the sounds of all the birds singing from treetop to treetop and the hurry and scurry of preparing their nests for their "new arrivals." It's such a great time of year. I hope you are enjoying springtime where ever you are.

On February 3rd, 2001, our Brother Wallace Yates was released from this life. He fought a good fight and he finished the course, as Paul said. Surely there is laid up for him a crown of righteousness.

Wallace's funeral service was held at Hackleman-Peterman Funeral Home in Wheatland, Missouri, with Elders Allen Kauffman and

Jack Martin officiating. A lovely tribute was written and read by Wallace and Geraldine's daughter Janelle. There were several pictures on display that told the life of our brother and the many activities he enjoyed before his illness became so severe that he had to be placed in a nursing home. Wallace never lost his faith in God and always had a yearning to come to church where he could hear more about God. He was always pleased to have you stop by and visit him. Talking was very difficult for him, but he always knew who you were and was glad to see you.

Geraldine is getting along fairly well now. She has been hired as a nanny for three children (eight, five and two years old) whose mother has bone cancer. Geraldine is very creative and finds lots of things to do with these children. She also works part-time for a dentist in Camdenton. So, as you can see, she is kept pretty busy. However, no matter how busy she gets she has lost her life-long partner and friend and I know she misses him greatly. May God always watch over

her and her family, Janelle and Beth.

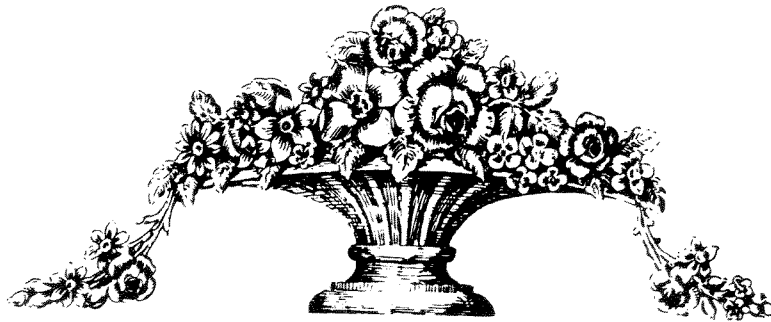
Here are a few thoughts from recent sermons you might want to consider:

- *It behooves us all to have our souls awake.*
- *The greatest strength you can have in this world is faith and righteousness.*
- *It's not a question of whether we're going to have an eternity or not—it's WHERE are we going to spend it??*
- *We must be careful to not read into the scriptures things that are not there and deceive ourselves.*
- *Satan can make you "think" something is good when it is not.*
- *If you don't want the gospel in your life, even GOD won't force it on you.*

*Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman*

Charles Edward Pinder

September 10, 1964 ~ March 29, 2001



Charles Edward Pinder was born on September 10, 1964, in Alpena, Michigan, to Mary Louise Larson Pinder and Emery Jason Pinder.

He was baptized into the Church of Christ by Apostle Don Housknecht at the Temple Lot—the main headquarters located in Independence, Missouri, on April 10, 1980.

He attended Flushing High School in Michigan.

He was in chess club, Spanish, and track.

He graduated in 1982.

He was a good scholar, which won him a scholarship from the State of Michigan.

He then pursued a college education for several years at Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, and later graduated from Arizona State University in May of 1997 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Chemistry. While in col-

lege he also learned German and enjoyed speaking it when the chance presented itself.

When he was 24 years old Charles met Miss Amy Petriken, also of Flint, Michigan. Soon a romance developed between the blond-haired, blue-eyed handsome gentleman and the lovely, petite, dark-eyed brunette.

Amy was blessed with a testimony from the Lord concerning this serious young man. The Lord showed her that he would be her husband. On May 2, 1990, Charles E. Pinder and Amy Marie Petriken became husband and wife in a civil service in Charleston, South Carolina. Charles decided that it would be a good place to get married since the city bore his name. Later that year the Pinder family, including twins Amanda Sue and Kelly Lynne, moved to Phoenix, Arizona. On December 15, 1990, Charles and Amy renewed their vows before the

Church of Christ with Emery Pinder, father of the groom, performing the service.

On November 9, 1993, Charles officially adopted Amanda and Kelly. He was a very good Dad and instructed the girls in the Gospel of Christ. He also stressed the importance of education and living a life in a manner that would please God. If you know these pretty young ladies, you also know that Charles and Amy have been successful in raising two bright, responsible daughters who are seeking the will of God in their lives.

After being able to purchase the house of Sister Evalena Sills, which was a great blessing, the Pinders redecorated and made a lovely home for their family. Charles enjoyed working on their home and used his skills as bricklayer, plumber, carpenter, and landscaper.

Chuck was an excellent employee and worked at various places

throughout his adulthood: Dow Chemical; Avanti Circuits; Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona; BioTherapies in Michigan and finally for Great Western Chemical in Oregon.

He had quite a sense of humor and loved to tell jokes.

He was able to make friends easily and earn the respect of those he worked with. He was a good communicator and enjoyed visiting with people, especially his family in the Gospel of Christ.

Although he had many obstacles in his life, the Lord was often times merciful so he was the recipient of a multitude of miraculous healings. He received a kidney transplant only a week after his graduation from college, which he considered one of the mightiest of blessings bestowed by the hand of his Lord.

It was through being well versed in the word of God that Charles learned how to live a life of faith. His favorite Bible scripture was Isaiah 40:28-31:

"Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

One of the Book of Mormon stories that helped inspire Chuck to increase his faith was in Ether 1:47-85.

It was by implementing the knowledge of the scriptures in his life and whole heartedly believing in the promises of the Lord that Charles was able to overcome much adversity. Like Job, when problems arose he always praised his Father in heaven for whatever blessings God chose to bestow. And most importantly, the Lord told Charles that "My grace is sufficient for you." Because of this, he was able to accept the will of God without reservation until he was called home to the paradise of God on March 29, 2001. He joyfully answered that call.

The following is a poem that was written by Charles Pinder's sister and nephew.

Uncle Chuck

The commander's voice rang out.
A moment of silence
Ordered
Time stood still,
Heads bowed.
Pausing in that moment
I saw you there as you waved and smiled
To me,
A tear dared to leave my eye
Remembering...in that flicker of time
How hard you fought for life everyday...
Yet managed to keep a smile
Or
Offer a kind word as
God's light shone in your face.
Never blaming God
Just seeking to understand and
Searching His word until you had the answer,
So you could comfort those near and dear to you.
Your smile, the mischievous chuckle
They live with me forever.
As I returned a salute
I know my life has been touched by the miracle of
One of God's chosen
Not just the man I call Uncle Chuck

With love and fondest memories... Thom & Helen

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The 2001 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 1. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 2. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, on March 30 & 31. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 2001 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 6, 7 and 8, at Independence, Missouri.

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OUT OF THE DUST (45 minutes)—Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.

RETURN, THE (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 TAPE

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 Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64136. Specify which set is desired and the estimated length of time you expect to use it.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS

Send orders for Sunday School materials to Debbie Vogel, 403 West Colonel Drive, Independence, Missouri 64050. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ, except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

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