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

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THE APOSTLES of the CHURCH OF CHRIST

Smith N. Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64136; 816-356-9214; e-mail: <u>smithbrickhouse@yahoo.com</u> Duane Ely, 18814 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-1516; e-mail <u>duanekathyely@aol.com</u> Placido Koyoc Matu, 99h Calle 24 x 17y 19, Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico; #011-52-991-911-3125; e-mail: <u>ap.matu2@gmail.com</u> Mike McGhee, 18907 E. 6th Street N., Independence, Missouri 64056; 816-796-6255; e-mail: <u>mcgheeme@msn.com</u> Brian McIndoo, 18824 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-1900; e-mail: <u>mcindoo@cox.net</u> Donald E. McIndoo, 18830 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050

Alvin J. Moser, 18829 N. 29th Place, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-2414; e-mail: <u>ajmoser3@cox.net</u> Jeffrey Oldham, 2609 SW Wintervalley Circle, Lee's Summit, MO 64081; 515-339-6226; <u>jrocontact@gmail.com</u> Roland L. Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terrace, Independence, Missouri 64055; 816-373-6605; e-mail: <u>r.sarratt@comcast.net</u> William A. Sheldon, 1011 S. Cottage, Independence, Missouri 64050; 816-833-3995; e-mail: <u>cofct@sbcglobal.net</u> Joel Yates, 2924 E. Rockwood Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-9296; e-mail: <u>jyates2@yahoo.com</u>



GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF APOSTLES Apostle Duane Ely 18814 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050 SECRETARY, GENERAL BISHOPRIC Elder Leslie P. Case

8312 Lee's Summit Road; Kansas City, Missouri 64139 GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY

Harvey E. Seibel

9800 E. 32nd Street S.; Independence, Missouri 64052 GENERAL CHURCH RECORDER

Elder Gordon McCann 18808 N. 30th Street; Phoenix, AZ 85050

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

ZION'S ADVOCATE STAFF

EDITOR Elder Gordon McCann 18808 N. 30th Street Phoenix, Arizona 85050 E-mail:<u>cofczaeditor@cox.net</u>

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

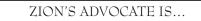
Apostle Placido K. Matu Calle 24 #99H x 17 y 19 Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico

Priest Bruce Haines 3904 Christopher Circle Independence, MO 64055

PRODUCTION STAFF Harvey L. Seibel

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.



To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour; To promote His Teachings and His Church, the Church of Christ;

To be a voice of warning to His people; to be Zion's advocate.

Visit us at: http://churchofchrist-tl.org/

COVER PHOTOS: Teen Camp by Glenn Orsted; Yucatan Camp by Placido Koyoc Yam

EDITORIAL

Our CONNECTION



By Apostle Jeff Oldham

Psalms 61:1 Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. 2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. 3 For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy.

write this with the youth of the church on my mind. Our brother Joel Yates has admonished us many times to not think of the youth as our future, but rather they are the today – we cannot overlook the role they play in the church TODAY, reinforcing the importance of our outreach and connection TODAY. I write this as a reminder for each of us to find opportunities to utilize our young people, encouraging them in their service to our Lord and Savior, tapping in to their talents, encouraging them to be involved. I would challenge each of us to dedicate time in our busy lives to focus in some way towards the youth of the church, and while I realize we all have talents in different ways, we each have something that we can give.

I am reminded of the scripture in Alma 16 where it talks of the Spirit of the Lord growing within us.

Alma 16:152 Now we will compare the word unto a seed. 153 Now if ye give place, that a seed may be planted in your heart, behold, if it be a true seed, or a good seed, if ye do not cast it out by your unbelief, that ye will resist the Spirit of the Lord, behold, it will begin to swell within your breasts; 154 And when you feel these swelling motions, ye will begin to say within yourselves, It must needs be that this is a good seed, or that the word is good, for it beginneth to enlarge my soul; yea, it beginneth to enlighten my under-

standing; yea, and it beginneth to be delicious to me. 155 Now behold, would not this increase your faith? I say unto you, Yea; nevertheless it hath not grown up to a perfect knowledge. 156 But behold, as the seed swelleth, and sprouteth, and beginneth to grow, and then ye must needs say, that the seed is good; for behold it swelleth, and sprouteth, and beginneth to grow. 157 And now behold, will not this strengthen your faith? Yea, it will strengthen your faith, for ye will say, I know that this is a good seed, for behold, it sprouteth and beginneth to grow. 158 And now behold, are ye sure that this is a good seed? I say unto vou. Yea: for every seed bringeth forth unto its own likeness; therefore, if a seed groweth, it is good, but if it groweth not, behold, it is not good; therefore it is cast away. 159 And now, behold, because ye have tried the experiment, and planted the seed, and it swelleth, and sprouteth, and beginneth to grow, ye must needs know that the seed is good.

I enjoy this scripture, and see it as a great parallel to encouraging that development within our children. Encouraging them again, as stated above, to be involved, strengthening their foundation in the Lord, a shelter from the enemy.

In that spirit, and while I am no expert in understanding teenagers, I want to highlight an interesting detail many of us already know, but see this as being interesting while talking with kids - please understand that this may sound odd and I am in no way an expert. Understanding not only some of the things that face our youth today, it is also important to understand how we interact with kids, encouraging us to not be frustrated, but rather to better understand. There was a recent article found titled, "Texting, TV and Tech Trashing Childrens' Attention Spans" (Huffington Post - November 2012). This article talks of the heavy use of digital media and the "potentially harmful effects" of the many media choices bombarding our youth and frankly each of us today. While I fully recognize the harmful effects, one of the outcomes is the impact this has on their attention span. In a Pew survey of middle and high school teachers, "....87% report that" "technologies" create "an easily distracted generation with short attention spans," and while you may not be surprised, it is important to understand the realities of our discussions with many of the youth we interact with today. We can agree or disagree, but living with two teenagers, I can attest to the above.

I share this as I want to reinforce the importance of finding a way to connect with the youth of our church. Building that foundation, strengthening the root of the seed that is mentioned above, is vital to that connection to Christ as they grow. I enjoy the scripture in II Nephi 3 when Nephi asks that he might have an escape from his enemies.

II Nephi 3:52 Wilt thou deliver me out of the hands of mine enemies? 53 Wilt thou make me that I may shake at the appearance of sin? 54 May the gates of hell be shut continually before me, because that my heart is broken and my spirit is contrite? 55 O Lord, wilt thou not shut the gates of thy righteousness before me, that I may walk in the path of the low vallev. that I may be strict in the plain road? 56 O Lord, wilt thou encircle me around in the robe of thy righteousness? 57 O Lord, wilt thou make a way for mine escape before mine enemies? 58 Wilt thou make my path straight before me? 59 Wilt thou not place a stumbling block in my way? 60 But that thou wouldst clear my way before me. and hedge not up my way, but the ways of mine enemy. 61 O Lord, I have trusted in thee, and I will trust in thee forever. 62 I will not put my trust in the arm of flesh: for I know that cursed is he that putteth his trust in the arm of flesh. 63 Yea. cursed is he that putteth his trust in man. or maketh flesh his arm. 64 Yea, I know that God will give liberally to him that asketh. 65 Yea, my God will give me, if I ask not amiss: therefore, I will lift up my voice unto thee: yea. I will cry unto thee. my God, the rock of my righteousness. 66 Behold, my voice shall forever ascend up unto thee, my rock and mine everlasting God. Amen.

I ask that you give this prayerful consideration, a reminder to all of us of the influence that we have on those around us. Building a relationship, a connection, to those around us is vital to building and strengthening Christ's Church. My hope is that we are working on that connection to the youth of the church no differently than to our brothers and sisters who we have an easier connection with sometimes. I will close with a scripture from Mosiah 2:25-27:

25 And ye will not suffer your children, that they go hungry, or naked; 26 Neither will ye suffer that they transgress the laws of God, and fight and quarrel one with another, and serve the devil, which is the master of sin, or which is the evil spirit which hath been spoken of by our fathers; he being an enemy to all righteousness; 27 But ye will teach them to walk in the ways of truth and soberness; ye will teach them to love one another, and to serve one another;....

TESTIMONY

Lighthouse

By Natasha Gill

S aturday night I was in my room looking at a lighthouse painting that's on my wall. All of a sudden a whole bunch of thoughts started to fall into place like a puzzle.

Lighthouses are built up high on a sturdy foundation. away from the waves and tide, because if they were built close to the shore the waves would wash the foundations out and they would crumble. Now some lighthouses are tall and at the very top have a very strong light that shines for all to see. If a sailor is lost or in a storm, the light from a lighthouse could save him. Sometimes the waves are too rough or the mist too thick, and no matter how bright that light is, it can't save the sailor.

Christians are called to be lights! We should first have a sturdy foundation (Bible and Book of Mormon). Our light is our belief and our faith in God. Around us there are many religions, and the world with all its vanities. We are



called to shine God's light so lost souls may see it, repent, and be saved. Some people are so lost in the world and other religions that they refuse to see the truth.

But just like a lighthouse, if we build our foundation too close to the ocean (other religions, teachings of the world), we will be washed away by the tides of the ocean. If the light of a lighthouse was set to float on the ocean, the mist would obscure the light and it would be carried away by the tide. We aren't called to be part of the world, because just like that light we would be swept away in other beliefs and our light dimmed by vanities. If our light isn't bright enough lost sailors won't see it and will crash and be lost. If we are part of the world then how do we expect to save it? When we say we are Christians yet we're mingling with the world, what are they seeing and thinking? If we can't change our own lives and live righteously, then how do we expect to influence and change the world?

GENERAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Sunday School Lessons: the Resurrection of Christ

The General Sunday School Association (GSSA) is providing portions of lessons (teasers!) for several age groups on a common topic. To see the complete lessons, please visit the Church of Christ's Audio Visual Aid (AVA) committee website at <u>www.cocsermons.net</u> and click on the "Resources" tab to view all of the lessons and studies for children and adults. More information regarding Sunday School lessons can be found on <u>www.edmodo.com</u>. Contact Susan Porter: <u>porter_susan@sbcglobal.net</u>; home address: 9 Market Street; Middleville, MI 49333 for more information.

Preschool/Kindergarten: Jesus is ALIVE!

Activity: Resurrection Rolls

This is a baking activity, so you will need access to an oven. The recipe makes 8 rolls, so adjust as needed for your class. Clean up is much easier if you line the baking sheet with parchment paper. These are gooey, sugary, and yummy...so be prepared with wipes for sticky fingers!

You will need:

1 (10 oz) can refrigerated crescent dinner rolls 8 large marshmallows ¼ cup melted butter 2 Tbsp ground cinnamon 2 Tbsp sugar Oven Baking sheet Parchment paper (optional) Non-stick baking spray Paper towels Wipes (for clean up)

Just before class:

- Preheat oven to 400 degrees and either line a baking sheet with parchment paper (lightly coat top with non-stick spray) or do without the parchment and lightly spray the sheet.
- Separate the crescent rolls into individual triangles and place on separate plates. Cover with parchment paper or a paper towel to keep from drying out. Place in the refrigerator, so they don't get too sticky and hard to work with. Have them at your table when class starts.
- Melt ¼ cup of butter.

Class/Activity Time!

- Wash and dry the students' hands, so they can put together these treats.
- Measure the cinnamon and sugar; mix them together in a bowl.
- Pass out the plates with the crescent rolls to each student.
- Give each student a large marshmallow. Have them coat it with the melted butter, then roll it in the cinnamon sugar mixture.
- Place into the center of the crescent roll dough triangle.
- Carefully wrap the dough around the marshmallow. Make sure the dough covers the entire surface of the marshmallow.
- Pinch the seams together tightly to seal in the marshmallow. If any seam is undone, the marshmallow will leak through and the lesson won't be as effective. (Teachers will have to help the students or double-check their work.)
- Bake until a golden brown, about 12-15 minutes. While the Resurrection Rolls are baking, tell the students about the resurrection of Christ (see story at <u>www.cocsermons.net</u>).
- Let them cool a bit before you break them open to see the tomb is EMPTY! Relate this to Christ's tomb being empty. He is ALIVE, just as He said!

Lesson submitted by Sister Jennifer Yates, Phoenix, AZ local, phxhometeachin@gmail.com

GENERAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Elementary & Middle School: Seek and Ye Shall Find (Easter Lesson)

Activity: Looking for Jesus Christ (find the balance of this lesson at www.cocsermons.net)

For Elementary age students: Photocopy verses in your Bible or go to the Church of Christ AVA website for the lesson to print off, so you can cut up Bible verses to hide in plastic eggs. *For Middle School students*: In each egg, put only the reference to the verse for the middle school child to look up before proceeding to find the next egg.

- 1st egg should be near the tomb: In the first egg is the scripture; John 14: 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.
- 2nd egg: Matthew 17: 20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.
- **3rd egg:** Matthew 24:42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.
- **4th egg:** Matthew 25:35 For I was hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger and ye took me in.
- 5th egg: Matthew 25:36 Naked and ye clothed me: I was sick and ye visited me: I was in prison and ye came unto me.
- 6th egg: Matthew 7:14 Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.
- 7th egg: Matthew 7:17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.
- 8th egg: Matthew 8:3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.
- 9th egg: Matthew 8:20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.
- **10th egg:** John 10:9 I am the **door**: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

11th egg: Matthew 13:9 Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

12th egg: Matthew 7:7-8 Ask and it shall be given you: seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.



Ask the child, "Where is Jesus? We must find Him!" Start looking for Jesus. Lead the child to the scriptures, where he should find Christ.

Lesson submitted by Sister Betsy Trudgen, Bradley, MI local, <u>trucooking@yahoo.com</u>.

High School: Jesus' Crucifixion

This lesson is available for download at <u>www.cocsermons.net</u> under the Resources section. Scriptural accounts of Jesus' life, suffering, crucifixion and resurrection, the Record of God's Great Love—not "Antisemitism" (definition at end of article), a study prepared for the GSSA of the Church of Christ (TL) for young adult (high school) students.

Lesson submitted by Brother Peter Gould

FROM the ARCHIVES

From the ARCHIVES



urn of the century – 1900's – Young men gathering at the Temple Lot

TEEN CAMP is like ZION

We'll want to be there and not leave; Closeness to our brother and sister, All working together, bonding. Caring for each other, Apart from the world. Loving one another, Serving one another, Helping one another. Working out our differences, Dealing justly with one another. Spiritual focus and growth, For protection from the world, Nearer to God!

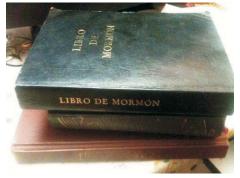
(These thoughts were expressed about Teen Camp at the 2014 MO Reunion.)

TESTIMONIES

How Have the Scriptures Changed Your Life? A tew testimonies from the youth of Mexico



want to extend a greeting to my church family. Today we are united by the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Now I can say that we have a treasure for our life. Throughout the Book of Mormon and the Bible we can hear the voice of God. That sweet voice that always reminds us how He loves us. From His word He teaches the correct path that we need to walk in. Many times we can say that it is difficult, but we read in Hebrews 13:5, "I will never leave thee..."



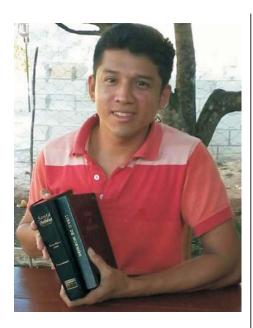
I can say in my life that the Scriptures have completely satisfied my life. When I was vounger I was looking for something to fill my life, but never found that something. I just found it in God and His message. When I was reading John 4:14 I got the knowledge that I needed in life; a different knowledge that I have never experienced before. I feel very thankful with God, because He gave me the opportunity to have met Him, and continue to learn from Him. I know that we need His forgiveness and His wisdom. I want to share with you my favorite verse: Psalms 119:33.

Elisa Diaz Tizimin, Yucatan, Mexico



n the times of adversity in my life, the scriptures are always a refuge for me. They help me to direct my life, and I have always found the correct direction. During a difficult time in my life, when my parents were divorced, the scriptures were my only refuge. My favorite verses are in Joshua 1:8-9.

Esteffi Maldonado Merida, Yucatan, Mexico



he Book of Mormon totally changed my life, when I heard the incomparable words in a youth camp. I remember I was invited by a friend of mine, now my brother in Christ Jose Luis Ku, and his father in the camp. I heard the studies that Apostle Don McIndoo was giving; he spoke about the words in Jacob 3:31-153. That was a great day in my life; I felt such a joy to hear those wonderful words! At that moment it seemed to me that I had heard those words before (in a dream some time ago). In reality it was the first time for me to hear about the Book of Mormon. Since that time I am always enjoying the word of God; I know that it is the TRUTH, and the histories, promises and the instructions will help me all my life to prepare me for that glorious day.

I am a witness of the validity

of the scriptures, I give my testimony to anyone I can. I know for sure that I need to learn more, and when I have something I need to change in my life I have a testimony that in the Bible and the Book of Mormon we have the fullness of the gospel to help me in my life.

Jacinto Gilberto Barrera Dzan Yucatán México



want to say that the Scriptures have changed my life and still changing daily. The word of our God is in these two books and they have the fullness of the Gospel. Our church is blessed to have them. When I read them it

helps me to change my life, and also to have hope; I feel very blessed to know and have these two wonderful treasures. They fill my life completely with joy and peace, and they are my counselor. They help me to guide my life in God's way, and also help me know that I have to correct my life in order to achieve salvation. These two books are my light, because I have seen great blessings and contemplate the marvelous works of God and His promises that are faithful and truth. I feel blessed from my Lord to have these treasures with me: the Bible and the Book of Mormon.

Leidy Uluac Hacienda Uyalcéh de Peón Yucatán, México



JULY 26 - JULY 31

CAMP THEME PROVERBS 3:5-6 TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART: AND LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM. AND HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS.

SEE MORE AT COFCTEENCAMP.ORG

CAMP RULES AND SUGGESTED ITEMS TO BRING OR NOT TO BRING

CAMP RULES are to facilitate the camp mission and maintain the safety and well-being of all campers and staff. Campers who do not obey the rules will be subject to disciplinary action which may include being sent home at their parent's expense.

- 1. You are expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times.
- 2. You are expected to obey all safety rules.
- 3. You are expected to participate in all classes and activities.

4. You are expected to stay with the group unless special permission is given. Pairing off or groups found in unapproved areas will not be tolerated.

- 5. Sexual misconduct will not be tolerated.
- 6. You are expected to remain on the camp grounds at all times.

7. You are expected to wear modest apparel at all times. Inappropriate clothing includes bikini swimsuits, tank tops with straps less than 1.5 inches or with drooping armholes, T-shirts with inappropriate slogans or innuendo, concert T-shirts, shirts that expose the midriff or short shorts. All campers are required to wear a colored T-shirt while in the swimming pool.

8. You MUST turn in all prescription medication to the camp nurse. 9. You are expected to leave all body piercing jewelry at home, including gages (girls can wear one pair of earrings in their ears).

10. You are expected to turn your vehicle keys over to the Camp Director if you drive to Camp. Keys will be returned when Camp is over. Access to vehicles will not be allowed during Camp. Vehicles will be parked in designated areas.

11. Absolutely no pranks at Camp. Any materials for pranks will be confiscated.

12. Absolutely no electronic equipment, including but not limited to video or electronic games, radios, or MP3 players or cell phones. Phones will be available for emergency calls only.

13. Absolutely no tobacco, alcohol, drugs, weapons (including knives) or fireworks of any kind are permitted at Camp. Use of these items at Camp will be grounds for sending a camper home at their parent's expense.

This is a suggested list of items to bring to camp. Where clothing items are listed, bring enough for 5 days; packing may be in a suitcase, duffle bag or camp box. Please clearly mark items with your name or initials.

PLEASE BRING:

Bible, Book of Mormon, book bag and notebook are mandatory.

- Lightweight sleeping bag or 2 twin size sheets and 1 light blanket.
- 1 lightweight raincoat, poncho or jacket
- □ 1 laundry bag or pillow case
- Modest one-piece swimsuit or tankini
- Flashlight
- Tennis shoes (old & worn are best)
- □ 6 pairs of socks
- Modest shorts or cutoffs
- □ 1 long sleeve shirt
- Kleenex

PERSONAL ARTICLES:

□ Toothbrush, toothpaste, 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.
- Stationery, envelopes and stamps
- Day pack or knapsack
- Alarm Clock (no clock radios)
- □ Money—canteen will be available for snacks.

LEAVE AT HOME:

- Immodest and inappropriate clothing
- Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes
- All knives, weapons or fireworks
- Electronic music devices, cell phones, etc.

- Fishing pole and lures Musical instrument
- Baseball gloves
- Candy or pop
- Video and electronic games
- Body piercing jewelry

Pillow and pillowcase

□ 1 pair of jeans/pants

□ Short sleeve shirts

Extra shoes

Underclothes

- Sandals



2015 REGISTRATION FORM

Camper's Name:		Parent's name:
Year in school, fall 2015:		Street Address:
Age:	Date of Birth:	City, ST Zip:
Street Address		Home Phone:
City, State, Zip		Parent's email:
Phone Number:		Insurance Carrier:
Camper's e-mail:		Policy Number:
T-shirt size: S M		

Will you be riding the bus? Tyes No. If not, who will be responsible for transportation to/from camp?

Campers must leave on the bus unless written permission is given.Campers will be dropped off at the Missouri Reunion on July 31. If other arrangements are needed, please specify:

Camper and Parent Pledge:

I have read the Rules of the Camp and agree to abide by them. I know that if I break the rules I may be sent home at my parent's expense, at the discretion of the Camp Director. I agree to be respectful of other campers, staff and all facilities. I will be on time and prepared for all activities. I understand that I can only leave and return to Camp for emergencies or with prior permission from the Camp Director. I understand that I must bring a Bible and Book of Mormon.

Photo Release:

I hereby grant permission to interview my child and/or to use his/her likeness in photograph(s)/video in any and all of its publications and in any and all other media, whether now known or hereafter existing, controlled by the Church of Christ Teen Camp, in perpetuity, and for other use by Church of Christ Teen Camp. I will make no monetary or other claim against Church of Christ Teen Camp for the use of the interview and/or the photograph(s) video.

Medical:

In the event of a medical emergency, by my signature below I give permission for Camp Personnel to administer and/or obtain any necessary treatment for my minor child. I give permission for camp personnel to administer over the counter mediations to my minor child as deemed necessary. **NOTE: This form must be notarized to attend Camp.**

Please list any medical conditions (allergies, asthma, etc):

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

Please include a copy of your health insurance card.

Camper's Signature:	Date:
Parent's Signature:	Date:
NOTARIZATION: Subscribed and sworn to me this day of	, 2015
Notary Public	
County of	
State of	
My Commission Expires	

CHURCH OF CHRIST TEEN CAMP 2015 CLASS SCHEDULE FORM

THE

10

NAME (Print):	PHONE:			
CLASS/ACTIVITY	TIME			
Choose one 9:00 am class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice	9:00 am	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
A Few Good Men (Ages 16+)				
Archeology of the Book of Mormon	-			
God's Creation, the Great Flood and Us				
GOOOOAAAALLLLLS! And How to Achieve Them				
Spiritual Warfare 2	-			
Prime Rib: Perfection for Women God's Way (Ages 16+)				
Peer Pressure - Who's In Charge?				
You're Baptized or Thinking About ItSo Now What?				
Book of Alma (Wars and Leadership)				
Choose one 10:05 am class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice	10:05 am	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
A Few Good Men 2 (Ages 16+)				
Advanced Archery				
Art With Curtis G				
Candy Making				
Fishing				
Hair 200				
Leather Tooling				
Building Block Nation				
Readers Theatre				
Science Experiments				
Volleyball				
Study: Camp Theme (By Age Group)	11:05 am			
Lunch	12:05 pm			
Choose one 1:15 pm class below; include a 2 nd & 3 rd choice	1:15 pm	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Aerodynamics				
Archery	_			
Baking with Mary				
Camp Bath & Body Works				
Camp Journal				
Chicks on Fire (Grilling - Girls 15+)				
Grilling: The Manly Art of Food Preparation (Boys 15+)				
Watersports				
Woodcarving				
Free Time: Swimming, Boating, Games, Quiet Time, etc.	2:05 - 4:45 pm			
Planned Group Activities Available if Desired	3:15 - 4:45 pm			
Cabin Time	4:45 - 5:30 pm			
Dinner	5:30 - 6:45 pm			
Quest Class	6:45 - 7:45 pm			
Campfire	8:00 pm			
Snack Time	9:30 pm			
Lights Out	10:30 pm			

MISSION STATEMENT

The Church of Christ TEEN CAMP is committed to edifying all who attend through spiritual education and Godly Association in a fun and moral atmosphere. Commitment to this goal will create an environment where the youth will be invited and encouraged to engage in a spiritual commitment that will help to equip them to take their place in the service of **Jesus Christ**.



CAMP DATES: Sun. July 26 - Fri. July 31

CAMP COST:

\$170.00 per camper (\$180 if paid after July 1, 2015)

CAMP BASICS

Age Group: Junior and Senior High School, Ages 12 - 18

Ministry: There will be members of COC Priesthood in attendance at all times. **Chaperons:** There will be AT LEAST one adult for every eight campers.

Lifequard: The camp provides a certified lifequard.

Food: Camp provides 3 meals and 1 evening snack per day - SNACK BAR AVAILABLE **T-Shirts:** A shirt is included in camp cost. Sizes must be received by early July.

Transportation: For those needing a ride from the KC area, a bus will be leaving the East Local at 1:30 pm on Sunday, July 26. Campers must leave on the bus unless written permission is given. Campers should NOT arrive at Camp Far Westa before 3:30 pm on 26th - camper check-in is from 3:30 to 4:30 pm at camp. Bus will return campers to the Temple Lot on Friday, July 31 at approx. 2:30 pm.



Dress up day is Tuesday - stay tuned to find out the theme this year!

Interested in a payment plan to fulfill camp fee? Contact Michelle Oldham, (contact information below.)

REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

- 1. Complete the Personal Information on the enclosed Registration Form.
- 2. Read through Camper & Parent Pledge, Photo Release, and Medical Release information. Parent and camper MUST sign form and it must be NOTARIZED!
- 3. Make a copy of your health insurance card to include with registration materials.
- 4. If you plan to ride the bus to and from Camp, check "YES" in the space provided.
- 5. Select a T-Shirt Size
- 6. On Class Schedule Form, choose a 9:00 am, 10:05 am, and 1:15 pm class preference. Indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice!
- 7. Mail in the following items WE CANNOT PROCESS YOUR REGISTRATION UNTIL WE HAVE ALL OF THESE ITEMS:
 - Registration Fee Make check payable to "Teen Camp"
 - Class Schedule Form with completed 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for each class time.
 - □ NOTARIZED Registration Form with parent and camper signatures.
 - Copy of health insurance card/information.

SEE CAMP RULES AND ITEMS TO BRING LIST ON BACK.

CAMP FAR WESTA

Directions to Camp Far Westa from Kansas City: Take Interstate 35 north to Highway 36 at Cameron, MO. Take Highway 36 west at Cameron for approximately 10 miles. There is a sign for Camp Far Westa on the right (north) side of Highway 36 and then you will turn right onto the gravel driveway entrance shortly after sign.

Mailing Address: Camp Far Westa PO Box 257 Stewartsville MO 64490 816.669.3359 MAIL FORMS AND CHECK TO: Michelle Oldham 2609 SW Wintervalley Circle Lee's Summit, MO 64081 Phone: 515.339.6226 mnjoldham@me.com

REPORT

25TH ANNUAL CHURCH OF CHRIST TEEN CAMP

BY JENNIFER MCCLURE

The 25th annual Church of Christ Teen Camp in Missouri was a blessed one in so many ways. Our theme was from Ephesians 6:11, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." From the ice-breaker activity where campers outfitted their counselors in a suit of newspaper armor, through the challenging "Rod of Iron" exercise, to a



CAMPERS CREATE A SUIT OF ARMOR FOR THEIR COUNSELORS DURING THE ICE BREAKER ACTIVITY.

very Spirit-filled final campfire on Thursday evening, the power of that theme made a strong impression on campers during every activity, class and sermon during the week.

One of the blessings we enjoyed this year was a crop of fresh faces among the teachers and counselors from across the United States; for some it was their first or second time participating at this level in recent years. They included Adam Rob (Tennessee), Riley Mengarelli (Washington), Amanda and Stephen Stratton (Michigan), Gary Jacobsen (Arizona), Sasha Gill (Arizona/Honduras), Ben Sedlak (Missouri) and Curtis Geier (Missouri). We had an awesome group of new 12-year-old campers; six fantastic young ladies.



OUR NEW 12-YEAR-OLD CAMPERS: BACK ROW - LEXI BRICKHOUSE, SHELBY HAYES, MADDY BRICKHOUSE; FRONT ROW - COUNSELOR SASHA GILL, QUINCY KELLY, AVERY PENNINGTON, EMMA GILL AND COUNSELOR SADIE COCHRAN.



2014 TEEN CAMP GRADUATES WITH STAFF MEMBER CARRIE GEIER, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, RHOADES TARBELL (NEW YORK), TRENT OLDHAM (MISSOURI), CHRIS WEEKES (IDAHO), MARY GALVAN (ARIZONA), MARISSA HAYES (TENNESSEE), AND YOLI CRULL (MISSOURI).

There was a moving graduation ceremony for our five graduating campers - see photo.



CAMPERS AND STAFF LEADING ONE OF THE CAMPFIRE SONGS.

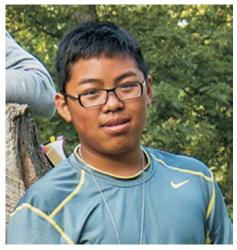
Among the list of things campers enjoy most is the camaraderie with their friends and, of course, all the fun activities such as the cabin challenges and campfire skits.

Many of them also say, though, it is the final campfire service and spiritual classes they appreciate deeply. Camper Van McClure, age 13, said his favorite class



SPIRITUAL WARFARE.

this year was Spiritual Warfare. "I learned a lot about what it really means to 'put on the whole armor of God' - we are in a battle for our soul," said McClure. "I feel more confident about how to stay away from and to fight temptation. It was really neat learning from Stephen Stratton, who was actually in the military and taught us a lot about strategy that can protect us both physically and spiritually. I have to intentionally stay close to Christ and my Church of Christ family to be successful."



VAN McCLURE

In an interview for the video class by Camper Mikaela Grim, Boy's Cabin #3 Counselor Riley Mengarelli talked about why he wanted to come back and help support Teen Camp as a C.I.T. and later a Counselor. "This camp did a lot for me as a kid. I grew a lot spiritually even though this is only a week long," said Mengarelli. "I learned a whole bunch about God and met a lot of really neat people, and so I wanted to give back to this camp. Besides that, I like being goofy and having fun with the kids. I love our youth and the kids in the church. That's what made me want to come back and be a counselor."



COUNSELOR RILEY MENGARELLI AND BOYS CABIN #3 PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BACK ROW - ZACH BARTLETT, TRISTAN YELLOWHAIR, RILEY MENGARELLI AND NATHAN YATES; MIDDLE ROW - BRADEN OLDHAM, ISAAC CRANE, CODY HEDRICK AND JEREMIAH YATES; FRONT - C.I.T. ADAM ROBB.

Following Camp, at the Missouri Reunion, there was a very nice celebration of the 25 years of Teen Camp featuring photos, camp journals and videos down through the years, as well as a display of the many different camp-issued T-shirts. Many current and former campers also shared their fondest memories and testimonies about camp.

If you are 12-18 years of age, or have a child/grandchild/niece or nephew that age - please mark your calendar for the 2015 Church of Christ Teen Camp, July 26-31. If you or your church local would like to make a donation to help provide a scholarship(s) for a camper or provide other resources to support the camp, please contact Jeff and Michelle Oldham at <u>mnjoldham@me.com</u> or by calling 515-339-6226.

REPORT

2014 Yucatan Youth Camp

Uly 28, 2014 Dear brothers and sisters, Thank you so much for your prayers for our youth camp.

This year the theme was "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). We had 50 young people in attendance. We appreciate the interest showed by all the young people of the classes and in all the activities. We spent four wonderful days with them. I also appreciate the interest of the families that attended with us, supporting the youth. We rented a place close to the town of Dzan, where we had the first local here in the Yucatan peninsula. I thank God for all the talented people that we have, especially the staff and all the young people that organized

this beautiful camp. Also for the ministry that were present in this beautiful event. Again thank you for your continued prayers for the work here.

> May God bless you each. Your servant, Apostle Placido K. Matu



REPORT

Youth Forum

Youth Forum was held Saturday evening, the 20th of December, at a facility that had been rented in Merida, Yucatan. This was attended by 37 youth from various locals. The theme was "Preparing for Marriage."

There were four Elders, Esau from Dzan, Damiel, Felipe from Uyalc, and Ken from Phoenix, on a panel. Each Elder took a few minutes to give answers to questions asked by Brother Placido.

The presentation was well received, and at the conclusion of the panel discussion several of the young people blessed us with a special song.

We then took a short break and refreshments were served. Then the young people and the 50 to 60 adults who had accompanied their children and grandchildren gathered for a sermon by Elder Ken Oar. After the sermon there was time for socializing.

In connection to the Youth Forum, the following Monday evening several of the ministry and their wives met at the home of Placido's sister, Nely, and her husband Angel, for a meal and presentation by Elder Ken Oar on some ways we can encourage the youth in our home locals. The following is the format followed for this presentation:

EYES FOCUSED ON CHRIST

By Elder Ken Oar

SINGLE YOUNG PEOPLE

Marriage does not guarantee happiness. Marriage is good and honorable (Hebrews 13:4). I would encourage you to be married. BUT we do not need to be married to be happy or have a fulfilling life. This should not be the focus of your life.

The main purpose of your life now, and in the future, is to be preparing to serve Christ.

It does not matter how old you are or if you are married or single; this must be the main focus of your life.

What should you be doing in this time of your life?

I am going to divide this into two parts: How can you prepare to serve God? How can you prepare for marriage?

HOW CAN YOU PREPARE TO SERVE GOD?

Dreparing to serve God you need to:

- Learn in your youth to serve Christ.
- Study the scriptures.
- Pray daily.
- Get involved by looking for things you can do to serve.
- Get involved in your local or mission.
- ▶ Take on responsibilities.

Maybe you can volunteer to teach Sunday school; sing in the choir; teach young children to sing; get together with other young people and do special presentations at church. Use this time in your life to learn, be involved in young people studies and activities.

Mentor a child.



- Be a friend to someone who is having difficulties at home, at school, or socially.
- Make sure you are at church; set the example for other young people and adults.
- Visit the sick, the elderly, and other young people.
- Do not let life steal your time.

Do not get too involved in the world. Satan's biggest tool is to get us to waste our time. We end up not having time to serve.

Cell phones, internet, and computers are great tools for good, BUT they are also Satan's tools to take us away from our service to God. Be careful how much time you spend using these tools every day. Always be careful what you use these tools for. Are you using them to serve God or to be involved in things of the world?

HOW CAN YOU PREPARE FOR MARRIAGE?

t is natural to be looking for a husband or a wife.

 You should be preparing to be the best husband or wife you can be.

Developing the characteristics that would be attractive to the opposite sex. You need to look at marriage through the eyes of the one you might marry.

- What is a man looking for in a wife?
- What is a woman looking for in a husband? You need to be developing those characteristics in your life.
- Marriage is not a fifty-fifty union; it requires 100% from both to make it work.

Your husband should make you a better woman. Your wife should make you a better man. You should be praying that God will lead you to the man or woman who will be a good husband or wife for you.

Allow God to lead you.
Too many times we allow our hormones to



dictate our decisions. Trust God. Believe that His plan for your life is the one that will make you happy.

What qualities are you looking for in a husband or wife?

Dating is for the purpose of leading to marriage. When you start dating it should be to a person that you would consider spending your life with. Get to know that person in group activities.

Some qualities you might want to look for when considering marriage:

- Does this person want to be a servant of God?
- How does this person treat his/her family, es-

pecially a family member of the opposite sex?

- Does this person make you feel secure?
- What are his/her goals in life?
- Is he/she willing to do what God tells them to do?

Are you willing to trust God? Are you willing to put your life in His hands and know that the plan He has for your life is the best one? We can only be truly happy if we allow God to direct our lives.



NEWS

PHOENIX Local News



By DiAnn Hedrick

Appy New Year to all of you from all of us in Phoenix! I hope you have all been blessed with the start of this New Year.

So much has happened over the last few months I don't know where to start. I would like to begin by reminding each of you to pray for all our missionaries out in the field; whether it be in this country or anywhere around the world. The work they do is so essential, but increasingly dangerous. Remember, too, to pray for all those who continue to have medical problems and numerous other daily concerns with jobs, family, finances and just the stresses of everyday life. We are blessed to know that regardless of our problems here on earth, there is something so much greater and beautiful waiting for us if we follow on the right path.

Many of you were able to attend the wedding on January 2, of Br. Caleb and Sr. Amy Case (Yates). What a wonderful event, albeit very chilly!

The Kidd family was blessed with



Amy (Yates) & Caleb Case

the birth of their first child, born Dec. 3, 2014, daughter Harper Rose Kidd.

What would our congregations be without children, and how impor-

tant it is for those children to be involved in the church. As we often hear, children are the future! At the Phoenix local, our children have a variety of ways to participate in these



Harper Kidd

activities. Each and every Sunday they have the chance to attend Sunday School. I have to admit that I don't know of many kids who aren't a part of this very important activity.

Thanks to our Sr. Michelle, there aren't too many who aren't already polishing their vocal talents. Perhaps, had I had someone like Sr. Michelle or our Sr. Manon from the Temple Lot at an early age, I too would be up there singing my heart out. Or maybe not, if you have ever heard me sing the Cat in the Window to my nephews! Thank goodness for children like our little Sr. Rebekah Oar, brave enough to get up there all by herself and sing away for the Lord and congregation.

There are so many other activities to keep our children engaged and forming relationships that will last a lifetime. Christmas programs, game



Rebekah Oar



Sunday School

nights, Young People, Junior Young People. The opportunities are endless, and all possible due to parents who give of their time and talents.

I wish you all the best in this com-

ing year and pray that God blesses each and every one of you.

NOTICES

APRIL GENERAL CONFERENCE 2015

As instructed by the 1964 April Ministers' Conference be advised that the 2015 April General Conference (name changed per 2006 conference action) will begin on Monday, April 6, 2015; "Conference Sunday," beginning Sunday, April 5, 2015. The first business session will begin at 9:00 a.m. Monday, April 6, 2015, at the General Church Building on the Temple Lot. According to action taken during the 2014 April General Conference, two days of fasting and prayer will be held Friday, April 3rd, and Saturday, April 4th, 2015, at the General Church Building on the Temple Lot.

All committee reports should be forwarded to the Conference Secretary <u>at least two (2)</u> <u>weeks in advance of the beginning of the first</u> <u>business session</u>. As is always the case, it is requested that any business to be placed before the 2015 April General Conference be <u>forwarded in advance of the first business meet-</u> <u>ing</u> (please) so that document packets may be completed for distribution.

NOTE: Please address all reports, i.e. missionary reports, etc., to the General Conference of the Church of Christ. This will help your Secretary distinguish periodic missionary reports from those intended for the General Conference and their inclusion in the Minutes.

NOTICE

The Council of Apostles has appointed Sister Rhea Housknecht as the interim General Church Secretary. Brother Harvey E. Seibel has faithfully served as Secretary for many years, but he is unable to continue at this time. Please send any correspondence for the General Church Secretary to Sister Rhea Housknecht at <u>cofcbo@sbcglobal.net</u> or mail your correspondence directly to P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64051, Attn: General Church Secretary.

Sincerely, Council of Apostles Duane L. Ely Secretary

REUNION NOTICE

AKWESASNE NEW YORK LOCAL We welcome all our brothers and sisters to fellowship and worship with us starting 7 pm Friday, July 10th, through Sunday afternoon, July 12, 2015. Contact: Brandon Tarbell (518) 358-9153 btarbell@thetmg.com

CCEG

The Church of Christ Email Group is a church member-only (and spouses, even if not a member) email communication group existing to keep the general church membership informed about prayer needs, blessings, and more. It does not have officially elected management (member volunteer only), although it regularly functions for the Church of Christ for missionary news and various announcements, like state rallies and reunions.

If you have email capability and are not a member of the CCEG, you may join by first visiting the Web site at <u>www.cceg.net</u> and after reading about us on the home page, click the link in the left sidebar, "Join the CCEG" and follow the simple instructions.

If any existing members feel you are not getting CCEG emails as expected, contact the CCEG manager (below) so you can be verified. Rhea Housknecht CCEG Manager ccegmgr@gmail.com

THE HOPE of ZION

The Board of Publications has made available a copy of the report from the Committee to Study Zion entitled, *The Hope of Zion*. Contact Elder Robert Oldham at <u>rwoldham1@sbcglobal.net</u>, or any member of the Board.

AVA WEBSITE

On the Church of Christ AVA web site you will be able to access media such as archived sermons in video and audio formats, past issues of *Zion's Advocate*, searchable Bible and Book of Mormon studies and Sunday School lessons. Real time live streamed sermons are broadcast every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. central time, which can also be accessed from the site. We invite you to take a look and discover what a useful tool this site can be in expanding your knowledge and faith. The address is www.cocsermons.net.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE

The General Church Correspondence Committee would like to extend the opportunity for any who wish to communicate through written correspondence to contact one of the following three committee members:

MARLENE COBB (Chairman) 725 S. Pickwick Springfield, MO 65802 JUNE HAINES 11589 Genuine Rd Clare, MI 48617 PAT MCCANN 18808 N. 30th St. Phoenix, AZ 85050

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 addresses are listed on the inside front cover.



Church of Christ

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CHAN To insure your membership records remained and return it to the Church of Christ (Temp MO 64051-0472, or e-mail the information of the info	ole Lot), Attn: General C	le when moving or relocating, hurch Recorder, P.O. Box 472,	Independence, ily, please. ADDRESS?
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