

# Garden Park Ward Newsletter



## January 17, 2021

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*"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." John 8:12*

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Years ago, I fell in love with the story of Anne of Green Gables, by L. M. Montgomery. For those few of you who may not be familiar with it, it is a period piece set in 1896, when an elderly brother and sister, Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert (who live together as they never married), decide to adopt an orphan boy to help out around their ancestral farm of Green Gables. It is located on the outskirts of the Canadian town of Avonlea, and evolves on the stunning and whimsical Prince Edward Island.

When a scrawny 12-year old orphan girl, Anne, shows up instead of the requested boy, all sorts of adventures ensue. Humor and common sense abound through Anne and the Cuthbert's growth together.

As I consider the passing of our challenging Covid year, and the new year ahead, and my gratitude for the Savior and his gifts of love, light, and the Atonement, I thought of Anne's challenging life, and her simple approach to making mistakes.

In this vignette, Anne, though fighting a bad head cold, wants to bake a cake for expected guests for dinner. As she carefully follows the recipe, without being able to smell the difference, with disastrous results, she accidentally selects a bottle of liniment instead of the intended vanilla stored in the same cupboard. Montgomery writes:

*Anne permitted herself to be led down and comforted, reflecting that it was really providential that Mrs. Allan was a kindred spirit. Nothing more was said about the liniment cake, and when the guests went away Anne found that she had enjoyed the evening more than could have been expected, considering that terrible incident. Nevertheless, she sighed deeply.*

*"Marilla, isn't it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?"*

*"I'll warrant you'll make plenty in it," said Marilla. "I never saw you [bested] for making mistakes, Anne."*

*"Yes, and well I know it," admitted Anne mournfully. "But have you ever noticed one encouraging thing about me, Marilla? I never make the same mistake twice."*

*"I don't know as that's much benefit when you're always making new ones."*

I often feel like Anne, always making new mistakes, and glad that tomorrow is a new day, (or a new year) with no mistakes in it. More importantly, I am profoundly grateful for our Savior's Gift, that allows us to give our best and let him do the rest. May this new year be filled with love, light, and joyous growth. May you feel the Savior's love each day.

Our bishopric sends our good humor, warmth and love,  
Bishop Graham and the Garden Park Ward Bishopric

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### Sunday Service Announcement—January 17<sup>th</sup>

The health and safety of our most vulnerable ward members continues to be our top priority. We continue to make periodic adjustments to procedures in response to changing conditions and guidance from church and government leaders. Most recently, we moved to broadcasting church services from the chapel, with the vast majority of ward members participating from home via zoom. The feedback we received has been largely positive, with most participants enjoying the opportunity to worship with all family members in the safety and comfort of their homes.

We have received instruction from stake leadership to provide the option to attend in person for those who wish. In response, those wishing to attend church in the chapel are invited to do so. We will continue to broadcast Sacrament meeting via zoom. Given the very high coronavirus transmission rate, we anticipate that the vast majority of us will elect to continue participating via zoom for now, but anyone wishing to attend in person will be most welcome.

So we can plan accordingly, if you would like to attend Sacrament meeting in the chapel, please let a member of the bishopric know by call or text. Those attending will need to observe infection control measures including social distancing, wearing face masks, using hand hygiene and staying home when ill.

Whether you join by zoom or in person, we look forward to worshipping with you.

Bishop Graham, 801.514.7994  
Randy Peterson, 781.720.9108  
Chris Furstenuau, 801.330.1968  
Mark Hindley, 801.599.8175

[Click here to join January 17<sup>th</sup> Sacrament Meeting](#)

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**Sunday Service Program—January 17<sup>th</sup>**

## GARDEN PARK WARD

*-Sacrament Meeting Program-*

THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

*January 17, 2021, 10am*

Conducting..... Randy Peterson  
Organist..... Judianne Peterson  
Opening Hymn (organ only)..... *The Happy Day at Last Has Come, No. 32*  
Invocation ..... TBA  
Ward Business ..... Brother Peterson  
Speaker ..... Olivia Curtis  
Recorded Musical Number ..... *"Where Can I Turn for Peace?"*  
Roger Thompson, Rick Gaykowski, Bel Kerig, Judianne Peterson  
*Accompanied by Lois Waltman, piano*  
Speaker ..... Tanner Curtis  
Closing Hymn (organ only) ..... *Come unto Him, No. 114*  
Benediction..... TBA

*Zoom broadcast is concluded*

*Sacrament Hymn(organ only) .. Father in Heaven, We Do Believe, No. 180*

*Administration of the Sacrament*

*As [Jesus Christ's] followers, we should treat one another and all of God's children with respect, dignity, and love.*

*No political or other affiliation should supersede that covenant and sacred responsibility."*

*--Official Statement of the First Presidency & Quorum of the Twelve Apostles*

*15 January 2021*

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### Relief Society

This week I've been thinking a lot about our return to "normalcy" with the vaccine making its way through our most vulnerable population. I've dreamed of travel, restaurants, sending my kids to school and visits with family members that we have long missed. I look forward to that day. But as I have pondered the excitement of a return to "normal" life, I've also realized that there is much I would prefer not to return to. The overtaking busyness of life is at the very top of my list. The constant going from here to there... the practices, parties, meetings, instrument lessons etc. I have so appreciated the slower pace at which our family has functioned. We have connected, prayed together, eaten meals together more in the last year than maybe ever. It has been a blessing. I have realized that while anxious to return to "normal" life there are just some things I will make sure are never "normal" for my family and I again.

Jeffery R. Holland said

"We look back to claim the embers from glowing experiences but not the ashes. And when we have learned what we need to learn and have brought with us the best that we have experienced, then we look ahead and remember that faith is always pointed toward the future. Faith always has to do with blessings and truths and events that will yet be efficacious in our lives."

I pray that you dear sisters are feeling eager and hopeful looking forward too. I am so looking forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together again.

As always we are available and eager to help in any way you may need. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Love, Amy Furstenau and the GP Relief Society

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### Elders Quorum

A couple of days before Christmas, I got an email from my best friend in high school. He had forwarded a message from the organizing committee for the "Clarence Central High School Class of '71 50th reunion." That was our high school in the suburbs of Buffalo, NY. My name was on a list of classmates they weren't able to locate, so he asked me to make myself known to them. He also suggested we attend the reunion together. Since I haven't attended any of my class reunions, I thought this may be my one and only chance to renew old acquaintances, most of whom I have forgotten. As I looked down the list of those they couldn't locate, I remembered someone that I haven't thought about in nearly 50 years, and I saw her name on the list of those they couldn't locate. Gwen was the only African-American student in our class. We became friends through our fathers, who had united in an effort to educate our community about issues of racial inequality and discrimination. They didn't get a very warm reception from our neighbors, but they got to know each other, and I got to know Gwen.

I learned through my father that Gwen's family was met with open hostility when they moved into our town. They received death threats, vandalism, and indignities of all kinds. Yet they persevered and achieved a certain level of grudging acceptance in our community. Gwen was unfailingly cheerful and friendly. She was the editor of our school newspaper, a member of the year book staff, and a student council officer. We weren't close friends, but I considered her a friend. I now wonder if she had any close friends. Who could she confide in about the challenges of her life? Who would be able to relate to her experience? It was probably easier to appear happy and untroubled, so the White kids wouldn't be uncomfortable. Now, all these years later, I try to imagine what it must have been like to be her in our school and our community. None of her peers could understand the discrimination, the contempt, the resentment, and the isolation she must have endured. It's no wonder that later in life she immersed herself in the Black community of Baltimore and became a social justice film producer, public radio producer, and teacher. At least I think so. After some online sleuthing, I think I found her, but I won't know for sure until I hear from her. I found an email address for an organization where she served on the board. I emailed them and I hope they forward the email to her, and I hope she is indeed the Gwen I knew in high school. In hindsight I wish I had been a better friend to Gwen. I was so caught up in my own striving for popularity and acceptance, that I didn't look any deeper into her life.

As hard as I try, I will never know what it is like to be a Black person, period. I don't know what it was like to be the only Black person in my high school so many years ago. Lately, I have tried to imagine how people would treat me at the store, or look at me walking in our neighborhood, or driving on our streets, if I was Black. I know how I felt as the only White person in a soul food restaurant, and I was treated just fine. I have worked to recognize the racism in myself, a useful but uncomfortable exercise. Since our church leaders have stressed overcoming and opposing racism, and we live in a time that demands our attention to this issue, I recommend the article by Darius Gray available on the church website entitled "Healing the Wounds of Racism." This is the link: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/inspiration/healing-the-wounds-of-racism?lang=eng>

We love you and we pray for the peace that comes from the Savior.

The Garden Park Ward Elders Quorum

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please let us know how your ministering families are doing. See the email from last week for details.

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### Ward Joint Zoom Meeting

This week's meeting is sponsored by our Sunday School and features Norm Younker as our presenter.

**January 17, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.**

Come Follow Me: [Doctrine & Covenants 2; Joseph Smith History 1:27-65](#),  
"The Hearts of the Children Shall Turn to Their Fathers"

Garden Park Ward is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

[Click here to join the January 17<sup>th</sup> Ward Zoom Meeting](#)

If you're having challenges connecting to Zoom here's a link to a tutorial to help get connected <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-meeting>.

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## Happy Birthday!

January 2–William Maddox  
January 2–Stephen Van  
January 3–Samuel Johnson  
January 5–Emily Lund  
January 6–Synthia Donohoe  
January 6–Maggie Merchant  
January 6–Ashley Perry  
January 8–Allison Drinkwater Johnson  
January 8 - Virginia Menlove  
January 9–Evangeline Johnson  
January 9–Judianne Peterson  
January 11–David Crook  
January 11–Daysha Moore  
January 11–James Rabdau  
January 11–Theo Sproul  
January 12 -Brock Miskin  
January 13–Marcy Mcdonald  
January 13–Casey Moore  
January 15–Andrea Miller  
January 15–Marty Patch  
January 16–Milo Hobbs  
January 16–Ashley Spatafore

January 17- Ronald Christensen  
January 18–Kris Hale  
January 18–Carly Huchendorf  
January 18–Abe Shaw  
January 18–Richard Young  
January 19–Camila Binks  
January 20- Mary Ann Call  
January 21–Kim Beglarian  
January 21–Brady Pulsipher  
January 22–Eva Harrison  
January 22–Terry Long  
January 23–Jared Hobbs  
January 23–Sophie Jensen  
January 25–Maxwell Musgrove  
January 25–Terri Winkler  
January 26–Tiffany Rasmuson  
January 28–Shelley Young  
January 29–Jil Goorman  
January 29–John Helm  
January 29–Ruby Williamson  
January 31–Henry Cummings

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### Ward Announcements

**From the GP Ward music committee** Please reach out to Roger Thompson at (385) 226-3317 if you or your loved ones would like to share a musical number for Sacrament meeting. Currently we are recording the music beforehand and then playing the recording over zoom.

**Seminary Registration** Parents of entering 9th grade students and youth—please enroll in seminary when you register for school next year!

**Brighton Girls Camp** will soon accept applications for counselors, specialists, and other staff members. For additional information, Young Adult age women interested in applying should visit [brightongirls-camp.org](http://brightongirls-camp.org)

**Ward Conference** Bonneville Stake Presidency has scheduled our annual Ward Conference for Sunday, February 28, 2021. Updates and more details to follow.

**Upcoming Lecture by Armand Johansen: The Gathering of Israel** Wednesday, January 27th at 1:00 p.m. in the Bonneville Stake Center chapel. The lecture will be podcast and posted to the stake website under Relief Society shortly after the live presentation.

**2021 Come Follow Me Manuals** The distribution of "Come, Follow Me" manuals for 2021 is underway. If you haven't received a manual and would like one please contact Ralph Robbins by text or phone, 801-664-6700.

**Sacrament Administration** From our Area President, Elder Holzapfel: "The sacrament can be offered to families who have not had the opportunity in their homes . . . The First Presidency has authorized the administration of the sacrament at least monthly." The sacrament may still be blessed and passed by your own family members that are able to do so. If you would like the sacrament brought to your home, please contact Relief Society President Kathy Younker (801.971.1504) or Elders Quorum President Doug Bunker (801.910.7128), and they will help make arrangements for you to receive it.

**Temple recommends** continue to be available. Even though temples are currently closed, our Stake Presidency is encouraging all to keep their recommends current. Recommend interviews are being held by phone at this time, both at the ward and stake level. If yours is expired, please contact Mark Hindley at (801) 599-8175 to set up a phone interview with the Bishop. In addition, for years the Stake Presidency followed a practice of first come first serve for temple recommend interviews on Sunday afternoons. They have eliminated that practice during the pandemic. The current procedure, which is in effect until further notice, is for the member to contact either President Parker or President Patch and directly schedule a renewal interview. They should contact them via cell phone, by sending a text message. (Their numbers are in LDS Tools.)

There are many great resources available at [churchofjesuschrist.org](http://churchofjesuschrist.org) for enlightenment and studying the gospel.