

Garden Park Ward Newsletter

March 7, 2021



"Learn of me, and listen to my words; walk in the meekness of my Spirit, and you shall have peace in me." D&C 19:23

Dear Garden Park Ward,

My brother-in-law recently shared with me the words of a prayer that made my jaw drop:

"O God, the Eternal Father, Thou knowest all things. Thou seest the course Thy people have been led to take in political matters. They have, in many instances, joined the two great national parties. Campaigns have been entered upon, elections have been held, and much party feeling has been engendered. Many things have been said and done which have wounded the feelings of the humble and the meek, and which have been a cause of offense. We beseech Thee, in Thine infinite mercy and goodness, to forgive Thy people wherein they have sinned in this direction. Show them, O Father, their faults and their errors, that they may see the same in the light of Thy Holy Spirit, and repent truly and sincerely, and cultivate that spirit of affection and love which Thou art desirous that all the children of men should entertain one for another, and which Thy Saints, above all others, should cherish. Enable Thy people hereafter to avoid bitterness and strife, and to refrain from words and acts in political discussions that shall create feeling and grieve Thy Holy Spirit."

Although seemingly written for our day, this is actually part of the dedicatory prayer of the Salt Lake Temple, offered by President Wilford Woodruff in 1893. At the time, Utah was striving for statehood, grappling with military threats and supreme court rulings against the church, and dealing with labor and social unrest. The people were horribly divided into two political parties that were openly hostile to each other. Things were really bad; and then they got better.

As we mark one year of COVID disruptions and reflect on the tumultuous year we've had, I take comfort in remembering that none of this is truly 'unprecedented.' Pandemics come and go. Political strife waxes and wanes. Evil's grasp is temporary. But the principles taught by President Woodruff—forgiveness, repentance, affection, love—are timeless. They'll see us through every challenge, just as they did in 1893.

I think we're incredibly blessed to have a prophet today who reminds us of the timeless principles we must embrace to navigate the troubles of our day. This is a time for hope, not only because Spring is coming and COVID cases are going down, but because the gospel gives us the formula for recovery and inner peace.

Happy Spring!
Randy Peterson and the Garden Park Bishopric

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Sunday Service Program—March 7th

GARDEN PARK WARD

-Sacrament Meeting Program-
THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

March 7, 2021, 10am

Conducting.....Bishop Rick Graham
Pianist Bonnie Wilson
Opening Hymn (piano only) *How Gentle God's Commands, No. 125*
Invocation TBA
Ward Business Bishop Graham

Bearing of Testimonies

Closing Hymn (piano only) *Sweet Hour of Prayer, No. 142*
Benediction.....TBA

Zoom broadcast is concluded

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

Administration of the Sacrament

*"Heavenly Father has shown me that I am more than
my insecurities and that I am capable of
being an instrument in His hands."
—Elena Aburto, *The Antidote to Anxiety*, 02/26/21*

[Click here to join March 7th Sacrament Meeting](#)

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Relief Society

"As Jesus and his disciples enter the Garden of Gethsemane, he tells them: "Stay awake, watch!" The implication is that they're about to learn something, a lesson is to be taught.

But, as we know, they didn't stay awake, they fell asleep, not because the hour was late and they were tired after a long day, nor even because of the wine they'd drunk at the supper. They fell asleep, Luke says, "out of sheer sorrow". They fell asleep because they were disconsolate, disappointed, confused, depressed. And, because of that sleep, they missed the lesson they were supposed to learn from watching Jesus in his prayer. What was that lesson?" -Ronald Rolheiser

As I read this quote earlier this week I couldn't shake the feeling that at times the Lord has been nudging me to "stay awake" when I just wanted to sleep through the trials of the last year. What were the lessons I missed? I pray that I can have the strength to stay awake for the lessons and the learning and the growth.

"Whenever the complexity of life so confuses us that we no longer feel any obligation to take care of anyone beyond ourselves, Whenever we feel so overwhelmed by the fact that God seems silent, withdrawn, and unwilling to intervene and clean up the world that we can no longer imagine the existence of God, we have fallen asleep out of sorrow, just as the disciples did in the Garden of Gethsemane."

Sisters, let us stay awake!

We love you and we are here for you always. Please never hesitate to reach out to us for anything you may stand in need of.

Amy Furstenau and the GP Relief Society

Godspeed Christine...

Christine Paongo has moved to Rose Park to be closer to family. She is a dedicated and loving mother and grandmother and brought those gifts to our ward family. True to her nature she served on the compassionate service committee for years. (I don't remember a funeral that Christine didn't contribute to.) She also served in Relief Society and Primary Presidencies. But what I will miss the most is her unaffected tender testimonies full of grace and gratitude. She was warm, accepting and wonderful to all and will be greatly missed. We'll miss cute Milli too! Thanks Christine!

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Relief Society

Stake Announcements

The Stake is offering a new **Emotional Reliance Class** (similar to the self reliance class) for anyone or anyone with family members dealing with mental illness. It will be a 10 week course meeting once a week for 2 hours. Meet at the Stake center on March 14th at 7:00 pm if you are interested. The lesson material for the class [can be found here](#).



Prints of the glorious Christ in Gethsemane stained glass that resides in the Bonneville Stake Center are available for purchase.

Print Size: 11 x 14

Cost: \$5 per copy

Order Deadline: March 17th

Click the link below to place an order:

[ORDER FORM](#)

Distribution Date: Before Easter (April 4th)

Payment on delivery: Cash or check made out to WenDee Russon

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Elders Quorum

In a regional training conducted by Elder Neil L. Anderson in January, he urged elders quorum members to be more open "speaking of our testimonies." He said, "We need to be more open about our spirituality." He warned of the "Agnosticism Slide," which he probably defined, but I missed. I think I lived through my own version of an agnosticism slide many years ago. If I remember correctly Elder Anderson was concerned about the agnosticism slide that our children and grandchildren could suffer if we don't share our testimonies and more openly talk about our spiritual experiences and values. Elder Anderson said, "Men have to have their own testimony and light." He encouraged elders quorums to work on how to talk about it, experience it and see it. His comments reminded me of how seldom I and other brothers share our testimonies and experiences with our loved ones. Fortunately, we are blessed to have several men among us who seem to carry the spiritual load for the rest of us. Latter-Day Saint women have always been the bulwark of spirituality in the church. In these last days our families and loved ones will need to hear from us and see us living our testimonies. Maybe we can be more explicit about our convictions and maybe we can do more to share them with those closest to us. We love you and pray for you and your families.

Doug Bunker and the Garden Park Ward Elders Quorum

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please reach out to your ministering families and anyone else you feel moved to call.
- Thank you for your generous contribution of time and effort with locking and unlocking the ward grounds.
- We have a one more welfare assignment in March. Please let Doug Bunker know if you can help out (801-910-7128).

Friday, March 19th, (3 people needed)
7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
Welfare Square Cannery (Annual Production)
700 South 751 West

Welfare Square has shared the following guidelines for serving in 2021:

Please **Do**:

- Wear mask to and during scheduled shift.
- Wear close-toed shoes.
- Wear long pants. (No shorts or capris)
- Be sixteen years or older to serve. There is no age cap.
- Sign in and out when serving.

Please **Don't**:

- Wear jewelry, watches, rings or bracelets.
- Wear earbuds.
- Wear hearing aids.
- Volunteer if you are sick, have been sick or within close proximity to someone who has been sick within the past fourteen days.

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Primary



Primary is Back!



We are excited to begin Primary again on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month at 12:30 via Zoom! We will start with opening exercises and music and then do a break out to Junior and Senior Primary lessons.

Our next meeting will be held on **March 7th** at 12:30 pm and we so look forward to seeing all of the sweet Primary children again!!

Garden Park Primary Zoom Meeting
1st and 3rd Sundays of every month
12:30 pm

<https://utah-health.zoom.us/j/98363898058?pwd=VzlodjZNNXI4b1RaU2dCcXV3RTNndz09>

Meeting ID: 983 6389 8058
Passcode: 661972

Dear Parents:

Please print off this page for each child you have in Primary. Markers and clipboards are coming in the mail for Sunbeams through CTR7 from their teachers. Having something to do will help keep their attention during class.

[Click here for lesson coloring page to print](#)

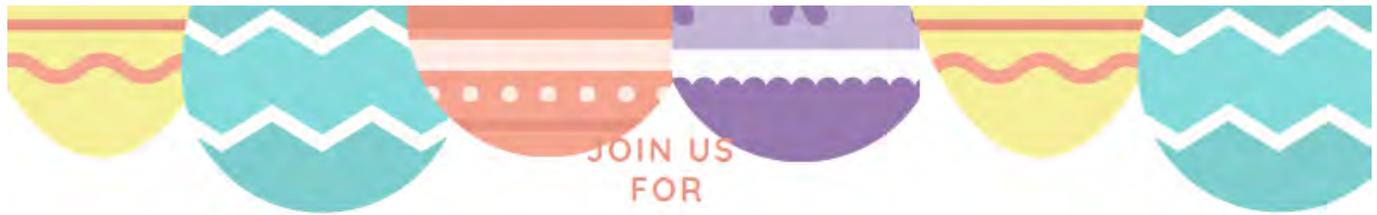
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Primary



JOIN US
FOR

The Garden Park Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for a fun Easter Egg Hunt.
Please RSVP and bring your own basket.
Remember to wear your mask and keep social distance :)

March 27, 2021
10:30-12:00

RSVP
801-259-7835



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2nd Hour Ward Joint Zoom Meeting

This week's Zoom meeting is sponsored by our Sunday School and features Emily Merchant as our presenter.

March 7, 2021 at 11:15 p.m.

[Come Follow Me: Doctrine & Covenants 20-22, "The Rise of the Church of Christ"](#)

[Click here to join the March 7th 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!

March 2–Eva Nicoli
March 3–Sheila Privett
March 3–Benjamin Zuro
March 3–Nathan Zuro
March 6–Brandalynn Davis
March 7–Sherry Taylor
March 7–Priscilla Vaifo'ou
March 9–Cathy Graham
March 9–Peter Harriosn
March 9–Liam Kerig
March 10–David Anderson
March 10– Diane Crotchett
March 10–Harry Daniels
March 11–Thomas Mckean
March 13–Laura Bergen
March 13–Jean Paul Brummer

March 13–Amie Williamson
March 14–John Evans
March 17–Jake Orton
March 18–Kenneth Breinholt
March 18–Caroline Phillips
March 18–James Roberts
March 21–Michael Debenham
March 21–Robert Maxfield
March 23–Helen Davis
March 24–Bennett Curtis
March 24–Kent Orton
March 25–Ann Robison
March 27–Penny Patch
March 29–Christine Mitchell
March 30–Mae Harrison
March 31–John Jensen

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Ward Announcements

Temple recommends - We encourage all members 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, Garden Park Ward Executive Secretary (801.599.8175) to set up a phone interview with the Bishop. For your stake interview, please contact Scott Hagen, Stake Executive Secretary, to schedule an interview (801.824.0640).

2021 Youth Music Festival Youth from around the world are invited to watch this virtual global concert on March 17th at 6:00 p.m. MT. Messages, music & performances are focused on the 2021 youth theme, "A Great Work". The pre-recorded concert can be viewed on [Strive to Be YouTube channel](#) or the [Church's Live Broadcasts page](#).

Feed Utah Food Drive— Saturday March 20th, volunteers needed from ages 8 & up to distribute door hangers, collect nonperishable donations and deliver donations to designated drop-off sites.

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.

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.

There are many great resources available at churchofjesuschrist.org for enlightenment and studying the gospel.