

ZION'S PATH

Volume 13, Issue 4 - July/August 2017

Since 2005, a publication of the
Church of Jesus Christ - Oak Grove Restoration Branch

"... and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths ..." Isaiah 2:3

CMRB Reunion 2017: Embrace the Truth

— by Eric English

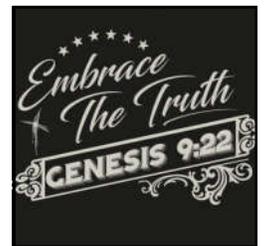
This year at reunion, like all of the previous ones, was a great opportunity for growth and development for all those who were able to participate. Close to 200 registered for the week with nearly 400 in attendance on Sunday morning. Jared and Katie Mulheron were the directors; and, along with Chris Capps, who served as the reunion pastor, they put together an exciting week of daily themes and activities to assist in our walk with Christ.

In addition to the classes and evening preaching of God's Word, this year's activities included a talent show on Thursday night, a lunchtime picnic and games on Wednesday, and an epic waterslide down the embankment of the lower lake. The children got to have junior church two evenings and the Jr. High and Sr. High had a late night campfire by the upper lake while also watching God's fireworks from a distant storm rolling in. Some of our families enjoyed some overnight excitement in their tents and campers from that same storm.



Odessa Hills Campground
Dining Hall at Sunset

God blessed all those who made the effort to go, as many shared in the closing commitment service on Saturday morning. If you weren't able to this year, would you perhaps make it a matter of prayer and preparation to attend in the future? I know that you too would be blessed.



High School Choir at Reunion

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The Depths of Humility

--- by Elder Don Cutshall, Associate Pastor

“Nevertheless, they did fast and pray oft, and did wax stronger and stronger in their humility, and firmer and in the faith of Christ, unto the filling their souls with joy and consolation, yea, even to the purifying and the sanctification of their hearts, which sanctification cometh because of their yielding their hearts unto God.”
(Helaman 2:31)

The theme for July comes to us as a question, “Am I Willing to Truly Enter Into the Depths of Humility?” Our patriarchs have said humility is the natural consequence of our coming to understand just how much God loves us and that His hand is in all things.

“In nothing doth man offend God, or against none is His wrath kindled, save those who confess not His hand in all things, and obey not His commandments.” (D&C 59:5b)

God doesn't give us life once and for all and then leave. He gives us life moment by moment with a constant working of His mighty power. Humility, the place of total dependence on God, is our primary duty and highest good.

Pride, the loss of humility, is the root of every sin and evil. When did the devil and his angels start down the road of disobedience that led to them being cast down from heaven into darkness? It was when they began to be fo-

cused on themselves. When the serpent injected the desire for Adam and Eve to be like God, they, too, fell from the special place God had made for them. They dove headlong into all of the wretchedness you see their descendants in now. Pride and exalting oneself is the gate to Hell and its greatest curse.

Humility is not a thing we bring to God. It is not a thing God gives us. It is when we have the realization that we are nothing that we see that God is everything.

The theme for August is: “Am I Willing to Give My Whole Soul Unto Christ?” There is a song that comes to mind in the blue hymnal #374, “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow, Praise Him All Creatures Here Below; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.”

I would list just a few things that would enable you to do this:

- ◆ Put Him first.
- ◆ Repent and praise God for everything He has given you.
- ◆ Read your Scriptures daily.
- ◆ Help people and pray for them.
- ◆ Do not dwell on yourself.
- ◆ At night bow down and thank Him. Name the blessings you know He has given you.

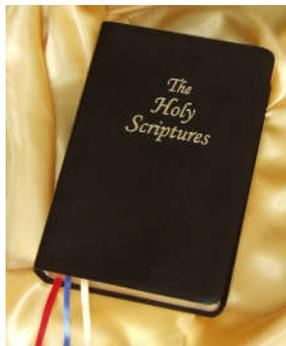
If you do these things you will find that your soul will grow in the depths of humility. You will be able to give your whole soul to Christ.

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OGRB Pastorate

Presiding Elder: Ed Story

Counselors: Elder Don Cutshall
Elder Mike Lidberg
Elder Mark Griffin
Elder Bill Jones
Elder Karl Anderson
Elder Hal Chadwick

Baby Blessings at OGRB

On Sunday, April 30, two sisters were blessed in a special service at Oak Grove. They are the daughters of Bryon and Silvana Postlethwait.

Etta Gisele Postlethwait was blessed by Elders Don Thomas and Aaron Smith.

Sienna Gwen Postlethwait was blessed by Elders Aaron Smith and Don Thomas.



Upcoming Events

- July 2** Elder's Class 7:00am
- July 2** Pastors of Zion Service 6:00pm at Waldo Restoration Branch (no evening service at Oak Grove)
- July 9** Guest Speaker and Potluck Lunch
- July 12** Spiritual Stewardship Groups Meet
- July 13** Senior Adults Potluck 12:30pm
- July 16** Spiritual Stewardship Group #6 at Butler
- July 16** Priesthood Meeting after evening service
- July 20** Elder's Class 7:00pm

- July 23** Pastors of Zion evening service at Waldo 6:00pm Elder Mark Griffin speaking (no evening service at Oak Grove)
- July 24-28** **OGRB Vacation Church School**
- July 30** **Vacation Church School program 6:30pm**
- Aug 5** Father/Son Breakfast 9:00am—noon
- Aug 13** Spiritual Stewardship Groups meet
- Aug 20** Spiritual Stewardship Group #1 at Butler
- Aug 27** Ladies "Lemonade Salad Supper" 3:30 pm at Oak Grove

Baptismal Service

On Sunday, May 28, Bryce Jared Mulheron was baptized by his father, Priest Jared Mulheron. Later in the service, Bryce was confirmed by his grandfather, Elder Jim Mulheron, assisted by Elder Don Cutshall.

Bryce's mother, Katie Mulheron, escorted him to the baptismal font.



Elder Phillip Freeze conducts a "pre-baptismal interview" with Bryce.



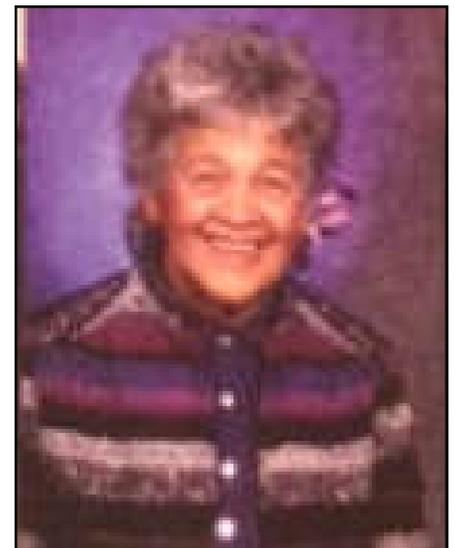
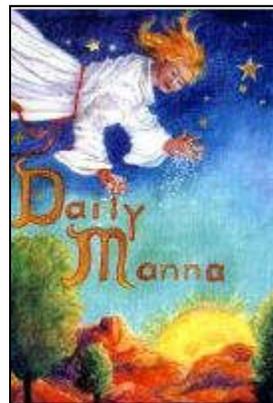
Presiding Elder Ed Story offering congratulations and words of counsel after Bryce's confirmation



Louise Gregson's 95th Birthday Celebration

On Sunday afternoon, June 11, family and friends of Louise Gregson gathered at OGRB to celebrate her 95th birthday. Her sons, daughters, and other family members presented a special "Celebration of Life" program, which included music, spoken and written tributes, and a variety of traditional Hawaiian ceremonies in her honor.

Following the program, a reception was held in the fellowship hall. About 200 people attended, including many church members from other branches.



Women's Department News -- by Pat Chadwick

Our Mother's Day Brunch was wonderful this year. As always, the food was delicious, the decorations were lovely and the craft fun and unique. Seeing generations of women come together is always uplifting.

My favorite part this year was the program. The program was exceptional. The theme was centered on being a chosen vessel of the Lord.



April Smith gave her testimony of being a chosen vessel of the Lord and how she was converted to the church. It was a lovely testimony and is recorded in the Brunch Handout. If you have not heard this testimony you need to read it.

Then Connie Smith gave a presentation on being chosen vessels. She spoke of different items in her home and how they signified different chosen vessels: a vase her father brought home from Korea, a pitcher and basin from her grandmother's home, and a wooden vase made from a burl. Last but not least were a sewing basket and unfinished quilt given to her by her grandmother. Connie commented about the sewing basket and quilt.



"Chosen - What makes this a chosen vessel? Like the basket, the scriptures hold all of the tools necessary, only in this case it is to live a Godly life. In the hands of ordinary people, like you and me, great things can be accomplished.

The task of building Zion is too great for one person to accomplish. It will take each of us working together, sometimes from one generation to the next until the end is realized. If I could sew a picture of Zion it would look like the double wedding ring quilt. Each circle of the quilt

is unique and individual like each one of us. Each circle overlaps the ones next to it, like how our lives are intertwined with each other. Each circle is connected by the Holy Spirit, the gospel, Jesus Christ and our love for one another.

My grandma used red and blue blocks for the connecting pieces on this quilt. These four blocks stand out from the rest as they are twice the size of all the other colored blocks that make up the circle. Each of those connecting blocks completes two circles. Each circle intersects with four others (top, bottom and two sides).

Around the outer edge is the binding. Our faith binds us together. We work together. We joy together. We suffer together. We lift each other up. The things we do and say have a ripple effect on the body...for good or for bad, in our families or church family and with those we interact with on a daily basis. Jesus came to heal (bind up) the bruised and broken-hearted. The scriptures are our 'sewing basket' full of tools. Let us be found walking in Christ's footsteps and binding our lives and hearts to one another in love."



Having used the quilt as a symbol of Zion, when she held up the finished quilt a gasp of wonder went through the sanctuary. We were all just struck by its beauty. This quilt worked on through generations was truly a thing of great beauty. It gave us a new vision of Zion.

This program had so many different facets to it that it's hard to describe, but it came together in a beautiful way and was very enriching for all who attended. ***I want to give a special "Thank You!" to all the women who worked so hard to put on this special event.***

The handout is available and is worth reading, for it has the story of each chosen vessel. I hope if you were not there that you will ask Connie Smith, Connie Spivey or myself for a handout.

Our next event on the agenda is a Lemonade Salad Supper coming up in August. Hope you will watch for the announcement and come and join with the women in the congregation in fellowship and prayer. May all of you have a blessed summer!

Samuel Hedrick High School Graduation

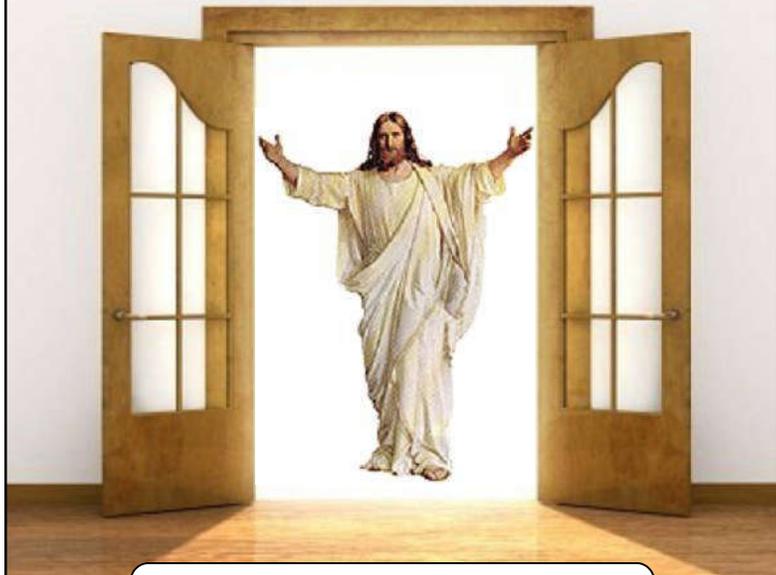
On Sunday, May 21, Samuel Hedrick, son of Grant and Christine Hedrick, was honored by the OGRB congregation for his graduation from high school.



Church School Promotion Sunday—May 21



Church of Jesus Christ - Oak Grove Restoration Branch



*"I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord."
(Psalm 122:1)*

Church Phone: (816) 690-6996

CD's available for many Worship Services.

Watch most Sunday morning services live by going to our church website! (Click on "Video")

Worship Times		Sacrament Service (1st Sunday)
Sunday Early Worship	9:00 am	Priesthood Prayer Service 9:00 am
Sunday Church School	9:15 am	
Sacrament Sunday Prayer Service and Sacrament Service		10:00 am
Sunday eve Worship	6:30 pm	6:30 pm
Wednesday eve Prayer and Testimony	7:00 pm	

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