



ZION'S PATH

Volume 14, Issue 5 - September/October 2018

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

Vacation Church School: Jesus is Calling

Vacation Church School was held at OGRB the week of July 30th through August 3rd. The Co-Directors were Connie Smith and Debbie Norman.

Elder Mark Nunn served as VCS Pastor. Many others helped, as well; the list is much too long to mention each one!

(See the insert in this Newsletter for more pictures and a report by Connie Smith.)



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Peace in Christ

--- by Elder Eric English, Presiding Elder

“Learn of me, and listen to my words; walk in the meekness of my Spirit and you shall have peace in me.” (D&C 18:2n)

In the hustle and bustle of life these days, there seem to be far too many distractions that are constantly trying to draw our attention. Add to that the concerns that we have because of the moral decline that we witness all around us and in our nation, in general. Thirdly, we’re keenly aware of the promises that are in the scriptures (the Book of Mormon, in particular) that God will not postpone judgment forever on those who blatantly reject Him and disobey His commands. And last but probably the most impactful to us, there are the storms of life that can range from light rain showers to Category 5 hurricanes; they can be storms of our own making through rebellious decisions, or they can originate completely outside of our control. Whenever we experience any of these things, it can be tempting to let fear and anxiety start to creep into our lives.



A minister from the 1800’s, Richard Fuller, once told of an old seaman who said, “In fierce storms, we must put the ship in a certain position and keep her there.” Said Fuller, “This, Christian, is what you must do. . . . You must put your soul in one position and keep it there. You must stay upon the Lord; and, come what may—winds, waves, cross seas, thunder, lightning, frowning rocks, roaring breakers—no matter what, you must hold fast your confidence in God’s faithfulness and His everlasting love in Christ Jesus.”

Someone once said that peace is not the absence of trouble but the presence of Christ. This month (September), I’m excited as we explore together what it means to find and maintain peace in Jesus when we listen to Him, learn from Him, and walk with Him.

from the Editors:

A special THANK YOU to all those who submitted articles and photos for this edition. We couldn’t fit them all in, but they were MUCH appreciated!

Vital Statistics

Baptisms/Confirmations



July 14/15, 2018

Hannah Grace Holmes



Baby Blessing

July 15, 2018
Isaac Peter Holmes



OGRB Pastorate

Presiding Elder: Eric English

Counselors: Elder Mark Nunn
Elder Charlie Booth
Elder Craig Hill
Priest Jared Mulheron

Baptism and Baby Blessing

On Saturday, July 14, Hannah Grace Holmes, daughter of Brian and Jessica Holmes, was baptized in water by her father, Priest Brian Holmes. This took place outside at the Atherton Restoration Branch. The next day, during the morning service at Oak Grove, Hannah was confirmed by Elder Mike Lidberg and Elder Gary Holmes (Hannah's grandfather).



And again, inasmuch as parents have children in Zion, or in any of her stakes which are organized, that teach them not to understand the doctrine of repentance; faith in Christ the Son of the living God; and of baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of the hands when eight years old” D&C 68:4a)

“Every member of the church of Christ having children, is to bring them unto the elders before the church, who are to lay their hands upon them in the name of Jesus Christ, and bless them in his name.” (D&C 17:19)



Also on July 15 at OGRB, Isaac Peter Holmes, son of Brian and Jessica Holmes, was blessed by Elder Mike Lidberg and Elder Gary Holmes (Isaac's grandfather).

Father-Son-Breakfast at OGRB --- by Charlie Booth

The annual Father-Son-Breakfast was held on Saturday, August 11, at OGRB. There were about 25 in attendance. A delicious breakfast was served, including biscuits and gravy, pancakes, bacon, scrambled eggs and sausage.

Elder Phillip Freeze gave a moving talk on father/son relationships, using many examples regarding his own father, Ron Freeze, who was present.

Afterwards, those present were divided into six teams for the rocket-building competition. Elder Hal Chadwick had prepared two launching systems using compressed air.

The award for the "furthest flight" (about 150 feet) was won by the Ballantyne/Holmes team.

Cooks and servers included Chris Allen, Pat Chadwick, Edie Cutshall, Karen Story, and Cindy Green. Additional planning and coordination for the event was provided by Susan Freeze.



Do This in Remembrance of Me --- by Connie Smith

“And behold, this should be wine; yea, pure wine of the grape of the vine, of your own make.”
(D&C 86:1c)

Each year a few people gather together to harvest grapes for our communion wine. Armed with buckets, gloves and snippers we head out.

This year Nancy and Dennis Moe offered to let us pick grapes at their farm. Sheila Lidberg, Valerie Lidberg, April Smith, David Strahan and I harvested the grapes. We brought them back to my backyard and stemmed them. After stemming we met at the church and washed them. Pat and Chris Allen were at the church and had gotten the juicers out and began washing jars to process the grapes.



Thank you to the Moe family, who only grow grapes so that surrounding congregations can make communion wine. These were the cleanest, nicest, most

lush grapes we have ever harvested. What a blessing—a lesson in practicing a Zionite concept!

We very well may have more grapes to pick and can this year. Not every year produces good crops. There are two more spots to pick grapes that are possibly ready as I write this article. The next time you partake of the communion wine, consider the labor of love that went into that small amount of juice you drink to renew your covenant with Christ. Consider once again the great sacrifice of Christ and His mercy that is extended to each of us.

“O God, the eternal Father, we ask thee, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this wine to the souls of all those who drink of it, they they may do it in remembrance of the blood of the Son which was shed for them, that they may witness unto thee, O God, the eternal Father, that they do always remember him, that they may have his Spirit to be with them. Amen” (Moroni 5:3).



People probably don't realize the time it takes to process and can the grape juice. We try to keep the juice as pure as possible, not adding any sugar or water. Our juicers steam the juice. It takes approximately 40 minutes per batch to juice the grapes! We had two juicers going and finally added a third. For those who stayed from start to finish (8:15 am to 6:00 pm that evening), it was a long day. We helped put up 12 pints of juice for the Bates City congregation as well. Altogether, we canned 10.5 gallons of juice Saturday, August 11th.

Thank you to all those who gave up their time to serve the congregation in this way.

Upcoming Events

- Sep 2** Elders Class 7:00am
Aaronic Priesthood Class 5:00pm
- Sep 12** Spiritual Stewardship Groups meet
- Sep 16** SSG #2/3 at Butler
Aaronic Priesthood Class 5:00pm
- Sep 20** Senior Adult Potluck, 12:30pm
Elders Class 7:00pm
- Sep 22-23** Women's Fall Retreat at
Odessa Hills
Kirtland Priesthood Retreat

- Sep 23** CMRB All-Branch Worship at
Odessa Restoration Branch
- Oct 7** Elders Class 7:00am
- Oct 18** Elders Class 7:00pm
- Oct 21** SSG #4 at Butler
- Oct 26-28** OGRB Branch Retreat at
Odessa Hills

Women's Department News --- by Pat Chadwick

Ladies, we are at the end of another busy summer for the Women's Department. Even when we do not have events for the women, we are always busy with ministries such as sending hospital baskets, cards, visiting, funeral dinners, potlucks, taking refreshments to Waldo, flash cards and bulletin inserts, etc.

We just hosted the Father-Son-Breakfast. As always, there was delicious food—pancakes, sausage, lots of bacon, biscuits and gravy—all provided by our kitchen coordinator, Chris Allen, and her crew. April Smith and her daughter Terissa provided the decorations, which were outstanding. Our theme was "Going Higher." This year we had a new rocket contest that was enjoyed by all.

The closing summer event for the women was a Strawberry Salad Supper with a presentation by Sally Pressler and Connie Bates on, "I Am the Potter; You Are the Clay." This was a wonderful presentation! Sally created pottery on her potter's wheel while Connie shared music and scripture. She also talked about how a potter works the clay so that it will become a beautiful vessel fit for the Master's use.

Indeed, watching a vessel being formed before our eyes, along with music and scriptures, made the scriptures come alive in our minds. It was a great encouragement to all who attended and gave us new insight into how the Lord uses adversity to shape and mold us into beautiful vessels.



The supper following was delightful and we had sweet fellowship, tasty salads and yes, delicious Strawberry Short Cake, with lots of strawberries. Each woman received a lovely hand-painted glass, with our theme, to take home. These glasses were hand-painted by Connie Smith, Edie Cutshall, Karen Story, Connie Spivey and Pat Chadwick.

I had the opportunity to pass the torch to Susan Freeze, who is now your new Woman's Leader. I know she and her counselors, Julie Anderson and Connie Smith, along with the many members of the Women's Commission, will continue the work of helping our women reach new spiritual heights.

In closing, I want to say it has been a joy to serve you the last eight years. I attribute all the good accomplished to the Lord, who has always inspired and enhanced our endeavors, as well as the wonderful women who have served with me and given of their time and talents. I could not have done it without them.

Also I want you to know I treasure the plaque given to me, with all of your fingerprints on it. It reminds me of how unique and beautiful each one of you are and how much God loves us all.

We are indeed the work of His Hands, for He truly is the Potter and we are the clay; and He is not finished with us yet. Allow Him to work in your life so you can become that "Chosen Vessel" He has designed you to be.

I pray that, going forward, God will bless each of you! With Love, Pat Chadwick



The Freeze Point --- by Susan Freeze

Both Flip and my Dad have told me time is money. They tell me this because I like to be frugal and sometimes I will go to a great deal of effort to save money. Now saving money is great, but if I spend hours on the internet finding the best deal, then have to drive to a store that is out of the way, I may have saved some money, but was it worth my time?

Recently the Build-a-Bear stores had a promotion where you could get a bear or other stuffed animal for the cost of the age of your child. My daughter, Milana, planned to go and take her girls. Milana's sister, Katelyn, went ahead of her to get in line. The line ran all the way down the Independence Center from Build-a-Bear to Macy's. Milana quickly decided that it wasn't worth her time (or sanity) to stand in line with two young children for an estimated six hours to save 40 dollars. They chose another activity for the day and had a great time.

After the Build-a-Bear incident, I have thought over and over about time. I realized that time really is like money. You have to decide where and when you are going to spend it. After spending an hour and forty five minutes at a cell phone store, I realized I could never get that time back. Once time is spent you can never earn it back.

We talk about saving time but we cannot save up time. To be honest, I don't think I ever realized how much time and money really are alike. We often talk about how to budget both time and money. I finally came to realize that you spend (or invest) both on what is important to you. This has caused me to reevaluate how I really spend my time. It made me sad to think how easily I have been extravagant, spending time on things of the world, yet frugal about things that concern the Kingdom.

If I am really honest with myself, I find if I watch TV in the evening, I contemplate the sto-

ries the next day on my way to work. If I choose to spend my time with friends, family or God, then I think about those things the next day.

I think this is true of any activity we do. We don't just waste time on dead works. We waste time planning and contemplating them. The scriptures tell us, "*For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also*" (Matthew 6:21). If time is like money then, where you spend your time is where your heart is.

Time management now has a new meaning for me. Time is our most valuable asset. I want to try to invest my time in things that have eternal value, not in things that will fade away.

Alma 9:41 tells us, "*Therefore this life became a probationary state; a **time** to prepare to meet God; a **time** to prepare for that endless state, which has been spoken of by us, which is after the resurrection of the dead.*"

"*And thus we see, that there was a **time** granted unto man, to repent, yea, a probationary **time**, a **time** to repent and serve God*" (Alma 19:84).

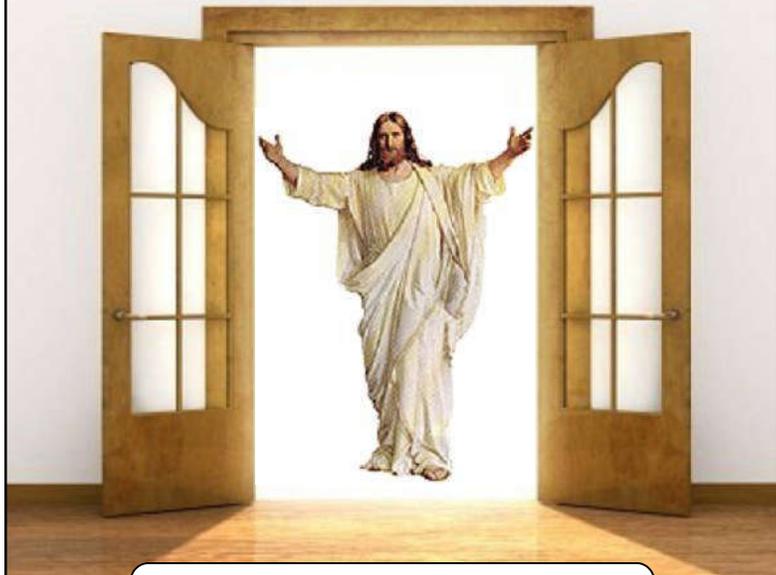
The Book of Mormon is very clear: our life is our time to prepare to meet God. If our life is preparing to meet God how do we want to spend that time? Do we want to waste our time on the things of this earth or invest it in the things of the Kingdom?



**OGRB
BRANCH
RETREAT:
Oct. 26-28**

Do you have some news or a report for [Zion's Path](#)?
Please contact Charlie and Susan Booth.

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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