

# The Ensign

## Zarahemla Branch

JUNE 2015



### Pastor's Corner High Priest Brad Gault



#### BEING LOVED BY CHRIST High Priest Dean Falconer

"... having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." John 13:1

Think about what it means, being loved by Christ. I wish there were something I could say that would give us the sense of being loved by Christ, that the apostle Paul had. From Galatians 2:20, we hear the way Paul talked about being loved by Christ: "... the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God, *who loved me, and gave himself for me.*"

Paul's whole life was nothing but a daily experience of working out what it meant to be loved by the Son of God, what it meant moment by moment to bank on being loved by Christ Jesus. In another place Paul said: "For the love of Christ constrains us. . . ." (2 Corinthians 5:34) Being loved by Christ was the controlling force of his life. When he turned into any wrong pathway it was the love of Christ that constrained, held him back, and put him in the way of truth. The most unshakable reality of Paul's life was being loved by Christ Jesus. It was the granite foundation under a life of immense suffering. It made Paul utterly indestructible in his confidence toward God.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (Romans 8:34-37)

When Paul met the miseries of life and felt himself threatened, like a lamb sent to the slaughter, he never used this misery as an argument that he was no longer loved by Christ, instead, he threw the love of Christ back into the face of misery. "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39)

To be loved by Jesus Christ is literally an indescribable thing. It is deeper than any of us know. Oh how Paul wanted us to know the love of Christ the way he knew it! Remember how he prayed for us as recorded in Ephesians 3:17-19? "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God" Paul virtually equated knowing the love of Christ with being filled with the fullness of God. Being loved by Christ means being full of God.

Look again at the opening scripture from John 13:1, "... having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." Notice whom He loves: "having loved his own. . . He loved them to the end."

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27) "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep." (John 10:11) "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13) "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word." (John 17:20)

Notice the words: "His sheep" "His friends" and "believers". Here is something very precious and powerful and life-changing. The love of Jesus for His sheep, for His friends, for believers is more than the love held out to the world, the compassion that fed the hungry and healed the sick and preached good news to the poor. John wants those of us who are "His own", "His sheep", "His friends" to hear something uniquely for us.

It is not by accident that Jesus' love for the church is compared to the love of a husband for his wife in Ephesians 5. It is because Christ has a rich love with "His sheep" that is not like the general love He has for the world. When I vowed in solemn covenant to forsake all others and cleave to DJ alone and to love her and to cherish her for richer, for poorer, for better for worse, in sickness and in health, til death do us part, our love becomes a reflection of what it means for Jesus to love "His sheep", "His friends", "His bride".

When you think of the love of Christ, do not think of His love for you merely in terms of the love He has for the world. Think of the love that takes captive and cleaves and unites and cherishes and defends. Think of a marriage covenant between you and Him in which He has sworn by His holiness to love you with a saving, cleansing, glorifying love. Remember the words of Psalm 89:34 "My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips".

Ponder in these final, awesome days what precious reality there is in the words "His own". "Having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them to the end." Ponder these two directions of His love: "having loved . . . He loved to the end" He loved us in life and He loved us in death. Having loved us in the easiest of times, He loved us in the hardest of times. Having loved us with words and bread and touch, He loved us with blood and pain and death. Having loved us extensively over the years, He loved us intensively to the depths.

(Pastor's Corner on next page)

(Pastor's Corner continued)

<sup>i</sup> We are moved to believe that someone loves us when two things occur: 1) they stick with us over time and 2) they stick with us when it is costly. These are the two things I see in this verse. He loved us over the years (patient with all our sin and misunderstanding). He now loved us to the uttermost, to the depths of suffering for us.

This is what we long for, and this is what we have by faith. We have an experience of being loved with a love that lasts, that is not fickle, or uncertain, or capricious, but durable, constant and stable. Not only is it a love that is extensive, that lasts over all time, but it is a love that is also intensive. We long to be loved radically, deeply, excessive and passionately. This is the love of our Jesus.

May God give us the power to comprehend with all the saints what is the height and depth and length and breadth, and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge that we might be filled with all the fullness of God.

## **Zarahemla Women's Ministries - June 2015**

There are many opportunities to serve God in serving others. The Sisters at Zarahemla do so with energy, grace, and good humor. In the process of serving others:

we grow closer to God;

we grow spiritually;

the bond we have with our Sisters grows firmer;

we teach our younger Sisters to serve others by our example.

It is in this manner, we are able to fulfill Titus 2.

On Saturday, June 20, we will serve an early breakfast, 8:00 AM, to the men of Zarahemla, age 5 and up. Yes, it's early, so they have a good breakfast and fellowship to start their day but not interfere with tasks or planned activities that day. Please sign up on the poster in the lobby so we have a fair count for the kitchen staff.

May God continue to bless the Sisters in their Service to Him.

### ***INDEPENDENCE DISTRICT SUMMER SERIES***

***JUNE 14 - PATRIARCH VERNON DARLING SPEAKING***

***JUNE 21 - NO SUMMER SERIES TONIGHT. HAPPY FATHER'S DAY***

***JUNE 28 - ELDER DANNY HIGHT SPEAKING.***

***JULY 5 - SEVENTY NEIL SIMMONS SPEAKING***

***JULY 12 - TO BE HELD AT THE INDEPENDENCE DISTRICT REUNION AT ODESSA HILLS CAMPGROUND***

***JULY 19 - ELDER JIM NOLTE SPEAKING***

***JULY 26 - SEVENTY CHRISTOPHER PEDERSEN SPEAKING***

***AUGUST 2 - SEVENTY JONAH BATES SPEAKING***

***AUGUST 9 - ELDER BRIAN MUNDY SPEAKING***

***AUGUST 16 - HIGH PRIEST TOM BEEM SPEAKING***

***THE SERVICES WILL BE HELD OUTSIDE IF THE WEATHER COOPERATES.***

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1	Rafael Chinnery
2	Caryn Stilwell
3	Jennifer Buckles
3	Dennis Elwell
4	Doug Trahern
5	Nicole Smarr
7	Bonner Davis
7	Joshua McKay
7	Brock McKay
9	Heather Olivarez
9	Betsy Trahern
10	Joshua Campbell
10	Hailey Norman
12	Genie Simmons
13	Tara Broadway
16	Danielle Chinnery
19	Joshua Trahern
21	Ron Buckles
22	Jeff Gross
22	Ashley McKay
24	Meagan Brock
24	Janet Forth
24	Nathan Perry
25	Felicia McKay
25	Sharon Martin
25	Pat Bronson
25	Audra Heyl
28	Emma Nelson

## Deacon Schedule

June 2015

<u>June 7th</u>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Kyle Norman</i>
<u>June 14th</u>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Rudy Leutzinger</i>
<u>June 21st</u>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Lloyd Stilwell</i>
<u>June 28th</u>	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Jerry Gerber</i>

## DEVOTIONS

June 2015

<b>June 7th</b>	<b>Irene Power</b>
<b>June 14th</b>	<b>Sherry Leutzinger Family</b>
<b>June 21st</b>	<b>Phil O'Camb Family</b>
<b>June 28th</b>	<b>Michelle Moore Family</b>

**If you are not able to keep your assignment,  
please find someone to fill your spot.**

## SPRING CLEAN-UP MONTH

**If you have not had a chance to choose and clean a portion of our church home and would like to do so, please check the list on the bulletin board in the foyer**

You are invited to serve in the Lord's House during the month of May 2015. During this month, the entire church will be deep-cleaned by those Saints desiring to serve. Your Family is encouraged to join with another Family in this Service. You should pick an area to serve in and grace that area with your finest 'elbow grease' so the Lord's House will shine.

### SANCTUARY & SIDE ROOMS

Dust fans and corners for cobwebs;  
Wipe down wood on the pews and chairs with a damp cloth (NO chemicals);  
Wipe down organ and piano with dry cloth (NO moisture, NO chemicals);  
Vacuum pews, extra chairs;  
Vacuum and straighten side rooms;  
Clean bathroom (toilet, sink, floor, changing table).

### SOUTH WING -ENTRY WAY, BATHROOMS, PASTORS STUDY

Dust and straighten entry way and Pastors Study;  
Vacuum entry way and Pastors study and rooms behind the classroom (across from bathroom);  
Clean and mop floor in yellow classroom and bathroom;  
Clean bathroom (toilet, sink).

### DOWNSTAIRS FELLOWSHIP HALL & CLASSROOMS

Dust corners for cobwebs;  
Vacuum fellowship hall and classrooms;  
If tables are set up, clean these with a disinfectant;  
Clean both bathrooms (toilet, sink, mop floor).  
Clean mirrors;  
Check for supplies and place extra under the sink.  
Do not straighten classrooms - they are as the teacher wants them.

### KITCHEN & NURSERY

These two rooms have cleaning done every time they are used.

## Musical Schedule

### June 7th

**Devotional Service - Kevin McMilian**

**10:30 Service - Kevin McMilian**

**6:00 pm Service - Summer Series**

### June 14th

**Devotional Service - Jill Moore**

**10:30 Service - Jill Moore**

**6:00 pm Service - Summer Series**

### June 21st

**Devotional Service - Ashley Gault**

**10:30 Service - Ashley Gault**

**6:00 pm Service - Summer Series**

### June 28th

**Devotional Service - Jeri Gault**

**10:30 Service - Jeri Gault**

**6:00 pm Service - Summer Series**

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**June 7th                      Communion**

**June 14th**

**June 21st                      Sara Weston**

**June 28th                      Janet Forth**

If you have anything to submit for the newsletter, please call Marilyn 816- 215-2299

OR

e-mail it to me ([marilyn.counts@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn.counts@gmail.com)) OR (give it to me at church). PLEASE JUST SHARE WITH US IN THE July 2015 NEWSLETTER. Deadline for the July 2015 newsletter will be June 26th, 2015 and will be emailed

before Monday, July 1st, 2015.

Thank you for supporting the congregational newsletter.

Marilyn James, Editor

## JUNE ACTIVITIES

- 2nd            9:00 am - 3:00 pm 2nd, 3rd and 4th at the church will be Lamplighters Day Camp.
- 7th            8:00 am Priesthood Prayer Service at the church.
- 8th            7:00 pm Priesthood meeting at the church.
- 13th          6:00 am Father/son Banquet held at the church
- 14th          Potluck immediately following the worship Service.
- 14th          6:00 pm Summer Series at Saints Haven. Patriarch Vernon Darling speaking.
- 20th          8:00 am Men's breakfast at the church.
- 27th          5:00 pm Fireworks and Potluck at the McMilian home.
- 28th          6:00 pm Summer Series at Saints Haven. Elder Danny Hight speaking.

June 15th through the 19th at Saints Haven Branch from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm each night will be our District VBC (Vacation Bible School). Workers are needed to help teach. Contact Betsy Trahern (816-796-3947) or Jeannette Thomas (816-510-0684) if you are interested in helping. Assistance is also needed to transport children and families that are without transportation.

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## SEVENTIES MISSIONARY REUNION

Begins on Sunday, June 21st and goes until Saturday, June 27th at Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa. To register for this reunion go to

<http://restorationseventy.org/SeventyReunion/>

Theme: "Come to the Water"

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July 11-18 - Independence District Family Reunion (Odessa, MO)

Theme: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto....."

Reunion registration starts at 3:00 pm and will end about noon on the following Saturday

Contact Dan or Ruthanne Norman for information 816-728-0656 816-728-0653 [dannorman@yahoo.com](mailto:dannorman@yahoo.com)

# ACTIVITY

# JUNE

# CALENDAR

# 2015

## Zarahemla Branch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  7:00 pm Priesthood meeting	2  Lamplighter's Day Camp	3 <u>Jacob 3:8</u>  Lamplighter's Day Camp  7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Jim McKay Assisting: Rolland James	4  Lamplighter's Day Camp	5	6
7  8:00 Priesthood Prayer Service 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Dean Falconer Preaching: David Frye  6:00 pm Class Chuck Perry	8	9	10 <u>Matthew 36:38</u>  7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Dan Norman Assisting: Rudy Leutzinger	11	12	13  6:00 pm Father/Son Banquet
14  9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Bob Moore Preaching: Joseph F Smith  POTLUCK 6:00 Summer Series Preaching: Patriarch Vernon Darling	15  VBS 6-8:30 Saints Haven	16  VBS 6-8:30 Saints Haven	17 <u>Alma 16:28</u>  VBS 6-8:30 Saints Haven  7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Chuck Perry Assisting: Duane Newman	18  VBS 6-8:30 Saints Haven	19  VBS 6-8:30 Saints Haven	20
21 <b>Happy Father's Day</b>  9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: David Bronson Preaching: Jonathan Broadway  <i>NO evening service</i>	22	23	24 <u>D &amp; C 18:3</u>  7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Doug Trahern Assisting: Phil O'Camb	26	26	27  Fireworks and Potluck at the McMilians. Starts At 5:00 pm
28 9:15 Morning Worship  9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Richard Hensley Preaching: Roger Gault  6:00 pm Summer Series Preaching: Elder Danny Hight	29	30				



**Zarahemla Branch**  
**502 Southwest 17th Street**  
**Blue Springs, MO 64015**



