

The Ensign

Zarahemla Branch

SEPTEMBER 2015



Pastor's Corner
High Priest Brad Gault



Prepare Ye, Prepare Ye by High Priest Brad Gault

“Prepare ye, prepare ye, O inhabitants of the earth, for the judgment of our God is come: behold, and lo, the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him.” – Section 85:25d

Latter-day revelation is replete with instruction to the church to prepare ourselves for the coming of our Savior. The very first section, given in November 1831 with instruction to place it as the preface of our Doctrine and Covenants, says that *“the Lord is nigh; and the anger of the Lord is kindled, and his sword is bathed in heaven, and it shall fall upon the inhabitants of the earth; and the arm of the Lord shall be revealed;”* But the Lord provided to his saints the means by which safety and refuge would be provided from this coming calamity by speaking unto Joseph Smith Jr. and providing revelations in their time and commandments not a few to be proclaimed unto the world. These revelations and commandments not only warn but also teach the need for a Savior and the establishment of an earthly kingdom – a place of safety and refuge -- as a place prepared for the kingdom of heaven to come.

We are recipients of these revelations and commandments but are we really prepared for the coming of the Lord? We have fallen short in preparing a place. What about our personal lives? What must we be about to prepare a place and ourselves? A strong indication I believe lies in the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. So important is the instruction contained in this parable that it is specifically mentioned with the Lord's own commentary on it in Section 45: *“And at that day when I shall come in my glory, shall the parable be fulfilled which I spake concerning the ten virgins; for they that are wise and have received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide, and have not been deceived, verily I say unto you, They shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day, and the earth shall be given unto them for an inheritance; ...”*

Taking the Holy Spirit as our guide is the key understanding of this parable and critical to our “preparedness.” Our baptisms of water and spirit we know are essential because they place us on the straight and narrow path but unless the Holy Spirit is our guide, we can wander from that path. Contained within the commandments and revelations given to Joseph are “helps and governments” placed within the framework of his church to keep us in the narrow way – to keep us in tune with the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Chief among these helps and governments are the spiritual disciplines of prayer, fasting, study and worship. Each of these can be both personal as well as corporate and we are commanded to participate in them all. Especially important, I believe, are the corporate expressions and yet still too many find the gatherings of the saints either for fellowship or worship far too low on their list of life's priorities. This makes the body of Christ weak and unprepared for his coming.

i One of my favorite Southern Gospel songs is entitled "Every Time the Doors Were Open I Was There." It begins with the singers recollection of all the various gatherings of the church once attended – every time the doors were open they were there -- Sunday morning, Sunday evening, Tuesday evening visitation, Wednesday prayer service, all fellowships bound by love with the statement that church was just part of who the singer was. Then, in a wonderful twist, the song switches to the voice of our Savior who says "every time the doors were open I was there" and then the voice of the Savior puts it in the future tense by saying "every time the doors are open I'll be there." It warms my heart every time I hear this song because it has been my life's experience. I find the presence of God in every assembly of the saints and there is no greater blessing than to be in His presence.

Yes, there are calamities coming, the anger of the Lord is kindled, his sword is bathed in heaven and judgments will be poured out and we still must better prepare for his coming. I would therefore strongly encourage all to invest themselves heavily into the corporate life of the church, certainly in our fellowship opportunities but most especially in every opportunity we have to worship. Make church just a part of who you are. Every time the doors are open ... be there ... because "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, as touching one thing, behold, there will I be in the midst of them; even so am I in the midst of you." (Sec 6:15b) Our work of preparation is best done together as a fellowship bound by love.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

KEVIN MCMILIAN

Marching Band performances at Lee's Summit West Football Games:

September 4th - 7 PM
September 18th - 7 PM
September 25th - 7 PM

LINDSAY MCMILIAN

Basketball Games at KC Sports Lodge (near 40 Hwy. and 291 Hwy.):

September 10th - 7:30 PM
September 17th - 7:30 PM
September 24th - 5:30 PM

Cross Country Meets:

September 14th - 4 PM at Summit Lakes Middle School (Lee's Summit)
September 16th - 4 PM at Longview Community College
September 21st - 4 PM at Paul Kinder Middle School (Blue Springs)

HAILEY NORMAN

CPRS VOLLEYBALL GAMES:

September 11 - 4:30 pm Home

September 17 - 4:30 pm Away

September 18 - 5:30 pm Home

September 19 - TBA Home

September 21 - 4:30 pm Home

Scripture Study Participants Needed

Are you prepared to meet God? In the Book of Mormon, Alma asks the question, "Have ye walked, keeping yourselves blameless before God?" He further asks if the reader can say, "that ye have been sufficiently humble?" And continues with the question, "Behold, are ye stripped of pride?" He concludes by saying, "if ye are not, ye are not prepared to meet God". (Alma 3:47-51)

If you would like to study the topics of humility and pride and how to grow spiritually to be prepared to meet God, please consider participating in a scripture study titled *The Great Commandment—The Way of Humility, Preparing to Meet God*.

The scripture study is designed for small groups and will take eight weekly sessions to complete. The sessions will be held at the home of Shirley Andrews in Independence. The first session will be on Monday, September 14th at 10:30 am. The sessions will continue each Monday through November 2nd.

For more information contact Bob Cackler (816-427-5192), mbcackler@gmail.com or Brad Gault (816-510-4941), brad.gault@outlook.com.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5	Addison Davis
6	Myles McKay
12	Abigail Parkey
13	Dwayne Martin
13	Irene Power
14	Stephen Woll
16	Parker McKay
16	Sam Simmons
17	Cara Frye
17	Maria DeBarthe
19	Drew Henson
21	Haiden Hayes
22	Alyssa Adkins
23	Seth Simmons
25	Ammon Leutzinger
26	Leah Trahern
27	Peggy Gerber
28	Chuck Perry
28	Cynthia Heyl
29	Jo Marie Bronson

Deacon Schedule

September 2015

<u>September 6th</u>	Morning Jerry Gerber
<u>September 13th</u>	Morning Kyle Norman
<u>September 20th</u>	Morning Rudy Leutzinger
<u>September 27th</u>	Morning Lloyd Stilwell

DEVOTIONS

September 2015

September 6th Frank Frye Family

September 13th David Bronson Family

September 20th Ashley and Sam Family

September 27th Jonathan Broadway Family

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

Santa-Cali-Gon Days Music Schedule

To be held at the Book of Mormon Foundation Booth

Friday	6:30-9:00 pm	Hymns of Praise	Randy Manning
Saturday	5:00-6:00 pm	Restoration String Band	Garland Schnack
Saturday	6:00-7:00 pm	The Hoods	Phil Hood
Saturday	7:00-8:00 pm	Andrea Alaniz	
Saturday	8:00-9:00 pm	Cartwright Family	Eva Cartwright
Sunday	5:00-6:00 pm	Rolland James & Friends	
Sunday	6:00-7:00 pm	Katie Cromwell & Friends	
Sunday	7:00-8:00 pm	Charles Sperry	
Sunday	8:00-9:00 pm	Janet Forth & Friends	



Please join us for our monthly potluck dinners.

This month it is September the 20th and we will be honoring September birthdays!

Please stop by and enjoy our music at the Book of Mormon Foundation

Musical Schedule

September 6th

Devotional Service - Kevin McMilian
10:30 Service - Kevin McMilian
6:00 pm Service - Savannah Hawley

September 13th

Devotional Service - Jill Moore
10:30 Service - Jill Moore
6:00 pm Service - District Service

September 20th

Devotional Service - Jeri Gault
10:30 Service - Jeri Gault
6:00 pm Service - Lindsay McMilian

September 27th

Devotional Service - Ashley Gault
10:30 Service - Ashley Gault
6:00 pm Service - Lindsay McMilian

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

September 6th **Men's quartet-Janet Forth**

September 13th **James, Rideout,**
Simmons

September 20th **Patience Vickery**

September 27th **Michelle Sherer**

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

OR

e-mail it to me (marilyn.counts@gmail.com) OR (give it to me at church).

PLEASE JUST SHARE WITH US IN THE October 2015

NEWSLETTER Thank you for
supporting the congregational newsletter.

Marilyn James, Editor

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

1st 7:00 pm Women's Study Class at the church.

"Blueprint: Frustration or Fulfillment" teacher:
Barb Giertz.

6th 8:00 am Priesthood Prayer Service.

8th 7:00 pm Women's Study Class at the church.

"Saints Alive" teacher: D J Falconer.

9th 5:30 pm Lamplighters at the church.

14th 10:30 am Study Class at Shirley Andrews home.

15th 7:00 pm Women's Study Class at the church.

"Responsible and Accountable" teacher: Marilyn James

17th 7:00 pm Planning session for 4th quarter at the church.

19th 9:00 am Work Day with the Zion's League at the
church. There will be projects planned and supplies
will be available. PIZZA after working.

20th POTLUCK after the 10:30 service.

21st 10:30 am Study Class at Shirley Andrews home.

22nd 7:00 pm Women's Study Class at the church.

"Importance of Personality" teacher: Sally Simmons.

27th 6:00 pm Religio.

28th 10:30 am Study Class at Shirley Andrews home.

29th 7:00 pm Women's Study Class at the church.

"Foundation and Walls" teacher: Jo Marie Bronson.

The "Ladies Evening Out" on August 13th was supper
at Perkins Restaurant in Independence. There were 18
in attendance. Food and Visiting was enjoyed by all.
September activity is a six-week class, "The Beauty of
Holiness". This will be on Tuesday evenings,
beginning September 1st at the church at 7:00 pm.

All ladies are welcome.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2015

Zarahemla Branch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00 pm Women's study class at church	2 <u>D&C 17:6a</u> 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Jim McKay Assisting: Kyle Norman	3	4	5
6 8:00 Priesthood Prayer Service 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Bob Moore Preaching: Phil O'Camb 6:00 pm Worship Preaching: Jonathan Broadway	7	8 7:00 pm Women's study class at church	9 <u>D&C 43:5a-g</u> 5:30 pm Lamplighters 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Chuck Perry Assisting: Jack McClain	10	11	12
13 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Rex Curtis Preaching: Baby blessing <u>6:00 District Worship</u> Glenn Vreeland , preaching	14 Study class 10:30 am Shirley Andrews home	15 7:00 pm Women's study class at church	16 <u>D&C 65:1c</u> 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Doug Trahern Assisting: Jerry Gerber	17 7:00 pm 4th quarter Planning Meeting	18	19 Branch WORK DAY at the church 9:00 am with Zion's League Service project
20 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Jim McKay Preaching: Jared Watson POTLUCK 6:00 pm Restitution Bob Moore	21 Study class 10:30 am Shirley Andrews home	22 7:00 pm Women's study class at church	23 <u>D & C 85:25d</u> 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Roger Gault Assisting: Rolland James	24	25	26
27 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Carlin Talcott Preaching: Chris Humphrey 6:00 pm Religeo Dean Falconer	28 Study class 10:30 am Shirley Andrews home	29 7:00pm Women's study class at church	30 23 <u>D & C 108:2a-c</u> 5:30 pm Lamplighters 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Bob Moore Assisting: Rudy Leutzinger			



Zarahemla Branch

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Blue Springs, MO 64015

