

# The Ensign

## Zarahemla Branch

JANUARY 2016



Pastor's Corner  
High Priest Brad Gault



### WHAT DO I WANT TO DO WITH MY LIFE?

High Priest Dean Falconer

I do not believe in making New Year's Resolutions, as I believe they are something that are made to be broken. As the New Year begins, I ask myself the question: "What do I want to do with my life?" I do not ask this question as making a New Year's Resolution but as a way to have greater commitment in serving my Master and having contentment in my life with Him as my personal Savior.

Ah, an hour of contentment. A precious moment of peace. A few minutes of relaxation. Each of us desires to have a setting in our life in which contentment pays a visit. Perhaps it is early in the morning when everyone else is still asleep. Perhaps it is late at night when everyone else has gone to bed. Perhaps it is in a boat on a lake when memories of life well-lived are vivid. Perhaps it is in the companionship of a well-worn and well-read Bible or Book of Mormon. Perhaps it is in the arms of a loved one.

An hour of contentment, oh how wonderful that sounds. An hour when deadlines are forgotten and strivings have ceased. An hour when what we have, overshadows what we want. An hour when we realize that a lifetime of blood-sweating can't give us what the cross gave us in one day - a clean conscience and a new start.

Unfortunately, in our squirrel cages of schedules, contests, and side-glancing, hours like these are about as common as a one legged monkey. In our world, contentment is a strange street vendor. Contentment moves slowly from house to house, tapping on windows, knocking on doors, offering his wares: an hour of peace, a smile of acceptance, a sigh of relief. We are too busy to be content.

(Pastor's Corner continued on next page)

(Pastor’s Corner continued from first page)

“Not now, thank you, I’ve too much to do”, we say. “Too many marks to be made, too many achievements to be achieved, too many dollars to be saved, too many promotions to be earned.” Besides, if I’m content, someone might think I’ve lost my ambition.

If I should ask this contentment street vendor why so few welcome him into their lives or their homes, his answer leaves me convicted. “I charge a high price, my fee is steep, because I ask people to trade in their schedules, frustrations and anxieties. I demand that they put a torch to their fourteen-hour days and sleepless nights”, he says people seem to be strangely proud of their ulcers and headaches”, he continued.

One day while sitting on the beach on our recent trip to Cozumel, I was doing a lot of thinking about where I am in life. I saw contentment in other people’s lives as they relaxed on the beach. I began to find contentment in my life as I reflected on the past and looked forward to the future. I told myself: “goodbye schedules; see you later routines; come back tomorrow; hello contentment - come on in”. The tasks, they’ll get done. The calls, they’ll get made. The letters and cards, they’ll get written. And you know what? They’ll get done with a smile.

I will find contentment as I read my scriptures more, as I pray more, as I serve others more. I will find contentment in Christ Jesus as He and I become better acquainted.

That is what I am going to do with my life. What about you?

**I Am the New Year. . . . .**

. . . . . *Bible Illustrator*

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.  
I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months. All that you sought and didn’t find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination.  
All the good that you tried for and didn’t achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.  
All that you dreamed but didn’t dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.  
I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."

**Recipe for a Happy New Year. . . . .**

Anonymous

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.  
Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing— don’t do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3 Joseph Smith  
7 Sue Smith  
7 Tim Canfield  
7 Isabella Chinnery  
8 Jessi Herman  
9 Bob Moore  
10 Laura O'Camb  
10 Josh Palmer  
10 Joan Sharkey  
11 Allissa Hughes  
13 Sally Simmons  
14 Terry Patterson  
14 Kim Palmer  
16 Laura Clute  
17 Patti Frye  
17 Mickeal Henderson  
20 Calvin Joseph Durant  
26 Charles Peabody  
28 Samantha Gault  
28 Jim McKay

If you have anything to submit for the FEBRUARY  
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 February 2016

NEWSLETTER Thank you for  
supporting the congregational newsletter.

Marilyn James, Editor

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Effective January 15th, 2016,  
the following is the new  
address of Rolland and  
Marilyn James  
219 South Pleasant  
Independence, MO 64050  
Every thing else will stay the  
same.**

## DEVOTIONS

### January 2016

**January 3rd Irene Power Family**

**January 10th Dan Norman Family**

**January 17th Jerry Gerber Family**

**January 24th Dean Falcone Family**

**January 31st Rex Curtis Family**

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

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

### Lindsay McMilian

#### Basketball Games:

Tuesday, Jan. 5th - 5 PM at Smith-Hale Middle School

Thursday, Jan. 7th - 5 PM at Summit Lakes Middle School

Tuesday, Jan. 12th - 5 PM at Summit Lakes Middle School

Thursday, Jan. 14th - 5 PM at Summit Lakes Middle School

Tuesday, Jan. 19th - 5 PM at Summit Lakes Middle School

Thursday, Jan. 21st - 5 PM at Campbell Middle School

Jan. 25-27 - Tournament -- Check with Lindsay for details  
when it is closer to the date

### Deacon Schedule

#### January 2016

**January 3rd Morning Rudy Leutzinger**  
**January 10th Morning Lloyd Stilwell**  
**January 17th Morning Jerry Gerber**  
**January 24th Morning Kyle Norman**  
**January 31st Morning Rudy Leutzinger**

**Musical Schedule**

**January 3rd**

**Devotional Service - Ashley Gault**

**10:30 am Service - Ashley Gault**

**6:00 pm Service - Jeri Gault**

**January 10th**

**Devotional Service - Jeri Gault**

**10:30 Service - Jeri Gault**

**6:00 pm Service - District Service**

**January 17th**

**Devotional Service - Kevin McMilian**

**10:30 Service - Kevin McMilian**

**6:00 pm Service - Lindsay McMilian**

**January 24th**

**Devotional Service - Savannah Hawley**

**10:30 Service - Savannah Hawley**

**6:00 pm Service - Jill Moore**

**January 31st**

**Devotional Service - Jill Moore**

**10:30 Service - Jill Moore**

**6:00 pm Service - Ashley Gault**

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>January 3rd</b>  | <b>Sacrament</b>                    |
| <b>January 10th</b> |                                     |
| <b>January 17th</b> | <b>DJ Falconer</b>                  |
| <b>January 24th</b> | <b>Elizabeth and Teekvah Sperry</b> |
| <b>January 31st</b> | <b>Janet Forth</b>                  |

**JANUARY ACTIVITIES**

- 3      8:00 am Priesthood Prayer Service at the church.
- 4      7:00 pm Priesthood meeting at the church.
- 6      5:30-6:30 pm Lamplighters will meet at the church and work on their scrapbooking badge.
- 9      6:30-9:30 pm Young Adults will have an ice skating party at the Independence Event Center.
- 16     Zions League will be doing a service project at the Lee's Summit Food Pantry from 10:00 am until noon. Please meet at the Food Pantry. All are encouraged to attend.
- 17     POTLUCK will be after the 10:30 worship service.
- 20     5:30-6:30 pm Lamplighters will meet at the church and work on their scrapbooking badge.
- 23     9:00 am Women's Ministries will meet at Perkins in Independence for a breakfast meal and meeting.
- 24     4:30 pm Building Committee meeting.
- 24     6:00 pm RELIGEO will be held at the church. This is always an educational as well as a fun gathering. Plan on attending and bring a snack to share following the service.
- 31     6:00 pm There will be a Hymn sing and Praise sing at the church.

# ACTIVITY CALENDAR

# JANUARY 2016

## Zarahemla Branch

| Sunday   | Monday                                    | Tuesday | Wednesday  | Thursday | Friday | Saturday   |
|--|---|---------|--|----------|--------|--|
|  |   |         |  |          | 1      | 2  |
| <b>3</b><br>8:00 Priesthood Prayer Service<br>9:15 Morning Worship<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Service<br>Presiding:<br>Preaching: Jonathan Broadway<br><br>6:00 pm Class<br>Presiding: Chuck Perry             | 4<br><br>7:00 pm<br>Priesthood<br>Meeting | 5       | <b>6</b> <u>II Nephi 1:109</u><br>5:30 pm-6:30 pm<br><i>Lamplighters at the church.</i><br><i>Working on their servant</i><br><i>Projects</i><br>7:00 pm Prayer Service<br>Presiding: Dean Falconer<br>Assisting: Jerry Gerber | 7        | 8      | 9<br><br>6:30-9:30 pm<br>Young Adults will<br>be ice skating at the<br>Independence Event<br>Center          |
| <b>10</b><br>9:15 Morning Worship<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Service<br>Presiding: Bob Moore<br>Preaching: Rex Curtis<br><br>6:00 pm District service<br>at Saint's Haven<br>Preaching: Jim McKay              | 11  | 12      | <b>13</b> <u>I Nephi 7:64</u><br><br>7:00 pm Prayer Service<br>Presiding: Jim McKay<br>Assisting: Rolland James  | 14       | 15     | 16<br><br>10:00 am - noon<br>Zions League will do<br>a service project at<br>the Lee's Summit<br>Food Pantry |
| <b>17</b><br>9:15 Morning Worship<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Service<br>Presiding: Carlin Talcott<br>Preaching: Dan Sherer<br>POTLUCK<br>6:00 pm The Restitution<br>Teaching: Bob Moore                        | 18  | 19      | <b>20</b> <u>Matthew 3:35</u><br>5:30 pm-6:30 pm<br><i>Lamplighters at the church.</i><br><i>Working on their servant</i><br><i>Projects</i><br>7:00 pm Prayer Service<br>Presiding: Roger Gault<br>Assisting: Rudy Leutzinger | 21       | 22     | 23<br><br>9:00 am Women will<br>meet at Perkins (in)<br>Independence for a<br>breakfast meal and<br>meeting  |
| <b>24</b><br>9:15 Morning Worship<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Service<br>Presiding: Patrick McKay<br>Preaching: Wayne Simmons<br><br>4:30 Building Committee<br><br>6:00 pm Religeo<br>Presiding: Dean Falconer | 25  | 26      | <b>27</b> <u>D&amp;C 43:5f-g</u><br><br>7:00 pm Prayer Service<br>Presiding: Rex Curtis<br>Assisting: Duane Newman   | 28       | 29     | 30   |
| <b>31</b><br>9:15 Morning Worship<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship Service<br>Presiding: Bob Moore<br>Preaching: Rex Curtis<br><br>6:00 pm Hymn – Praise Sing<br>Steve Rideout                                       |   |         |  |          |        |  |



