

# The Ensign

## Zarahemla Branch

FEBRUARY 2016



Pastor's Corner  
High Priest Brad Gault



By High Priest Brad Gault

He drew a circle that shut me out-  
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.  
But love and I had the wit to win:  
We drew a circle and took him in!

The above quatrain from a broader work by Edwin Markham was brought to my memory in prayer service a few weeks ago. I was thinking about our monthly theme of repentance and how we so often want God to quickly forgive us when we trespass but how slow we are to forgive each other. How too often when we “earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 1:3) we point the accusatory finger at another ... how our contending at times becomes contentious and divisive.

The parable of the prodigal son is a stern rebuke of what it means to draw a circle and shut someone out and the benefits of drawing circles to take people in. In this parable we often focus on the younger son, the one who ran off with his inheritance and squandered it in riotous living. We marvel at his father’s reaction on his return and we should because it is a wonderful example of repentance and forgiveness.

But this parable is more about the elder brother, the one who stayed. The one who never left. The one who did not squander his inheritance. The one who believed he was right and his brother was wrong. Consider his attitude upon his brother’s return. He was angry that love had the wit to win and that his father drew a circle and took him in. In the end, the elder brother did not partake of the great feast, he was left on the outside, bitter and angry. He had drawn a circle that left his brother out. He deemed him a heretic a rebel and a thing to flout ... but in so doing, he just left himself out.

Forgiveness and love is always the better course. Latter day revelation teaches us that we “ought to forgive one another, for he that forgiveth not his brother his trespasses, standeth condemned before the Lord, for there remaineth in him the greater sin. I, the Lord, will forgive whom I will forgive, but of you it is required to forgive all men;” (Section 64:2d-e)

(Pastor’s Corner continued on next page)

<sup>i</sup> (Pastor's Corner continued from previous page)

If the adversary can get brother to turn against brother, sister against sister, he creates a whirlwind of division and destruction and he wins. If the body of Christ demonstrates love and care and concern for one another, if we bear each others burdens, if we are long suffering, if we forbear one another in love, if we uphold each other in prayer, if we resist the temptation to draw circles and shut people out but draw circles that take each other in, then God wins and his kingdom will be established among us.

We should each and every day walk in the inspired admonition that came through Joseph Luff:

Heed ye, then, this admonition:  
Climb to atmosphere of love.

Love ye me and love all people –  
Love as I have loved you;  
This your calling—this my purpose—  
Thus be my disciples true.

Then in this exalted station  
Your companion I will be;  
Every promise of my Scriptures  
Will be verified in thee.

**Zarahemla Branch  
Building Committee  
Meeting 01-24-16, 4:30 PM**

Present: Jenny Simmons, Marilyn James, Bob Moore, Duane Newman, Barb Giertz

(Lisa Newman auditing)

**Items to consider:**

Refrigerator - white, French doors, freezer below - **Jenny Simmons researching**

Women's restroom dividers - **Bob suggested accordion separation which allows opening for ADA.**

**Second toilet to be 'snaked' so as to be useable.**

Water-damaged trim at bottom of stairs - **Bob Moore checking on PVC panels to replace wood section**

**Discussion of the water problem in this area. Could build a short wall in front of church, install perforated PVC pipe system between wall and front of the church to help drain water off.**

3 Exterior doors: south wing near restroom & 3 ext doors off rostrum - **holding; approx. \$800 each.**

Hot water heater - age ? - **checking on age and if there are any leaks**

Outbuilding - Priority when weather improves - **all agreed; 10' x 12' concrete pad 1st**

**Workday: none scheduled yet; plan for 2 times year**

Finish nursery - **Yes**

Replace light fixture in north room (off rostrum) - **Yes including burned out bulb**

Replace curtain rod over font - **Marilyn James to take drapes home and hem**

Replace lights in Foyer - 4 bulb fixtures? LED ? - **Contact electrician to assess and replace**

Replace Sanctuary lights with LED - **expense is prohibitive & current lighting seems adequate per committee consensus**

Downstairs carpet - Clean or replace???? - **CLEAN and schedule periodically - (Shall I contact someone to do this?)**

**South Wing Renovation: Do we still want to renovate or look for a different building? If we want to grow, a larger facility with adequate parking is a must. Need to pose this question to the Branch. Some things will still have to be done.**

New plans or stick with old plans?

Are they still up to code?

Windows

Duct work

Back entry enclosure

The Zarahemla women met Saturday Jan 23 at Perkins for breakfast with 15 sharing fellowship and food.

Discussion included projects and future meetings.

The group agreed to support "Give Back Hope" which aids orphanages, specifically in Malawi, Africa. We would purchase a suitcase and pay fees for extra supplies to be taken as needed; or provide the moneys for purchase at the destination. Penny Curtis is the 'go to' person for this venture.

For other issues, our continuing contact people are:

Thomas Ultican Elementary School children's needs  
- DJ Falconer

Meals for new mothers or those members who are ill - Marilyn James

Flowers for hospitalized members or funerals - Joy McKay

Facilitate Classes - Barb Giertz

February 20 the women will hold a baby shower for Aubree (Nathan) Perry at the church at 3:00 PM. The Perrys are registered at Target and Bye, Bye Baby.

February 27, Jenny Simmons will host a bread making class at 1:00 PM at Sally Simmons home.  
19201 E. 27th St. Ct. So. Independence 64057

We look forward to a fulfilling year in the Lord's Service.

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Brad Gault
- 1 Roger Gault
- 1 Shane Prather
- 1 Heather Todd
- 2 Jennifer Henderson
- 8 Patrick McKay II
- 13 Michelle Moore
- 13 Lloyd Stilwell
- 13 Bob Cackler
- 16 Penny Curtis
- 20 Bethany Shaner
- 23 Richard Hensley
- 25 Dale Miller
- 25 Bekka Trahern
- 25 Loma Putnam
- 26 Elsie Hensley
- 27 Ruthanne Norman
- 28 Rolland James
- 28 Jaken Thomas
- 28 Delaney Thomas

If you have anything to submit for the March 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 March 2016

NEWSLETTER Thank you for supporting the congregational newsletter.

Marilyn James, Editor

### **Deacon Schedule**

**February 2016**

- February 7th Morning Lloyd Stilwell**
- February 14th Morning Jerry Gerber**
- February 21st Morning Kyle Norman**
- February 28th Morning Rudy Leutzinger**

## **DEVOTIONS**

**February 2016**

- February 7th Doug & Marla Family**
- February 14th Jerry & Peggy Family**
- February 21st Patrick & Joy Family**
- February 28th Scott & Shannon Family**

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

## **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

**Olivia Simmons:**

**February 14th - 2 PM - Gymnastics Meet (her first one) at the Gage Center in Blue Springs.**

**Lindsay McMilian:**

**February 18th - 7 PM - Jazz Band Concert at Summit Lakes Middle School**

**February 25th - 7 PM - Band Concert at Lee's Summit West**

**Basketball Games at Independence Sports Lodge (SE of 40 Hwy. and 291 Hwy.) (Lindsay's team name is Shock; games are free.)**

**February 11th - 5:30 PM**

**February 25th - 8:30 PM**

**Musical Schedule**

**February 7th**

**Devotional Service - Kevin McMilian**

**10:30 am Service - Kevin McMilian**

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

**February 14th**

**Devotional Service - Jill Moore**

**10:30 Service - Jill Moore**

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

**February 21st**

**Devotional Service - Ashley Gault**

**10:30 Service - Ashley Gault**

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

**February 27th**

**Devotional Service - Jeri Gault**

**10:30 Service - Jeri Gault**

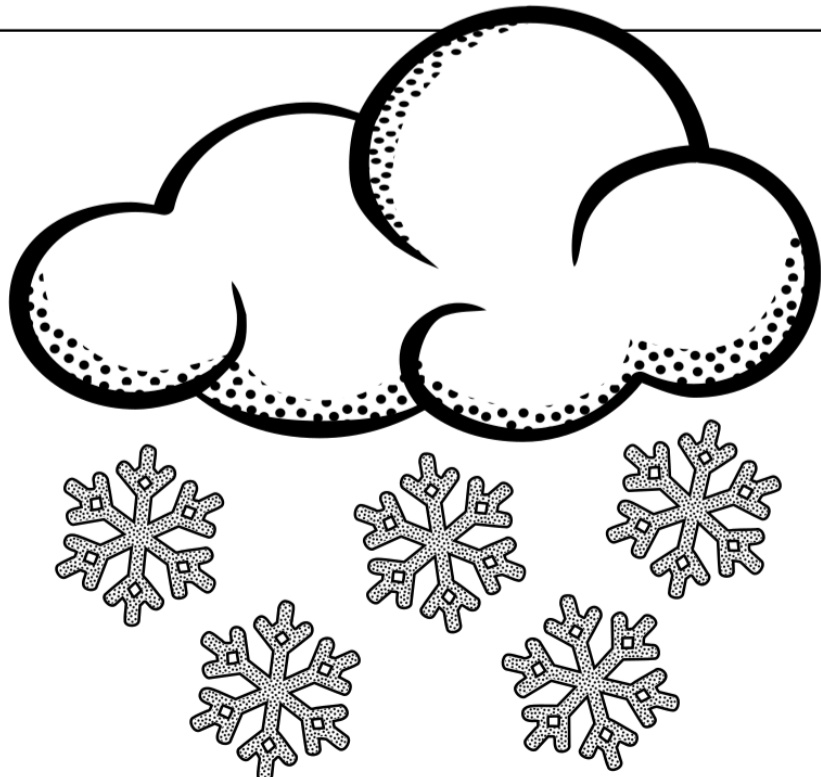
**6:00 pm Service - Lindsay McMilian**

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

<b>February 7th</b>	<b>Sacrament</b>
<b>February 14th</b>	<b>Chinnery's</b>
<b>February 21st</b>	<b>Hannah Green</b>
<b>February 27th</b>	<b>Jim and Deana McKay</b>

**FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES**

- 7 8:00 am Priesthood Prayer Service.
- 8 7:00 pm Priesthood meeting at the church.
- 10 5:30 - 6:30 pm Lamplighters will meet and be working on their scrapbooking badge.
- 13 6:00 pm Valentines Dinner at the church. Everyone is invited and please bring a friend.
- 20 10:00 - Noon Zion's League will enjoy pizza as they work on plans for the upcoming year. They will be meeting at the church.
- 20 3:00 pm will be a baby shower for Aubree Perry. She is registered at Target and Bye, Bye Baby
- 21 There will be a POTLUCK after the worship service. February birthdays will be celebrated.
- 24 5:30 - 6:30 pm Lamplighters will meet and be working on their scrapbooking badge.
- 25 THE YOUNG ADULTS WILL ENJOY A "MEET AND GREET DINNER" STARTING AT 6:00 PM. ALL YOUNG ADULTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND AND BRING A FRIEND. THE LOCATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.
- 27 Jenny Simmons will be hosting a bread baking class at the home of Sally Simmons at 1:00 PM. Sally's address is: 19201 E. 27th St., Ct., S.
- 28 6:00 Religeo at the church. This is such a unique service. Plan on attending and please bring a treat to share.



# ACTIVITY CALENDAR

# FEBRUARY 2016

## Zarahemla Branch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 <u>D &amp; C 12:3b</u> 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Dan Norman Assisting: Phil O'Camb	4	5	6
7 8:00 Priesthood Prayer Service 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Rex Curtis Preaching: Tim Canfield  6:00 Belief in Christ Preaching: Roger Gault	8  7:00 pm Priesthood Meeting	9	10 <u>Omni 1:47</u> 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Lamplighters at the church. Working on their Scrapbooking Badge 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: David Bronson Assisting: Wayne Simmons	11	12	13  6:00 pm Valentines Day Dinner at the church
14 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Doug Trahern Preaching: David Bronson  6:00 pm District service at Zarahemla Branch	15	16	17 <u>D &amp; C 3:17</u>  7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Chuck Perry Assisting: Kyle Norman	18	19	20  10:00 - Noon Zion's League meet at the church to plan events for the year.  3:00 pm Baby Shower for Aubree Perry
21 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Bonner Davis Preaching: Ron Buckles POTLUCK 6:00 pm The Restitution Teaching: Bob Moore	22	23	24 <u>Matthew 3:35</u> 5:30 pm-6:30 pm Lamplighters at the church. Working on their Scrapbooking 7:00 pm Prayer Service Presiding: Roger Gault Assisting: Rudy Leutzinger	25 7:00 pm Young Adults "Meet and Greet"	26	27
28 9:15 Morning Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Presiding: Chuck Perry Preaching: Joseph Smith  6:00 pm Religeo Presiding: Patrick McKay	29					



