

Pioneer

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Feb. 1981

Oklahoma City 4th Ward

Vol. 1 No. 1

Life for a saint has never been easy...nor has the Lord ever intended it to be. In the words of Paul we read, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." (Heb. 12:6) More recently the Lord has said, "For all those who will not endure chastening, but deny me, cannot be sanctified." (D&C 101:5)

With the pressure of inflation, some express concern because the families of the ward have been asked to work together to raise \$100 per family member for an addition to our building. "After all, it hits the larger families the hardest, who are already having the most difficult time making ends meet." However the Lord has said, "For he will give unto the faithful line upon line, precept upon precept; and I will try you and prove you herewith." (D&C 98:12)

Who benefits most when we are called upon to sacrifice? Those of us who sacrifice with the greatest effort. And once we have demonstrated the faith to commit ourselves, will the Lord abandon us without providing aid or direction? I believe that the building project we have undertaken is an opportunity for the families of the ward to be strengthened and blessed far beyond what might otherwise be possible. By the Savior himself we are told, "Verily I say unto you, all among them who know their hearts are honest, and are broken, and their spirits are contrite, and are willing to observe their covenants by sacrifice--yea, every sacrifice which I the Lord, shall command--they are accepted of me. For I, the Lord, will cause them to bring forth as a very fruitful tree which is planted in a goodly land, by a pure stream, that yeildeth much precious fruit." (D&C 97:8-9)

I want my family to experience the blessing of this promise. What do you want for your family?

Bishop Allen



Data from our

Budding Staff

When the Lord commanded Lehi and his people to depart from Jerusalem and travel unto a new land, he did not leave them without guidance during their tenure in the wilderness, but provided them with a round brass ball of curious workmanship which they used as a type of compass. This mysterious device did not operate on the principle of magnetism as do modern day compasses, the Liahona (as it was called by the nephites) simply reflected the spirituality and degree of faith which Lehi's people demonstrated. As long as they lived according to the commandments of the Lord the Liahona would mirror their faith by directing them on a straight course to the promised land...when they faltered and deviated from the ways of the Lord they could see their own dormant faith mirrored in the Liahona which refused to operate.

Centuries later the prophet Alma pointed to the example of the Liahona and said it was symbolic of the gospel of Christ: "For behold it is as easy to give heed to the word of Christ, which will point to you a straight course to eternal bliss, as it was for our fathers to give heed to this compass, which would point unto them a straight course to the promised land." (Alma 37:44) Aside from following Christ ourselves the Lord has instructed us to be such exemplary members of his church as to influence others to follow him also. Anciently he told his saints: "Ye are the light of the world," and commanded them "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5:14-16) Through the prophet Joseph Smith he commanded "Strengthen your brethren in all your conversations, in all your prayers, in all your exhortations, and in all your doings." (D&C 108:7)

We don't possess a round brass ball of curious workmanship by which we may measure our effectiveness or our spirituality as did Lehi's people, but we do have this publication. It is our express hope that this newspaper will capture the true spirit of the Liahona of old by reflecting the efforts of our wards members. And as the Liahona of old our operational effectiveness is dependent upon your personal experience, testimonies, and insights. Sincerely, the staff of the Liahona. 1907 Fox, Moore, Oklahoma.

BISHOPRI

ROBERT F. HILL

GEORGE CONNIE

CHARLES OWEN

RELIEF SOCIETY

CORRINE BOWEN

BETH CHRISTENSEN

PAM HALL

ELDER'S QUORUM

DOUG CHRISTENSEN

DAVE DONALDSON

HITCH CHESNUT

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

BILL WOOD

ASSISTANT:

MARK DONALLON

HIGH PRIEST QUORUM

JIM ORR

SUNDAY SCHOOL

RICK FOREMAN

STEVE SEIJS

STEVE VOYLES

SINGLE ADULTS

GARY SATTERLEE

YOUNG WOMEN

WANDA OWENS

DIANA VAWTER

SARA FOREMAN

YOUNG MEN

GARY HALL

BILL VAWTER

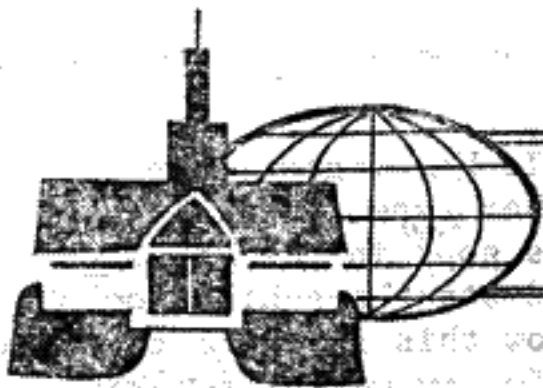
PHIL DALEY

PRIMARY

DARIENE ANDERSON

VICKI CHURCH

LARIE LEIGHTY



A Ward to the World

MISSIONARY FOCUS

Ever since we have existed as a ward we have been blessed to have seen many from among us receive callings from the Lord to serve as missionaries in various places. It is a privilege for us to have these faithful brothers and sisters to represent our ward in their respective missions and through their letters and testimonies we hope to share in the joy and fulfillment they are experiencing by serving the Lord.

Elder Les Clark, serving in the Seattle Washington mission shares with us....
..."We have been working hard tracting 10-14 hours a week and it paid off. The Lord blesses you with people to teach when your out doing his work. I just wish I would have prepared alot better by studying more. But I have learned more in the time I have been out than I ever could have back home. I would also like for you to tell the young men for me that now is the time for preparing to go on your missions."

Elder and Sister Bob Atchley, who recently left our ward for the Mission Training Center and are bound for the Dominican Republic tell us.....
..."Already I am impatient to move on to the mission field because my sons have told how glorious it is once you are there. Truly the finest things in life are free and as I see it, that will be part of our job and that is to explain it to the people of the Dominican Republic."

Sister Kathryn Davis, just prior to leaving the MTC, in transit to the Cordoba Argentina mission, commented.....
..."I love the gospel principles now more than ever. The charlas (Spanish for discussions) are so powerful and inspired. I am so excited for the opportunity to teach people and share my testimony. I have also gained an increased love and appreciation for the scriptures. They have been a great help to me and the Lord has blessed me with a greater understanding. But, most of all, I have grown so much closer to our Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ."



Continued on following page

Sister Janet Baker, also called to serve in the Seattle Washington, has been in the MTC for about 3 weeks now and says this about her experiences....
 .."I'm so happy here, I can't believe it. If its this good in the Missiona Training Center, I can't wait to get to Washington and start teaching some investigators. I'm so happy to be on a mission, I know this is where the Lord wants me to be. So many things have changed in my life, my way of thinking and acting, I just feel so different. I'm learning so much its great, I wish that everyone could go on a mission.

Sister Linda Howard, the third missionary in our ward that is now serving in the Seattle Washington mission, speaking of her companion said....
 .."After a seperation of 9 months we are now back together as companions and working in the Bellevue area around the temple. During the temple open house we had the priviledge of assisting the President. We were able to read through and sort all of the comment cards and then send them to the appropriate areas throughout the world. We also had the priviledge of being at the temple daily to help in organizing the missionaries to take tour groups through the temple. During the temple dedication we had the rare honor of receiving a hug and a kiss from Sister Kimball, and the prophet. We floated for days. Later that week we were able to sit in the celestial room with the prophet and the visiting General Authorities during the dedicatory session.

Elder Mark Atchley, who is in the Las Vegas Nevada mission and is now serving in a small town in California, said this about his experiences in the mission..
 .."Well anyway enough with the backlash jive...I'll just cut to the nitty gritty.....Gary when are you and -----(No Comment G) going to get married? Randy.. Don't think your going to get out of it! Randy? Randy?! Randy!!...hey Randy get up! O.K. now sit down...get hold of yourself!! O.K. now let go. Hey I've got 24 rolls of film for you to develop! What..no dice?!....
 (Just to show you that missionaries arn't serious all of the time.... and from the looks of Mark's letter it seems like he already has a working knowledge of the language used in his mission)

We are very proud to have such fine men and women serving as the Lords servants and representing our ward throught the different areas of the world. President Spencer W. Kimball has encouraged us all to support the missionary effort and we can do this by not only sending these fine brothers and Sisters our love and effection in our letters, but by supporting the missionaries in our ward. They are here to help us do our missionary work in the same way that the missionaries that have left from 4th ward are to help the brethren around the world do their missionary work. Please let's support them by giving them the names of our friends and neighbors and helping them teach them.



Teach up a Child

Proverbs 22:6

We in the Primary Presidency would like to take this opportunity to share with you our feelings of love for the beautiful children in Primary. It is a joy serving in the Primary, simply for the blessings of being loved by these precious children. They can brighten your day with the choice ways they share their feelings in words and smiles. They challenge us to stay alert and study the gospel through their great wisdom, faith and thirst for Knowledge.

Parents, please help or remind your children to get their drinks and use the rest room before Primary. Your children can share and retain the teachings they receive when you promptly see them after class and ask them to teach you what they have learned. Thanks for preparing your children for Primary.

We would like to congratulate the new members to the primary program. Brian Wiley, Kevin J. Davis, Deadra Drain and Stacy Zerr are four of the new children who are just starting out in the program, and we would like to wish them luck.

Buddy Leighty turned 12 years old on December 12, 1980 and was the first to graduate from the Primary from the church's new consolidated program. Our Felicitations go out to Buddy for having graduated.

As 4th ward magazine representative, the responsibility for meeting the needs of ward membership in the field of Church News, a weekly publication; and church magazines, ENSIGN, NEW ERA, and FRIEND, all monthly publications rests with Bro. Wilson. He is presently contacting Ward membership in coordination with the Church News annual effort to introduce this fine publication into the member's home. Brother Wilson may be reached at 794-1175.

Relief Society

Compassionate service is continually being rendered by the sisters of our ward without any public recognition. That is as it should be, but as a Presidency, we need to keep a record of the charitable work as such and need for a report of your efforts to us.



PEOPLE WHO CARE NOTHING FOR THE PAST
USUALLY HAVE NO THOUGHT FOR THE FUTURE
—AND— ARE SELFISH IN THE WAY THEY USE THE PRESENT.

— SPENCER W. KIMBALL

SHE SHALL BE CALLED "WOMAN" By Marsha Newman

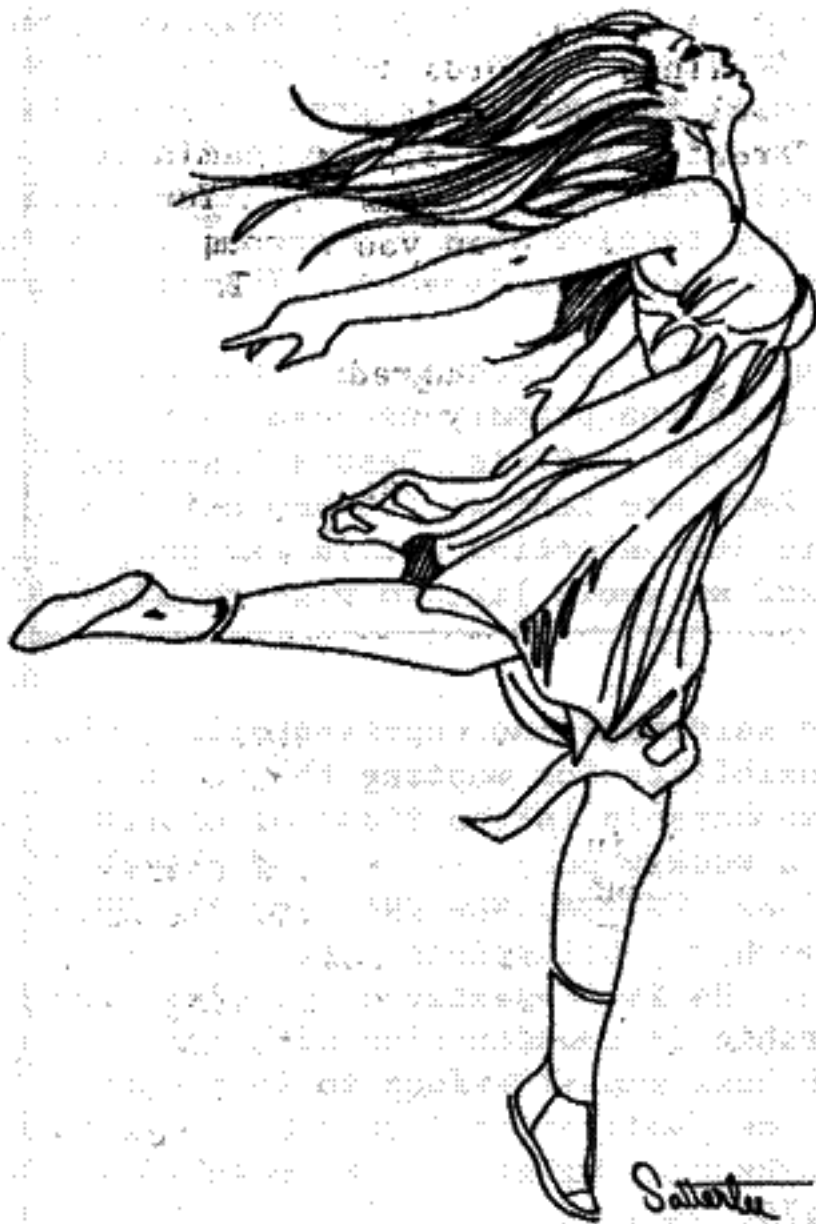
See through tomorrow!
Search out eternity!
Step forward to the brilliance
Of eternal nobility.

No downcast creature thrust
Into subservient position,
But queenly crown burnished by faith.
Exalted love come to fruition.
Ah, World!
Bring forth the beauties of thy soul
Spread out thy banquets of delight,
For Woman moves amidst thy jewels
And dims them by her light.
Mistress of all earthly grace,
Queen of brooks and daffodils,
Mountain mystic and the stars;
That all vibrant heaven fills.

Look past the present!
Penetrate infinity!
What promise of glory
Thy Creator holds for thee!

Cast back behind thy billowing skirts
Confusion, squalor, hate,
Sin, and sorrow that the ignorant
Would serve upon thy plate.
But let the splendor of the dawn
Find birth within thy face,
And gather beauty, excellence and joy
To take their higher place.

Awake and arise!
Heaven awaits thy sweet soul.
Exaltation is thy prize.
Woman, cherish thy glorious role!



LIAHONA

799-5072

OKC 4th Ward

Norman Okla. Stake

1907 Fox, Moore Okla.

Editor: Randy Lusk

Graphics: Gary Satterlee