

Garden Park Ward Newsletter

December 12, 2021



"Learn of me, and listen to my words; walk in the meekness of my Spirit, and you shall have peace in me." D&C 19:23

Dear Garden Park Ward,

Happy Holidays! I love this time of year because of the joys of thankfulness and blessings. I'm trying to make it a time filled with gratitude. One of the things I am deeply grateful for is being part of our wonderful ward community. I feel blessed to be experiencing life and my faith journey side by side with such kind, insightful, loving people. Gratitude has blessed my life enormously. In hope it will help you have a season focused on gratitude, I'm sharing here some quotes by great philosophers, writers, and of course country music singers. Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Randy Peterson and the Garden Park Bishopric

"Gratitude is riches. Complaint is poverty." Doris Day

"Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude." A. A. Milne

"I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"When you arise in the morning give thanks for the food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies only in yourself." Tecumseh

"He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has." Epictetus

"Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; remember that what you now have was once among the things you only hoped for." Epicurus

"O Lord that lends me life, lend me a heart replete with thankfulness." Shakespeare

"When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around." Willie Nelson

"I don't have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness - it's right in front of me if I'm paying attention and practicing gratitude." Brene Brown

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." Albert Schweitzer

"Sometimes we should express our gratitude for the small and simple things like the scent of the rain, the taste of your favorite food, or the sound of a loved one's voice." Joseph B. Wirthlin

"When we focus on our gratitude, the tide of disappointment goes out and the tide of love rushes in." Kristin Armstrong

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First Presidency Message on Covid-19



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Official Church Announcements



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We find ourselves fighting a war against the ravages of COVID-19 and its variants, an unrelenting pandemic. We want to do all we can to limit the spread of these viruses. We know that protection from the diseases they cause can only be achieved by immunizing a very high percentage of the population.

To limit exposure to these viruses, we urge the use of face masks in public meetings whenever social distancing is not possible. To provide personal protection from such severe infections, we urge individuals to be vaccinated. Available vaccines have proven to be both safe and effective.

We can win this war if everyone will follow the wise and thoughtful recommendations of medical experts and government leaders. Please know of our sincere love and great concern for all of God's children.

The First Presidency
Russell M. Nelson
Dallin H. Oaks
Henry B. Eyring

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Sacrament Meeting Program–December 12th

GARDEN PARK WARD

-Sacrament Meeting Program-
THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

December 12, 2021, 10am

Conducting Brother Randy Petersen
Pianist Samuel Johnson
Chorister Roger Thompson
Opening Hymn..... Angels We Have Heard on High, No. 203
Invocation Norm Younker
Ward Business Brother Petersen
Sacrament Hymn 'Tis Sweet to Sing the Matchless Love, No. 177

Administration of the Sacrament

Speaker Carrie Jensen
Intermediate Hymn..... O Little Town of Bethlehem, No. 208
Speaker John Jensen
Closing Hymn Away in a Manger, No. 206
Benediction Kathy Younker

Zoom broadcast is concluded

*"At this sacred Christmas season, we testify that our loving Heavenly Father
'so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life' (John 3:16)."*
— The First Presidency's 2021 Christmas Message

[Click here to join December 12th Sacrament Meeting](#)

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Relief Society Message

...And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."

It gets me every time. Someday I hope to thank Luke for this beautiful and inspiring description of our Lord's birth. What great joy it is to have a Savior; someone to save us from death and sin (to save us from ourselves.) Jesus will make all things right! All the confusion, injustice, contentions and disfunction and pain that we are experiencing now He will someday fix. And what a happy hope we share for peace on earth, good will toward men.

We have much to celebrate in this gospel! Including this wonderful ward family to celebrate Christmas with!

Merry Christmas with love to you and yours!

Kathy and the Relief Society Presidency

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Relief Society Announcements

Service Opportunities

[USANA Kids Eat](#)

More than 56,000 kids on the Wasatch Front regularly experience food insecurity. The problem is worse on weekends and during extended breaks from school. USANA Kids Eat, a local nonprofit, is collecting holiday meal bags to bridge the food gap many of these children will face over the two week winter school break. Our Relief Society is sponsoring 10 bags (more if there is interest!) of these bags for children here in SLC. We would love your help collecting the needed food items for each bag. We will send a sign up sheet around on Sundays for specific items needed. To learn more about the organization or the holiday bag project go to [UsanaKidsEat](#). Thanks for your willingness to serve the community!

VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION MEDICAL CENTER

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

Please join us in collecting clothing for the VAMC

Items needed include:

- Underwear (medium, large and extra large)
- Outdoor gloves (shelled, not just knit)
- Socks
- Sweatshirts
- Pants
- Coloring books and colored pencils

A box for donations will be available in the RS room
Sunday, November 28th - Sunday, December 19th

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2nd Hour Ward Meetings

This week's Relief Society meeting in the 2nd hour will be a special Christmas lesson and features Carrie Gaykowski as our presenter.

The Elders Quorum will be covering all the primary classes so women in the ward can gather to attend the RS Christmas lesson and open house. Thank you!



- Zoom links have **not** been planned for these meetings. If you'd like one set up to attend remotely, please contact Kathy Younker who can assist with making that arrangement.

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Happy Birthday!

December 1–Nicholas Heiner
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December 2–Tilda Wilson
December 3–Anne Roberts
December 5–Pamela Miller
December 8–Carol Phillips
December 8–Quinton Ruiz
December 10–Eames Patch
December 12–Sophie Shenkal
December 15– Jasmine Linam

December 17–Ralph Robbins
December 17–Lauren Zollinger
December 19–Nikki Peterson
December 20–Geoff Parker
December 25–Lark Galli
December 27–Aaron Cummings
December 28–David Hopkins
December 28–Emily Merchant
December 29–Paul Richardson

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Ward Announcements

Temporary Modifications to Temple Operations

"As cases of COVID-19 increase in many areas, we want to do everything possible to allow temples to remain open. Therefore, effective immediately, all temple patrons and workers are asked to wear face masks at all times while in the temple. These safety protocols are temporary, based on COVID-19 conditions, and will be rescinded as soon as circumstances permit."

Please click [THIS LINK](#) to read the full message from the First Presidency.

Sacrament Meeting Reminders

Beginning **Sunday, November 7th** the weekly Sacrament Meeting program will resume the administration of the sacrament at its traditional time and place in the program. The meeting will continue to be Zoomed each week, with a minor modification during the administration of the Sacrament.

We are now singing in Sacrament meeting and Primary. We will continue to social distance, and continue to invite all congregants, including children, meeting indoors to mask if not vaccinated. For those who choose not to mask, we welcome you. For all those who join in the singing, please wear a mask, or please refrain from singing and enjoy listening.

Tithing Settlement The Bishop will continue hosting Tithing Settlement through December 19th. Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board outside the clerk's office or appointments can be made through Mark Hindley at 801.599.8175.

A HUGE Thank You! To Grace & JP Brummer and all others that contributed to hosting a wonderful ward Christmas on December 6th that included the lighting of the community Christmas tree.

Please visit the grounds often and invite your friends and neighbors to enjoy the peace and beauty of the lighted ward grounds and nativity this holiday season. Lights are on daily from 5:00–10:00 p.m.

Thank you to everyone who helped deliver our community gift. Many hands make light work!

December 19th– Please join us for our musical Christmas Sacrament Meeting at 10:00 a.m. and consider extending an invitation to neighbors, friends & family to share in the Christmas Spirit. We look forward to special music, congregational singing, ward orchestra, speakers, and the singing of the Messiah. This will be the only meeting held that day.

December 26th - will be Sacrament Meeting only and no 2nd hour meetings will be held.

Stay up to date with happenings on Temple Square this Christmas season at [TempleSquare.org](https://www.temple-square.org).

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Stake FamilySearch Center located in the NW corner of the Monument Park Stake Center is open as of October 4th. Masks are strongly encouraged for all patrons and staff. The FamilySearch Center hours are:

Monday–Friday: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday: 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday: 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Church Magazines The First Presidency encourages all members to access church magazines either by print or digital delivery. Church magazines help members learn the gospel of Jesus Christ, study the teachings of the living prophets, feel connected to the global Church family, face challenges with faith, and draw closer to God. Subscriptions for print magazines are available [HERE](#) . Magazine content can be accessed digitally for free [HERE](#).

Temple recommends - We encourage all members to keep their recommends current. Ward Recommend Interviews are being held by phone. If your temple recommend is expired, please contact Mark Hindley, Garden Park Ward Executive Secretary (801.599.8175) to set up a phone interview with the Bishop.

Stake Interviews—A member of the Stake Presidency is available each Sunday from 12:30–2:00 p.m. (except on Fast Sundays, Stake Conference and General Conference weekends) at the Stake Center offices. Please center through the doors at the west end of the building. Those who are unable to meet during these times can contact Scott Hagen (801.824.0640) who will help set up an interview with a member of the Stake Presidency.

TEMPLE UPDATE: Temples in Utah are again open for proxy ordinances. Patrons need to schedule in advance on-line through churchofjesuschrist.org/temples. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own temple clothing, although Temple clothing is available. We are so blessed to again have Temples open around us; some may have appointments available same day, while others may require more advance planning, but the websites, like the Temples, are patron friendly. The Bountiful Temple can be reached directly at (801) 296-2100 for operating hours and to make appointments.