



Greenmount Ward

NEWSLETTER

5th April 2020

#0003

“We must continue to be faithful and vigilant, for so is the only way to discern truth and to hear the voice of the Lord through His servants.”

Elder Gary E. Stevenson

Bishop's Message

Hi Ward Family,

After much anticipation, we will shortly receive instruction from the First Presidency and other General Authorities at General Conference this weekend. As stated by President Nelson, in his closing remarks in October 2019 conference, this conference “will be different from any previous conference”. That statement is certainly living up to expectation with no 20,000 plus congregation attending, no live choir, and no grand view of the conference center. But I know despite this, the messages and spirit will remain unchanged.

May I encourage everyone to take up President Nelson's invitation to prepare for the conference by studying Joseph Smith's First Vision account and to ponder questions like: “How would my life be different if my knowledge gained from the Book of Mormon were suddenly taken away?” or “How have the events that followed the First Vision made a difference for me and my loved ones?” The more prepared we are the more we will gain from the inspired words that have prayerfully been crafted over months by those preparing to speak.

On the matter of sacrament in the home, this week I received news from the Area Presidency that due to the risks of contracting COVID-19 the sacrament will no longer be possible in the homes without Priesthood already present. I know this decision was not made lightly by the Area Presidency and complies with the recent government restrictions of home visitation. May I encourage those homes affected by this adjustment to read the sacrament prayer pondering the sacred promises (Moroni 4:3 & 5:2).

The Area Presidency has also provided further instruction on the uses of chapels.

- Chapels are not to be used at all, with the exception of missionaries (1 companionship at a time, one hour limit, on P-days only).
- Priesthood leaders will not be able to interview members at the chapel.

I hope and pray in light of these further adjustments we continue to stay in touch with each other using inventive means and technology in line with government and church recommendations. We have shared two such events below. First, our Seminary students and a welcome home drive-by for Elder King.

Sincerely,
Bishop Spark

Ward Announcements

- Due to the risks of contracting COVID-19 the sacrament will no longer be possible in the homes without Priesthood. (See Bishops message above).
- All current and past newsletters are posted on greenmountward.com.au.

Tithing Pickup

If you have tithing to be collected, please call a member of the bishopric and they will provide instructions on how it will be collected. We plan to collect the tithing on Sunday Morning, 5 April 2020.

Relief Society President Message

Last week as a relief society presidency we tried to contact the sisters to follow up on how ministering was going. It was so cool to hear the feedback and listen to the experiences people were having. People were on to it! It's so great to see how people are supporting each other.

Could I encourage you all to regularly pray for your ministering people, so we can serve each other in a personal way. You can draw closer to your people as you do this.

The ministering is what will keep us connected and spread the love!

If you're feeling alone or somehow haven't been contacted and you'd like to be, speak up! Nobody knows it unless you say it. You'll find people are happy to once they know, and sorry you were missed.

Like all the other mums at the moment I'm trying to keep up with homeschooling the kids. To you mums I say "may the force be with you". We need it, hahaha :)

Remind yourself to look for the positives in these times if you're looking you'll find them. We all look forward to hearing about the general conference.

I hope you're having some success with doing "Come, Follow me". Just keep trying ;)

Sending my love, Nicolette

The "Life and Times" of a Ward at home



An Interview with Elder King

1- What was the weirdest food you ate?

Probably chicken feet and tripe which is chewy boiled sheep insides

2- What were the people like in South Africa?

They love to talk and always greet everyone they see. Family is very important and this actually made my work harder as they didn't want to leave their family churches

3- What important lesson did you learn?

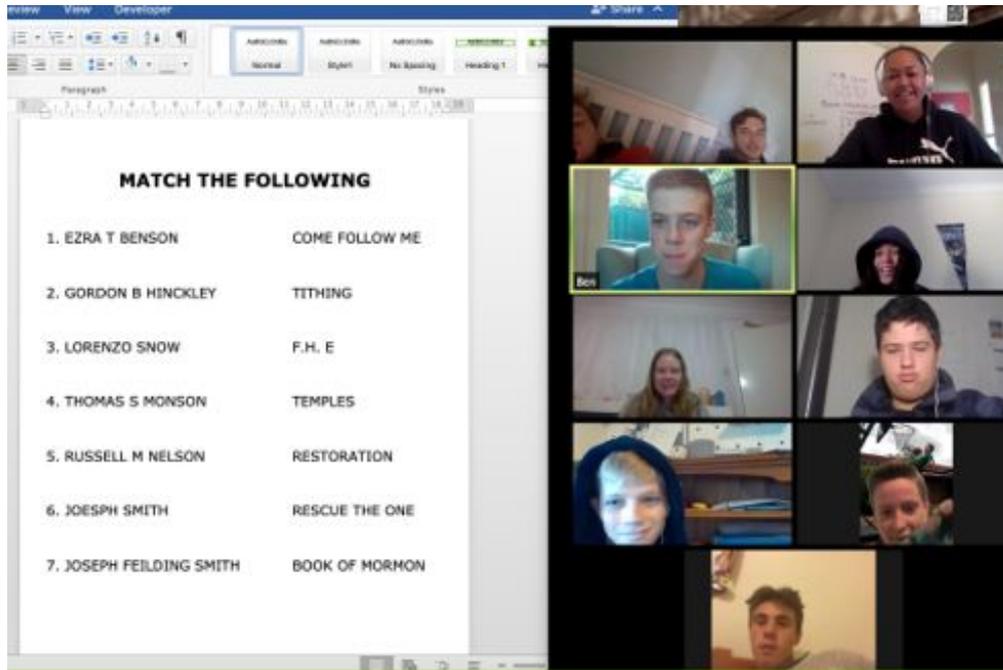
Don't be scared to share the gospel, even to people you don't think will be interested. You never know where or who it might lead you to.

4. How can we be missionaries with everything going on at the moment?

Reach out using phones and social media. Elder Anderson promised that if we prayerfully consider our friends and associated and ask God who we need to lift. We will be inspired to know who we should reach out to.

Youth

COVID-19 life as a Seminary student.



Zoom technology is being used to connect students in the Ward.

Thanks to Marg for doing an awesome job and the students for staying awake at home.



Birthdays this Week

Grace Goodlet
Sam Anderson
Aaron Hamilton
Adam Desmond

Primary

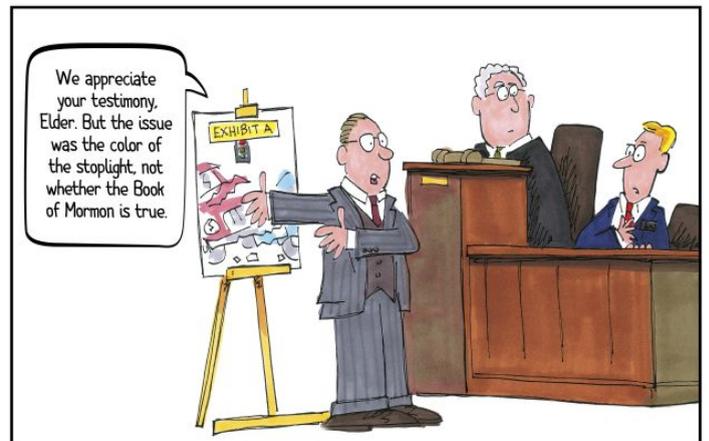
Hopefully, everyone is coping at home and keeping busy. As a primary, we have made up conference and Easter packs and a treat for each of the primary children. Hopefully, everyone will have a copy by Sunday or have been contacted by one of the leaders. We hope this will help with your Sabbath day worship and help prepare for General Conference. We are missing all of you very much
Love Primary.

Weekly “Come, Follow Me” Home Centered Learning

We encourage you to continue your home-centered learning by continuing the “Come, follow me” program. If you need a “Come, follow me” manual, please call or message Luke Holder 0435 553 357 your name and address to get one delivered to your door this week! The learning schedule:

March 30–April 12 Easter	April 13–19 Mosiah 1–3	April 20–26 Mosiah 4–6	April 27–May 3 Mosiah 7–10
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The Isolation Cantillation



If you did not receive the business email or this newsletter via email, please contact Neville King (0412 684 403) with your email address to be added to the ward list.

If you want to add something to the newsletter then please contact Michael McIlwaine on michael.mcilwaine@gmail.com