

Greenmount Ward

NEWSLETTER

31st May 2020

#0011

"The Lord is trying to help us - all of us - get His gospel deeper in our hearts."

Douglas D. Holmes



Bishop's Message

Hi Ward Family,

Throughout my younger years attendance at church at times was a struggle. My parents were always there to support and remind me by saying *"what would Jesus want me to do"*. Even as a child I knew what he wanted me to do. At the time I never really understood why attending church each week was just so important. With covid-19 I have reflected on the importance of church. Here are some of my thoughts and how church accomplishes the Lord's purposes:

An important place to start is to recognize God's ultimate purpose in our progress. He wants us to continue *"from grace to grace, until (we receive) a fullness"* of all He can give. (D&C 93:13). This requires more than just being nice or feeling spiritual. It requires faith in Jesus Christ, repentance, baptism, receiving the Holy Ghost and enduring to the end. Trying to achieve this in its entirety during isolation, is near impossible. A major reason why the Lord created the church was also to create a community of Saints that can help sustain one another during difficult times, in order for us to achieve just what God wants- **progression**.

Remember two things, we don't strive for conversion to the Church, but to Jesus Christ and the gospel and that conversion is facilitated by the church. The Book of Mormon expresses this really well in 3 Nephi 28:23 which reads; *"we converted to the Lord, and were united unto the church of Christ."*

A second major reason the Savior works though His church is to achieve needful things that cannot be accomplished by the individual or a small group. One clear example is dealing with poverty. It is true as individuals and families we look after those in need, but together in the church, the ability to care for the poor and needy is significantly multiplied in meeting the broader needs around the world. Without the capabilities of His church in place, the Saviors commission to spread the gospel around the whole would not be possible.

As a bishopric we continue to wait for direction from our Stake Presidency on when we can return to sabbath day services. I'm expecting the easing of WA law changes next week may allow us to start working on a phased in approach back to church. We will keep everyone informed as things progress.

Sincerely,
Bishop Spark

Ward Announcements

- **Young Men Bike Ride.** Saturday, 6th June. Contact Bishop or Luke Holder 0435 553 357 if you want to get picked up with your bike Saturday morning 7am. We will be riding from Chidlow to Swan View.
- **RS and Priesthood Zoom meeting.** Sunday, 7 June at 11:30 am - combined RS and Priesthood Zoom meeting. Bishop will be teaching.. If anyone needs assistance setting up Zoom to contact Don Desmond or Naomi Holder. The Zoom meeting details are as follows:

The meeting ID: 783 217 6099

Password: Pioneer47

or you can click on the link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7832176099?pwd=eGJwOHRoQ0ZlU0xTdEJscDBEMXMwdz09>

Phone in option, call this number: 71501149

You will be prompted to enter the meeting ID (783 217 6099) followed by #

You will be asked to enter your user name but you can just enter the #.

You will then be asked to enter the password: 422270 followed by # (different password to the viewing method)

This option will be sound only (no video).

Ward Business

- Nil

Tithing Pickup

Our next tithing pickup will be Sunday the 7th June. Please contact one of the Bishopric members to add your name to our pick up list. Call Bishop 0423 440 576 or Bro. Holder 0425 502 2434.

Sister Missionaries in a very unique situation.

Please welcome our new sister missionaries into your homes for a meal if you are able and comfortable with this. They are again able to visit with members, and they are so happy about it after 6 weeks of real lock down. They are not allowed to go tracking, and are both newly together, so we encourage you to give them a call and see how you can help them do the work of the Lord, or just introduce yourself. Please give them a call on 0410 434 756. (They have no car and need picking up.)



Relief Society

Please note the upcoming activities:

- Sunday, 31 May at 11:30 am - relief society lesson over Zoom.

- Tuesday, 2 June at 9:30 am - morning tea and recipe demonstration at Naomi Holder's house.
- Thursday, 4 June at 9:30 am - bike ride from Mundaring to Greenmount (ring Nicolette for details).

Sister Spotlight. What I learned.

Felicia Bebe

1. What have you learnt from come follow me this year ?

I really enjoyed the moment in Mosiah 20:21 where Gideon says to Limhi that they are fulfilling Abinidi's prophecy. Alma wasn't the only one to be converted from Abinadi, but the Lamanties also came to a realisation of the consequences of "continuing in their iniquities". As they recognised Abinidi's prophecies being fulfilled. So can many people learn from our testimony.

2. What have you enjoyed about isolation?

Well we had to do 14 days quarantine after returning from the east coast. It was the most stress-free time. Knowing we had no plans or deadlines, just our family of four chilling at home, playing and creating. We made vegie patches, dried fruit and "biltong". Very care-free.

3. What is special about the place you grew up?

I grew up in Lesmurdie, we used to ride the Peewee50 in the back yard and I thought that was pretty cool.

4. What are some hobbies you enjoy?

I love trying new recipes, mostly sweet! I like photography and scuba diving.

5. What is something you think people should do at least once in their lives?

So I think everyone who can, should visit the Northern Territory, forget Bali, It's so amazing up there!

Elders Quorum

Elders Quorum lessons and dates:

- 14-06-20 Deep in our hearts- Douglas D Holmes
- 28-06-20 Come unto Christ- John A McCune
- 12-07-20 Consider the goodness and greatness of god – Dale G Renlund
- 26-07-20 A good foundation against the time to come- Gary E Stevenson
- 09-08-20 He goes before us- Henry B Eyring
- 23-08-20 The Melchizedek priesthood and the keys- Dallin H Oaks
- 13-09-20 Opening the heavens for help- Russell M Nelson
- 27-09-20 Come and belong- Dieter F Uchtdorf
- 11-10-20 Finding refuge from the storms of life- Ricardo P Gimenez
- 25-10-20 The finest homes- L Whitney Clayton

Youth



navigating

a parents' moment

A recent comment from a Y12 student in NSW echoed some whispers that I have heard from our ward youth:

"It's kind of scary to think that after this there may not be job security moving forward. [I am] in Year 12 and wondering how HSC is going to pan out, and university offers are going to pan out. And then, there may not even be a workforce to join after all of this."

I am sure that you have many thoughts and questions about how COVID is going to impact the future ... the one thing I've learned in life is that questions are good and that silencing questions is more harmful than asking them.

So in this time of scary thoughts, find someone or even some-many to ask those questions ... the most helpful people will be those who: -

- Might not have an immediate answer but are willing to spend the time talking through your concerns (Great question, how about we get together to talk about it?)
- Do not shut you down ... they know that questions are as much about relationships as about what's on your mind.
- Can connect you with others ... just maybe they invite a person who has asked the same types of questions and wrestled for answers to join your next conversation.
- Help you connect with yourself ... people have their own internal questions – and rather than suppress them, amazing leaders have treated questions as a sign of curiosity, exploration and growing maturity.

And remember the words of Corrie Ten Boom:

Any problem too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be made into a burden

Young women



navigating

a parents' moment

A "life post-COVID" conversation with one of our parents was really thought provoking. As we discussed the return or non-return to

normal, I was struck by how many of us are having significant conversations and thoughts ...

“What does life look like, post COVID?” ... many parents express the desire for a slower life, a more regulated pace ... and many express the wish that this current reality can be more than “getting through” or “surviving”, that it becomes a shift into new habits that transform our lives.

“What do we want for our family?” ... others have expressed appreciation for simple, slow Sundays, for sitting around the dinner table and talking ... for the opportunity to enjoy their family and their children for what they are ...

Personally, I’m trying to treat this as a season for new relationships to bloom. Pondering and reading about others’ experiences, i.e. with some help! I’ve identified some intentional shifts to make to my mindset:

- I intend to creatively cultivate relationships –
- I commit to contribute to a positive climate through life-giving words –
- I affirm genuineness in myself and others – in the words of Steve Argue:

I'll be honest, I don't want anyone to see me at my worst moments. Yet, I also think this season is an opportunity for our growing kids to see that we're human and, even more, hear us admit our limitations. When I reveal my rough edges, let my best self show up, or admit my anxious moments, I level the relational playing field and create new opportunities for connection. Perhaps one of the best ways we can connect with our kids is through our shared humanity. This will lead to both embarrassing and beautiful moments that can bring us closer together.

May we carefully navigate and find our way in this opportunity!



Isacc Anderson 31st May
Cheyton Desmond 3rd June
Robert Mills 3rd June
Alex McIlwaine 9th June
Emma Goodlet 10th June
Aaron Taylor 10th June

Primary

If families are interested in more paper copies of the primary lessons for the coming month please contact sister Beckham or sister Hamilton this week so we can get them to you before next Sunday. Thanks.

Here are a few songs to go along with the lessons for the month of June which are great teaching helps and a way to remember principles for our children to know, if families could practice at home so that when we come back to primary we will be prepared for our sacrament presentation later in the year and be familiar with the songs.

- We'll bring the world his truth. (cs pg172)

- Follow the prophet (cs pg 110).
- I want to be a missionary now (cs pg 168).

Love primary.

Primary spotlight

Pene Punaivaha

What's your favourite hymn/primary song?

Army of Helaman.

Who do you miss seeing the most at church?

Everyone, but mostly my primary class.

What are you enjoying most about spending time with your family right now?

Going to the beach, going to our Aunty's house and hanging out with the cousins.

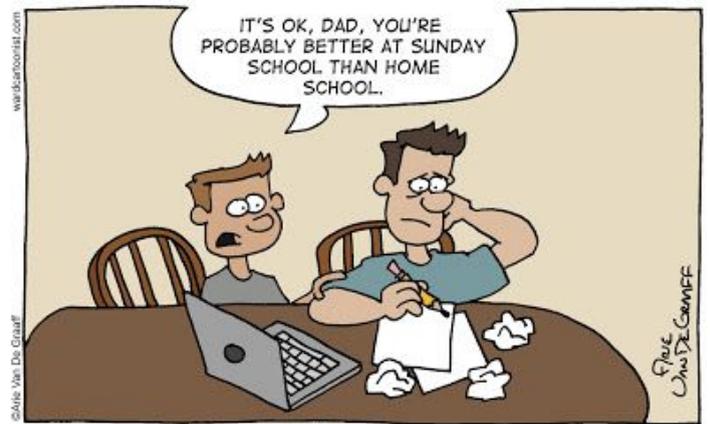


Weekly “Come, Follow Me” Home Centered Learning

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:

1 - 7 June	8 - 14 June	15 - 21 June	
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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