

Greenmount Ward

NEWSLETTER

5th July 2020

#0015

"With covenant identity and belonging, we are called by the name of Jesus Christ."

Sister Lisa L. Harkness

Bishop's Message

Hi Ward Family,

You may be aware that further easing of restrictions apply to WA residents on Saturday 27th June. This will allow more than 100 members to attend church. However, until we as a bishopric receive confirmation from the Stake and Area presidencies we will continue to operate sacrament meetings for those without Priesthood in the home. We do expect to receive confirmation shortly which we will then consider how and when these new changes will take effect. We thank you for your patience.

What Covid-19 has taught us is how quickly supplies can disappear from the shelf due to panic buying, the shortcomings within our healthcare systems and our dependence on foreign countries for medical and basic supplies. The closing and defending of borders due to Covid-19 has also shown the importance between personal liberty, constitutional rights and government authority. Finally, it has highlighted what is "most important" in our communities. In that essentially our ability to worship together is less important to what is deemed by authorities as essential services such as alcohol sales, coffee bars, restaurants, sporting events and protesting in large groups. With this in mind have you ever considered how fragile our freedom to worship may really be?

Elder Bednar stated in a talk given at BYU last month when he said; *"One key realization is that for most faith communities, gathering for worship ritual, and fellowship is essential; it's not merely an enjoyable social activity....And it is where God Himself can dwell in the midst of His people"*. In our hope to overcome Covid-19, I urge us to remember these times and continue to forget not what is most important and most precious. It's my hope and prayer we as individuals focus on those things most important, true and eternally lasting. In doing so, further prepare ourselves spiritually and resilient to any future trial, be it personal or as a family.

I hope you all have a wonderful sabbath day as we worship together and remember our Saviour and redeemer.

Sincerely,
Bishop Spark

Reference: Elder Bednar at "BYU Law School Annual Review of Religious Liberty" June 2020



Ward Announcements

- Convert baptism of Holly Trutwein on Saturday 27th June. The Missionaries in the ward have been teaching her for sometime and we are now privileged to be part of her special day.
- When ministering could you please check if people are receiving announcements in text messages from Belinda King. These messages contain various announcements from the bishopric, elders quorum, and relief society. These messages are a way of delivering important information. If your ministering people are not receiving these text messages can you seek their permission to give their mobile number to Belinda King.

Ward Business

- Nil

Tithing Pickup

Our next tithing pickup will be today, Sunday the 5th July. 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.

For Parents



navigating a parents' moment

When the world explodes as it has in the last few weeks, what are our options to help our teens make sense of injustice?

Injustice seems to be removed from other words that occur in social and news media ... and yet for me, it seems to be the perfect word to encapsulate the multiple tensions that merge ... inequality ... racism ... violence ... labelling ... tensions rooted, perhaps in scarcity?

"How can we respond to this in informed, Christ-like ways" ... what conversations are useful with our children?

My daily work often meets the tensions of inequality, violence and labelling. Personally find wisdom in the understanding of the concept of "unreal othering". As one writer stated:

The more different someone seems from us, the more unreal they may feel to us. We can too easily ignore or dismiss people when they are of a different race or religion, when they come from a different socio-economic "class." Assessing them as either superior or inferior, better or worse, important or unimportant, we distance ourselves.

In Christ-like ways, we can respond, creating “one-another” rather than “unreal other” ... Martin Luther King asserted *“All [people] are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be.”* In this endeavour I have learned that:

- I can speak well of others: avoiding stereotypes and labels, assuming the best rather than the worst, focusing on strengths/gifts first rather than shortcomings.
- I can give space to listening to others’ stories.
- I can pray for those whom I identify as enemies or “others,” both locally and globally.

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

Youth



navigating for youth

I am never sure where we'll be next ... as restrictions have come and restrictions have gone ... and more seriously, life has changed and young and old have globally joined hands in protesting against injustices ...

There is an interesting balance to life ... as President Gordon B Hinckley, quoting his favourite journalist, said:

Life is like an old-time rail journey – delays, side-tracks, smoke, dust, cinders, and jolts, interspersed only occasionally by beautiful vistas and thrilling busts of speed. The trick is to thank the Lord for letting you have the ride.

So, lets happily record our rail journey so far this year ...

- We can name what is lost and lament it together. We can say, “That’s rough.” We can be sad. We can acknowledge sources of anger and irritability. There are plenty of those sources right now and more coming.
- And equally, let us list gratitude. We can be thankful; we can share the little surprises of this disruption. Playing guitar again. Watching movies together. Not packing lunches every morning. Having devices to connect with friends.
- And we can thank the Lord for letting us have the ride!

Go and Do!

Relief Society

We have a sisters text message list. When we have news to share, or information to give we send out a group text. If you have a mobile phone and you do not get weekly Zoom links, then this means you are not on the list. Please contact Nicolette or Belinda to pass on your mobile number.

During the school holidays we won't be holding a morning tea activity.

Elders Quorum

Elders Quorum lessons and dates:

- 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



- Yindi Falconbridge - 29 June
- Precious Tan - 1 July
- Asher Lentz-Reid - 1 July
- Kate Anderson - 2 July
- Dawn Brown - 3 July
- Janine Woods - 4 July
- Carolyn Kelly - 4 July
- Jack Smith - 4 July
- Joseph Chapman - 6 July
- Leah Bebe - 6 July
- Hunoa Punaivaha - 7 July
- Malachi Desmond - 8 July
- Riley O'Brien - 11 July
- Paul Thompson - 12 July

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:

29 June - 5 July Alma 23 - 29	6 - 12 July Alma 30 - 31	13 - 19 July Alma 32 - 35	20 - 26 July Alma 36 - 38
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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