

Zion's Outpost Branch Newsletter

Vol. 24, No. 5-6

The Church of Jesus Christ, Zion's Outpost Branch

May-June 2009

CPRS Choir Visit

Approximately 20 members of the Center Place Restoration School and a few adult leaders traveled to Zion's Outpost Branch on May 2 and 3. They participated in the morning sacrament service on May 3. Jim Gamble, the choir director at Center Place Restoration School in Independence, MO., contacted the branch to arrange a visit by the choir.

The choir performed several pieces as part of the worship service. This included an introit and a response after the benediction. Prior to the Sacrament address, the choir sang "Jesus, Priceless Treasure." After the administration of the sacrament emblems, they performed "A Vision of You."

Elder Mark Etter was one of the adult leaders who made the trip with the choir. Brother Etter pro-

vided the ministry of the word following the ordinance of the Lord's Supper.

Elder Etter's sermon was well spoken and inspiring. He began by playing a recording of a song based



The CPRS Chamber Choir on Sunday, May 3, 2009

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Gene Sweem Passes Away

See the story on page 3

College Graduations

Claire Burford completed her studies at Friends University in Wichita, KS in May 2009. Graduation exercises were held at the Kansas Coliseum on Saturday, May 9, 2009 at 3:00 pm.

Her graduation was celebrated with a picnic at Hap McLean Park in Park City. It was a chilly day for a picnic. Claire graduated with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education.

Brad Whiting completed his bachelor's degree in May. He earned a Bachelor Degree in Gen-

eral Studies in Criminal Justice from Wichita State University. He earned a minor in psychology. He has also earned two Associate Degrees at Butler Community College.

Congratulations to the new graduates and God's blessings to them as they pursue their post graduate life.



The Zion's Outpost Branch Newsletter is published monthly by the Publications Department of Zion's Outpost. The editor is Gary Whiting. Please reference the newsletter if quoted for other than personal use. The newsletter is used to inform members, friends and seekers of the events taking place in the Branch and to promote the work of preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is available at no charge to those asking for a subscription. Contributions to support its publication are appreciated.

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Sunday Services

9:00 am Prayer Service on First and Third Sundays

9:30 am Family Worship on all other Sunday mornings

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

5:00 pm Study Class

Sacrament Service at 11:00 am on First Sunday and 5:00 pm on Third Sunday of each month

7:15 pm Wednesday Night Prayer and Testimony Service

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Zion's Outpost Publications	
Good News Concordance	
Book of Mormon/Doctrine and Covenants (1 volume)	\$30.00
Old and New Testaments (2 volume set)	\$50.00
Full set (3 volumes)	\$75.00
Books and Pamphlets	
The Book of Mormon is Christian	\$5.00
The Parable of the Olive Tree	\$5.00
Conversion Table: RLDS to LDS Doctrine and Covenants	\$5.00
A Word of Consolation	\$5.00
The Voice of the Captives	\$5.00
That Ye May Be Forgven	\$5.00

Gene Sweem Passes Away

Gene Sweem passed from this life on May 6, 2009 at 8:31 am. Sister Sweem was 97 years old. She was born January 9, 1912 in Edmond, KS.

Gene was married to Ron Sweem for 60 years. They met while Ron was working in Norton, KS as an electrician. During their marriage they lived in Wichita and Corpus Christi, TX. Gene and Ronnie were very happy together until his death on April 27, 1999.

Gene was a long time member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. She always confessed her faith in Jesus Christ and truly enjoyed the fellowship of the Saints. Even when she was unable to attend services because of physical problems, she kept up with the events of the church family. She read the newsletter and always asked about the members of the branch to know how they were doing. She did all she could to remain a part of our branch.

When physical problems overtook her, Gene had to move from her home. She spent her last few



Gene Sweem in a photo from 2006

years in various nursing facilities around Wichita.

We will miss Gene and her friendly smile. Our prayers are for the comfort of her family. The obituary from the Wichita Eagle website is on page 5.

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on Proverbs 3:5-10. These verses contain the counsel that we should trust the Lord and not rely on our own understanding. Using an interesting mix of scripture and personal testimony, Brother Etter described why we ought to put our trust in the Lord and why we should not lean on our own understanding.

Elder Etter encouraged us to lean on because of God's nature. God is unchangeable and can be trusted. He is the Creator and remains involved in the creation. God is slow to anger and abundantly gracious. He is the God who is True and cannot lie. God is Light and Love.

Our understanding is flawed by our insight and wisdom is very small. We know very little about our present and next to nothing about the future.

The third important lesson from these verses is found in verse 6, "in all thy ways acknowledge him." Elder Etter explained that the word acknowledge means to recognize and agree. The counsel of this verse is to look for God and His wisdom in all that we do. Verse seven gives the same advice with different words, "fear the Lord and depart from evil." When God's ways are known, we must agree with Him. Following this advice leads to the promise that the Lord will direct our paths.

So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Worship Me According to Mine Everlasting Covenant

By Gary R. Whiting

The Doctrine and Covenants states that the Creator God gave a commandment to men and women “that they should love and serve him the only living and true God, and that he should be the only being whom they should worship” (D&C 17:4b). This is consistent with the commandment given at Mount Sinai in Exodus 20:3.

The Lord does not respect every kind of worship we desire to give Him. The first recorded conflict between God and man in worship occurred when Cain, with evil counsel, sought to modify God’s requirements with an offering of his own choice (Genesis 5 IV). God has set the standard for acceptable worship. We must acknowledge this and see that our worship matches the requirements set in heaven.

The theme for May is taken from D&C 98:5a. The part we are focusing on reads, “worship me according to mine everlasting covenant.” This phrase contains some important clues to help us understand how to worship God.

All true worship is focused on God. The parameters or framework of worship is the everlasting covenant of God. In the text, the Lord says that the covenant is His. What

does this mean?

First, it shows that God is the initiator and administrator of the covenant. He designed it, determined its conditions and its purpose. The Father invites or rejects those who come to Him based on the conditions of the covenant.

Second, it is God who initiates the covenant. No person drew up the covenant and submitted it to God for executive approval. The Lord made the covenant as a way to show us the specific requirements of obedience that lead to His blessing and fellowship.

Third, it means that we cannot alter the covenant or amend it. The terms and conditions of the covenant are fixed and everlasting. They are forever to endure and will not be changed. Thus, the covenant reflects the nature and character of God who wrote it.

The everlasting nature of the covenant is important for all who submit to it. Have you ever tried to play a game with someone who tries to change the rules each time? It is impossible to accomplish anything and the contest becomes senseless. If God was whimsical and changed the rules periodically

He could not be trusted. There would be no assurance that the promises were secure. It would be impossible for faith to operate.

Our worship of God must strive to be as sure and steady as is the Lord God, the object of our adoration and praise. Emulation of God’s character is an aspect of worship. Our worship is also to be seen as a necessary part of our keeping the terms of the covenant into which the Lord has invited us.

We should have eternal aspirations in our worship. Our offerings to God should not be for the moment or to seek personal comfort. We should offer worship to God that fulfills the everlasting covenant. In other words, our worship must keep God’s commandments and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion (D&C 6:3a). This is the essence of the everlasting covenant (Genesis 9:18-23).

Worship is a way to keep God’s commandments. By following God’s instructions we grow into Zion character and kingdom fitness. This is one reason why worship is so critical for us.

Oyez, Oyez, Oyez!

Now is the time
for all good patriots to prepare to

Stand Fast for Liberty!



You are invited to join us in Zion's Outpost's
Vacation Liberty School

June 15-19, 2009

6.00 - 8.30 pm

Before long we shall gather together to remember those who placed their "firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence." We will learn how patriots, both ancient and colonial, stood against the enemies of freedom and pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. All patriots can anticipate a jolly good time with crafts, singing, and refreshments.

Join the Cause of Liberty today!

Sweem, Phoebe Geneva, 97, passed away May 6, 2009. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald E. Sweem and son, Ralph E. Peake. Phoebe is survived by her grandsons, Richard, Norman, Thomas, Gordon and William Peake and her great-granddaughter, Megan Peake. Grave-side service 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, Resthaven Gardens of Memory. Resthaven Mortuary.

Speed On, Blest Gospel

By Gertrude

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way;
Your message is true, your mission is great.
Your way now pursue, your truth to relate.

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way;
The kingdom now bring, some may enter in;
Many are waiting in darkness and sin.

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way.
To the south are those in doubt and in woe,
Awaiting for you the truth to bestow.

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way;
To west and to north, now haste on your way;
Of its blessings teach, its progress don't stay.

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way;
To east and to distance, far, far away.
Haste on with your message, from day to day.

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way;
From the blest mountain your text was taken.
Its message is truth, which can not be shaken.

Speed on, true gospel, speed on o'er the way;
Thy truth ever brings its blessings and peace.
If honest, accept, and wickedness cease.

The Saints' Herald, February 15, 1928, Vol. 75, No. 7,
page 186.

Month Calendar

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The Last Word

Mary Robinson remains hospitalized at Via Christi St Joseph hospital. Her long stay there may be nearing an end. She went into the hospital with an infection. She required a significant abdominal surgery to correct the source of infection. Mary came through the surgery fine, but has not been able to keep up her nutrition.

A feeding tube was placed to help her obtain the proper nutrition. The medical plan for Mary is for her to be moved to the Goddard Nursing Home in a few days.

This hospitalization has been a difficult challenge to her in many ways. She certainly desires your prayers and love. We are grateful for the good care shown to by her son-in-law Frank. There are multiple ways that the Lord has blessed our sister by her faith, by the prayer of faith and



the ordinances of the gospel. Please continue to intercede for Mary. She would like to be able to return home soon.

Mary's daughter, Marylyn, remains in the care facility in Kingman.