

Garden Park Ward Newsletter

November 29, 2020



"I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." John 8:12

Reading this week about our Thanksgiving Holiday, I discovered a few new facts—that historians tell us that 400 years ago, in 1620, only fifty-seven of the 102 passengers of the Mayflower survived their first winter in America; that the only contemporaneous account of what we commemorate as the first Thanksgiving notes that in celebration of the harvest gathered in, the Pilgrims spent three days in feasting and celebration with 90 Native Americans; that the only other account of that gathering was written twenty years later by my wife Cathy's tenth Great Grandfather, Governor William Bradford.

For the surviving colonists, who had just experienced a year of hunger, disease and death, their bountiful harvest and game, gave rise to a special celebration of thanks and gratitude.

I also learned that the Native Americans that celebrated with the Pilgrims were of the Wampanoag Tribe from the Cape Cod area and the tribe still exists today; that in recent times, Linda Combs, the associate director of the Wampanoag Program at Plimoth Plantation, states that for the native people [circa 1600's], giving thanks was a daily activity, "Every time anybody went hunting or fishing or picked a plant, they would offer a prayer or acknowledgment."

In a small way, like those early colonists, we have faced months of devastating disease, death, and economic hardship. Even so, last week, President Nelson invited the world to join him in a prayer of gratitude following his thoughts on how practicing gratitude can bless our lives.

I wonder if I, if we, might change our lives more deeply by eating less turkey, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie, and instead, developed or strengthened the habit of giving daily thanks like the Native Americans that embraced and sustained our forebearers, and in tune with our Prophet's counsel today. May each of our lives be blessed as we follow his counsel to find strength and blessings in giving thanks.

God bless each of you and your families,
Bishop Graham and the Garden Park Ward Bishopric

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Sunday Service Announcement—November 29th

The health and safety of our most vulnerable ward members continues to be our top priority. We continue to make periodic adjustments to procedures in response to changing conditions and guidance from church and government leaders. Most recently, we moved to broadcasting church services from the chapel, with the vast majority of ward members participating from home via zoom. The feedback we received has been largely positive, with most participants enjoying the opportunity to worship with all family members in the safety and comfort of their homes.

We have received instruction from stake leadership to provide the option to attend in person for those who wish. In response, those wishing to attend church in the chapel are invited to do so. We will continue to broadcast Sacrament meeting via zoom. Given the very high coronavirus transmission rate, we anticipate that the vast majority of us will elect to continue participating via zoom for now, but anyone wishing to attend in person will be most welcome.

So we can plan accordingly, if you would like to attend Sacrament meeting in the chapel, please let a member of the bishopric know by call or text. Those attending will need to observe infection control measures including social distancing, wearing face masks, using hand hygiene, staying home while ill.

Whether you join by zoom or in person, we look forward to worshipping with you.

Bishop Graham, 801.514.7994
Randy Peterson, 781.720.9108
Chris Furstenau, 801.330.1968
Mark Hindley, 801.599.8175"

[Click here to join November 29th Zoom Testimony Meeting](#)

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Sunday Service Program—November 29th

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
GARDEN PARK WARD
✻ Sacrament Meeting Program ✻

*November 29, 2020, 10am
For all families on Zoom*

*ConductingChris Furstenau
OrganistLois Waltman
Opening Hymn (organ only) Prayer of Thanksgiving, No. 93
Invocation TBA
Ward Business Brother Furstenau*

Bearing of Testimonies

*Closing Hymn (organ only) How Great Thou Art, No. 86
Benediction TBA*

Zoom broadcast is concluded

Administration of the Sacrament

*"As with all gifts the Father so willingly offers,
seeing deeply requires us to ask Him—and then act.
Ask to see others as He does—
as His true sons and daughters with infinite and divine potential.
Then act by loving, serving, and affirming their worth and potential as prompted."
-- By Michelle D. Craig,
Eyes to See, Oct 2020 General Conference*

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Relief Society

Dear Sisters,

This morning I caught a glimpse of my December calendar, a big sheet of open white space. My heart sunk a little as I realized how different this holiday season will be. No parties, dinners, school programs and concerts, no nativities and meeting with Santa, no crowded walks through temple square to look at the lights and long days at the mall shopping for my loved ones. I let myself feel really sad about it for a bit before I realized that not everything has to be busy or full to make it special and meaningful.

Elder Holland said, "I, like you, need to remember the very plain scene, even the poverty, of a night devoid of tinsel or wrapping or goods of this world. Only when we see that single, sacred, unadorned object of our devotion—the Babe of Bethlehem—will we know why 'tis the season to be jolly".

What an opportunity to focus on what really matters and the reason why this time of year is so celebrated and special. The babe of Bethlehem. I am looking forward to the calm and peace of focusing on the true spirit of this season.

"But first and forever, there was just a little family, without toys or trees or tinsel, with a baby lying in a manger and that's how Christmas began."

We love you,
Amy Furstenuau and The GP relief society

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Elders Quorum

CREATE MEMORIES TO LAST A LIFETIME

Do you have special memories from your childhood that you cherish? Do you wish and hope your children will as well? Well, look no further. The Garden Park Elders Quorum has a surefire solution. Listen to what these "real" people have to say:

"One of my fondest memories is of mornings when my dad would wake me up and we'd go to the church and unlock the gates together. When we got home he would fix me pancakes" – Anonymous

"One of my fondest memories is when my dad and I would walk down to the ward and check all the doors and lock up the gates at night. It was so peaceful and I felt so close to him. When we got home he would fix me pancakes. I never understood why." – Name Withheld

"In the evenings, when we were about to go to bed, I'd remember, I have to lock up the ward. After a few choice words, I would get dressed and so would my wife and we'd walk down to the ward together. We'd end up laughing and talking and sometimes getting sprayed by the sprinklers. It wasn't so bad." – D.B.

"@%*&, that would have made a #?&% fine pasture." – J. Golden Kimball

DON'T WAIT! WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF MEMORIES! GET YOURS BEFORE SUPPLIES RUN OUT!

CALL OR TEXT 801-910-7128! EMAIL: dougjunkerg@gmail.com! OPERATORS ARE STANDING BY!

TELL THEM YOU WANT GOOD MEMORIES!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Reach out to your ministering families and anyone else
- ◆ Save the date - Welfare Square assignment on December 29, 2020 9am-12pm
- ◆ Stake Conference December 6, 2020 via technology

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Ward Joint Zoom Meeting

This week's meeting will feature President Kathy Younker as our presenter and moderator for a discussion on President Nelson's recent remarks and prayer of gratitude.

November 29, 2020 at 11:15 a.m.

[The Healing Power of Gratitude](#)

Garden Park Ward is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

[Click here to join November 29th Ward Zoom Meeting](#)

If you're having challenges connecting to Zoom here's a link to a tutorial to help get connected <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-meeting>.

We miss you and hope to see you on Sunday!

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Happy Birthday!

November 30—Rob Jones

December

December 1—Nicholas Heiner

December 1—Jason Penman

December 2—Tilda Wilson

December 3—Josh Campbell

December 5—Pamela Miller

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 22—Kimberly Silcox

December 25—Noelle Barry

December 25—Lark Galli

December 27—Amy Coady

December 27—Aaron Cummings

December 28—David Hopkins

December 28—Emily Marchant

December 29—Paul Richardson

December 29—Gerald Walsh

December 30—Maddie Waltman

December 31—David Chipman

December 31—Sally Epperson

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Tithing Settlement

Tithing Settlement—The Bishop is looking forward to meeting with each of you, as families if possible. Please sign up for a time slot for tithing settlement by Zoom by [clicking here](#). If you have any questions please call or text Mark Hindley at 801.599.8175.

Appointment times are available on the following dates:

Sunday, November 29, 1-4 pm
Thursday, December 3, 6 – 9 pm
Sunday, December 6, 1 – 4 pm
Sunday, December 13, 1 – 4 pm

Please access your tithing records on your account at churchofjesuschrist.org prior to your meeting with the Bishop referring to Rob Jones' instructions below if needed.

Please contact Ralph Robbins, at 801.664.6700, if you need help accessing or creating your account.

Dear Garden Park Ward members,

As you prepare for Tithing Settlement this year with Bishop Graham, you can go the Church website to verify and print your donations for the year. Please follow these simple directions, and don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Rob Jones
GP Ward Finance Clerk

How to print a Statement of Contributions:

1. Go to churchofjesuschrist.org
2. Click on "My Account and Ward" (upper right hand corner)
3. Click on "Donations" under My Ward tab
4. Sign into your Church account
5. Click on Donor Statements
6. Select "Statement of Contributions" under Statement Type
7. Select "Current Year"
8. Click "Generate Statement"
9. Under "Generated Statements" select the top PDF to open the statement
10. Verify donations are accurate
11. Print report if you would like to have it for your Tithing Settlement meeting with the Bishop

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Ward Announcements

STAKE CONFERENCE We invite all to participate in our upcoming, unique Stake Conference. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not hold our usual Saturday Evening Adult Session, and all sessions will be held via technology. We would invite any who have trouble participating in internet-based meetings at home to talk to your Elders Quorum or Relief Society Presidents to make suitable arrangements.

The following sessions will be held on Sunday, December 6th :

- **Stake Leadership Session** 7:30-8:30 AM. Attendees include: Bishoprics, Elders Quorum Presidencies, Relief Society Presidencies (Ward and Stake), Young Women Presidencies (Ward and Stake), Stake Young Men Presidency, High Council and Stake Presidency. (Zoom link to be sent to all attendees)
- **General Session Prelude Music** 9:30 AM. Attendees: All Stake Members, investigators and invited guests (Connection information to follow)
- **General Session** 10:00 AM. Attendees: All Stake Members, investigators and invited guests (Connection information to follow)

The Bountiful temple is performing live ordinances *by appointment only*. Please refer to the [church website](#) for more details and updates on ongoing changes.

Sacrament Administration From our Area President, Elder Holzapfel: "The sacrament can be offered to families who have not had the opportunity in their homes . . . The First Presidency has authorized the administration of the sacrament at least monthly." The sacrament may still be blessed and passed by your own family members that are able to do so. If you would like the sacrament brought to your home, please contact Relief Society President Kathy Younker (801.971.1504) or Elders Quorum President Doug Bunker (801.910.7128), and they will help make arrangements for you to receive it.

Although Garden Park Ward building is closed for ward activities, we understand that families occasionally use the gym for their family activities of fewer than 10 people. When using the ward building for family activities please bring a garbage bag from home and take home with you any trash that you may create, i.e. wrappers, paper towels, etc. We do not want garbage to accumulate while we are not on our normal cleaning routine. The bathroom under the stage may be used if necessary. Please wipe down all door knobs, and surfaces that you touch with the wipes on the kitchen counter, before and after use. Thank you for keeping each other safe.

Temple recommends continue to be available. Even though temples are currently closed, our Stake Presidency is encouraging all to keep their recommends current. Recommend interviews are being held by phone at this time, both at the ward and stake level. If yours is expired, please contact Mark Hindley at (801) 599-8175 to set up a phone interview with the Bishop. In addition, for years the Stake Presidency followed a practice of first come first serve for temple recommend interviews on Sunday afternoons. They have eliminated that practice during the pandemic. The current procedure, which is in effect until further notice, is for the member to contact either President Parker or President Patch and directly schedule a renewal interview. They should contact them via cell phone, by sending a text message. (Their numbers are in LDS Tools.)

There are many great resources available at churchofjesuschrist.org for enlightenment and studying the gospel.