

Dana Ward Bishopric

<i>Bishop</i>	<i>Richard Hale</i>	834-3041
<i>1 Counselor</i>	<i>Dwight Morris</i>	962-8221
<i>2 Counselor</i>	<i>Mark Standage</i>	964-1685
<i>Exec Secretary</i>	<i>Pat Rogers</i>	695-7616

Dear Dana Ward Members,

Few if any writers have done more to define and idealize the warmth, joy and true spirit of Christmas than Charles Dickens, the British author whose famous novel, *A Christmas Carol*, was published in 1843.

In the novel, the miser Ebenezer Scrooge is enabled, through the agency of the Ghost of Christmas Present, to witness unseen, the yuletide celebration of his clerk, Bob Cratchit, and family. Through Dickens' pen, we learned that "The Cratchits were not a handsome family. They were not well dressed; their shoes were far from being waterproof; their clothes were scanty...But they were happy, grateful, pleased with one another, and found contentment within their lot in life. Affection, mutual respect and consideration flowed freely in the family. The family members generally reveled in one another's company, experiences and prospects.

Today, with pressures of responsibilities in many areas, it is more crucial than ever that we take time to strengthen the bonds of love for one another, at Christmas time especially. Our prophets and apostles have said, 'the family is indeed the basic unit in society and eternity'.

Coming home from church, Bob Cratchit recounted in private to his wife what Tiny Tim had said, "that he hoped the people saw him in the church, because he was a cripple, and it might be pleasant to them to remember upon Christmas Day, who made lame beggars walk and blind men see."

Such a remembrance will sanctify our own Christmas observances. Invoking the blessings of the Almighty in prayer at the start of the season on our homes and families will help us incorporate the important elements of Christmas in our celebration.

In the words of Dickens at the close of his novel, "May that be truly said of all of us! And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God Bless Us, Every One!"

Love,
Bishop Richard Hale

Please Note that the Sunday Meeting times change on January 4, 2009. Sacrament Meeting will start at 9:00 AM. Fast Offerings will be collected AFTER the block meetings.

Happy Birthday!

DECEMBER

2 Alyse Turner
2 Edwina Dastrup
5 Janet Hassell
10 Sheldon Hassell
10 John Oplinger
11 Jill Schnepf
12 Tom Legler
12 Anais Rodriguez
12 Katrina Ward
13 Lance McGraw
13 Jess Root (102)
13 Alex Shope
13 Julie Jo Goodwin
15 Daline Maddern
17 Clark Ward
17 Darlene Nalvarte
19 David Morales
20 Brian Mehlberg
20 Kyle O'Bryant
22 Morgan Oliver
23 Mason Redd
24 Gary Towne
26 Kelton Moore
27 Ann Driggs
27 Brandon Eyring
27 Presley Budge
27 Derrick Schneider

29 Rhett Hird
30 Cayden Shope

JANUARY 2009

- 1 Cole Montgomery
- 2 Jennifer Oliver
- 3 Mariah Rogers
- 4 Jessica Hale
- 4 Patrick Rogers

Missionary Mailbox

Elder Patrick W. Rogers Jr.
(Mexico, Tijuana Mission)
PMB 157
P.O. Box 439056
San Diego, Ca. 92143-9056

Dear Dana Ward Family,

I can't believe that we are already in December. The time has been flying. I certainly have been enjoying my time in Los Olivos ward. The area and the ward are awesome. The members love us. These past couple of weeks, we have been taking quite a few people to Church. We found a family of 7 this past week and took them to the services yesterday. Stake President Sanchez is in my ward and he definitely took the opportunity to do some fellowshiping. He sat by them in Church and even had the 1st counselor give them a special welcome. And after the block, Sister Sanchez took them all home. It was really neat to see how excited that family was. We have a FHE with them tonight. Last week, we took 10 people to Church. But the thing that stinks is that they have now left for the south of Mexico. Tijuana is basically just a bus stop for almost every one. They come here to try to get over the border. If they don't succeed, they just go back to their homes in the south.

Being in the Insurgentes Stake has given us the opportunity to travel around the west side of Tijuana. This past week, I actually went to a nearby city called Tecate. It's much more calm. There is less violence and not as much smog. I went last Thursday to do some baptismal interviews. Once we got to the house of the Elders in Tecate, I noticed a lot of spotlights and a helicopter coming our way. And once I saw about 25 guys running towards us, it hit me that we were right on the border with the U.S. It was pretty crazy. Elder Amaro, one of the Elders in Tecate, told me that there were people crossing every day. The next morning, we walked right up to the border and even crossed. It was pretty cool.

Three weeks ago today, a new Elder arrived to my zone. His name is Elder Dana. Elder Flores and myself went over to his house his first week to meet him and welcome him to the mission. After talking with him for a few minutes, he told me that he was nephew of the long-time and prestigious Channel 12 anchor, Kent Dana. Elder Dana's dad was actually born and raised in Mesa, but lives in Sandy, Utah now.

Two young, single mothers named Jovita and Norma were baptized this past Saturday. Everyone in the ward was really nice to them. Jovita is pretty timid. Her Aunt Norma has helped her a lot though. We had a joint baptism with Elder Easton (Laguna Hills, CA) and Elder Alonso (Veracruz, Mexico) in the stake center. It was an awesome service. Almost the whole stake showed up. President Sanchez gave a really good message about baptism too.

We baptized a lady named Marcela this week. She's way cool. And she got to see the temple rededication broadcast on her first Sunday as a member. It was really cool to see the Mexico City temple and to hear President Monson speak. The Spirit was so strong there. My other convert, Bladimir, was also able to attend.

This sector we are serving in is pretty crazy nowadays. Basically it is just a bunch of burnt trash and hills. Elder Flores and myself have been working in a pretty run down part of the area lately but have had some good success. If all goes well, we'll have seven baptisms this coming week.

Was Thanksgiving the 3rd or 4th Thursday? I kind of lost track. That's wierd!

I know that this work is true. Joseph Smith was a prophet of God and it is a privilege to be able to testify of his prophetic calling every day. The Book of Mormon is the word of God. Thomas S. Monson truly is the Lord's mouthpiece in these latter days. I thank my Heavenly Father every day for the opportunity that I have to serve a mission. Thank you all for your support and love.

Love,
Elder Rogers

Elder Rogers is due to be released and arrive home from his mission on Jan. 20th. Job well done!

Elder Jared R. Eyring
China Hong Kong Mission
2 Cornwall St.
Kowloon Tong
Kowloon
HONG KONG

We had moves last week but I didn't get moved. I do have a new companion however. Elder Greenhall is from Utah. We had Family Home Evening with 6 missionaries and an investigator named Raymond last week. The lesson went well but he came a little late so we didn't get to teach the whole lesson because we had to get home by curfew. We taught him about faith and repentance. Hopefully, we can meet with him again to teach him more. There is a sister missionary serving here in Hong Kong. She is from the Philippines and her brother is also a missionary serving back in the Philippines. His current companion is Justin Thompson (Dawna Thompson's son and Berta Whitney's grandson from the old 19th ward). She showed me pictures of him. That was awesome! The other night we met 2 kids who had a 'rip stik'. They were amazed when I showed them that I could ride it. We invited them to come to church with us, so hopefully we will see them again. We had nice weather for Thanksgiving Day although that is not a celebrated holiday here. I have many things to be thankful for: a loving Heavenly Father, the opportunity to serve a mission, a good family, the church, the gospel, the Plan of Salvation and so many other things.
Love, Elder Eyring

Elder Caleb T. Oldner
(Argentina, Resistencia Mission)
AV. Rivadavia 323
Resistencia, Chaco
Argentina

I am doing great and cannot believe we are already half way through another transfer. Time here in Argentina has flown by much faster than the time spent in Georgia. Argentina is pretty awesome. It is beautiful country but we are going into summer here with 120 degree days and 100% humidity. Elder Rhode has told me to expect the worst heat possible. All we have in our apt. for cooling is a fan. We really need 2 – one for each of us to sleep under. The mission office has talked about putting in a small air conditioning unit – so...hopefully!

Elder Rohde and I have been finding lots of investigators. We have been teaching a lady named Cecilia and her 2 children. This last Monday, we held a baptismal interview for Cecilia and I am so happy that she passed. She will be baptized this Saturday. Her kids want to be baptized but we need to teach them some more. This is my first baptism of my mission. The Lord has helped me with the missionary work and with the Spanish language. My understanding of Spanish is getting better every day.

We had to travel to the city of Posados again this week for a Zone Conference with 14 Elders. We are having interviews with the President today and I am excited about that. We will also get to spend our P-Day there. I was never much into playing soccer back in the states but soccer is 'life' here in Argentina. If you are not playing soccer, you better be doing something else like going to the nearby waterfalls or the local ruins. We do plan to visit the ruins next week. The nearby waterfalls are small compared to the massive falls which are larger than Niagara Falls up north, but I am not in that zone, so I can't go there. Maybe later in my mission if I am assigned in that area. Our mission expense funds run about 550 pesos (\$175 US) a month which seems adequate so far. If we want to buy souvenirs (soccer shirts, etc.) we have to pay for those out of our personal funds. I was happy that when I wrote out a personal check, WaMu only charged me 18 cents for the international exchange fee. My companion's US bank charged him \$15 for the same amount. We were each buying an Argentina soccer jersey for 30 pesos for our P-day activities.

Be sure and eat a piece of pumpkin pie for me and enjoy your day with family. You are always in my prayers. Stay safe! Love, Elder Oldner

Many of our 'old' full-time ward missionaries have completed their 2 year assignment or soon will, and are coming home. Good news is that the 'next crop' of missionaries are getting ready to go out. **Elder Mark Driggs**, although attending school in Idaho, sent in his papers and got his call to serve in the **Dallas, Texas Spanish Speaking Mission**! Mark reports to the MTC Jan. 28th! Awesome!

Miriam Douglass has just learned that **her son Mark**, got his mission call. He is going to Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico which is about 200 miles N of Mazatlan, and about 60 miles inland from the Pacific Coast. He will be reporting to the MTC Mar 25th from his home ward in NE Mesa. His mission will make good use of his high school Spanish classes. Wahoo!

Isaac Standage is expecting his mission call momentarily. The suspense is killing us!

Getting to Know You

A big welcome to **Fred Martin**, who has moved into the ward @ 44 S. Barkley, #34, phone 593-7169. Fred was born in Springerville, Az. and grew up mostly in Eager. He is the son of Pam and Fred Martin Jr. who currently live in Eager where the dad is serving as a Bishop. Pam taught seminary for over 30 years and Fred, Jr. (the dad) served previously as Bishop of one of the Springerville Wards. 'Our Fred' has two older brothers, Bill who lives in Idaho and Jeff who lives in Miami, Fla. and a sister, Renae Thomas who lives in Queen Creek. As Fred tells his story, he was attending Round Valley High School in Eager when he chose to drop out of school. His father gave him permission if he would complete his GED, which he did. He got a job working for his best friend's father who owned an automotive shop in Springerville. This friend's father helped him get started in becoming an accomplished auto repair mechanic. He is currently working for *Accurate Automotive* here in Mesa and his employer allows him to do side work for himself. If you need a new mechanic, you can give Fred a call. Fred says that he sort of dropped out of activity in the Church 16 years ago. He found himself in a position which was not where he wanted to be or doing things he didn't want to be doing and after making some choices he wasn't happy with, he chose to make some major changes in his life and get 'back on track' in a direction he really wanted to go. He has made some definite changes in his life and life style. Fred has 3 children; Kenneth, age 9, Matisson Nikole age 7, and Hayden Tanner age 6. Bro. Martin is hoping to make arrangements to bring them with him to meetings at our ward and eventually be able to baptize them. Fred is also the great great grandson of both John D. Lee (Lee's Ferry was named for him) and Jacob Hamblin, the 'Missionary to the Indians' pioneer. He loves to hunt, fish and camp out and his favorite hobby is riding and working on his motorcycles and 4 wheelers. Fred

says he is a bit shy and pretty much down to earth. He is intent on fixing some problems in his life with the help of caring people, including his parents who never gave up on him. Welcome to the Dana Ward Family Bro. Martin!

A big welcome to **Dallas and Kelsey Hammond** who have moved into the ward at 62 S. Barkley #2 (phone 233-5271). They were just married Nov. 8th. (Kelsey is the niece of Kim Hale.) Kelsey is attending Paul Mitchell Beauty College in Phoenix and is scheduled to finish in April. Kelsey grew up here in Mesa and attended Mt. View High School. Dallas is from St. John's, Arizona. He is attending MCC and working in construction doing cement work. They are good friends with the Isaacson's in the ward and Kelsey met Bryna when they were attending Eastern Arizona University. They are excited to be in the Dana Ward with Uncle Richard as their Bishop.

Brother Darrell Barlow who lives at 44 S. Barkley, #20, is a 'newly-active' member of the ward. It is our pleasure to get to know him better.

Notes on Dana Ward Folks

Justin Schnepf recently became engaged to **Rachel Dutson**. They plan to marry March 28, 2009. She lives in Chandler. Justin and Rachel met when he was 12 and they knew each other in high school and have dated since then. While he was away on his mission, she was called to serve in the Anaheim, Ca. mission. He waited for her return this last August. Justin took her to the temple one recent evening and proposed to her in the Celestial Room of the Mesa Temple. We wish them many happy years ahead!

Young Brother Alex Shope is working on his Eagle Scout project which includes collecting food for the Mesa United Food Bank. Alex would appreciate donations of food items or

money to purchase much needed food items. If you are able to make a donation to this worthy cause, you can contact Alex or his dad, Darren Shope, at 430-0140 or 827-7854. Alex would appreciate any help you can give him, especially drivers and collectors.

Ernie and Grace Halliday are the proud grandparents of twins born to their youngest son and his wife in Oregon. They are named Michael Aaron and Mary Ann.

Brandon Boone had serious eye surgery in mid-November to correct a progressive eye problem and make both eyes work together. The muscles inside each eye were 'adjusted'. He goes back in Jan. for follow-up. Hopefully, if all goes well, Brandon may not need glasses on his mission in a few years! Good Luck Brandon!

Congratulations to Al and Joyce Berry for reaching their 65th Wedding Anniversary. They will celebrate with their family and friends on Dec. 18th.

Pat Rogers is having surgery soon to try to resolve some kidney problems. Our prayers are with you Brother Pat!

Chris and Katy Smelser have found out that Camden is going to have a little sister! WAHOO!

A special birthday wish to Grandpa Jess Root who will be 102 on Dec. 13th. At his age, he should be able to do anything he wants to celebrate!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY Brother Root!

The children of Bert Charon hosted a wonderful 90th birthday party for their mother, Nov. 14th. Sons, Scott and Robert and daughter Kathy LeSueur, compiled a video life history for her, presented a lovely program and provided dinner for Bert's family and close friends. It was a wonderful evening of fond memories and fun!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Ward Family Christmas Party

Everyone circle Saturday, Dec 13th @ 6PM! December is a busy month and you don't want to miss the Dana Ward Christmas Party! Bring a friend or family and enjoy a ham potluck dinner – a short talent sharing time – and then some real Christmas spirit! Also, remind your children that Santa and the elves are watching and making a list! Are they going to be on the *Naughty* or *Nice* list this year? If they have anything they need to explain to Santa, they can do it that night because he will be there! Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas to all!

The First Presidency Christmas Devotional broadcast will be tonight, Sunday, Dec 7th at 6 pm. on the BYU channel and may also be seen at the Stake Bldg. at 6 pm.

Invitation Sunday is Dec. 21st, the Sunday just before Christmas. Please invite your non-member friends to join us for a Sacrament Program planned around a special message about Jesus Christ.

The Temple Ground's Christmas lights are on now thru Dec. 31st. There is a short musical presentation each evening in the garden area on the south side of the Visitor's Center at 7 PM. The lights will be turned on each evening from 5:30 to 10PM. The temple is closed Dec. 1st thru Dec. 15th for winter maintenance. Dec. 11th therefore, will not be ward temple night. The Bishopric has suggested instead, that we all take our families and neighbors to **enjoy the lights and maybe even the music program** which will be presented by the Arizona Deseret Choir. **Hot cocoa will be served at the 'Hunt Cabin' afterwards.** Please feel free to come and bring your family and friends and enjoy a little socializing and a warm drink.

There are many in need of **employment** in our Ward Family. If you know of or become aware of any available jobs, please tell Bro. Ed. Provence (# 461-0487) so he can make that information available. The Stake Employment Center is open every Tues evening at 7:30 pm, in the northeast corner of our own building. There are new postings of available positions every week, so go back often if you haven't found what you are looking for yet. A **good resource of available jobs** is the website **[www.indeed.com jobs](http://www.indeed.com/jobs)**. There are lots of job postings just in the Mesa area. Go to the site and type in a **job title, keywords or company name** and your **zip code**. Every posted, related, available job within 25 miles will come up.

The Church has 2 websites you may find useful. **lds.org** is for members and contains information to help members live the gospel with their family and to serve in the Church organizations. **mormon.org** is specifically designed for those not of our faith and contains information about the Church, its principles, practices and beliefs. Its purpose is to provide information for those seeking to learn about our faith. We are all encouraged to familiarize ourselves with both sites to be able to better use them to bless our lives, our families and our friends.

Did you ever wonder where all those names were going that you helped Index? Since I began working with the Call Center last year in the Indexing program, there have been over 100,000,000,000 indexed names added to the RecordSearch pilot project. In most instances, the images from which the names were indexed can be viewed. Those images of records that are owned by the Church can also be printed, free of charge, to the visitor to this web. Other images are available at a charge. These images have been provided by organizations other than the Church. The following paragraph explains a little more about the Site.

Record Search is a new pilot Web site that can help people find their ancestors. The site provides access to millions of original source documents from many areas of the world, and more records are being added all the time. For example, among the growing collection of records in Record Search, you can search Ellis Island New York passenger arrival lists, 1892-1924; US Civil War Pension index cards; Birth, Marriages, and Death records; and the 1895 Argentina Census. The Search section of the Web site includes a number of record collections you can search

to find a specific ancestor. You can then read a summary of the information found in records about the ancestor and view digital images of the records. The Browse section of the Web site includes collections you can browse to see digital images of records from a specific city, town, or church parish.

So visit this site to see if your lost ancestor has been found--then, if you haven't volunteered already, just jump in and help.

Record Search URLs :
<http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch> and
<http://pilot.familysearch.org>

Sister Flora M. "Mickey" O'Barr - Mesa Regional Family History, assigned to Call Center

Relief Society

Pres. Cris Rogers	695-4370
1 Couns Melissa Standage	964-1685
2 Couns MaryAnn Kaberry	835-3973
Sec Karisa Budge	610-6407

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Cooking Class: Mondays @ 9:30am @ the Storehouse. **Dec 1** - 'Gifts from your Kitchen. **Dec 8** - 'Something to share. Bring your recipe'. **Dec 15, 22, 29** - Christmas Break, NO CLASS.

Senior Single Sister's FHE December Recess. This activity will resume in Jan. 2009.

Temple Session Dec 18, 10am session, lunch after in the temple cafeteria.

Book Group Dec 29, 11 am, @ home of Lynette McGraw. Ch. 7 & 8 of "*Jesus the Christ*" and "*The Christmas Sweater*" by Glenn Beck and "*Christmas Rose*" by Robyn Butters.

Kid's Play Group each Wed @ 10 am @ Silvergate Park (S. of Pueblo on Briar)

December RS Lesson Schedule:

Dec 7 - The Atonement of Jesus Christ
 Dec 14 - #23-How Good & How Pleasant it is...
 Dec 21 - #24 - Leading in the Lord's Way
 Dec 28 - Teaching for our Time-'Born Again'

Please return your Christmas Angel gifts to any member of the Relief Society Presidency by Dec. 17th. Thank you for helping with this special project.

Young Women

Pres. Arlyce Reynolds 615-1628
1st Counselor Lou Hunt 833-4867
2nd Counselor Janet Hassell 969-4276
Secretary Yolanda Zepeda 834-4469

The 2009 Mutual theme: "Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity". 1Timothy 4:12

A beautiful **Evening of Excellence** was held Nov. 19th. Sister Reynolds and Bishop Hale shared thoughts, ideas and encouragement for the girls to set and accomplish high standards so they can be their 'best'. The girls enjoyed an obstacle course at the end of the evening. Each of them was blindfolded and given an egg which represented their most priceless possession. Along the way, some of the leaders talked the girls into giving up their egg. At the end of the game, they found that the egg represented chastity. They were reminded of how easy it is to give in to peer pressure and sweet talk to give up their most prized possession. They were reminded to always keep in mind their goal of keeping their standards high so they can someday enter the doors of the temple with a worthy young man to marry for time and all eternity. The evening concluded with Sister Lou Hunt's wonderful cinnamon rolls she had made into beehive shapes, which went along with the theme of "BE READY".

Amber Blau is the new Mia Maid Secretary and Katie Turner is the new Laurel Secretary.

December Wed. Night Mutual Activities:

- 12-3 Individual class activities
- 12-10 Beehives – class activity at the ward bldg.

Mia Maids, Laurels, Teachers & Priests meet at

Sister Elise Jones's house @ 2341 E. Flossmoor for square dancing instruction (Trek preparation)

12-17 All Mutual Activity of Christmas Caroling. Meet at Sis. Reynolds' house @ 7pm. Carole around the neighborhoods, then return for hot chocolate and goodies.

12-24 and 30 NO MUTUAL

Jan. 1st – Pioneer Trek begins for all Mia Maids, Laurels, Teachers and Priests. Watch for more information!

YOUNG MEN

Pres. Darren Eyring 835-1799
1st Couns. Trent Payne 967-1101
2nd Couns. Lance McGraw 699-0723
Sec. Conley Martin 313-7194

A special note to the Young Men:

"I want to thank the Bishopric, scouts, leaders, veterans and everyone who put on the dinner for the veterans on Nov. 11th. The Vets of WW II era will soon all be gone; they are never to be forgotten heroes. My sister said, "Heavenly Father is calling all the old warriors home." I have long been worried that they would be forgotten. But after seeing and hearing our young Vets – (our own son-in-law came home with a purple heart after serving 2 terms in Iraq) - I feel great about our country's servicemen. We are in good hands! Thank you with all my heart for remembering! Johnnie Dickson

Jacob Standage was ordained a Teacher in November. Wahoo!

The Dana Ward is producing some mighty fine 'Missionary Chefs'! The Young Men provided a dinner to honor the ward area veterans in Nov. and also prepared a wonderful dinner for the 'Seniors' of the ward on Dec. 3rd. Many Thanks to the Ward Young Men! **Bravo!**

PRIMARY

President Kim Hale 834-3041
1st Couns Naomi Morales 218-5887
2nd Couns Elizabeth Stark 964-7754
Sec Erika Payne 967-1101

Sunday Assignments

Dec Theme: I love my Savior, Jesus Christ, and His restored gospel.

Dec Scripture: "And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophesy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies." 2Nephi 25:26

12th Article of Faith: "We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers, and magistrates, in obeying, honoring, and sustaining the law."

Dec 7

O. Prayer: Eden Carter

Scripture: Corey Downs

Talk: Payzlee Hird

Art of Faith #12 Donovan Blau

C. Prayer: Mason Redd

Dec 14

O. Prayer: Kamea Turner

Scripture: Kelly Eyring

Talk: Jared Nichols

Art of Faith #12 Chris Montgomery

C. Prayer: Kaia Mehlberg

Dec 21

O. Prayer: Leah Morales

Scripture: Samantha Montgomery

Talk: Audrey Redd

Art of Faith #12 Parker Hird

C. Prayer: Cole Montgomery

Dec 28

O. Prayer: Tanner Payne

Scripture: Taylor Payne

Talk: Kaeden Blau

Art of Faith #12 Salesi Morello

C. Prayer: Mariah Rogers

Parents, please help your primary child learn the Articles of Faith. The Stake Primary will be holding an Article of Faith Recognition Evening on Jan. 25th for all the children (and their parents) who have learned all 13. They are learning the songs to each of them in Primary and practicing repeating them together.

The Primary Sacrament Program "*I Am a Child of God*", presented on Nov. 16th was AWESOME! The children, leaders and teachers deserve a big hand for a beautiful job! Following are just a few of the comments turned in regarding the program.

"What a wonderful program! I love to hear the Primary Children sing and you sang so beautifully. I hope that you always remember that each of you are *A Child of God*." Karen Millett of the Stake Primary board

"The program was excellent. I was so proud of all of you. I once taught little 4 year olds so it brought back many beautiful memories." Sis. Bertella Charon

"I was amazed at how well you all stood up and sat down together! You were all so reverent! Great job everyone!" anonymous

"We especially loved the children's sweet faces. Thank you for working so hard so we can enjoy your sweet spirits." Gordon & Betty Curtis

"This was a fantastic performance!" Ron Johnson

"What a wonderful program. No matter how old we get, it's a wonderful thing to remember that *I Am A Child Of God*, that He loves me and watches over me. Thank you again for reminding me of these things." Sis. Crowe

"There is nothing sweeter than hearing the gospel taught by dear Primary Children. The Holy Ghost was felt in the meeting as the children shared their testimonies." Jennifer Gardiner (Jordan & Jocelyn's Grandma)

"Thanks for being so reverent and teaching me about what Heavenly Father wants us to do to come live with Him again." Sister Douglass

"Thank you sweet 'Angels' for allowing us to 'Feast' on the truths of the Gospel through you." anonymous

“This was the most reverent program I have ever attended. You all sang loud enough that we could hear you all the way in the back.”
anonymous

“Thank you for all the time you spent learning your parts. What a wonderful spirit you gave me today.” Sister Josie Carter

“I loved the different languages, (even sign language) and I enjoyed the talks. The narrators did a great job.”
Sis. Haynie, Stake Primary Pres.

“The program was perfect! All of you were so reverent and I loved hearing my favorite primary songs. Great Job Kids! (& leaders)”
anonymous

“Excellent Program! Good talent! Keep up the good work.” Elder Bumer & Elder Carter, your full time missionaries

“Our gratitude and thanks go out to all the young people for their efforts and work and for doing such a fine job on the program. May God bless your efforts and accomplishments! Thank you to all of you.” anonymous

“You Primary Children are fantastic! I felt closer to Heavenly Father when I heard you sing, talk and perform today. You are beautiful children of God.” Brother Eyring

“I loved the pictures of our prophets and the missionary badges. Thank you for all your hard work!” anonymous

Margin Notes:

Jesus Christ “shall be born of Mary, at Jerusalem which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed and conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God”. Alma 7:10

“Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” - meaning ‘God with us’. Isaiah 7:14

On the American Continent, the prophets said; “The time cometh, and is not far distant, that with power, the Lord Omnipotent...shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay...He shall suffer temptations, and pain...And he shall be called Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” Mosiah 3:5, 7-8

Then came that night of nights when the shepherds were abiding in the fields and the angel of the Lord appeared to them, announcing the birth of the Savior.

Later, Wise Men journeyed from the East to Jerusalem, “Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him...”

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. “And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.” Matthew 2:2, 10-11

It is said of Jesus of Nazareth that He “increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and Man.” Luke 2:52

It has been said of our Lord and Savior; “He went about doing good...; for God was with him.” Acts 10:38 May we follow in His footsteps.

“The King of kings came into the world in the most humble of circumstances, in a lowly stable. The world was given a precious, saving gift - the Son of God.” Erin Wilson

Neither the Shepherds nor the Wise Men procrastinated in their search for Christ. The record affirms that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem...And they came with haste.” Luke 2:15-16 Pres. Thomas S. Monson

Dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith. Ether 12:6

...What have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve

him and keep his commandments, that he may pour
out his Spirit more abundantly upon you?
Mosiah 18:10

“Whatever our calling, regardless of our fears or
anxieties, let us pray and then go and do.”
Pres. Thomas S. Monson

“When we have faith in Christ, we trust the Lord
enough to follow His commandments.”
Pres. Dieter F. Uchtdorf