

December 2010
Dana Ward Newsletter

Dana Ward Bishopric

<i>Bishop</i>	<i>Richard Hale</i>	<i>834-3041</i>
<i>1 Counselor</i>	<i>Dwight Morris</i>	<i>962-8221</i>
<i>2 Counselor</i>	<i>Kyle Hassell</i>	<i>969-4276</i>
<i>Exec Secretary</i>	<i>Paul Allen</i>	<i>241-9316</i>

Dear Dana Ward,

As we again prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior I am reminded that Elder David A. Bednar once suggested that we might look at the symbols of Christmas a bit differently.

He noted that the tree is the central figure in Lehi's vision (1 Nephi:8). "The tree is Christ and the fruit on the tree are the blessings of the Atonement."

He also spoke about Christmas lights. "It is not a coincidence that the Savior, on the American continent, where the sign of His birth was a day and a night and a day where there was no darkness... said, "I am the light and the life of the world."

The shepherds, whose flocks were destined for divine sacrifice, were special stewards. There were many shepherds in Palestine, but only to those who watched over the temple flocks did the herald angels come. Only they heard the heavenly choir. Those were not ordinary sheep.

Next to trees covered by lights, many times there are manger scenes with Joseph and Mary and the baby Jesus, and sheep and shepherds. We may never look at the sheep and shepherds quite the same way again.

This time of year, people often ask, "Are you ready for Christmas?" Bro. Bednar added, "I don't think the question is, 'Are you ready for Christmas?'..."The Father's gift to us was His Son. The gift from the Son to us is His Atonement." Perhaps the only thing that we could give Them is a growing conviction, a deepening conversion of the Atonement of Jesus Christ and what it means in our lives. Perhaps the only thing we could give would be a more diligent desire and commensurate study, to not just

know about the Atonement, but to know Him who brought the Atonement and to more fully understand the blessings of the Atonement in our lives."

This Christmas season, I bear you my testimony that Jesus is the Christ. He lived. He walked the earth. He taught His doctrine. He organized His Church. He is the Son of God. He was crucified, but more important, He is resurrected. He lives. He speaks. He stands at the head of His Church today.

May each of us be blessed at this joyous season of the year and may we acknowledge with gratitude, the Father's incomparable gift to us of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. I wish each of you a Merry Christmas Season and a Healthy, and Happy New Year.

Love,

Bishop Richard Hale

*The First Presidency Christmas Devotional
will be Dec. 5th at 6pm at our Chapel or over
the Church's website (www.lds.org) or online
@ www.broadcast.lds.org*

*And there were in the same country
shepherds abiding in the field keeping
watch over their flock by night. Luke 2:8*



The Shepherds

Late March through early April was lambing season, and shepherds may have been laboring in Bethlehem's hillside fields the night of Christ's birth, assisting the ewes in the births of their lambs. It is likely that these were no ordinary animals, for Jewish law proclaimed that only flocks designated for temple sacrifice could be raised near cities. (The life & Times of Jesus the Messiah by Alfred Edersheim, 1972, 2:186)

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them {the shepherds}, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David {Bethlehem} a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:9-14)

With the departure of the angels, the shepherds went "with haste" to see for themselves, the Messiah, the newborn "Lamb of God... the Son of the Eternal Father who would grow to become the Shepherd of Israel - and be sacrificed for his flock. After their visit, they spread the joyous word of the Messiah's birth, and all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

(Ensign, Dec 1997, pg 43)

The Christmas Party for the ward will be Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010, @ 6 pm. Dinner will be served. There will be a program and we are expecting a special

visit from **Santa!**

Each family is asked to bring either potatoes, salad, rolls or Christmas Cookies. The ward will provide the meat and vegetables.



*Happy
Birthday*

DECEMBER 2010

- 1 Lawanna Talmadge
- 2 Alyse Turner
Edwina Dastrup
- 3 Sonya Silva
Cristal James
- 4 Ethan Merkley
- 5 Janet Hassell
- 10 Sheldon Hassell
John Oplinger
- 11 Jill Schnepf
Kaatiniahalaapi'api Levatau
- 12 Tom Legler
Katrina Ward
- 13 Lance McGraw
Jess Root (104)
- 15 Daline Maddern
- 20 Brian Mehlberg
Mary Filhart
- 23 Mason Redd
- 27 Ann Driggs
Brandon Eyring
- 28 Cruz Hill
Linda Perez
- 29 Rhett Hird
- 30 David Hawks

31 Semisi Tonga
Sheigh McRae
January 2011
1 Cole Montgomery
Elizabeth Crandell

Missionary Mailbox

Elder Mark E. Driggs
(Dallas Texas Mission)
13747 Montfort Dr. Ste 120
Dallas, TX 75240-4497

Elder Driggs is back in the metro Dallas area once again. He misses the quiet and more laid back feeling of Longview, but finds there are more investigators in the metro Dallas areas. He was made the District Leader for his area and believes he will stay where he is for the rest of his mission.

Currently, Elder Driggs is working with a deaf investigator that drives two hours every Sunday to meet with the missionaries. This man's name is Marcus and it looks like a baptism date has been set for January 1, 2011. He has received his mission release date of February 2. He has mixed feelings about his mission coming to an end.
– Elder Mark Driggs

Elder Isaac Standage
(Micronesia Guam Mission)
PO Box 21749 GMF
Barrigada, Guam 96921
Guam

Dear Dana Ward, We had a nice Thanksgiving here on Guam. We enjoyed a very nice dinner with Pres. And Sis. Dowdle along with some brand new missionaries that arrived that morning and some who had just been transferred to Guam. It was a very large group and lots of fun. We also enjoyed a dinner Saturday in a member's home. There was a TON of food! We got lots of invitations from members. It's really nice to be well taken care of here.

We are gearing up for the visit from Elder L. Tom Perry on Dec. 10th. It is planned that all the branches will be made into wards. There are no wards here now. I think they are expecting to become a stake.

We are enjoying working with several investigators. A lady we have been teaching came to church for the first time and seems to like it. She said she is more than willing to come again. Florence, our investigator the sisters are teaching, came for the 2nd time and also attended the branch Thanksgiving party held on Saturday. When we visited last week, her daughter was ill and we gave her a blessing. We are also teaching a husband and wife who just recently moved here from Hawaii. The wife is a fairly inactive member, but her husband is showing interest in the Church and told us when he knows what we are teaching is the truth, he would like to be baptized. He noted the presence of the Spirit in the lesson we taught him. The members here are so good to fellowship our investigators. We also have a husband and wife who have been attending meetings for about 7 years and they have never been baptized. Last night, we taught them and they have requested to be baptized right away. So – we have set Dec. 4th for their baptism. It is really cool and amazing that things work out like this.

Also last night, we got a late call from a member asking us if we could come give him a blessing. He just got word that his father has passed away and he was upset and trying to make arrangements to go home to attend his funeral but couldn't find his passport. We gave him a blessing and right after we got home, he called to say he had found his passport and things were going to work out. It was a neat experience for Elder Garcia and myself.

I'm adjusting to working in the Mission Office and am also coming to enjoy it. I enjoy sharing our 4-man apartment with the other Elders and am learning so much about what it takes to efficiently run a mission and all that must happen to make sure the Church runs smoothly. For example: I was surprised at how much it costs just for air fare since that is how all travel must be done here to cover the islands of our mission. It costs about \$40 to \$50,000 every month just for travel expenses. We drive a car here which means I spend most of my time sitting! I have learned my new companion in the coming transfers will be Elder Iglesia. He was my companion back on Pohnpei and we worked well together. We made lots of changes while on Pohnpei and will be working together again for lots of changes anticipated here on Guam. The Church is true! Love, Elder Standage.

Elder Matthew G. Eyring
Idaho Boise Mission

1111 S. Cole Rd.
Boise, ID 83709-1869

After serving 6 months in Eagle, Idaho, Matthew and his companion have had a baptism. It's getting cold and snow is covering the ground. He's healthy, strong and loves being a missionary and serving others.

Elder John Pace
Idaho Pocatello Mission
1246 Yellowstone Ave Ste F3
Pocatello, Id 83201-4374

Dear Dana Ward –

Well my Spanish is coming along great. I have had so many experiences and it's only been 4 WEEKS! It's crazy! I love it here ! The mission here is ineffective without the spirit so I have to strive everyday to obey and keep the rules! We sometimes find a potential investigator because we did service or something, trying to help out. All I know is the Lord does work in mysterious ways. For Thanksgiving Day, we had 3 appointments for dinner. It worked out great for us! We had a baptism of a Dad and Mom and their daughter this past Saturday. I baptized the daughter and the Mom. My companion baptized the father and also ordained the father to the Aaronic Priesthood. I was able to do the entire baptism in Spanish. I know the Spirit helped me because I made it through without having to repeat anything.

I love you!

Elder Pace



Marinda Hunt a
member of her Young
Adult Ward, surprised
her parents before

Thanksgiving with a mission call to South
Dakota, Rapid City, English Speaking.
Marinda will report to the MTC in Provo on
January 26, 2011. It's gonna be cold Marinda!

FYI: Our full time Missionaries **Elder Nielsen & Elder Imlah** may be reached at 495-8138. They live at 1634 E. Nielson Ave.

Brother Dan Zepeda is the ward Mission Leader. He can be reached @ Home 238-5119 or a new Cell Number – 338-8617.

New Faces in Dana Ward Places

Tanya Smith (602-684-9781) has a new address, 1360 E. Nielson Ave, which makes her a new member of our ward family. Tanya is single, grew up in the Lehi Stake, graduated from Westwood High School and is also a graduate of Gateway Community College with a degree in nursing. She is a pediatric nurse at Scottsdale Healthcare Shea and mostly works nights. She likes to play volleyball, scrap booking, and ballroom and country dancing. In her singles ward, she was a member of the Enrichment Committee and the ward Activities Committee.

Gwen Leiser was baptized Saturday, Nov 20th and we welcome her to our Dana Ward Family! Gwen lives at 2302 E. Broadway, Apt B and her phone number is 338-0253. Gwen was born in San Manuel, Az. and moved to Flagstaff in her teen years where she attended Jr. High and High School. She has one daughter (age 32) that lives in Hendersonville, N. Carolina. Gwen works for MPS as a 'Special Needs Bus Monitor'. A co-worker introduced her to the Church. She loves to read (when she has time) and was browsing through the book exchange in the lunch room and he asked if she would read a book he would give her about Jesus Christ. It was the Book of Mormon. She read it and wanted to know more and agreed

to meet with the missionaries. The full-time elders taught her as well as **Jeff and Pinki Hoepfner** and **Brother Dan Zepeda**. When they asked if she wanted to be baptized, she agreed and is so happy to be a new member of the Dana Ward Family. She lives alone with her pets; 2 dogs, 3 cats, some turtles and several aquariums of fish. She is a genuine animal lover! She is an active participant of ALANON and is reading as many LDS books as she can to learn more about the Gospel and the Church Principles.

The **Leo and Olivia Ahia family** live at 2048 E. Bayberry and are one of our new Tongan families to come to us from the Tongan Ward. They have an 8 yr old daughter named Ele, who is a 2nd grader at Robson Elementary School. Ele is delightful, polite and very nice to talk to. They have an older daughter and 2 sons that live with an uncle right now. Both Leo and Olivia work as cashiers at one of the local casinos. Olivia moved to the US with her father about 35 years ago. Her mother still lives in Tonga. Olivia says that she and her family want to follow the counsel of the Church Leaders and strive to live obedient lives. Olivia is the niece of **Ului Apino**. "**Louie**" and **Siosi (Josie) Apino** and their daughter live in the Stradling home at 1754 E. Nielson. (phone 215-1971). Their daughter attends the Young Singles Ward. We are so happy to have the **Ahia and the Apino families** as members of our ward family.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU BETTER!

Carol and Ed Provence live at 1662 E. 1st Ave. Carol and Ed are both converts to the Church. Carol was born in Adrian, Mich. and has 2 sisters and 1 brother. She is the youngest in the family. They moved to Phoenix and then Tempe and she attended elementary school on the campus of ASU because her mother worked there. She graduated from Tempe High School and went on to ASU. Her first husband died young, leaving her with 4 little boys to raise, so she returned to ASU where she earned a Bachelors and Masters degree and completed a great deal of post graduate work, all in the field of education. She had a long teaching career at Gompers School for deaf and/or blind children, Kyrene and Jr. High and High School, then mostly in Scottsdale schools. Carol specialized in 'special education'. She says she has a 'kink in her brain' which caused her to love children and teaching! Carol joined the Church when she was 16, with the blessing of her mother who told her she was not in the habit of making bad decisions and she didn't think she was making one by joining the Mormons! Carol went looking for the church, instead of the missionaries finding her. She picked a few Mormon chapels and attended their meetings and loved the teachings she heard and the way she observed them treating each other. She is the only one in her family who joined the Mormon Church. Her brother eventually joined the Catholic Church and her sisters both became Baptists.

Ed was born in Illinois and his family moved to Ogden, Utah while he was still very young. He grew up and attended school with many Mormon friends but did not join the church until after high school. Ed has 4 daughters by his first wife. Ed and Carol met while both were serving as their ward 'Singles Rep'. Carol was in charge of decorating for a big Single Adult Regional Conference and had a ton of plants she needed to haul to the building. Ed offered to help. Carol says she fell in love with him because he was so pleasant and tried his best to help and do what was wanted. He wasn't intimidated that she still had 4 boys at home to raise. He was a good sport, cheerful and could laugh at life's difficulties! They have been married for 34 years. In case you haven't

figured it out, Ed also loves children and is known around the ward as the “Cookie Grandpa”! The Primary kids and their older siblings know who he is. Bro. Provence says he doesn’t know where the kids are getting their cookies on Fast Sunday! We love the Provences and appreciate all the service they have given our ward for many years!

Notes on Dana Ward Folks

Jarom and April Hogue had their baby boy on November 5th. **Garrett Evan Hogue** arrived by C-Section and all are doing well. Daddy has enjoyed a few school holidays that has allowed him to be home and assist with the new family routine!

Connor John Southwick, son of **Ray and Dawn Southwick** arrived Nov. 11th weighing 7 pounds and 13 ounces. He joins big sister, Emma, in the Southwick family. Despite a general lack of sleep and energy, all are healthy and happy.

In our recent Nov. Stake Conference, **Kyle Hassell and David Morales**, both from the Dana Ward, were released as members of the Stake High Council. **Wes Filhart** was called to serve as a member of the Stake High Council. Also, **Joseph (Jr.) Stark** and **Trevor Schnepf** have been ordained Elders. As a ward, we are excited about these new changes and grateful for time and services rendered by those who have been released.

David and Naomi Morales (and family) have moved to the Higley and Williams Field Rd. area. Their new address is: 2439 E. Oxford Ct., Gilbert, Az. 85295. They are in the Summerfield Ward. Naomi says, “We look forward to serving and getting to know our new ward family. We will always

remember the Dana Ward and love you and miss you!”

Jeanine Crum moved from the ward Nov 27th. The kids in her Primary class will really miss her as we all will!

Darcy Allen & friends sponsored a fun hair-style fashion show, many of which were done by Darcy. Among her models were **Lana Hunt & Chelsea Rogers** and daughters, **Molly & Sophie** who wore glitter feathers & purple hair extensions in their hair. **TONS OF FUN!**

Noah Nichols was baptized on the day after his 8th birthday by his father, Jon Nichols, on Tuesday, Nov. 16th. This is a special event for Noah. Congratulations!

Big Brother, **Spencer Nichols**, just turned 12 and has been ordained a Deacon in the Aaronic Priesthood. Lots of good things happening at the Nichols Home!

Kimball Rogers made Metropolitan Youth Symphony in the second division, second chair in Cello. They perform 3 times at Mesa Arts Center. **Claire Rogers** is in the East Valley Mormon Choral Organization and she is in the Young Singers Chorus. They also will perform 3 times at the Mesa Arts Center.

Zac O'Bryant made his first soccer goal in the last game of his soccer tournament. It was quite an event!
YEAH for Zac!

Be sure you ask **Neal and Helen Chapman** for details about their recent trip to Austria with their daughter and son-in-law. They got to visit Prague, a WWII German Prison Camp where thousands of Jewish people were put to death, and a special cathedral

built in Vienna for Stephen the Apostle. They had a unique encounter with an ATM machine when they desperately needed Euro's to purchase petrol for their rental car. The machine wouldn't work, but after special prayers, the machine suddenly worked just long enough to allow them to get their gas money and then became inoperable again. They also got to attend LDS meetings at an International Branch in Vienna and met members from all over Europe, Africa and many Asian countries. It was a wonderful trip with lots of interesting experiences.

THE SICK AND INJURED LIST

Kevin Schnepf had surgery to remove his gall bladder and is doing better from that but continues his recovery process with several different health problems. He got a 'winter bug' that has progressed into pneumonia. He needs lots of rest right now. We continue to offer prayers for Kevin and the full recovery of his health.

Bishop Hale hardly missed any meetings after his double knee replacement surgeries but he had an episode with blood clots that slowed him down a bit this past week. He is **SUPERMAN** (or **SUPERBISHOP**)!

Brother George Cherrington had knee replacement surgery in Cedar City on Monday, Nov. 29th by a family friend who is an orthopedic surgeon. He did very well with the surgery and George and Ann plan to return to their Mesa home about January 1st. George says he was inspired to get his knee fixed, by the recent experience of Bishop Hale! The Cherringtons fed and entertained 74 guests

for Thanksgiving Dinner in their garage in Cedar City.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Tithing Settlement is winding up. The available schedule will be posted on the door of the Clerk's Office or to make an appointment with Bishop Hale, you may contact Paul Allen (Executive Sec.) at 241-9316 or (darcyandpaul@gmail.com).

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mark Standage has been sustained as the new Sunday School President. The First Councilor will probably be sustained soon. **Bro. Rod Boone** is the Second Councilor; and **Sis. Mingione** is still the Secretary. "As we prepare for a new year of instruction in January we are excited about being able to study the New Testament. We have great teachers in place and would like to request that anyone willing/interested in volunteering to help as a Substitute Teacher for any of the youth or adult classes please put down their name and phone number on the sheets that will be going around with the rolls over the next couple of weeks."

There is not a designated ward Temple Day for the month of December. You are invited to try to attend at a convenient time for you, during the month.



Just a reminder that the Mesa Temple will be closed all day Fri. & Sat. Dec. 24th & 25th and Fri, Dec 31st after 10 am and all day Sat, Jan 1st, 2011. Plan Ahead!

NOTE: The temple ground Christmas lights are on each night from 5:30 to 10 pm & a free concert at 7 pm. The last night is Jan 1st.

Parking is a bit difficult during this time. The E lot is reserved for busses. There is extra parking in the ward parking lot just S of the temple, and on the W side of LeSueur at Main and also on the E side of Hobson at Main. The earlier you can go for a session, the easier it will be to find parking. Please be patient. Inside the Visitor's Center is an exhibit of international nativities. It's a wonderful Home Evening opportunity as well as a delightful place to take friends and neighbors to enjoy the Christmas Season.

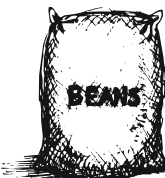
If you need help searching for your Ancestors, preparing 'Temple Ready' forms, getting help with your ancestor's temple ordinance work, or finding family histories, call our ward Family History Consultant, **Sister Christine Martin 835-6396**. She is always happy to help and is very good at finding your ancestors!

Canning Schedule for the Home Storage Center

Canning time is always 1:00 pm for each month for 2010. **December:** Refried Beans, cocoa, flour, onions (Orders due 14 Nov, Canning 8 Dec). **January:** Milk, Reg. Oats, macaroni, carrots, apples. (Orders due 19 Dec, Canning 12 Jan). **February:** black beans, sugar, fruit drink, white beans, potato flakes. (Orders due 16 Jan, Canning 9 Feb). The Cannery now takes Credit Cards. If you have any questions, call **Sally Goodwin 444-8740**.

Free Cooking Classes are held in the Wet Pack Training Room of the Mesa Cannery, Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11 am. No sign up or registration is necessary. The classes are based on the church pamphlet about building a three month supply of food.

Dec 6: Something to share
Classes will resume January 24, 2011



Relief Society

Pres Susan Dilworth 327-7317
1 Couns Arlyce Reynolds 615-1628

2 Couns Melissa Crandell 353-9556
Sec Wendy Tonga 962-4825

December RS Lesson Schedule

Dec 5 "The Living Christ" by Susan Dilworth

Dec 12: # 23 "The Sacrament" by Lou Hunt

Dec 19: #24- "The Sabbath Day" by Linette Morris

Dec 26: "Continue in Patience" by Pres. Dieter F. Uchtdorf (Ensign)- by Rosa Rodriguez

The Relief Society is starting a Coupon Exchange. Give your extra coupons to the RS Presidency and we can share them at future meetings. Details Later!



The Christmas Relief Society Social

Tuesday, - Dec 14
- 6:30 pm,

Program & Dinner

In the Cultural Hall
"The Women Who Knew Christ"

All Relief Society Sisters are invited.

Some Stake Relief Society changes were made in our Nov. 14 Stake Conference. **Jill Schnepf** and her board members were released and **Alayne Favreau** (of the Silvergate Park Ward) was sustained as the new Stake RS President. We express our love and appreciation to Jill and her board for many hours of service in our behalf. We look forward to Sister Favreau's tenure in her new stake position.

Young Women

Pres Kim Hale 834-3041
1st Couns Miriam Martin 313-7194
2nd Couns MaryAnn Kaberry 243-9762
Sec Elizabeth Stark 964-7754



A 'GRATEFUL' Thanks to all who contributed a frozen turkey to the YW/YM ward and stake service project to help provide holiday meals thru the Mesa United Food Bank, for our community members in need. 138 turkeys were donated to the stake and drive with 37 from the Dana Ward. You are awesome! Katey Turner represented the Dana Ward as a volunteer for the Saturday morning project.

*The YW/YM will go Christmas Caroling
Dec 15th for their activity.*

YOUNG MEN

Pres. Darren Eyring 835-1799
1st Couns. Wes Filhart 277-1924
2nd Couns. Pat Rogers 695-7616
Sec. Conley Martin 313-7194



Thanks also to the youth and their leaders, who prepared and served a beautiful dinner to the Veterans and Senior members of our ward and neighborhood during the month of November. Our ward YM and YW are truly awesome! And their leaders and advisors are the greatest!



PRIMARY

President Jennifer Mehlberg 279-2790
1st Couns Cheeri Redd 834-7788
2nd Couns Darcy Allen 241-9315
Secretary Janet Hassell 969-4276

December Theme: "I Know that My

Redeemer Lives"

December Scripture: "And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: that he lives!"

13th Art. Of Faith: "We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul-We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things."

Dec 5:

O. Prayer: Ronan Blau
Scripture: Emma McGraw
Talk: Amalynn Merkley
Art of Faith #13 Zach O'Bryant
C. Prayer: Payzlee Hird

Dec 12:

O. Prayer: Rhett Hird
Scripture: Eden Carter
Talk: Korben Mehlberg
Art of Faith #13 Jocelyn Gardiner
C. Prayer: Kaia Mehlberg

Dec 19:

O. Prayer: Bailey Young
Scripture: Garrett Lans
Talk: Aubrey Redd
Art of Faith #13 Molly Allen
C. Prayer: Lizzie Crandell

Dec 26:

O. Prayer: Kaeden Blau
Scripture: Samantha Montgomery
Talk: Parker Hird
Art of Faith #13 Noah Nichols
C. Prayer: Rylee Hird



We welcome **Helen Petersen** to the Primary Staff. She will be teaching Jeanine Crum's class since Sr. Crum has moved from the ward.

MARGIN NOTES:

I looked and beheld the virgin... bearing a child in her arms. And the angel said unto me: Behold the Lamb of God, yea, even the Son of the Eternal Father! 1 Nephi 11:20-21

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

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

“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

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...”

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

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.

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

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. Matt 2:2, 10-11

“Born in a stable, cradled in a manger, He came forth from heaven to live on earth as mortal man and to establish the Kingdom of God.”
Pres. Thomas S. Monson

For unto us a child is born,... and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

On the morrow come I into the world. 3 Nephi 1:13

And behold, there shall a new star arise, such an one as ye never have beheld; and this also shall be a sign unto you. Hel 14:5

And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall believe on the Son of God, the same shall have everlasting life. Hel 14:8

And it came to pass... at the going down of the sun there was no darkness; and the people began to be astonished because there was no darkness when the night came. 3 Nephi 1:15

This will I give unto you for a sign at the time of his coming; for behold there shall be great lights in heaven, insomuch that in the night before he cometh there shall be no darkness. Hel. 14:3

And it came to pass also that a new star did appear, according to the word. 3 Nephi 1:21

When Joseph went to Bethlehem, I think he took great care To place his tools and close his shop and leave no shavings there.
He urged the donkey forward then, with Mary on its back And carried bread and goat cheese in a little linen sack.
I think there at the busy inn that he was meek and mild And awed to be the guardian of Mary's sacred child. Perhaps all through the chilly hours he smoothed the swaddling bands, and Jesus felt the quiet strength of Joseph's gentle hands.
And close beside the manger bed, he dimmed the lantern's light and held the little Jesus close upon that holy night.
Children's Songbook, pg 38

May the peace of our Father in Heaven abide in your hearts and in the hearts of people everywhere as they draw near to Him in prayer and in praise this Christmas. And may the sick be restored; may the sorrowing be comforted; may the lonely have their hearts lifted; and the weary be rested; the needy be fed; may the doubting receive assurance and may evil and designing men be confounded. David O. McKay