

# Dana Ward Newsletter

BISHOPRIC MESSAGE

September 2013 Issue



Everyone on Earth is looking for happiness. Men are that they might have JOY (2nd Nephi 2:25). There are many ways that people look for happiness and joy. Some ways are good. There are a multitude of hobbies, activities, entertainment, and events that are wholesome and pleasing. These are good to have in our lives. On the other hand, some ways in which people look for happiness and joy are evil. Pornography, drugs, and wicked practices that are designed by the Devil are becoming more prevalent in the world today in which people participate in to try to find happiness and joy. If we are participating in such activities I invite us to STOP immediately and if necessary visit Bishop Eyring for assistance.

The only way to have true, lasting happiness is to keep the commandments of God.

“And moreover, I would desire that ye should consider on the blessed and a happy state of those that keep the commandments of God. For behold, they are blessed in all things, both temporal and spiritual; and if they hold out faithful to the end they are received into heaven, that thereby they may dwell with God in a state of never-ending happiness. O remember, remember that these things are true; for the Lord God hath spoken it.” Mosiah 2:41

If we keep the commandments of God we will not only have happiness but we will also be blessed in all things. What a wonderful promise we have from the Book of Mormon. This is the only way to have true happiness and blessings in this life and never-ending happiness in the life to come. Please let us consider on the blessed and happy state of those that keep the commandments of God and make any adjustments that we need in order to receive more blessing and happiness.

Brother Wesley D. Filhart

## **Bishopric**

Bishop - Darren Eyring	480-695-2346
1st Councilor - Kyle Hassell	480-969-4276
2nd Councilor - Wes Filhart	480-832-0391
Exec. Secretary - Dustin Redd	480-369-7903
Ward Clerk - Conley Martin	480-313-7149

## **Mesa South Stake Presidency**

President - Ray Johnson
1st Councilor - Rondal Jones
2nd Councilor - Douglas Millett
Exec. Secretary - Daniel Zufelt
Stake Clerk - Larry Schnepf





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1 Sept	Darren Eyring
1 Sept	Miriam Martin
2 Sept	Joseph Freundlich
2 Sept	Dwight Morris
3 Sept	Melanie Brinton
5 Sept	Bonnie Jackson
7 Sept	Kahnye Phelps
7 Sept	Ben Waldman
8 sept	Joyce Berry
9 Sept	Ken Coker
9 Sept	Vickey Stevens
11 Sept	Heidi-Ann Blau
14 Sept	Amber Blau
14 Sept	Claire Rogers
14 Sept	Doris Smalley
15 Sept	Hunter Tietjen
18 Sept	Dennis Hewes
18 Sept	Chris Martin
18 Sept	Sue Thompson
19 Sept	Chandler Rodriquez
21 Sept	Donna Baker
22 Sept	Jimmy Carpenter
24 Sept	Melissa Crandell
25 Sept	Violet Rogers
26 Sept	Luke Nichols
28 Sept	Terrence Morgan
29 Sept	Amanda Phelps
29 Sept	Kimball Rogers
30 Sept	Nick Brice



## Church Farm Assignment In Coolidge



**President Johnson** paid **Dylan LeSueur** \$100 to eat a big, juicy, spike tail, green caterpillar. President Johnson said, "it was worth every penny for the entertainment."



The entire Johnny Martinez family came to work at the farm. Corey, who was too busy working, is missing from the photo.

**Kyle Hassell, Jason Clelland, Kris Tiffany and Joe and Joseph Stark** were also there. Thanks for all your hard work.





## Relief Society Corner

President	Lou Hunt
1st Counselor	Lonette Villarreal
2nd Counselor	Linette Morris
Secretary	Nancy Tiffany

We want to make all sisters aware of our next night Relief Society meeting. It will be Oct. 1st at 6:30. The theme is "Faith In Every Footstep".

This evening is one the Stake Relief Society has asked us to do as a follow-up to the evening of faith they had in April. We were all asked to commit to do something that will increase your faith in Christ. Then see how it makes your life better.

So we hope you will take the challenge and take some time to consider what you would like to work on and put faith to the test. We hope to have a good evening of sharing and learning from each other.

Each week in the Relief Society bulletin there will be a reminder of something about faith to keep our minds focused on this special principle of the gospel. Watch for more information and details.

## Young Women

President	Lindsey Layton
1st Counselor	Jill Schnepf
2nd Counselor	Janet Hassell
Secretary	Elizabeth Martinez



## Young Men

President	Richard Hale
1st Counselor	Daniel Scott
2nd Counselor	Patrick Rogers
Secretary	Kris Tiffany

## Priesthood Advancements

Jordan Gardiner	Deacon
David Webb	Deacon
Colin Merkley	Deacon
Mason Tietjen	Deacon

# New Callings

**Keith Merkley**  
**Mike & Mari Ashby**  
**Harmony Beals**  
**Heidi Morgan**  
**Larissa Hunt**  
**Jessica Rainwater**

Choir Director  
 CTR 6 Teachers  
 Nursery  
 Bear Den Leader  
 Nursery  
 Nursery



**Jason Turcott** of the Lazona Ward has been called to the High Council.

## Primary Patch

President	Cheeri Redd
1st Counselor	Lois Chapman
2nd Counselor	Dawn Nichols
Secretary	Anna O'Bryant

## Sept. Assignments

### Scripture

9/1 Jade Williams  
 9/22 Peyton Young  
 9/29 Bennett Turner

### Talk

9/1 Andrew Ward  
 9/22 Jocelyn Gardiner  
 9/29 Parker Hird

*Primary Program*  
*September 22*



## High Priests

President	Ray Crandell
1st Assistant	Dwight Morris
2nd Assistant	Kevin Hunt
Secretary	Melvin Beals

## Elders Quorum

President	David Hawks
1st Counselor	Mac Rainwater
2nd Counselor	Kyle Packer
Secretary	Pete Smith

## Sunday School

President	John Chapman
1st Counselor	Semisi Tonga
2nd Counselor	Chris Carter
Secretary	Ernest Halliday





# Missionary Moments

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Elder Brandon Eyring  
Virginia Richmond Mission  
9327 Midlothian Tpke Ste 1-B  
Richmond, VA 23235-4965

Brandon is returning to the mission office in Richmond to be the Assistant to the President. He likely will remain in the office for the duration of his mission. He is busy with office and transfer duties.



Elder Steele Crandell  
4717 Ciara Dr. Durant,  
OK 74701

We have a baptism for an investigator named Sir Issac on Saturday. He is the definition of pure and meek and humble and just good. He is 18 and we are so excited for him, but I'm just so tired. This mission stuff doesn't give you a whole lot of room to breathe at times. We are working hard and it is so crazy out here. The ward is really starting to get cooking and wants to start inviting friends, family and acquaintances to come to church. Our mission president gave the members a line to use with "only nice people" and say, "would you be willing to listen to a brief presentation about my religion" and does it work, haha. It is so awesome, it is the coolest thing ever. We are teaching people right and left. It's amazing. So that is probably one of the reasons we are so tired. I am trying to be focused on the work and the mission that's ahead of me, but I just get so scared and worried about the future. And so I'll try to have some more faith and yeah talk to you soon, your boy, Elder Crandell

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Full-Time Missionaries  
Elder Brooks  
Elder Park





# Missionary Moments

Elder Sheldon Hassell  
1460 Division St #46  
Corvallis, OR 97330

Dear Family and Friends,

So the past week was great. One of our investigators, Luis Marquez, 20yr old OSU student, we had some really, really good lessons with this week. Brother Palmer came to both lessons and we really helped him out, hopefully with some of his doubts. He absolutely believes that the Catholic church is the correct church but he is still willing to investigate.

We went and saw a less active guy named Miguel Angel. In the road, I saw a snake as we road over. It was a residential side street so I pulled over, then turned around and as I did a Car swerved to miss it. Anyway he luckily did miss it and we moved the reptile to the side of the road. I picked him up and held it and got pics, but I will send them next week.

Well I love you all. Oh I forgot to mention this area is an English ward, so for at least this transfer and I believe president said, the next 3 months. So next 2 transfers I am an English Missionary. But I am brown at heart.

8/19

I didn't mention last week, dunno why, I guess because it is not super important, but I am also the District Leader here. Yeah when President called with transfers, he really laid it on me. First, switching me to English felt like I was being sent home, training, then being called to be DL as well. No I am doing fine really, it wasn't that big of a deal. I know that the Lord has me here for a reason. I think already I am beginning to see why and I am so excited to be an instrument in HIS hands. Because in HIS Strength I can do ALL Things.

There is a less active family here who is Hispanic. And I dunno but I feel in part, that may be something or part of the reason why the Lord has me here. We visited them and I got to talk to Brother Batista. He is a really good man and guess what? He CAME TO CHURCH this Sunday!!! Hooray!!! Plus he has a 19yr old son who is undecided on whether or not he wants to go on a mission. I really hope we can help motivate him to serve. He seems like a really good kid. We are teaching a woman named Marti who at first said she just had questions. The other elders before had shared some about family history and just answered a bunch of questions she had. But this past week we got to teach part of the Restoration. She really seemed to like it and I can just see and the member who is fellow-shipping her said the same thing. We both think within a month or so she will be asking if she can be baptized. There are other part member families and just a lot waiting to happen here in this area. Creswell only has about 5,000 people, then we cover a small portion of Cottage Grove, a neighboring town 9ish miles away, as well we cover a couple other small places called Pleasant Hill and Lorain. It is a lot of fun. I super love this area and President Young is super unpredictable, but he said twice now that I will probably be an English speaking missionary for a couple transfers.

I am so happy, I want all of you to know. It says in Preach My Gospel that more happiness and Joy awaits you as you serve among HIS children. This I know to be true. I know I have a Living Loving Heavenly Father. I know Jesus Christ is his son and is my Savior and that in and through him we can find True joy. Only by following his way will we find true lasting happiness. I know that he came to earth and died for us, not only that, he lived for us, he set the perfect example for us to follow and lives today as a glorified resurrected being who wants us to return to the presence of the Father, eternally, with Our Families. I am so thankful for the opportunity God has given me to help others have a Forever Family. Con Amor, Elder Hassell



# Missionary Moments

Elder Elder Kevin Hale  
4 Norte 1112 Casilla 631  
Vina del Mar  
Valparaiso  
Chile

Dear Family and Friends,

Well this is the last week of the transfer and I am still going hard! Every week, Elder Griffeth and I are improving our numbers and it is showing! We have been teaching Carlos but he is faltering a little bit. We invited him to live the word of wisdom and he said yes and he made plans to stop smoking and all that jazz and then we went to his house the nextday for the next lesson and they told us to go get him from the bar.... We were a little disappointed but he should still get baptized this month! And we also found some other really great investigators that really want to listen and do all that! I am way excited!! I am getting along great with Elder Griffeth and this work is amazing! I am learning so much from the scriptures everyday and I would not change this mission for anything!

We finally got ward missionaries! This is the fist time in my mission! I am way excited to be able to work more with them and see their fruits and how they can help. Mom, couples are really important as well. I am glad that you're getting the opportunity to help the Elders because marriage missionaries are indispensable!

Well, that's about all for me this week. I am doing well and I got my package. Thank you very much! And also my district loved those cookies. Butterscotch doesn't exist here in Chile and so they all loved them!

Aug. 12th

This week has been a good week! I have accomplished a lot and I feel satisfied with my work. I still have been gaining a great testimony of the life of Jesus Christ and what he has done for me. He really knows what I am going through and what I need for comfort in this time. I have been really stressed lately and last night, I was praying for this guidance and comfort and I was able to feel this peace that Christ really knows what I am going through at this moment. I am really thankful for the gospel of Jesus Christ and this church and my family. Without you, I don't know where I would be. Thank you very much for everything! I am doing great here and have been taking pictures and I'll definitely send some next week! I am a little backed up again... Like always... But the pool looks awesome and I am really excited to see it when it's all done and the people are having a blast! And also, you have all shown me how to work really hard. I have been blessed with a great family and I love you all!

Aug. 19th

Bueno, first, Elder Griffeth left... But, in his place, Elder Gomez came!!! I get to train him! He is from Argentina and he is amazing! I have seen so many miracles of the new missionaries coming into the field. It is so great! I love the work here and Elder Gomez is awesome. We are still teaching Carlos and he is progressing. Slowly but surely. As well, we found another girl and her name is Carla. We had a lesson with her on Saturday night and she is way prepared for the missionaries. We went to pick her up for church and she came and was explaining the Book of Mormon from what

we had told her the night before and it was awesome! She is only 11 years old and already has a great desire to be baptized and show her family the example. We are also seeing the work explode here with the members. President Kahnlein has asked us to work more and teach more of the people in the ward council and we have seen the work progress so much more. It's amazing what the power of the members!

Elder Hale

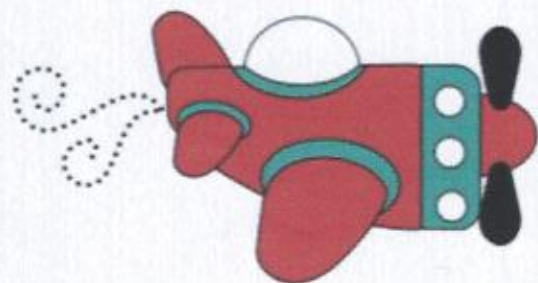




# Welcome To The Ward

## Mike & Mari Ashby Family

**Mike** and **Mari** have been married for 9 years and are both from Gilbert. They both went to Highland High School. **Mike** went to the Santo Domingo West mission in the Dominican Republic after high school. He is currently a nurse (RN) at Banner Gateway Hospital working the night shift in the observation unit. He is also in school full time working on his Bachelor's in Nursing. **Mari** is a stay at home mom to **Max** and **Tess**. She worked in the payroll department for a construction company for almost 10 years before she "retired" to be home with the kids full time last year. **Max** is 4 1/2 and just started preschool 3 times a week. He is loving it! He is a great big brother and loves sports, playing the Wii, Legos, board games, and just about anything else! **Tess** is almost 11 months and is quite the character! She is trying to walk already, so watch for her running up and down the aisles in the chapel. ;) We are excited to be in the area and are looking forward to getting to know you all.



**Millie Smith** is **Ray Crandell's** sister and is living in the Crandell's apartment. She was born and raised in Heber and moved to Mesa in 1970. She was married twice, but unfortunately her first husband died of cancer and her second husband died of a heart attack. She has two children and 4 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She loves to read and dance. She enjoys traveling. Her grandchildren are her joy in life. Welcome to our ward Millie.

**Terri & Mike Hill** have been in our ward for a while. They live on Crescent Ave. in the home their son **Tyson** and his wife **Alise** lived in. **Terri** is from Louisiana and is a Southern Belle. **Mike** is from Washington state. They met at a disco while attending Rick's College. They married way back in the 70's. Their lives were filled with lot's of laughter through the years as they dressed up as hillbillies and clowns. They had quite the comedy act. But they are more serious now and sit back and enjoy life with their three children **Tyson, Aaron and Lindsay** and their grandkids. We look forward to getting to know the Hill's better and maybe talk them in to having a few more laughs.



We would also like to welcome  
**Esther McWhorter**  
**Lisa Wagenman Rodriguez**  
**Eric & Lisa Lines & 3 children**

We are sad to see **Gary & Marla Blum** leave our ward. They have purchased a home outside our ward boundaries. We wish them good luck in their new home.

If you would like to write a letter to  
**Jeff Hoepfner** - Here's his address.

**Jeff Hoepfner**

#78465

Eyman

Meadows 10-A-29

PO Box 3300

Florence, AZ 85132-3300



Don't forget- The Ward Campout  
This weekend Sept. 6 & 7  
It will be loads of fun.

Chris Martinez will be reporting to  
Fort Leonardwood, Missouri for basic  
training in October. Good Luck Chris.