

# Dana Ward Newsletter

## BISHOPRIC MESSAGE

January 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Here it is, a New Year! Please consider a few additions to any resolutions you have already made. These are things wise and successful people do in and out of the Church.

1. If you don't *write in a journal regularly* already, consider making at least 1 journal entry per week. If you already write in your journal once a week, or more, continue. The wisdom in doing will be made evident in your life soon if it hasn't already.
2. *Give God the benefit of a doubt.* WE HAVE NO PROOF HE ISN'T BLESSING US. If you have a good day – praise God, thank Him. Give Him credit for it. If something goes wrong in your day – praise God, thank Him it wasn't worse. Give Him credit for it. Once again, we have no proof He doesn't carry us through the good and bad days so let's assume He does.
3. *Be a full-tithe payer – NO MATTER WHAT.* If you came to tithing settlement you'll know all you were asked was "Are you a full-tithe payer?" You weren't asked how much you made during the year. You weren't asked to show your pay stubs. The \$ you pay doesn't financially benefit me or the Dana Ward. But being a full tithe payer gives you promised blessings and indirectly blesses our Ward and community.

The amounts below DO NOT matter to the Lord. Obedience is all the Lord asks of us. Tithing has never been about money.

\$0 paid by a faithful obedient person who had \$0 increase is a full tithe. \$1million in tithing paid by a person who made \$11million is not a full tithing!

| If this is your increase: | This is what you pay for a tithe: |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$100,000.00              | \$10,000.00                       |
| \$10,000.00               | \$1,000.00                        |
| \$100.00                  | \$10.00                           |
| \$00.00                   | \$00.00                           |

"Increase" is generally "what you make". Some pay on the NET. Some like to pay on the GROSS for added blessings. This is between you and the Lord, the one who gave us 100% of all we have, 100% of all we can do and think, 100% of all we can feel and enjoy - the one who only asked us for 10% back.



4. *Serve EVERYTIME* you are reasonably able to, and occasionally at times when you aren't able to do so reasonably!
5. *Be worthy of, receptive to, and obedient to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.*

## Mesa South Stake Presidency

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

## Dana Ward Bishopric

Bishop - Darren Eyring 480-695-2346  
1st Counselor - Kyle Hassell 480-969-4276  
2nd Counselor - Wes Filhart 480-832-0391  
Exec. Secretary - Dustin Redd 480-369-7903  
Ward Clerk - Conley Martin 480-313-7194



# Brother Jess Root Lived to be 107



Jess H Root, age 107, passed away on December 30, 2013 at his home in Mesa. He was surrounded by his daughter, Linette Morris (Dwight), sons Barry (Colleen) and Glen (Susan) along with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Rowena, his wife, preceded him in death in 2010.

Jess was born in Pima, Arizona on December 13, 1906. He had fond memories growing up in the Gila Valley.

He served 4 years in the National Guard of Arizona and 5 years in the Army. He was in Army intelligence in World War II on the Okinawa Island. Due to his intelligence work, a Japanese gun that was destroying any ship that came into the harbor was located and taken out. Many lives were saved.

Jess loved baseball and played for the University of Arizona and then semi-pro ball traveling the Southwest.

Upon his return and honorable release from the Army, he noticed a young lady by the name of Rowena Root. She was planning on serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He had other plans, but put his plans on hold while Rowena served that mission. Upon her return, he asked her to marry him and she accepted. They were married on June 4, 1947. They had three children Sara Linette, Jess Barry and Glen Harvey.

Jess graduated from Eastern Arizona College in Thatcher, AZ. Received degrees from University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University, and University of Denver. He earned five degrees from Associate to PhDs.

He managed a medical laboratory in Phoenix and then went to work for the Indian Hospital from 1970 - 1984 in Phoenix. He retired from the Indian Hospital as a lab technician at the age of 72. He was forced to retire when the new director found out his age.

He served as a bishop for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. During this time he walked out of the building on a Sunday and was shot in the shoulder, due to a scuffle that was going on outside.

He and his wife, Rowena, served as temple workers in the Arizona Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He retired at age 100.



He is survived by his 3 children, their spouses, 19 grand children and 47 great-grandchildren with 4 more coming. Brother Root was the oldest member of Dana Ward, having moved in in 2001. We all were privileged to hear him bare his testimony just a few weeks ago. He truly loved everyone in the Dana Ward.

In 2012 Jess was recognized by Gov. Jan Brewer during the state centennial celebration for being 105. He enjoyed telling people he was older than Arizona. He wasn't the oldest in the state, but he figures he was the oldest native of Arizona. He loved Arizona, his country and was so proud to be an American.

One thing Jess always worried about, was he did not want anyone to think he was stuck up because he didn't say Hi, he just couldn't see or hear. We will miss you Bro. Root.



# Our New Elders



## Getting to know you - New faces in Dana Ward



Elders Baker & Krzycki  
480-495-8138

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**



Jan. 5 Carson Carpenter  
Jan. 6 Ethan Martinez  
Jan. 6 Lora Stewart  
Jan. 7 Oliver Smith  
Jan. 8 Efrain Rodriguez  
Jan. 8 Dixie Starkey  
Jan. 10 Jacob Carpenter  
Jan. 12 Sofia Hines  
Jan. 12 April Hogue  
Jan. 12 Samantha Montgomery  
Jan. 15 Janette Bury  
Jan. 15 Betty Curtis  
Jan. 15 Homer Rogers  
Jan. 18 Amalynn Merkley  
Jan. 20 Steele Crandell  
Jan. 21 Chad Gardiner  
Jan. 21 Kyle Packer  
Jan. 21 Makenzie Suhr  
Jan. 25 Amy Calhoun  
Jan. 28 Johnnie Dickson  
Jan. 29 Dawn Nichols  
Jan. 31 Joseph Phelps  
Jan. 31 Devin Tietjen  
Feb. 1 Audrey Smith

My name is **Brian Nielsen** and I am married to **Sheigh**. We met our junior year of high school and it was literally love at first sight. However, we didn't start dating until our senior year. Then it was time for me to leave on my mission, which we both knew it was what needed to happen. I served my mission in Rancagua Chile and Sheigh wrote me every day for 2 years. I didn't know what I would have done without all of her letters. Then it was time for me to come home. We started dating when I got home in March. I proposed in August and then we got married Dec. 12th 2012. And 10 months later our beautiful daughter, Emmry Wyoma was born. Making our clan just a little bigger!  
Welcome to the ward Nielsen's. We look forward to getting to know you.



## Gilbert Arizona Temple

OPEN HOUSE

3301 South Greenfield Road

Gilbert, Arizona

January 18 - February 15, 2014

Monday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Tuesday - Saturday, 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

[templeopenhouse.lds.org](http://templeopenhouse.lds.org)

Write a letter to:

**Jeff Hoepfner**

ADC#78465

Arizona State Prison Complex Eyman

Unit Meadows 10-A-29

PO Box 3300

Florence, AZ 85232

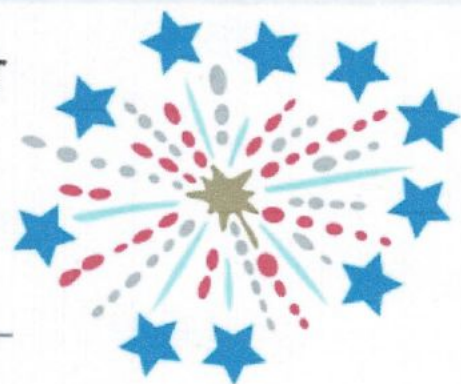
He would love to hear from you.





# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## January Calendar



1/11 Gardening Workshop  
Fruit Trees, Potatoes  
At Patrick Rogers

1/11 Jacob Carpenter's  
Baptism  
3PM



1/12 Kimball Rogers Eagle  
Court of Honor  
7PM

1/17 **Stake  
Temple  
Day**

1/20 Civil Rights Day  
No School

1/21 Cub Scout  
Pack Meeting  
6:30PM



1/25 11- Year Old  
Day Camp  
Papago Park



1/29 YW  
New Beginnings  
7PM

1/26 Stake Conference  
at the  
Inter-Stake Center  
Noon

### Callings

Scott Driggs - Asst. Ward Clerk  
Terri Hill - RS Instructor  
Shaun Brown - Elders Quorum Asst. Sec.

**\* CAMPOUT \***

The Ward Campout is at the end of the  
month - YES!!

Jan. 31-Feb. 1

Look for details in the bulletin.



# WELCOME

### New Members

Chad & Kimberly Metcalf  
Denim, Preston & Logan  
Scott & Destiny Taylor  
Terrance & Jaelyn  
Kumen & Ayan Dixon

Welcome to the Ward. We look  
forward to getting to know you.



### Priesthood Advancements

Porter Reynolds -  
Mason Redd -  
Nathan Martinez -

Deacon  
Teacher  
Teacher

# 2014



# Missionary Mail

## Elder Brandon Eyring

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

I have a testimony that we can either be an instrument in the hands of the Lord or sit in the tool box and rust away. We must tell the Lord that we want him to use us and then put ourselves out there and be willing and ready to act when needed.

We had about an hour of time so we decided to go tracting, which I love! So we knocked the doors this lady answered and we shared with her the restoration pamphlet and she loved it, talked it over and then invited her to be baptized and she said I would love to get baptized. Then walked two doors down and set a man for January 11th. I mean why wouldn't the Lord use one of his faithful and worthy servants to bring about his eternal plans and help one of his children make it home to Him. Because there is no way that people will be able to be back with their Father in Heaven unless it is by us!!!

We have a huge responsibility on our shoulders and its go time! This is the last inning Jacob 1:19 D&C 4:2, 2 Nephi 25:23. This is God's work, there is absolutely no stopping it. I love it! And I can't wait to get home and preach the gospel without hesitancy to people. Come what may and love it!! Praise to the Man!!!  
Love, Elder Eyring



## Sister Carol Ransom

Florida Orlando Mission  
10502 Satellite Blvd Ste E  
Orlando, FL 32837-8426

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. We just had our ward Christmas party here in Rockledge. Different sisters in the Relief Society each signed up to decorate a table. It looked so cute. I wish I had taken pictures to share. They shared a part of Joy to the World, which is such a good movie about Christ's birth. We also had an investigator there with her daughter, which was cool. After the party, our Relief Society president let us take home one of the little Christmas trees she had brought as a table center piece. So now we have a little tree with lights and decorations on it. If you haven't watched the new Mormon message about Christmas yet, you should. I cry every time we share it with someone. I know that Christ was born to Mary, that He lived a perfect life for us to follow, that He suffered and died for us, and that He lives again. I know that as we do our best to remember His perfect example, we will be blessed more than we currently understand.

Love,  
Sister Carol Ransom

## The Dana Ward Mission Plan - 2014

INVITE invite INVITE

**GOAL:** Bring 8 souls closer to Christ through Baptism

### WHY:

- CHARITY
- We promised to
- To save our own souls
- The Savior asked us to (baptism and temple covenants)
- All must have saving ordinances done to be saved.

D&C 4

### HOW:

- Give people a reason to want to have what you have (more peace now and eternal life later)
1. Prayerfully learn of Christ and be more like Him (Scripture study, Punctually attend all Church meetings, temple visits)
  2. Learn how to overcome fears the world (Satan) has put in our minds. "The Gospel is true, therefore nothing else matters"
  3. Pray for missionary experiences and the courage to follow promptings of the Spirit.
  4. Bring up Church topics often to friends, co-workers and neighbors

INVITE INVITE INVITE

### TOOLS:

- Temple activities including open house, dedication, visitor center, Easter Pageant, Christmas lights
- Be neighborly - Service - FHE - Quality Ward Activities - Monthly sacrament meeting emphasis



# Missionary Mail

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

Well we just finished the last week of the transfer here with Elder Barton! We finished it off with a great attendance at Sacrament meeting. We had 4 investigators come! But unfortunately, not the Montemayor family. It has been hard to find them in their house because they tell us a certain time and we go, then they aren't home. Or when they tell us a day we can go, we already have another appointment scheduled. I think we are going to be putting a little more effort into finding them though. We have had a great lesson plan planned for them for about a week and a half. It'll be super lame if I am not here to actually give it. But we had 3 girls that we found a few weeks ago finally go to Church: Josefa, Alison, y Jazmin. They will progress well and tonight we have another lesson with them and they are willing to do all of the homework that we give them. It's also a little weird because they are getting into summer break right now. I'm still a little weirded out by the climate change. And it will just be different. I don't want to leave here in Coquimbo either because the members all know me and trust me a lot. They all think I have about 5 months left in the mission and are surprised when I tell them I have 13 months left. I am excited to be here in the mission and love doing what is put in front of me!



This last Friday we also had our December Conference with another area seventy, Elder Wenceslao Svec. He was awesome and gave us a great lesson using the Old Testament on obedience. I was humbled... But also, President Kahnlein gave us each our own Book of Mormón to read this year 4 times through. We're going to do it as a mission to become a mission even closer to God. In the intro, it says that a man will come closer to God by reading and abiding to the precepts of this book than any other book. So we are focusing our teaching and personal studies all on the Book of Mormón. I am very excited! Once again, I feel like up to this point in my mission, it hasn't been so much as to be baptizing a ton of people but to help more of my companions, other missionaries, and the members of the church come closer to Christ. And that has really strengthened my personal testimony!

This week, I got to play the piano for a musical number of Away in a Manger of the primary version! It was sweet and I nailed it! My piano skills have improved a lot here!

Brother Lopez is crazy! It has been so much fun here with him. He always makes jokes with us and teases us. He is really similar to Michael I feel!

Thanks again for everything! I have some pretty sweet Christmas decorations and I loved all the letters and card from the cousins! I really appreciate it! Love, Elder Hale

Dec. 31, 2013

Dear Family,

Well I don't have too much time right now and I had a great Christmas! I loved talking with you all even though it was very short! I feel like I could talk for hours on end! But I really enjoyed it and enjoyed seeing everyone again!

This past week was a little interesting seeing as we had one investigator get the cops called on him for doing drugs and almost killing his dad. It is amazing to see how badly the family needs the gospel in this moment in their lives. I know that Jesus Christ is my savior and my redeemer. He loves me and wants the best for me! I love you all and will try to send a little more next week! I love you!

Elder Hale



# Missionary Mail

Elder Sheldon Hassell  
83278 N. 6th St.  
Creswell, OR 97426-9775

The past week was a bit slower with Christmas and everything.

Christmas eve was: 10am-1pm- Pday-- to do our shopping and cleaning and laundry. Then that afternoon from 1pm-5pm-- was service. We went out and caroled to a couple families which was really nice; then Elder Romero and I made No-bake Cookies. We made a total of 87 cookies, is what it turned out to be. It was sure a lot. The crazy thing was trying to get them all to cool; they weren't setting up, which was super annoying but we put some in the fridge, some in the freezer and eventually got them all to setup. We delivered them to several families throughout the next couple days. Then Christmas Eve we went to a members house in the Branch named the Rojas. We ate dinner with them and they got us each a gift. It was super cool because they were sweaters that they got us. I had actually been wanting one, so it was perfect. They even got the color I would've picked out as well, so I was really excited about that.



Christmas day was nice, but I was exceptionally tired I think because we didn't do anything :) We went over to a members house in another ward, the Pool family, she actually plays the Piano for our branch, but isn't Hispanic nor does she speak Spanish, she just does it to help us out. Anyways, we ate breakfast casserole with them and cinnamon rolls. Then we were able to Skype at the same house. Yes, it was SO GOOD to see and hear him!!

That evening we went over again to the Rojas, because nobody had signed up for us Christmas night. We ate leftovers from the previous night and it was super good. Then we went home and I watched a church video "Joseph Smith Prophet of the Restoration." For any of you who haven't seen it, I definitely suggest that you take an hour to do so. You can find it on the Mormon Channel on Youtube and watch it from your computer or Tablet.

Just yesterday, Monday the 30th, we had some really awesome miracles. We have been struggling to find new people to teach and really been trying to add new investigators to our teaching pool, especially in the southern half of our area. Well yesterday we were in the Northern half, at a trailer park. We had just finished a lesson with an investigator that went super well. Then I remembered a potential that Elder Barton and I had found and we went and knocked. The woman Ofelia, invited us in and we sat down and taught her and her two sons Oliverio and Llovani. It was really cool. We got to know them a bit, explained our purpose as missionaries and gave them a short overview of the restoration. It was really cool because Oliverio offered the closing prayer at the end of the lesson. He's super cool young guy, 22, going to school to be a welder. We have a return appointment for this Thursday, so hopefully things go well.

Then down in the south part of the area, deeper into Medford. We had an appointment fall through and stopped by a potentials house. His dad let us in, then within 2 minutes he showed up. He only had a few minutes to talk, but we taught about a 10 min Restoration Lesson, answered a few questions he had, placed with him a Book of Mormon and got a return appointment for Saturday. Hopefully things go well with him. He doesn't seem extremely solid.....yet I think that God can do anything though, including softening hearts of stone. Hopefully things go well with him.

Entering this new year I would like to end with a scripture. 3 Nephi 12:47: "Old things are done away, and all things have become new".

Starting off a brand New year is a perfect time for us to reflect and think about what "Old things" we might like to do away with. Perhaps it may be old habits or sins or maybe it is just a strengthened resolution to do better to magnify our calling, to stand a little taller, to talk a little more lovingly, to become more like HIM. I am so grateful for the blessing of Repentance and Change. Repentance is us Returning to the Savior. The more we Repent, or in other words Change ourselves through his matchless love, the more like Him we will become. I hope that you may all see the wonderful blessings of Christs gospel in your lives during this new year.

Con Amor, Elder Hassell



# Missionary Mail

**Elder Steele Crandell**

1231 W. Highway 287 Bypass Apt 45

Waxahachie, TX 75165

12/9/13

So sorry I have just been really busy as of late I apologize, you know me I'm not one who writes a lot or reads a lot either so it's rough but I'm trying to change. The weather the last week was super crazy from Thursday through Sunday. All of Duncanville and most of Dallas was covered with about 2" of ice everywhere and at least 3 more inches of snow. We had those days off if you will. We sat inside, shoveled snow, played card games then Saturday night we get our Transfer calls and I'm getting transferred tomorrow morning to Waxahachie which is about 45 min south of where I am at now. So that was crazy because my companion has been in the area a transfer longer than me. I got called as District Leader down there as well, which I didn't see coming. So I'll keep y'all posted on that for sure. It's funny that little tree topper that you gave me was made in Irving, TX which is like 20 minutes from me. That was pretty cool. I guess that is where the manufacturing/distribution center is.

So this week went by fast. Monday p-day then Tuesday exchange for me in Oakcliff (the "ghetto in Dallas" that's what the rich missionaries say but it feels like home and I loved it there). Then Wednesday Elder Reynolds went to Desoto and Elder Kidd came here on an exchange and that was a lot of fun. Then Thursday and Friday we were iced in. Then Saturday we were as well and some how Reynolds convinced me to walk to the grocery store, then go to our ward mission leaders house to make cookies this was about a 5 mile walk on the ice. So we would walk on the frozen lawns then run and slide across the iced over driveways. I only fell like once or twice but it was fun. Would I do it again? Probably not. But it was an interesting time. On the way we help chip the ice off a drive way and push a car out of a ditch. It was pretty crazy, but it was a good time. Then Saturday the Spanish Elders were rebels and came over and played phase ten with us, it was really fun. Then Sunday the roads were so bad that they cancelled church. I have never ever had that happen, it was really some crazy stuff. Then we went and said some of my goodbyes to the people in the ward. Well don't forget to smile y'all.

12/21/13

My new companion is really awesome. He's from Draper, Utah. He is a really cool guy. I'm really excited to be serving with him. Waxahachie is really awesome, it's way out in the sticks and it's a fun place. I was using a chainsaw on Saturday so I feel right at home and it is pronounced "walks a hatchy" btw.

But life is moving so fast I'm getting really close to a year. I don't know what to do with myself and apparently its' all down hill from there so we shall see how this goes. I'm learning how to clean a lot more. When I got to the apartment there was actually rat poop on the counters it was so gross. All I could think is you saying Haunta virus. And I'm excited for you to be building that strong foundation. My favorite scripture is Hel. 5:12 but always remember the Lord is on your side D&C 82:10.

Love, Your Boy.

**Elder Brandon Boone**

Oregon Salem Mission

700 Deborah Road, Suite 260

Newberg, Oregon 97132

This week has been one of so much excitement! We met on Tuesday with a lady who is quite old and has felt that her life has been leading to the truthfulness of the gospel. Her spirit is so strong and she has such a love for the scriptures and for us.

As we have gone door to door through this week we have been shut down many times, as people in our area are content in what they believe religiously. Most everyone is closed minded but as the Christmas season has been going stronger so has our faith in our work.

Our stake puts on a community nativity festival for three nights which happened to be this last Thursday through Saturday. We were able to touch many hearts as we have gone out in the blistering cold this last week inviting everyone we could to this amazing program of Jesus Christ. Through the nativity we were able to receive many return appointments and are seeing this hastening of the work in our area.

Along with more exciting events it snowed this week! Which is very uncommon for the area we are serving in. Since most people here don't see snow often my companion and I were able to provide much service to those in need. We also received word on Friday that our mission has been selected one of thirty missions to start online proselyting!! We will be starting Facebook here in a few weeks. We are being asked to delete our old accounts though and create new missionary accounts. The old accounts will only stay open till we have sent the friend requests to those we want to remain friends with. 80% of the time on FB is to be used only in our area and the other 20% can be used outside our areas. Anything said in messaging posting or sharing is to be missionary and gospel related. If we don't follow this rule we can lose the privilege. We will also be receiving iPad minis within the next few week as well. This only shows the hastening of the Lords work. These devices will allow us to be able to make appointments and scheduling easier because of how much more people are willing to converse over Facebook rather than talking in person.

We have two investigators getting ready for baptism and hopefully they will stay on the great course they are already persueing. I pray and hope you are doing well. And as always Stay Strong and Carry On. Elder Brandon Boone

