

BISHOPRIC MESSAGE

FEBRUARY 2015

Brothers and Sisters,

February is the month where people think about their special someone. It's a month where on a specific day we pay special attention to our family and friends. Starting this month let's make it a point to express our love to our family, friends, and even strangers on a regular occurrence. May we extend "Charity, the pure love of Christ", not just this month, but continue through this year and every day the Lord blesses us with the opportunity to be on this earth. May we lift others when they are down, forgive those who have offended us, while at the same time not being easily offended ourselves. May we try to judge less, look past the weaknesses of those around us, but instead look at them the way the Lord sees each and everyone of us!

"Charity is, perhaps, in many ways a misunderstood word. We often equate charity with visiting the sick, taking in casseroles to those in need, or sharing our excess with those who are less fortunate. But really, true charity is much, much more.

Real charity is not something you give away; it is something that you acquire and make a part of yourself. And when the virtue of charity becomes implanted in your heart, you are never the same again. It makes the thought of being a basher repulsive.

Perhaps the greatest charity comes when we are kind to each other, when we don't judge or categorize someone else, when we simply give each other the benefit of the doubt or remain quiet. Charity is accepting someone's differences, weaknesses, and shortcomings; having patience with someone who has let us down; or resisting the impulse to become offended when someone doesn't handle something the way we might have hoped. Charity is refusing to take advantage of another's weakness and being willing to forgive someone who has hurt us. Charity is expecting the best of each other." (Elder Marvin J. Ashton April/1992 Conference address)

We love and appreciate all you do brothers and sisters, and may we all continue to strive for charity, the pure love of Christ, until it becomes a natural part of our everyday lives.

Love, Brother Jimmy Carpenter
2nd Counselor in the Bishopric



Bishopric

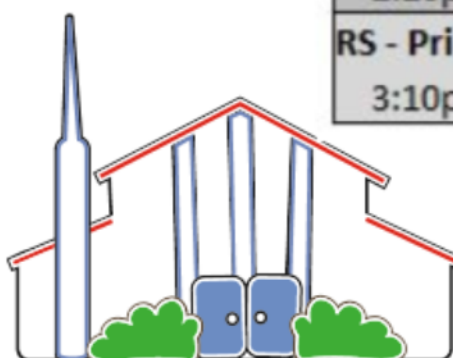
Bishop - Darren Eyring	480-695-2346
1st Councilor - David Biggs	480-848-2696
2nd Councilor - Jimmy Carpenter	480-695-1592
Exec. Secretary - Dustin Redd	480-369-7903
Ward Clerk - Conley Martin	480-313-7194

Mesa South Stake Presidency

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



DANA WARD 2015 SCHEDULE



Sacrament meeting 1pm - 2:10pm
Sunday School 2:20pm - 3:00pm
Primary 2:20pm - 4:00pm
RS - Priesthood - YW 3:10pm - 4:00pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Feb 1 Zayne Prestwich
 Feb 1 Audrey Smith
 Feb 4 Gilberto Rodriguez
 Feb 6 Gilbert Rodriguez
 Feb 7 Carol Provence
 Feb 8 Joshua Schram
 Feb 10 Conner Schnepf
 Feb 11 Ephraim Goodwin
 Feb 11 Jady Nelson
 Feb 12 Arlyce Reynolds
 Feb 13 Jarom Hogue
 Feb 13 Patricia Watts
 Feb 14 Chris Montgomery
 Feb 16 Charlotte Driggs
 Feb 17 Lina Chapman
 Feb 17 Mae Hogue
 Feb 18 Janice Ellery
 Feb 18 Patricia Johnson
 Feb 20 Chad Robinson
 Feb 22 Nereida Flores
 Feb 24 Catherine Christensen
 Feb 24 Pricilla Games
 Feb 24 Richard Taylor
 Feb 25 Pam Farnsworth
 Feb 26 Caitlyn Nichols
 Feb 26 Alexis Scheer
 Feb 26 Destiny Taylor
 Feb 27 Dustin Redd



Welcome to the Ward

We welcome the following families and individuals to our ward. We look forward to getting to know you.

Larisa Ross
 Taylor Ross
 Dil Brinton
 Desirae Gloria
 Arnold Gloria
 Julie Brown
 Alexis Scheer
 Carrie Morrow
 Zayne Prestwich
 Bryce & Corrin Prestwich
 Zayne Prestwich

Fond Farewell

We bid a fond farewell to our ward members **Homer and Connie Rogers**. They have submitted their papers for a mission, but while the call is coming and until they have to report, they are leaving us to travel around to visit children and grandchildren and to do a little site seeing. They will leave from their home ward in Eagar, AZ somewhere around the middle of March they hope. We have enjoyed having them with us the last year and will miss them greatly, especially their family Patrick & Cris Rogers. They have enjoyed living so close over the past year and doing fun things together.

Sunday Lesson Curriculum

Sunday School - New Testament
 Youth Sunday School - Come Follow Me
 Youth 3rd Hour - Come Follow Me
 HP, Elder's & RS - Pres. Ezra Taft Benson



February Lesson Schedule

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Pres. Choice	Lesson #3	Lesson #4	Jeffrey R. Holland Nov. '14 Ensign



PV2 Chris Martinez
 CMR 415 Box 6795
 APO AE 09114



Write a letter to:

Jeff Hoepfner
 AZ Department of Corrections
 ADC# 78465
 Eyman Complex
 Meadows 10-A-29
 PO Box 3300
 Florence, AZ 85132-3300



New Callings

Larry De Palma	Building Cleaning Specialist
Jimmy Carpenter	Bishopric 2nd Councilor
David Biggs	Bishopric 1st Councilor
Debbie Schram	Visiting Teaching Supervisor
Paul Ross	Bear Den Leader
Linda Ross	Asst. Bear Den Leader
Lou Hunt	Asst. Webelos Leader
Kyle Hassell	Young Men's President
Kristi Harris	Primary Teacher
Jane Eaton	Ward Missionary
Hugh Eaton	Ward Missionary
Krista Biggs	Ward Missionary



Full-Time Missionaries

Elder Rippstein
Elder Hoggan
480-212-2744



Primary

Primary Presidency

President	Laura Carpenter
1st Coun.	April Hogue
2nd Coun.	Janet Hassell
Secretary	Tima Hird



2015 Theme: **I KNOW MY SAVIOR LIVES**

February Theme: Jesus Christ Is My Savior and Redeemer

Week 1: Jesus Christ Is My Savior and Redeemer.

Week 2: Through the Atonement of Jesus Christ, all

Week 3: mankind may be saved.

Week 4: Jesus Christ was resurrected, and I will be too.

Primary Cookie Night

Sunday, February 22nd
6-8 PM

Come pass off the
Article's of Faith

Sister Carpenter's Home



young women

Young Women's Presidency

President	Wendy Tonga
1st Coun.	Julie Eyring
2nd Coun.	Melanie Brinton
Secretary	Jill Schnepf

Laurel Presidency

Pres.	Lauren Eyring
1st Coun.	Renle Hird
2nd Coun.	Savannah Rodriguez
Sec.	Nora Martinez

Mia Maid Presidency

Pres.	Kelly Eyring
1st Coun.	Rylee Hird
2nd Coun.	Payzlee Hird
Sec.	Denim Metcalf

Beehive Presidency

Pres.	Audrey Redd
1st Coun.	Arianna Wuorio
2nd Coun.	Daija Hanks
Sec.	Samantha Montgomery



High Priest Group

High Priest Leadership

Group Leader	Ray Crandell
1st Asst.	Kevin Hunt
2nd Asst.	Mike Hill
Secretary	Kumen Dixon

Relief Society

Relief Society Presidency

President	Dawn Nichols
1st Coun.	Rachel Schnepf
2nd Coun.	Kim Hale
Secretary	Brein Halbert



ELDER'S QUORUM

ELDER'S QUORUM PRESIDENCY

President	Aaron Martinez
1st Coun.	Scott Baker
2nd Coun.	Shaun Brown
Secretary	Scott Driggs

Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESIDENCY

President	Jimmy Matthews
1st Coun.	Homer Rogers
2nd Coun.	Chris Carter
Secretary	Ernest Halliday



young men

Young Men's Presidency

President	Kyle Hassell
1st Coun.	Daniel Scott
2nd Coun.	
Secretary	Spencer Bury

Ordinations

Carson Carpenter
Deacon
David Biggs
High Priest



My Baptism



Congratulations to Alyssa Teal on her baptism on Jan. 24th.

2015 ASU Pioneer Heritage Scholarship Program

For LDS students from any field of study entering ASU.
Deadline: April 1st
 The Award includes;
\$2500 for the first year with a **\$500** increase each year for up to four years.

To learn more about the scholarship visit: <https://www.asufoundation.org/pioneerheritagescholarship>

Application here: <https://scholarships.asu.edu/scholarship/30212>



"Scouting helps to bring out the best in each of us [...] As you continue to participate in this fine program, your abilities to think, to plan, and to achieve will be heightened. This, along with your personal integrity and spirituality, will help guide you and keep you on the right path as you journey through life. If ever there were a time when the principles of Scouting were vitally needed, that time is now. May you uphold your promise as a Boy Scout to do your duty to God and your country and to serve others at all times."

President Thomas S. Monson, "A Century of Honor," 100 Year Celebration Broadcast, October 30, 2013

"With President Monson's vision and leadership, we have never been positioned better to use [the bridge of Scouting] to bless individuals and families [...] This is a great day for the Church to utilize Scouting in the sacred work of salvation."



President David L. Beck

MY COMMITMENT

Please consider making a contribution to the Grand Canyon Council Friends of Scouting Campaign. (All gifts are tax-deductible).

- ☐ Other \$ ☐ \$250
☐ \$1,000 Platinum Sponsor ☐ \$165 One Scout
☐ \$750 ☐ \$100

I PREFER TO PAY NOW: (Check One)

☐ Cash \$ ☐ Check # _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date Security Code

Signature _____ Date _____

ONLINE: grandcanyonbsa.org/donate

ABOUT YOU: (Please Print)

District _____

Stake _____ Ward _____

Unit Number _____

Name _____

Company/Contact _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PLEASE BILL MY PLEDGE

☐ Invoice Me (\$50 Minimum)

☐ Contact me about my employer's matching gift

☐ I am an Eagle Scout

☐ I am interested in tax benefits of a legacy gift

☐ Please send me information about the BSA Alumni Assoc.

THANK YOU!

Make checks payable to:

GRAND CANYON COUNCIL, BSA

Opportunities To Serve

Dana Ward
 2015 Welfare Assignments

Revised 01/25/15

Date	Task	Shift	Number of Workers
March 14, 2015	DI Pod	2:00pm - 3:00pm	2
April 8, 2015	Cannery Cleaning	6:00pm - 7:30pm	8
April 18, 2015	Farm-Coolidge	6:30am to 8:30am	5
May 30, 2015	DI Pod	1:00pm - 2:00pm	2
June 2, 2015	Wet Pack Cannery	1:00pm sharp - 5:30pm	5
September 12, 2015	Farm-Coolidge	6:30am to 8:30am	5
October 10, 2015	DI Pod	12:00pm - 1:00pm	2
December 9, 2015	Cannery Cleaning	6:00pm - 7:30pm	8
			37

Bishop's Sunday Schedule

2015

Usually the 1st Sunday of each month	Usually the 2nd Sunday of each month	Usually the 3rd Sunday of each month	Usually the 4th Sunday of each month	For the occasions 5th Sunday of some months
SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK
8:00 BISHOPRIC MEETING	8:00 BISHOPRIC MEETING	8:00 BISHOPRIC MEETING	8:00 BISHOPRIC MEETING	8:00 BISHOPRIC MEETING
9:00 OPEN	9:00 OPEN	9:00 OPEN	9:00 OPEN	9:00 OPEN
9:30 OPEN	9:30 OPEN	9:30 OPEN	9:30 OPEN	9:30 OPEN
10:00 OPEN	10:00 OPEN	10:00 OPEN	10:00 OPEN	10:00 OPEN
10:30 PPR WML	10:30 PPR WML	10:30 PPR WML	10:30 PPR WML	10:30 PPR WML
11:00 PPR HPLG PPR SSP PPR PP	11:00 PPR HPLG PPR SSP PPR PP	11:00 PPR HPLG PPR SSP PPR PP	11:00 PPR HPLG PPR SSP PPR PP	11:00 PPR HPLG PPR SSP PPR PP
11:30 PPR EQP PPR YWP PPR YMP	11:30 PPR EQP PPR YWP PPR YMP	11:30 PPR EQP PPR YWP PPR YMP	11:30 PPR EQP PPR YWP PPR YMP	11:30 PPR EQP PPR YWP PPR YMP
12:00 PPR RSP MAKE CALLINGS	12:00 PPR RSP MAKE CALLINGS	12:00 PPR RSP MAKE CALLINGS	12:00 PPR RSP MAKE CALLINGS	12:00 PPR RSP MAKE CALLINGS
12:45 Try to get seated for sacrament meeting	12:45 Try to get seated for sacrament meeting	12:45 Try to get seated for sacrament meeting	12:45 Try to get seated for sacrament meeting	12:45 Try to get seated for sacrament meeting
1:00 1PM CHURCH BLOCK	1:00 1PM CHURCH BLOCK	1:00 1PM CHURCH BLOCK	1:00 1PM CHURCH BLOCK	1:00 1PM CHURCH BLOCK
2:00 OPEN	2:00 OPEN	2:00 OPEN	2:00 OPEN	2:00 OPEN
2:30 OPEN	2:30 OPEN	2:30 OPEN	2:30 OPEN	2:30 OPEN
4:00 SET APARTS	4:00 SET APARTS	4:00 SET APARTS	4:00 SET APARTS	4:00 SET APARTS
4:30 OPEN	4:30 OPEN	4:30 OPEN	4:30 OPEN	4:30 OPEN
SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK	SEC BISHOP 1ST 2ND CLERK

Missionary Mail

Sister Larissa Hunt Minnesota-Minneapolis Mission 5931 W. 96 th St. Bloomington, MN 55438-1715

1/12/15 Sorry I didn't finish because I needed to get more time on the computer. The last few days have been good. I was able to meet many awesome people. We had dinner with the Wentworth's a few days ago. One of their kids has syliac ,so can't have gluten either, which means all her food is gluten free. There are a few others in the ward that can't have gluten either so they actually have gluten free bread for the sacrament. This is nice so I don't have to worry about bringing a gluten free pretzel every week. One of the investigators ,named Serious (and yes that is seriously her name), we are teaching is getting baptized this Saturday. She is 18 years old. I only taught her once this week. Anyway she had her baptism interview on Saturday so she is all set for the baptism.

My companion told me that most of the people in the ward are converts so that's pretty cool. We are teaching quite a few Africans. Whenever we visit an African they always bring us soda and water. We have a collection of soda in our fridge now because we get more each time we visit them. Oh we are also teaching a family from Thailand. They don't speak very much English but we recently got pamphlets in the languages they speak, Burmese and Karan(I think that's how you spell it). As you have heard it is a very diverse place here in Austin. I will tell you more about the people we are teaching next week. Well I think that's all the news I have. I love you all!

P.S. you were wondering about the weather. It has got into the negatives this week so it has been pretty cold. I had to bring out my winter coat finally. It is my really long one. I have been using the one Keith bought me. It has warmed up a little the past couple days though which is good. When it was really cold a few days ago there was a blizzard warning for Minnesota. We got quite a bit of snow for one day. I will send you pictures of those.

1/19/15 Hello, everyone! So this week has been really good. And you probably weren't expecting me to write today because it is a holiday but we decided to come to the church and use the computers here. We have had many great lessons with our investigators. We are teaching an African lady named Nana and another one named Elizabeth and a guy named Ghyslain (jis-slain). Ghyslain is the guy who speaks better French than English. There are also two recent converts, mother and daughter, who are African as well, that we are working with.

The baptism we had on Saturday was for an African girl named Serious (age 18). Her sister, Jackie, (age 20) got baptized recently too. The baptism was really good. We had to go early to the church to fill the font. Usually the ward mission leader does this but he was out of town. There were many people from the ward who came to the baptism so that was awesome. They actually had to do the baptism twice because the guy who baptized her didn't say the words correctly.

Serious shared her testimony but had a hard time with that because she didn't know what to say and I think she was nervous. She was starting to cry either because she was nervous or overcome with the spirit. My guess is that she was overcome with the spirit.

We are also teaching a couple Hispanic families. One is the Carlos family. We are teaching the two sisters and all their kids. We usually have an adult lesson and then later in the week we have a kid version. Our struggle has been trying to get them to church on Sundays. It is hard for them to take all the kids with them and because it is too early. Hopefully we can get them to church soon. We had an awesome lesson with them this week. We talked about Faith, Repentance, and baptism. They had many questions about baptism and the proper way of doing it. We invited them to pray about baptism.

We are also teaching two ladies, Cindy and Gina. Cindy is so funny! We taught them about the Word of wisdom. It was probably the funniest word of wisdom lesson. We were reading about Daniel and his friends in the Bible and when they didn't have the wine offered to them. Cindy had a weird version of the Bible so it made things quite interesting when we tried to read a few verses each. In the Bible she has, it sometimes uses different words so it is easier to understand. Like when it says to eat of the king's meat her Bible called it the royal menu. We had a good laugh about this. She has had the lessons for like 30 years but hasn't committed to baptism yet. The missionaries who were here before us were actually going to stop teaching her but our mission president wanted us to continue teaching her.

We are also teaching a guy from south India named Matthew Kumar. He is so awesome. He is very knowledgeable. We have pretty in-depth conversations with him so we only teach him a few things at a time instead of the whole lesson. This last time we talked about prayer. It was one of the best lessons I have been in. He was basically testifying of how he knows this gospel is true. We invited him to pray about a baptism more - and more specifically to pick the date. He knows the things we teach him are true but he is just worried what his family might think. His brother has some kind of cancer so his family is worried about that and he doesn't want to add to that stress. I know the Lord will help him though, and will tell him what day he should be baptized. He said he will call us when he finds out the day.

This week we also taught a Hispanic girl named Hailey who is 18 years old. The sister missionaries in the past were actually teaching her sister but now her sister has a crazy work schedule. Hailey decided that she will meet with us instead. She is so awesome as well!

We helped Ajulu (one of the recent converts) learn English. We played a bingo game with her that has some commonly used words on it. Her friends showed up and decided to play with us. It was so funny! All three of them don't know very much English. When someone would put a dot on their board they would say "Oh, Thank You. I think that is their favorite word because they would say it even if they didn't get a dot on their board. I love African people! They are so amazing! They are the nicest people and they are always so friendly. When we tract a lot of times the African people will just let us in their homes.

On Friday we were teaching Ghyslain. Sister Snater came with us because she speaks French pretty good. She helps him understand words he doesn't know very well in English. After the lesson we went to her house to have our language study. She helps us learn French. Some of it is starting to come back to me. It's fun to learn it again. We went through a little bit of The Book of Mormon and translated it together from French to English. I don't know any church words so this is helping me learn them.

Oh, in our district we have my companion and I and two other sets of elders. Our zone leaders are actually in our district. It will be fun getting to know all them better. Well that's all the news I have. I love you all!

Love, Sister Hunt



Missionary Mail

Elder Steele Crandell

Texas Dallas Mission

2800 Victory Dr. #114

Marshall TX 75672

1/11/15 well hey sorry to get this out so late it has been a long day packed full of missionary fun things so we can talk about this week. Well it was an interesting week to say the least haha. most of the people that we have appointments have been out of town due to the holidays, so i met some pretty cool people due to the square being highly populated with people because of all the lights going on. one guy approached my companion and i and started to "anti" us and i helped him realize his lack in logic or his misunderstandings in the things that he had posed to us and at the end of our conversation he didnt have much to say because i answered all of his questions and he was kinda stumped but then he told us how he is a member and served a mission in California a while ago. (so if you ever think you are clever and want to "mess" with the missionaries..... its not funny dont do that.....). Well anywho my small rant. we had a little bit of a new years eve party with the Tripps and that was cool he is not a member and is not really all that interested at all but hey what do you do but cool note she is a member and hasnt been in such a long time, but we got talking and she is from az and was born in MORENCI!!!! and then grew up in Duncan az, i was a little wierded out by that and her husband is originally from phx, its a small world. But cool part i invited her to church and said we would love to have you there, i said it in passing really and come sunday SHE was THERE!!! and my companion said how they never really actually invited them to come to church and she hadnt been in forever "by small and simple things are great things brought to pass". so kinda cool. But kinda cool to see it doesnt take much to help people come back oh and she then bore her testimony about how she whats to get rid of the things she is doing and whats to come back and asked for everyone to help her it was great not your everyday meeting but i thought it was great. but one reason we were in Longview this morning was because i was having this constant tooth ache and they have a member dentist in Longview and i was just gonna get it checked out and well one thing led to another and took x rays and it turns out i needed to get a root canal and they did it right there and told me that it was free!!! it was so awesome well except for having a root canal but hey that was most of my week so it was pretty interesting for sure. oh yeah a guy at church also lived in Morenci crazy right and he is up and with heavy mining machinery and we got talking about careers and it gave me some ideas. ps i feel like im really bad at these emails so if yall have questions just ask

After Christmas: hey yall and i hope all yall had an awesome christmas and holidays to go with that, what a great time of the year you really see alot of the tender mercies of the lord during this time.... well if you havent i have. So i was able to skype the family and it was great and it is funny because i felt like i was just complaining the whole time about my life and particularly about life when i get home i dont or didnt feel like i had anything waiting for me as far as jobs or things like cars and so on and so forth (insert sob story here). but it was really cool because my mom tells me "you need to have faith", and it just hit me hard i have been on my mission for almost 2 years and i have helped so many people come to a knowledge of our Savior and his restored Gospel and helped people strengthen and develop their faith, but i then started to look at my self, i have been so focused on helping others be the best that they can be i literally forgot about myself and my faith and so on and so forth. i am very familiar about the scripture that says "he that should lose his life for my sake shall find it" and i always thought that meant just dont worry about yourself and help everyone around you, which is a big part of it but the passage says that he shall find it..... and i never thought it is still an action to find after you put in your all to the Lord and his gospel..... just some food for thought. but the rest of the week has been pretty cool the square in downtown around Christmas time is quite the happening spot in Marshall because of all the lights and Santa themed shops and things but there is also a ice rink there as well which is pretty freaking sweet small but really cool, its pretty hard to skate naturally at 65 f but hey all things are possible in East Texas haha. so we walked around and contacted alot of people with the "share the gift" cards and all in all it was pretty successful. the rest of the week was good not alot to talk about Sunday we had church which was nice we have about 70 active members so that is a little different but fun you get to know the members well. so we had meetings in the morning from 8 to 1030 then church from 11 to 2 and then meetings from 2 to 330 yay for long days on sunday we went home and had lunch and played mini scrabble so that was fun and now we are here on Monday!!

Before Christmas: Dear Friends Well first and foremost Merry Christmas, what a great time, i would even stretch to say its the most wonderful time of the year. well last week i was just a touch nervous about being here in Marshall but this week has just been great, we have had so much happen just in this last week it has been the renewal that i needed after being in the city for so long. this week we taught a lesson to investigators THAT HAVE BAPTISMAL DATES!!!!!! its so cool. we went to mutual and this is the smallest building i have been in since i was in Durrant but its got character though. My bishop here is an oil field welder and they cant find enough welders to hire out here, its kinda killing me but there are many many other important things right now. we have been doing alot of different finding activities and really thinking out of the box, my companion is pretty musically talented so that is a plus but on thursday nights we go to a music store and go in the back with a bunch of other musicians where they have a recording studio and we get to record i was helping the owner out and finally he stops for a second and says "hey would you like to intern here" haha also kinda killing me but its fine, but it was awesome its a very laid back enviornment where people apporach us and us about the gospel one guy was athiest and i was able to testify of the strength i recieve from God in my life it was awesome. Elder Sellers recorded one of his originals. Saturday i got to drive all the way back for a baptism in waxahachie to baptize Duane Driggers and it was a super powerful baptism and i was honored to be there (pictures soon to follow) we then went to a favorite burger place in town and then sunday my companion was sick and throwing up all day so that was pretty uneventful but i sewed some holes that had developed in my slacks and yeah found a lot of expired food in the apartment and that was the week it was pretty different, with much more to follow!!!

with love, Elder Crandell



Missionary Mail

Elder Brenden Merkley Utah Salt Lake City East Mission 3625 S. 900 E. #10. Salt Lake City, UT 84106

12/25/14 The best gift of Christmas was getting to Skype with Elder Merkley! Ethan got a chance to talk to him on the phone before he left for work. Then the rest of us got to Skype with him later. He looks so happy! He got a white Christmas, it was snowing as we were talking and he showed his siblings the snow falling outside the window. They loved it! He really likes his companion, Elder Peters. They really get a long well. He loves Cottonwood Heights at the end of this transfer he will have been there for 7 and half months. He said he was sure he was going to be transferred next time and he will really miss all of the people he has gotten to know there.

He has a the opportunity to meet Elder Jeffery R. Holland and shake his hand. The missionaries were able to sit with him and ask questions. The question was asked about why they aren't allowed to baptize the refugees that are of the Muslim faith. Brenden said there are a lot of people who are in Salt Lake that are refugees. Many are taking discussions and want to be baptized but the missionaries have been told that they can't right now. Elder Holland said this was for their own safety. When they return home they will be killed for changing religions. He encouraged the missionaries to continue to love and teach them. Elder Merkley said it was one of the greatest experiences he has had on his mission was to meet Elder Holland. Before we ended our time together he offered the family prayer. It was amazing to see how much he has grown spiritually.

1/5/15 Things here are good. I am enjoying the snow a little. I like to see it when it falls but I don't like how wet we get when we are out in it. It doesn't help that Elder Peters loves to throw snow at me! It does give us the opportunity to serve others by shoveling their sidewalks and driveways. This weeks miracle was that we got to do exchanges and got to see people we haven't seen in a long time and find out more things about them. It was so great because now we know how we can help them even more!

I continue to pray for Ethan. I am glad to her that you feel more at peace. Tell Colin he is going to be a stud! Choir and drama will be good for him.

1/19/15 This week was good. We have three new people we are teaching! And one wants to be baptized!!! The sad thing is I am getting transferred tomorrow so I won't be able to see that happen. I am excited to see where I am going and who my new companion will be. I will miss everyone here though.

We tried to give service to people around us but know one seemed to want help with anything not even the members. The weather has been staying between the 20's and 40's that has been a nice miracle. Is dad having a hard time adjusting to working days? Did Amalynn get the birthday card I sent her? How is everyone doing? You asked about an Elder Biggs, I haven't met him yet. How long has he been out?



Our Sweet Missionaries



February 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Fast Sunday 1	2	3	4	5 Stake Women's Meeting 6:00 PM	6 Scouting for Food Stake Indexing Dinner 5:00 PM	7
Ward Council 10:00 Am PEC Following 8	9	10	Mutual 7:00 PM 11	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day
BYC 10:00 AM Court of Honor 7:00 PM 15	President's Day No School 16	Pack Meeting 6:30 PM 17	No Mutual 18	19 Ward Talent Show Pot Luck Dinner 6:00 PM	20	21
Ward Council 10:00 Am PEC Following 22	23	24 Boys Primary	Mutual 7:00 PM 25	26 RS Volleyball 7:00 PM	27	28
1	2	3	4	5	January 2015 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa 28 29 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 1 2 3 4	
Valentine's Day						