#### BISHOPRIC MESSAGE

JANUARY 2015

The scriptures teach of the exacting, demanding justice the Lord requires of all His children, depending on our knowledge, faith and obedience. They also seem to equally teach of the great love and mercy the Lord is eager to extend on our behalf. The law requires we pay the consequence of our sins. Until Christ made the atonement there was no way for us, as fallen children of Adam and Eve, to escape eternal damnation.

As we begin a New Year I invite you to apply mercy and justice in your lives, in perhaps a different way. Let's demand justice and exactness in our actions, and extend tender love and mercy to everyone else. We really don't know what's going on in everyone else's lives, certainly not in their minds. So if their actions are not appealing to us or they appear to be doing something that may be a sin – give them a break.

Just because I don't watch football on Sunday doesn't mean I should think someone is breaking the Sabbath if they do. Maybe it's a Father and Son who haven't talked for years, and the only way they could start back into a loving relationship is by spending time together – even on Sunday in front of the TV.

If you see a Church member walking out of a bar it doesn't mean they've been inside drinking and carrying on. Maybe they just helped bail a friend or family member out of a possible life ending situation. Better than passing unfounded judgment on them we can go home and drink less soda pop and take a walk around the block and look for ways to serve our neighbors.

As we cast the beams out of our eyes we will be able to see more beauty and righteousness around us. Our lives will change and we will have more joy. As we worry less about others, and more about ourselves, we can place ourselves in a better position to avoid stumbling blocks we might not otherwise overcome.

Bishop Eyring

#### <u>Bishopric</u>

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	480-313-7194

#### Mesa South Stake Presidency

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







Jan 1	Cole Montgomery
Jan 1	Vernon Thomas
Jan 2	Chelsi Knudsen
Jan 3	Nora Martinez
Jan 5	Carson Carpenter
Jan 6	Ethan Martinez
Jan 6	Lora Stewart
Jan 7	Oliver Smith
Jan 8	Efrain Rodriquez
Jan 8	Savannah Rodgriguez
Jan 8	Kerianne Salazar
Jan 8	Dixie Starkey
Jan 10	Jacob Carpenter
Jan 11	Aaron Frix
Jan 12	Hugh Eaton
Jan 12	April Hogue
Jan 12	Cesar Lopez
Jan 12	Samantha Montgomery

Janette Bury

Wes Murray

Steele Crandell

Chad Gardiner

Amy Calhoun

Quinn Halbert

Dawn Nichols

Johnnie Dickson

Homer Rogers

Amalynn Merkley

Jan 15

Jan 15

Jan 18

Jan 19

Jan 20

Jan 21

Jan 25

Jan 28

Jan 29

Jan 29



## New 2015 Block Schedule



#### 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

Sacr	am	ent	me	etii	ng

1pm - 2:10pm

Sunday School

2:20pm - 3:00pm

Primary

2:20pm - 4:00pm

RS - Priesthood - YW

3:10pm - 4:00pm

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Pres.	Lesson	Lesson	Stake
Choice	#1	#2	Conf.



PV2 Christopher Martinez CMR 415 Box 6795 APO AE 09114



Write a letter to: Jeff Hoeppner

AZ Department of Corrections

ADC# 78465 Eyman Complex

Meadows 10-A-29

PO Box 3300

Florence, AZ 85132-3300

#### Priesthood Ordination Teacher JJ Thomas



Tate Brinton

Keith Merkley

Sister Carol Ransom daughter of Clyde Ransom returned Dec. 18th from the Florida Orlando Mission.

#### Full-Time Missionaries Elder Welsh

Elder Rippstein 480-212-2744



### New

Pat Martinez Activities Committee Richard Hale Gospel Doctrine Teacher Ashlee Molina Indexer Miriam Martin Indexer Randee Gardiner RS Meeting Committee Activity Day Leader Randee Gardiner Mia Maid/Laurel Advisor Mary Filhart Kim Brown Primary Teacher RS Visiting Teaching Coord. Elaine Beech Margaret Espinoza Librarian RS Instructor Darlene Doty

Ward Missionary



# Primary

#### Primary Presidency

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



2015 Theme: I KNOW MY SAVIOR LIVES

January Theme: We Believe in God the Eternal Father

and in His Son, Jesus Christ

Week 1: God is the Father of my spirit. Week 2: Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Week 3: Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ love me.

Week 4: Stake Conference (no Primary)

# High Priest Group

#### High Priest Leadership

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

# Relief Society

#### Relief Society Presidency

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

Secretary Brein Halbert



# Sunday School

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESIDENCY

President **Jimmy Matthews**1st Coun. **Homer Rogers**2nd Coun, **Chris Carter** 

Secretary Ernest Halliday

## ELDER'S QUORUM

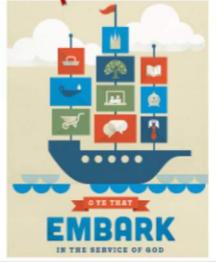
#### **ELDER'S QUORUM PRESIDENCY**

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

# young women

#### Young Women's Presidency

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



# young men

#### Young Men's Presidency

President Richard Hale
1st Coun. Daniel Scott
2nd Coun. Jimmy Carpenter
Secretary Spencer Bury



Troy Lazaide

Kerianne Salazar Ann Layton

Max & Darlene Doty

Pam Farnsworth Gentry Jackson Hello, all! We are **Max and Darlene Doty** and we were sealed in the Mesa, AZ Temple on December 14th, 2013. We like to consider ourselves unique, for Max was born in Okinawa, Japan and I was born in Lima, Peru! Spanish is my first language and Max knows a little Japanese. We are both converts to the church and have a tremendous testimony and love for our Savior. I am a Registered Nurse currently working in an outpatient observation unit and I truly love my career! Going to work and serving others with love and compassion during a fragile moment in their life is a blessing to me! My sweet husband currently is a personal banker for a credit union and is also a nationally certified EMT. One of his degrees is in Fire Science with all the required certs, so on the side he is actively testing for cities as they open up fire fighter positions. We love to serve and find it especially easy to talk to those investigating the church, for we have been on both sides and are passionate to teach others of the blessings they have waiting for them! We are so grateful to be in this ward that has already shown us so much love and welcomed us with open arms. We look forward to serving as a couple and hope to learn lots from our peers as well as set an example to others.

# Mesa South Stake Boundary Realignment



#### **New Families In Our Ward**

Bartlett, Dan & Mindy Biggs, David & Krista Buchholtz, John Christensen, Vance & Catherine De Palma, Larry Eaton, Hugh & Jane Ellery, Janice Epperly, Kandi Galindo, Isabella Hardina, Jessica Johnson, Patricia Knudsen, Anna Luna, Tammy Pereira, Marcus Rodriguez, Gilberto Ross, Paul & Linda Schram, Aaron & Debbie Stout, Mel & Laneta

431 S Ridge 1836 E 6th Ave 508 S Ridge 545 S Ridge 1849 E Broadway #202 544 S Forest 434 S Forest 544 S Forest 433 S Williams 1727 E Elton #D104 558 S Kachina 1916 E 5th Ave 1750 E 6th Ave 1915 E Broadway #86 1718 E 6th Ave 1932 E 5th Ave 456 S Forest 551 S Forest

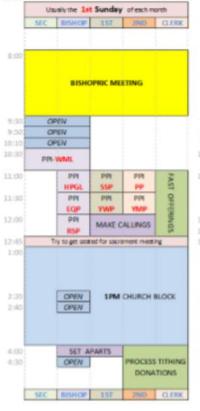
Primary Cookie Night Sunday, January 24th 6-8 PM

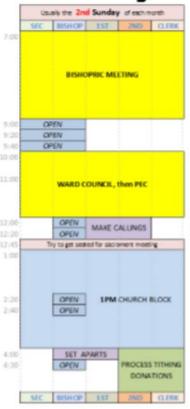
Come pass off the 13th Article of Faith Sister Carpenter's Home Mesa South Stake Presidency's Phoenix Temple Trip

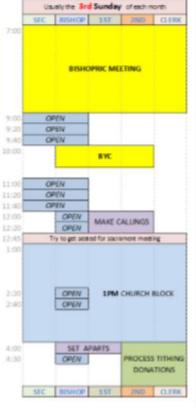
Friday, January 23rd 7:30 PM Session All are welcome.



Bishop's Sunday Schedule







# Mesa South Stake Conference

Saturday

January 24

Adult Meeting

& Social

Sunday January 25 10:00 AM

# Missionary Mail

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

Our lesson went well with James this week. He and Sister Burg are going to quit smoking together so it will be good to have some support from each other. It is easier to quit something when you do it with someone else. The lesson went well. He said he was going to come to church but he got sick so he will be there next week.

We also taught another new member lesson to Jenny Smith. Sister Hatch whom I was telling you about, came with us to the lesson. She was one of the missionaries that taught her when she got baptized about a year ago. The lesson went well. She also said she was going to come to church but she wasn't in town when Sunday came around.

On Tuesday we did a lot of tracting, pretty much the whole day. We stopped by a potential investigator and were able to get in contact with him. We set up another appointment with this week. We are hoping to start teaching him and his wife. Their names are Phil and Kim.

Oh, and we were trying to decide if we should go visit someone or stick to the plans we made. We decided to stick to our plans. The person we were going to visit lives downtown above the stores. Usually it is locked and you can't get inside. A trash can was holding the door open so we got in and came in contact with two less-actives that we hadn't met before.

We set up another appointment with Sister Wrencher, an African lady. We saw her again this week and we hope we can teach her 19 year old son, Jeremy. He isn't a member and he just stays home all day which means he will always be there when we visit Sister Wrencher.

Anyway we walked by the apartment place later in the hour and the trash can was gone. We decided to stick to our plans and were able to see miracles from it. If we would have gone there later we wouldn't have got in and talked with Sister Wrencher. It was pretty cool.

We had a good Christmas Eve and Christmas. It was fun to see all of you. I wish I had more time to talk to you. There was just so many people to talk to and so much technology going on.

On Christmas we had dinner with the Xiongs, a Hmong family. We ate lots of yummy Hmong food. We also acted the nativity with the kids. I will have to send you pictures of it. We also had a good district meeting earlier in the day. We picked names in our district to buy that person a gift. Elder Swapp and I had each other which was funny.

The elders enjoyed their Christmas socks. I sent a picture of that. I told them they had to wear them all day. I think most of them did wear theirs. Oh and I enjoyed the Christmas pjs you sent me. They are pretty funny. However they are a little too warm for me. I couldn't even wear them all night. Maybe they will be good for when it gets colder. Thanks for the gifts you sent my companion and I. It was a really good Christmas even though it was weird not having you there with me to celebrate it.

We had breakfast at the Heatons, and then I got to skype with you. Then we went to dinner at the bishop's house. I couldn't eat most of the food so I had ham, turkey, a marshmallow salad and a green salad. We had another dinner later that evening. That one was a Polish dinner with the Sowas. They are part Polish and so that's what they like eating for Christmas.

Anyway we had an awesome and busy week. I hope you all have a happy new year. I love you all!

12/22/14 So as you know we had the baptism for Adam and Andon Storey this past Saturday. The baptism was so amazing and I could feel the spirit so strongly. Sister Storey's dad flew here to baptize them and give them the Holy Ghost. Brother Storey usually has a beard but het shaved it all off before the baptism even though we told him he didn't have to. It looked so different without his beard but I'm glad he wanted to shave it off.

Anyway Adam got baptized then Andon. Brother Storey gave an awesome testimony after he was baptized. He kept saying he didn't have much to say but then he would keep talking for a little bit. It was funny! I could feel the Spirit so strong when he was sharing his testimony because it was so amazing. I'm so happy for them and the journey they have started. The next day they both received the Holy Ghost and Brother Storey received the priesthood. It was a good couple of days. I'm grateful for the opportunity I've had to teach them the gospel. Oh and they are already so excited to go to the temple in a year to be sealed. It would be cool if I was near the cities around that time so I can go with them. It should be good! We also had a lesson with James. It went a lot better than last time because the kids were pre-occupied with other things. We actually got a whole lesson in with him. We committed him to come to church this coming Sunday so that was good. He even said he was going to buy church clothes to wear. We have another lesson with him today. The elders in Sparta will also be there with us to teach him.

Oh Sister Hatch, a former missionary who left right before I came, visited this area. She is from Mesa so she knows

some people I know. It was fun to have those connections. She served in this area for like 7 and 1/2 months. She came to the baptism and even played the piano for it. She is one of the missionaries who first came in contact with the Storeys so it was cool that she could be there for it. She also came to church yesterday to say hi to everyone.

Anyways that's all the news I have for now. I will see you all on

Christmas. I love you!' Love, Sister Hunt





# Missionary Mail

Elder Steele Crandell

Texas Dallas Mission

2800 Victory Dr. #114

Marshall TX 75672

hey y'all sorry i haven't gotten to y'all sooner this is the soonest i could get to a computer so transfers have officially happened my companion and i were both taken out of our area in Plano, he went to go serve in Allen and i got shipped to the middle of no where also known as Marshall Texas (address will soon follow, that is if y'all want to send me anything, and if so that is always highly appreciated). This place is much different than any other place i have been but then at the same time very familiar, i am now companions with Elder Sellers (Portland, Oregon) he was one of my room mates in the mtc that long time ago. So i was not expecting to be here seeing how I have these three transfers left this may be my last area, its OK because it is the 7th one that i have been in now and i am getting a little tired of packing, i keep getting better at it. Well this area is known in the mission to be the "ghetto" of east Texas so that is going to fun but it is full of many challenges from what i hear, such as; many part member families, a lot of poverty and people needing assistance, we live about 45 minutes from "town", ect ect. I really loved being in Plano i was not incredibly excited to go there but i was so sad to leave because the people there in the ward were just so awesome, i had never felt so well taken care of then i had there people would drop what ever they were doing just to help us out it was very humbling, i am really blown away that i have only three transfers left it feels like the slowest time warp i had ever gone through is the best way i can describe it. the mission is such a hard experience but it is very rewarding (kinda..... if you let it), its so hard to look for the good in every situation, but when i do i know that God realizes that i am stretching myself to be positive and that's when life starts to continue to look up. That phrase of "you attract what you are" is so true and relevant especially to missionary work, and to living a happy life, well again i'm sorry i don't have much time but i love you all (that's why i email all y'all) and i know that Jesus Christ loves all of us and because of him we can have a hope for tomorrow and know that we can improve ourselves, and know that no effort is ever wasted in the eyes of God. But for real if y'all haven't seen "He Is The Gift" on youtube you should, its so great and really helps bring home the spirit of Christmas and the true reason behind it, you can also search the #, #sharethegift or #heisthegift for info on that its really amazing what is happening with this. The prayers that y'all are sending my way are needed and very much appreciated, i'm excited to see the success i can help "bring to pass" in this area. wish me luck and ill catch up with on Monday, don't be afraid to respond. oh cant forget my adress

Elder Steele Crandell

# Missionary Mail

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

The guy I told you about whose grandma told him if he felt the spirit when he went into a church building then he should join that church...he did not come he had work. But Tiffany did get baptized!!!! No new people yet but working on it. We did have some inactive people that we are working with come to church that was good. I was able to go in to the sealing room with with. That awesome that the Wilhelm's are working for that too.

We had two dinners one with a member who is the young men president and the other with someone in Elder Peters old area.

What?!? Dylon has two dates I thought he had one with Caroline. Who is the other one with? Wish Ethan good luck for me with his drivers test does he have to take it like I did or is it just driving?

Elder peters has been out almost a year on the 22nd is his mark. And yeah I think I will be transferred, I have been here for 6 months but the thing is I don't want to leave. I made to many friends here.

Love, Elder Merkley





# Missionary Mail

#### Elder Kevin Hale Chile Viña del Mar Mission 4 Norte 1112 Casilla 631 Viaparaiso Chile

12/8/14 We are also sharing with 2 awesome families and one of them came to the baptism yesterday and they are going to progress REALLY well. They are Janet, Aranxza and Luis. They are really fun. We went over to their house on Friday to help them put up a division in their house and on SUnday to the baptism!! I am really excited to help them more with the Gospel now! They are great!

We still have hope with Cristina that she can get baptized in this month! We'll be having zone conferences this week and ours will be Friday! And the zone leaders say that we're going to be loving it so I am excited! Sorry this letter is really short. I was trying to get the stinking pictures to work and that sucked up all my time... But once again, I'll send pictures next week! I love you all!

What I feel like I need to write is that the Lord expects so much of us. If we are not living up to His standards, we're doing something wrong. I was talking with a brother in this ward and he told me that the Lord walks on a line of obedience the width of the blade of a knife. Because if He steps off, He stops being God. And we are to be like Him. When Noah and Enoch walked with God, they walked this thin line that the Lord walks. Their vision became His vision. They reached the same level as Him. Now the question come, where are we walking? Where are we looking? Have a great week!

12/15/14 Well I am terribly sorry for not writing so much this week. I just finished copy and pasting all the letters from President... but this week has been great! We had 4 investigators go to church yesterday and 3 of them are new!

The Alvarado Monroy family. Luis Alvarado (52) and his daughter Aranxza (11) came to church yesterday but his wife didn't. They also gave us lunch after church and it was fried fish with potatoes and a salad!

Also, Ignacio (16) came to church for the first time and really liked it! He only stayed for the 1st hour but he came! He seemed happy and was also really excited to meet with us on Wednesday! He will be progressing pretty well with his mom. They are going to come to our Christmas activity on the 21st.

That's about all for this week. And just to let you know, we have still not taken a picture together... But we will someday and I will send it sometime! I love you all! Thank you for all your love and support!

12/22/14 jijFeliz Navidad!!!

This time in the mission has been a great experience, the best experience in my life up until this point. I have been able to see so many changes in my own life for the benefit of others and also myself. Kevin sent me the papers that he got from his mission president and I started to write my testimony and all the things that I have learned while in the mission and it is incredible.

I have been trying to name the top 3 most important things that I have learned and it is so difficult. There are things that have become second nature and I just don't realize what's happening. I have learned a lot about self-control and being able to help others and always be thinking in others before myself. I have been able to learn to work with people, not things. I have come to realize that the best thing we can do is help someone to feel the love of the Savior.

But more than that, I have learned to recognize more clearly in my life the feelings of the spirit and help others recognize those feelings. I have been able to know and recognize truths and distinguish them from falsities. I have learned to love the Lord first and everything else will follow. I have learned to be strong and firm in the hard moments and also peaceful and thoughtful in the others.

There are really so many other things that I can write and name but the most important is that Christ lives. He paid the price for each one of us to be able to live in His presence again and we need to be grateful to Him for that. The way that we show our gratitude to Him is through humble obedience. It is not an easy path but Christ never said that it would be. I am not saying I am perfect but at least now I know how to get there and know what I need to do.

Once again, I am so happy for the chance to have served a mission. I really have felt and seen the hand of the Lord in my life more clearly. I hope that you can all do the same and help others to come unto Christ. I love you all and am excited to talk to you on Christmas! Have a wonderful week!



P.S. The Alvarado Monroy family is progressing a lot! They all came to church yesterday and also to our activity! They are loving the church and we have another appointment with the them today! And Rolando also got confirmed yesterday!! Here's the picture of the baptism!

Love, Elder Hale

Elder Kevin Hale was released from his mission on 12/31/14. His parents, Richard and Kim Hale went to Chile to pick him up. They return on Jan. 3, 2015. His homecoming talk will be on Jan. 11, 2015 at 1:00 pm in our sacrament meeting. Welcome home Elder Hale!



# January 2015

Saturday	S	10 Ethan Martinez Baptism 5:00 PM	Emergency Preparedness Water Class 3:00 PM	11 Year Old 24 Day Camp Papago Park Mesa South Stake Conference	31	February 2015  Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  25 26 27 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  1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Friday	2	6	16 Stake Temple Day	23	30	December 2014  Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  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 5 6 7 8 9 10
Thursday	1	RS Volleyball 7:00 PM	15	22 RS Volleyball 7:00 PM	29	2
Wednesday	31	7 Mutual 7:00 PM	14 Mutual 7:00 PM	Stake YM Sports Night 7:00 PM	Mutual 7:00 PM	4
Tuesday	30	9	13	20 Pack Meeting 6:30 PM	27	2
Monday	29	5	12	Civil Rights Day NO SCHOOL	26	2
Sunday	28	Stake YM/YW Choir Practice 7:00 PM	Primary Priesthood Presiew 7:00 PM Stake YM/YW Choir Practice 7:00 PM	Articles of Faith Recognition Night 7:00 PM	25 Mesa South Stake Conference 10:00 AM	