

PULSE OF THE CONGREGATION

August | September | October

Upcoming Events

Nov 26, 27: Wreath making
 Dec 3: Builders movie night
 Dec 9: Builders Youth Night
 Dec 11: Dinner & Silent Auction
 Dec 17: LRS study night

Local Officers 2022

Pastor: Brian Herren

Counselors:

Gary Livingston, Jim Clark

Treasurer: Jim Clark

Secretary: Dorothy Herren

Recorder: Melissa Clark

Youth Commission: Travis Clark,
 Michael Livingston, Aaron Dukes

Regional Officers '22

Regional Director: Brian Herren

Counselors:

Mike Terry, Gary Jones

Treasurer: Travis Clark

Secretary: Melissa Herren

Youth Director: Michael Livingston

Women's Director: Dianna Clark

Church School: Maddy Clark

Music Director: Cessaries Galusha

Activities Director: Amos Johnson

Capturing the Life of Brother John Henderson

By Brother Bill Curtis



I have known Brother John for over fifty years and I would like to share some personal memories that I have of him throughout that time.

John was born in Redmond, Oregon in 1924 and was one of nine children in the family. John's parents had both passed away by the time he was twelve years and his oldest sister took over the responsibility of caring for the younger children. When John was 17 years old he joined the Navy. It was 1941 and the United States had joined in World War II. He was stationed aboard the USS Dutton which was a minesweeper. He became a Chief Petty officer at the age of 21 which, at the time, was the youngest anyone had achieved that rank. He met Lillian at the Bremerton Navy hospital in 1946 and fell in love with this young nurse. They later married and had two children, a daughter Estelle and a son Kenneth.

He studied Electrical Engineering at Oregon State University and later in life used his education and became the Director of Plant Services at Albany General Hospital for 14 years. During that time the hospital president insisted that John apply for the American Hospital Association's award given when you can save 14% on energy for three years. When the data was put together the hospital savings were 49%. The association in Chicago didn't believe it so they sent three engineers to Oregon to check it. By the time they arrived, the hospital had boosted it to 51%. This resulted in a trip to Washington D.C. for John to receive a national award.

Continued on page 2

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This also was followed by five Dept. of Energy grants and John was appointed by the Oregon Dept. of Energy to be a charter member of the Oregon State Energy Engineers Commission where he held meetings of engineers from two states. John believed that God directed him throughout all of this and remembered the Scripture in Proverbs 3:6..."In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct they paths".



John's faith in God was instilled in him as a young boy and continued to guide him throughout his life. When we begin looking in hindsight about a person's life and our relationship with them, and we think of the influence we have on one another, it can be a soul searching event. I know that each of you who read these remarks will think back about the time you interacted with John and the ministry he offered to all who would listen to his testimony of Christ and the gospel.

About 18 years ago on a Sunday afternoon, we received a phone call from John asking if he and Pat McKee could stop by for a visit. We were surprised that they were both coming together. They soon arrived and we all sat down for a nice visit. John said, I suppose you know why we are here and I said well, I'm not sure. We found out that they had been dating for a few weeks and had decided to get married. He asked if I would perform the ceremony and also that they would like to be married at our home. I told him that it would be our honor. Lilly had passed away some years earlier and Pat's husband Vern had also passed away so they ended up having 18 wonderful years together. Pat said many times that she had been blessed with two wonderful husbands.



John and I labored together in our ministry as well as personal events. I realize that these times were sort of a building block that helped to grow into a relationship of trust, love and patience to work through whatever differences we may have had and then to agree to disagree.

John was a man of integrity. He lived his life from the time I became acquainted with him, until his passing recently, upholding that virtue. Integrity does not have a single meaning. It encompasses many other virtues that can lead to being a "good man".

John was a good man on this earth, always striving to magnify his priesthood calling of High Priest, which qualified him to teach and preach, and be an administrator. He always showed love and concern for all he had the opportunity to minister to. One of his greatest concerns right up to his last days was something said to him at the time of his Patriarchal Blessing that was given to him by Patriarch Mark Yoeman.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2...

Quote, "We perceive, dear brother, that the Lord has a work for you to do in his kingdom and that work shall not be taken from thee, nor left to another". He took this to heart in his ministry. I truly believe that John has more work in Paradise, knowing what the Book of Mormon says in Alma 9:63-73 and Alma 10:104, as it speaks of an everlasting priesthood. There is of course, so much more to share of his life and my association with him, but I will conclude with something I have said many times. We all leave our mark on those we associate with during our life, for better or worse. Follow those, whose life we discern to be of a good report, as was Brother John Henderson.



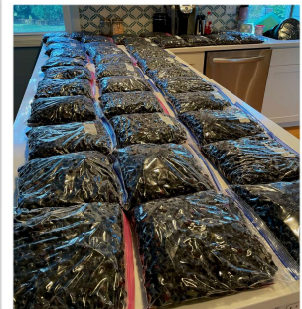
Grape Harvest

By Sister Melissa Herren



The Lord has blessed us again in our harvest of grapes for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. With the help of the Saints, after a full morning of picking grapes, and then an afternoon of removing stems we ended up with 250 pounds of juicy, dark purple grapes. After a week of juicing and canning in the evenings we ended up with 192 pints of grape juice to use for communion. Three dozen of those jars have been delivered through out the region. In addition to the

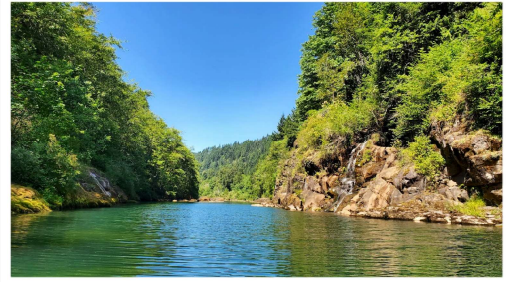
abundant amount of grapes we were blessed with, the grapes themselves were also blessed in their sweetness; there was no need to additionally sweeten the juice to make it palatable. We give our humble and grateful thanks to our Heavenly Father for his abundant blessings, and for allowing us to be stewards of His vineyard.



Congregational Camping Weekend

By Brother Travis Clark

With firework stands popping up around town and flags flying high in preparation for the 4th of July, it was once again time for the Saints to fellowship together in our Lord's creation at Sunnyside campground, located on the beautiful Foster Reservoir in Sweet Home, OR. Camping in the group area gave opportunity to have R.V.'s and tents near one another. Lots of sunshine, delicious food and no distractions made for a wonderful opportunity to spend time together as a one body.



Camping so close to the lake provided many with opportunity go for boat rides on the Trammell's boat or go kayaking. Those who did not feel the need to get wet were still able to take advantage of the great weather by going for walks or playing frisbee. Despite all the activities going on, the Saints chose to pause and come together for every meal. The conclusion of each day saw Spirit-filled campfires being led by the Youth.

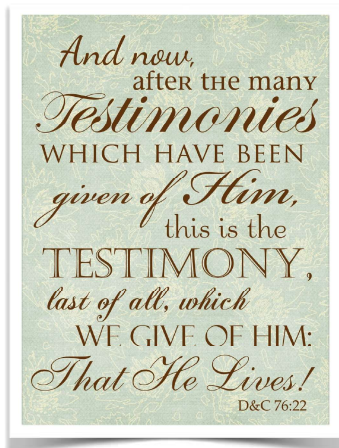
On the morning of The Lord's Day, a wonderful service was held in the midst of His peace and creation. The Holy Spirit was truly in attendance and Brother Brian Herren brought an inspired message to close the weekend. The Saints are always so richly blessed when coming together as one body and it gives us a small sense of what we may experience in Zion in the future. Though July may still seem far away, mark your calendars now and keep an eye out for dates in the bulletin so you don't miss Congregational Camping in 2022!



Congregational Picnic 2021

By Brother Michael Livingston

Just imagine, you get invited to an everyday normal picnic that maybe your family or friends planned. The date is getting closer and closer. The anticipation is getting higher and higher. The time finally comes and the weather calls for 100% chance of rain. That normal every day picnic might get canceled. And then your disappointment sets in. But have no fear because the congregational picnic is not your everyday picnic. The picnic must go on. Instead of doing it at a park, it will move to a school with a covered area for those people who really don't want to enjoy their hamburger or hot dog in the rain. And for those others who love the rain can still enjoy it with full vigor on the play ground or the field just adjacent to that covered area. Rain or shine you can for sure count on the church's picnic to continue. And this year was no different. The rain came, but the hamburgers were still grilled. The puddles formed, but the people still fellowshiped. We were still together and nothing would stop that. And I know those saints who were there had a great time and the food still tasted delicious.



Tour of Testimonies

As a youth group, the Builders and Climbers did something called a "Tour of Testimonies." Half of us went to John Henderson's house while the other half of us went to Bill and Nancy Curtis' house. The whole purpose was to listen to the testimonies they were willing to share and also to just enjoy their company. Bill shared stories from when he was in the military and the ways God blessed him while in service, and Nancy shared the story of how she and Bill first met, which was also a testimony. We ate cookies and caught up on what's going on in each of our lives, and talked about what we want our futures to look like. After hanging out, the two groups gathered back to the same place and shared about what each group learned and heard. It was really nice being able to visit!

By Sister Kaitlin Herren

Testimonies with John Henderson

The time I spent with Mr. John Henderson made my heart feel warm. The testimonies I heard were great. He would share and we would share, but we would listen to him more. I don't remember all of his testimonies, but I do remember some. One I remember is, one time he had to fly to a place I forgot, and he had to meet other pastors there. His plane was a far walk but other people came and helped him. One of the flight attendants even helped with his bags.

He didn't even know the people. He was wondering why this was happening and he remembered that it was God working. Then he went to his flight and met with the pastors. At the end of the week I think, he was wondering why God brought him there. Then I think two men were talking about his book to him. Then he realized this is why God brought him there. And that's one of his testimonies.

By Brother Kevin Allen

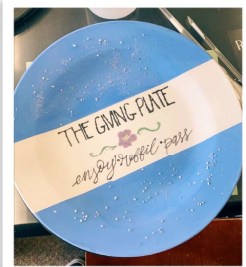
Lambs Pick Up Trash

On the afternoon of September 24th, Elizabeth, Melissa C, Maddy, Michael and I went from Maddy's house to my house cleaning up all the garbage we saw. There was half a bag of garbage that we collected. We did this because we wanted to live in a better environment and it helps the community so the animals don't eat it and get sick. Something funny that happened was we found a full bottle of lotion sitting on the street. I am thankful that I got to participate in this activity because it helped our environment and helps to keep everyone safe.



By Brother Caleb Herren

Youth Activities



LRS Study and Craft Nights

By Sister Maddy Clark

For at least a year and a half the LRS have been meeting monthly to gather together in study and fellowship. We rotate between a book study and a craft night every month and it has been such a blessing and so much fun to be able to this. It is a very casual setting and ladies come and go as they need, but our time together has been such a blessing and a strength to the women of our congregation.

We have been following along together in a book by Ann Spangler and Jean Syswerda, called *Women of the Bible*. It is a good guide to follow the story of women and their roles in the Bible. It is not a book of the restoration, which has allowed us to have thorough conversations about our beliefs and the differences between different denominations. I believe that this has strengthened our foundation in the Inspired Version and allowed us to opportunity to get to know our scriptures better.

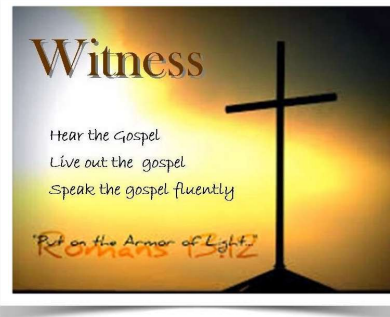
At our craft nights we have made so many projects together, I can hardly remember them all. Most recently we made yarn covered pumpkins for the fall season. Another favorite project was making Valentine's Day wreaths out of puzzle pieces. Gathering together for a couple hours every other month to be creative together has been such a blessing for me personally. I love being creative and crafting and it's a joy to be able to spend time with others who feel the same way.

The last year and a half has been different in a lot of ways, but this regular meeting outside of church has been so good for us and I genuinely hope that we keep doing these monthly LRS Nights for years to come.

Cottage Meetings and Witnessing

By Brother Jim Clark

Several have recently been involved with holding cottage meetings in a couple different homes. It is truly an honor to be invited in to a home. Our homes are very dear to us as a refuge. The privilege of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ is a blessing unto itself. In my experience, I often feel I have received as much as I have ministered. When others come to understand His church, and begin to relate to His gospel, a tremendous joy is invoked. I have yet to share the gospel with those who are interested and attentive in which I have not felt the Spirit working and the thrilling joy upon our countenances and souls. It truly is a labor of love and a harbinger of hope fostering a desire to know of more truth and light.



In these latter days it may be felt that only missionary efforts may bring about this fruit. However, there are many who are searching, who are seeking truth in a deceptive and corrupt world. We have a great opportunity, within our cities, towns and neighborhoods. Are we answering the call? Are we living in such a way that would invite interest? We might be encouraged along the way, or be encouraging unto others. Winston Churchill once said, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." Let us be found so lifted up in the gospel of Jesus Christ that we cannot refrain ourselves from its unspeakable joy. Let us overflow from such blessings and share of our hearts with others.

Surely the Kingdom is even now, and the fate of many souls depends upon the faithful shedding forth the light and love of our Heavenly Father. The tremendous blessings most certainly will outweigh the fear of not knowing or failure. When those who you have gleaned by the way rejoice with you in triumph can there be any sweeter reunion? The field is white and ready for harvest, these are the latter days, how might we be a more effective witness? It is today, it starts with the gospel, and it comes from the heart. May our Heavenly Father be well served by our humble efforts on His behalf.



Sharing in Christmas Valley

By Brother Brian Herren

Brother Michael Livingston, Brother Travis Clark, and I were blessed to serve in Christmas Valley over the weekend of October 8-10, 2021. The family of Clayton and Tiffany Morehouse was generous and kind in their hospitality, and our fellowship was made sweet as we gathered together to study the scriptures and worship together. Sisters Addie and Zoey had so many good questions, and kept us engaged by many sincere inquiries. As one class drew to a close, Sister Addie didn't want it to end,

and asked for more! We spent most of the day teaching classes on Saturday. On Sunday morning, there was time for one more class before Brothers Travis and Michael provided a family worship service. It was wonderful to make use of the hymnals kept through the years in the Morehouse



family, and to fellowship together in a place we too rarely visit. Brother Michael brought his guitar and accompanied the worship, and Brother Travis shared scriptures. Beyond our worship and fellowship, we had time to watch a wolf chased from the property, a goat receive emergency medical attention in the bathtub, and a chicken attack an intruder. In all, it was quite an exciting weekend! Most importantly, we feel the Lord had led us into this ministry and fellowship, in the place and time, for purposes wholly His own. It is our prayer that God might continue to bless the pure in heart, and bring forth much fruit in His Kingdom

for His honor and glory. It was a great privilege to spend the weekend with this good family, and one that we will not soon forget. While God's hand rests upon the faithful far and near, we know the sweetness of time spent together in Sainly communion is a valuable treasure. May we always be for the Lord, and may we always make time for the fellowship of brother and sister. We owe the Lord our everything, and we owe the Morehouse family a special debt of gratitude for making us feel like family, and showing us the love of Christ as we spent our days in their pleasant home. It was a great honor to be there again, and one that we will cherish.

