

AKRON STAKE NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

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CALENDAR

MAY

- 3 & 4 - Stake Conference
- 4 - YM/YW Missionary Fireside
 - Medina 7-8 pm 14 and older
- 6 - YSA Worldwide Devotional
- [Visit YSA Facebook Page for more info](#)
- 10 - YM/YW Activity Night
 - Canton 4 pm
- 11 - Mother's Day
- 24 - Multi Stake Dance
 - Tallmadge 14 and older



JUNE

- 11-14 YM Tuscazoar Camp
- [13-15 LDS Singles Conference \(31 and older\)](#)
- 16-21 FSY Week 1 14+ Tiffin University
- 23-28 FSY Week 2 14+ Tiffin University

JULY

- 15-19 YW Camp Butler
- 19 - Single Adult Picnic
- 24-26 Stake YM High Adventure
Ohiopyle, PA

AUGUST

- 3 - YM/YW Missionary Fireside
- 16 - YM/YW End of Summer Activity
- 23 - Stake Primary Activity

[Click here for Akron Stake Calendar](#)

[To submit Stake or Area events to the Newsletter Calendar please contact Susan Jackson \[sjackson2835@gmail.com\]\(mailto:sjackson2835@gmail.com\)](#)



MESSAGE FROM THE STAKE

Does God Know I Love Him?

Susan Squire
Stake Relief Society President



The missionaries taught my family the gospel when I was nine years old. I believed the message that they shared, but I was disappointed when they could not show me the gold plates. Even though my family was never very active in the church after we were baptized, I clung to the feelings that I had when we did participate.

At nineteen when I was able to get myself to church I began attending regularly and I learned why a testimony of The Gospel of Jesus Christ had stayed with me all of those years.

Over the years the instruction and testimony of church leaders and friends in the church has taught me, lifted me and strengthened me. Study of the scriptures, prayer, reading the Book of Mormon, teaching seminary and attending the temple have all encouraged me to emulate the Savior. That is a lifelong process and one that often eludes me.

Let me share this from Sister Runia from our last General Conference:

"Today I want to speak to those of us who sometimes feel, 'Repentance and forgiveness seem to be working for everyone but me.' Those who privately wonder, 'Since I keep making the same mistakes, maybe this is the way I am.' Those who, like me, have days when the covenant path feels so steep, it's almost a covenant hike!"

A wonderful missionary in Australia, Elder QaQa from Fiji, shared a similar feeling in his departing testimony: "I know that God loves me, but sometimes I wonder, 'Does God know that I love Him?'"

In that one tender, haunting question, Elder QaQa summed up exactly what I've often worried about. Maybe you're wondering too, thinking, "I'm trying so hard, but does God know I'm really trying? When I keep falling short, does God know I still love Him?" Because I'm not perfect, and I still make mistakes."

It saddens me to admit this, but I used to measure my relationship with the Savior by how perfectly I was living. I thought an obedient life meant I would never need to repent. And when I made mistakes, which was every single day, I distanced myself from God, thinking, "He must be so disappointed in me."

That's just not true.

I've learned that if you wait until you're clean enough or perfect enough to go to the Savior, you've missed the whole point!

Let's try this. Tonight, before you pray, imagine Jesus Christ close by. He is your Advocate with the Father. Ask yourself, 'What would my Savior say to the Father about me?'

And then become silent.

Listen for that voice that says good things about you—the voice of the Savior, your finest friend, and your Father in Heaven, who is really there. Remember, Their love and your worth are always great, no matter what!

Thank you Sister Runia. You have taught me to not fear repentance but to be grateful for the blessings of being able to keep trying.

I am grateful to my Heavenly Father and His son Jesus Christ for their love for me and for the many blessings in my life that I see and don't see.

MISSIONARY MOMENTS

Elder Lucas Junge

Nevada Reno Mission June 2024 - June 2026



Recently I've been marking all of the references to Jesus Christ in The Book of Mormon.

It reminds me how much The Book of Mormon is truly another testament of Jesus Christ and that it is the most true book on the earth.

I love The Book of Mormon and the gospel of Jesus Christ so much.



“Begin to believe in the Son of God, that he will come to redeem his people, and that he shall suffer and die to atone for their sins; and that he shall rise again from the dead, which shall bring to pass the resurrection, that all men shall stand before him, to be judged at the last and judgment day, according to their works” Alma 33:22



CLEVELAND TEMPLE UPDATES



CLICK HERE TO
SEE
THE PROGRESS!

2026
WILL BE HERE
BEFORE WE
KNOW IT!

UNTIL THEN....VISIT

COLUMBUS



PITTSBURGH



Click on images to visit temple webpages



I'M GOING THERE SOMEDAY!



Kirtland Stake Invites us to Participate!

With great excitement we are pleased to announce that **"This is Kirtland!"** will be returning this year! First produced in 2004, this was a beloved tradition for many years. This hour-long musical depicts the faith and sacrifice of the early latter-day saints in 1830s Kirtland. With original script and music all written by local members, the musical was a tremendous faith-building experience for the many families who participated.

Auditions for the cast will be held at the end of May. Performances will be held on July 17-19 at the Kirtland Stake Center.

Volunteers are needed for this year's production in all areas, on and off stage. If you have any interest in being a part of this unforgettable experience, you can fill out an interest form [here](#).

Click here

No specific training or expertise is required.
We welcome all to share your talents and experience!

It is a joy to live in this sacred land and to get to share the how the Lord blessed the saints then and how He blesses us today. We look forward to once again telling those sacred stories this summer!

President Nathan Johnson
Kirtland Stake President



Healing Through the Savior The Addiction Recovery Program



Recovery Meetings
Meet Weekly on Zoom
Sundays at 3:00 pm

[Click HERE for
more information](#)

[Click HERE to find
additional meetings](#)



Spouse and Family
Support Group
Meets Weekly on Zoom
Tuesdays at 8:00 pm

[Click HERE for
more information](#)

[Click HERE to find
additional meetings](#)

JUST SERVE CORNER

This month we're introducing

Royal Family KIDS Camp

Not everyone can foster or adopt, but we can all change a life.

Royal Family KIDS Camp is a one-week resident camp for children in the foster care system, many of whom experience trauma brought about by abuse and neglect.

Each year nationally, Royal Family KIDS Camp, with the help of 10,000 trained volunteers, welcomes more than 7,000 children ages 7-11 currently in the foster care system for a week of camp full of activities such as fishing, swimming, and arts and crafts, along with Bible stories, drama, and singing! The goal is to enjoy and love the kids and create a moment within a week when campers feel safe enough to just be a child having fun. In addition to the work of our full time and volunteer camp staff, there is plenty to do at camp for people who can't commit to being there for a full week. Your gifts and skills might be just what we need. Many campers say it's the best week of the year. Some later have said it was the best week of their life.

Sister Lori Maibach from the Wadsworth Ward volunteered at the camp last year, and here is her experience:

"Honestly I didn't know what to expect at camp. As the kids got off the bus the first day as their names were called one at a time I knew this experience would be special. As they announced each name and came off the bus we were there cheering and welcoming them to camp. We held up individual decorated signs with each child's name. They were treated like royalty! It was hard not to get emotional.

This camp is about is showing each camper how loved they are. This camp is put together so uniquely. So much work goes into the planning. It takes a whole year to plan for the next year. Chris and Brian Sheetz dedicate themselves tirelessly planning this camp. Along with many others! You get attached to these kids and pray that when they leave they will be okay."

Questions? Please contact Strongsville UMC Camp
Director: Chris Sheetz (440)263-5060

rfkc317sumc@gmail.com

www.strongsvilleumc.org/royal-family-kids-camp

This charity can also be found on

www.justserve.org



Akron Stake Serves!

Organizations recently served by members of the Akron Stake

Feeding Medina County

Members from Medina Ward and Wadsworth Ward volunteered at Feeding Medina County on Good Friday. What a special day to serve those in need!



Cups Café

Sister Leah Bryan with her son Peter, serving at Cup Cafe in Medina for those who needed a meal. Many people come just to have someone to talk to. The Bryans provided food and friendship.



Live Inspired

Some members of our Stake attended the annual banquet for Live Inspired. They are a charity organization that strives to eliminate educational disadvantages for under-resourced Medina County families with 2 to 4 year olds by providing parents with skills and materials to prepare their children for school and life success.

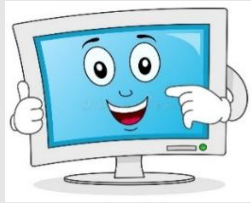


Icare Mentoring

Another organization that our stake provides service to is iC.A.R.E. Mentoring®. The mission of iC.A.R.E. Mentoring® is to impact mentors and mentees to foster relationships that cultivate mutual development and empowerment of youth. The vision of iC.A.R.E. Mentoring® is to enhance the quality of life for mentored students by reducing achievement gaps so that every child has equitable opportunities and is prepared for success in the classroom and in life. For more information please visit:

<https://www.icarementoring.org/>

NEW WARD WEBPAGES *Part 2*



Last month we learned that EVERY UNIT
in our stake has their own webpage

Enter an activity on the calendar and it will
AUTOMATICALLY show up on your website!




FOR A QUICK OVERVIEW

[Click here](#)

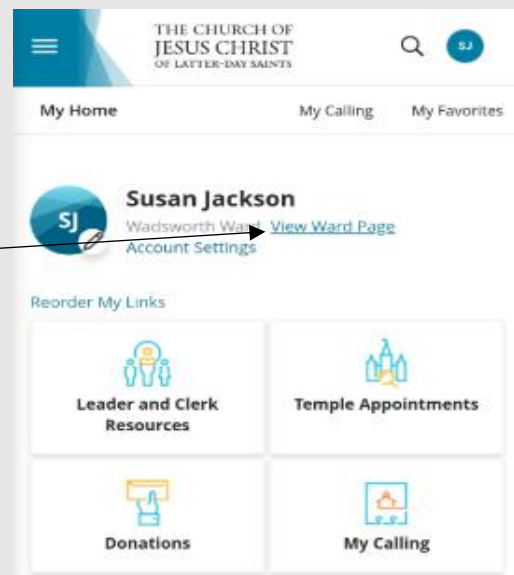
What if I can't find the link
to my WARD PAGE?

1. Log in to www.churchofjesuschrist.org

You will find your name and a link to your
Ward Page. (It doesn't work on the
app....yet)

2. Google it. Seriously, that is one of the
suggested options. 

3. Have a QR Code made for the link and
put it in Ward Bulletins, Sunday Programs,
etc.



[AKRON WARD](#)

[ASHLAND WARD](#)

[CANTON WARD](#)

[MASSILLON WARD](#)

[MEDINA WARD](#)

[NEW PORTAGE WARD](#)

[WADSWORTH WARD](#)

[WOOSTER WARD](#)

Click on your ward link to access your ward webpage!

If your calling offers you the option to submit items to the
ward/stake calendar and you want to learn more....

[Click here](#)