





AKRON OHIO STAKE NEWSLETTER

November 2026



NOVEMBER	
1	Fast Sunday
1	Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults
1	Stake Choir Rehearsal - Akron
7 – 8	Stake Conference
8	Single Adult Lunch after Stake Conference
13 – 15	Piano Guys and The Chosen Cast in NE Ohio – various locations
DECEMBER	
6	First Presidency Christmas Devotional Broadcast
8 – Jan 3	Giving Machines – Beachwood Mall
20	Sacrament Meeting Only
31	Single Adult New Year's Eve Party

Click here for Akron Stake Calendar

To submit Stake or Area events to the Newsletter Calendar please contact LeAnn Snyder leann.snyder@outlook.com

Single Adult Facebook Page Link

WEBSITE UPDATE: The Communications Committee is actively working on the best way to keep you informed of events, information, and items for all organizations. We encourage everyone to use the website. Please check the site regularly, as it will be updated between monthly newsletters.

CLICK HERE to go to the site (make sure to bookmark it for future use.)

FROM THE STAKE

Monthly messages from the Stake Leadership

By: Brother Royce Thornton
Stake FamilySearch Center Coordinator

Hello Akron Ohio Stake members,
I serve as the FamilySearch Center coordinator located in the Wooster Ward building. As I have worked in family history and temple work, I have come to the conclusion that if we truly believe in eternal families, we need to get to know our ancestors. I want to know who they are - their names, their children, their occupations, and, if possible, some things about them. Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ know each of us by name; therefore, we need to know our ancestors by name as we become Saviors on Mt. Zion to our ancestors. I need to ensure that their temple ordinances are completed. I desire a joyous reunion with my ancestors on the other side of the veil. I envision a meeting where I know them by name, they know me

by name, and they express gratitude for completion of their sacred temple ordinances, so they can begin and/or continue on the covenant path back to Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Two examples follow.

I want to thank my great great grandparents, Oliver Thornton and Mary Griswold Thornton, for accepting the gospel and then suffering through much tribulation after they joined the Church. Oliver and Mary were baptized by John Taylor in Pickerinton, Ontario, Canada. Soon after joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Oliver brought his family over the frozen lake from Canada to Kirtland Ohio. Less than six months later, the Saints, including Oliver's and Mary's family as part of the Kirtland Camp, were expelled from Kirtland and traveled to Far West, Missouri. Only a few months later, the family was again expelled from Far West and travelled through the bitter winter to Illinois. A few years later my great grandfather, Oliver Evans, was born in Iowa on the way to Utah after the family again had to leave their home in Illinois. I am amazed at the strength of testimony that Oliver and Mary Thornton had of the Savior, Jesus Christ and the restored gospel to stay true to the restored gospel through tremendous hardships and suffering. They have been a great example to me of resilience and overcoming challenges through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. I want to express my eternal gratitude to Oliver and Mary.

Another example from my late wife Liz. Liz was a convert to the Church. She was baptized during her senior year of high school. Many years ago, Liz's paternal grandmother was passing out family Bibles to her grandchildren. Liz was the only grandchild that did not receive one. Liz was very disappointed. About a year or so later, a family bible arrived in a package from her grandmother. This bible was from her great great grandmother Annie Robson. When she looked through this bible, the passages in the New Testament concerning baptism for the dead and teaching the gospel in the spirit world were marked. In addition, there was a piece of paper inserted in the bible with notations about baptism for the dead. After receiving the late arriving family bible, Liz understood why she didn't receive a family bible earlier - Annie Robson's bible was meant for her so she could perform the ordinance work. A miracle occurred as Liz was the only member of the Church on her father's side of he family. Liz heard voices and singing (not heard by others) from the other side of the veil as she served as proxy during the endowment for her great great grandmother Annie Robson.

A couple of suggestions: First, use the FamilySearch Center's in your ward or those closest to you. Consult with your ward's Family History and Temple consultants. Based on my experience, our FamilySearch Centers and consultants are underutilized, often used more by non-members than members of the Church. The FamilySearch Centers have free resources that are unavailable to church members unless they purchase subscriptions. For example, there are over 15 premium family history sites available through the FamilySearch Centers. In addition, there are documents that can only be accessed through the FamilySearch Center that are not available on personal FamilySearch programs. Second: Write and/or record your own family history. Your story and history will be a great testimony and example to your posterity as Oliver and Mary Thornton were to me, and Annie Robson was to Liz.

I invite you to work diligently in researching your ancestors and completing their temple ordinances. You will have divine help as you do your part in gathering your ancestors (Israel) on the other side of the veil. You will be guided both by the Holy Ghost and your ancestors. You will come to know them by name. I bear witness that family history and temple work is a divine work commissioned by the Lord Jesus Christ to bring the gospel and the plan of happiness to all of Heavenly Father's children. Truly the hearts of the fathers are turning to the children, and the hearts of the children are turning to their fathers as families are sealed for eternity as prophesied by Elijah.



Come to the Temple

Cleveland Temple Information
To schedule at the Cleveland Ohio Temple, you can call 216-487-6970 or use the Tools App. You can also email CLEVE-OFF@ChurchofJesusChrist.org for assistance.

Just Serve Corner

"Go, and do thou likewise." – Luke 10:37

Many members of our stake are able to serve their community. We do have to ask around to discover what they did though.

Following are two recent examples.



In August, Sister Gayle Correll of the Ashland Ward helped the Christ United Methodist Church's Rummage Sale to raise money to help cancer victims in Ashland County.

On September 19, Gavin Sandvick, Stan and Debbie Oda of the Medina Ward helped a charity organization called Mission of Love to prepare some furniture for use in Pineridge Reservation in South Dakota as well as some desks for the charity's newly built school in Guatemala. Mission of Love uses one of the US Department of Defense's programs to transport humanitarian aid to overseas destinations for free using military facilities.







Stake Singles News
Contributed By: Sister Barb Juhasz

The Akron Ohio Stake singles have been busy this year with fun and spiritual activities. In March, we held a game night and chili dinner at the Massillon Building. In May, we had a luncheon after stake conference and a question-and-answer session with Elder Haynie!! In attendance were the Cleveland Temple president and matron, President and Sister Connor.



In July, we held a quad stake conference in Hiram and Kirtland. Singles attended from as far away as Arizona and Montana! The oldest single in attendance was 79 years old. We had a dance and karaoke, tours of the John Johnson Farm, an escape room, and outdoor games on Friday. On Saturday, there were tours of the Kirtland Historical sites, get-to-know-you games, lunch, a catered formal dinner, and a fireside with our area Seventy, Elder Nathan Johnson.



Elder Johnson began his talk by asking us what events we attribute to Kirtland. Answers were the first temple, the word of wisdom, etc. Elder Johnson reminded us of the trials the saints went through in Kirtland and how we can learn from their trials and our own trials.

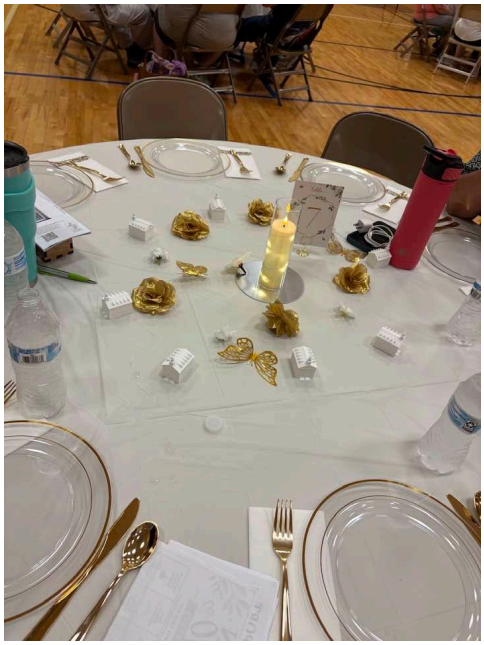




In September, the singles attended sessions in our newly dedicated temple and had lunch afterwards at a local diner.

In October, our stake hosted a quad stake fireside with President and Sister Connor, our temple president and matron. President Connor began by sharing his conversion story. A statistic that he shared that over 50% of the members in the church are single. Sister Connor was happy to see that many of the singles in attendance are current temple workers. “The temple is a great gathering place,” she said.





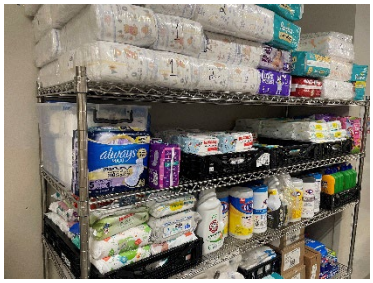
President Conner shared excerpts from a BYU-I devotional by Sharon Eubank titled, "The Sacred Life of Trees" that was held on February 15, 2024. https://www.byui.edu/speeches/forums/sharon-eubank/the-sacred-life-of-trees The fireside was interactive so those in attendance could ask questions and participate. The topic began by explaining that trees are connected to each other and nourish each other. Like trees we need connection with each other. As we serve together, we can grow together and nourish each other. We benefit from community and mutual growth.
This was likened to serving in the temple. The temple is a conduit of spiritual energy transferred to each of us. Everyone is helpful and our temple experience is individual because each one of us is important to Him. The temple is a house of revelation and of healing. The Lord is ready and willing to heal us. It is a safe place to let down our guard. Heavenly Father has knowledge that He wants to share with us.



President Connor shared that in their conference talks as prophet, President Nelson mentions at least 76 blessings of the temple and President Oaks has mentioned 52. Finally, the singles were taught how we can prepare ourselves to receive revelation based on the scriptures in Doctrine and Covenants 138.

On November 8, 2026, at 12 pm, we are having a luncheon at Copley High School after stake conference. Please make sure that you sign in if you attend. We are also taking a survey to see how many would be interested in a New Year's Eve Dance/ Party.

The Stake received a nice thank-you note from Akron Children's Hospital with some photos of the donations provided to them in October. This was in conjunction with the Relief Society Meeting.





"I wanted to share a few impactful pictures with you, so you can see how much was donated by your church members! We truly appreciate your support, which will make a meaningful difference for many people in need. The girls in the Food Farmacy also shared a list of items that were received." ~ Kelly Smith, Grant Gift Officer, Akron Children's Hospital





Contributed by: Br. Paul McPherson
Akron Stake High Council

Food Storage: A Legacy of Preparedness — The Monroe Family

The Monroe family had always believed in the importance of being prepared. Over the years, they steadily built a supply of long-term food storage, setting aside staples such as wheat, rice, beans, and pasta. It was not something they did all at once, but rather a little at a time, recognizing that small, consistent efforts could make a meaningful difference.

When an unexpected hardship disrupted their community, the Monroe family was grateful for the peace of mind that came from having food available. Their preparation allowed them to focus less on immediate necessities and more on caring for one another and helping their neighbors. What had once seemed like an ordinary household practice became a tremendous blessing.

Long-term food storage is more than a practical precaution; it is an expression of faith, foresight, and love for our families.

According to guidance from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, studies have shown that many properly packaged, low-moisture foods can remain nutritious and suitable for sustaining life far longer than previously understood. When stored in a cool, dry environment at 75°F or below, several basic staples can last 30 years or more.

What Foods Can Be Stored Long-Term?

Food	Estimated shelf life
Wheat, white rice, and corn	30+ years
Pinto beans, rolled oats, and pasta	30 years
Potato flakes and dried apple slices	30 years
Nonfat powdered milk	20 years
Dehydrated carrots	10 years
Sugar	Indefinite

These estimates apply to foods that are properly packaged and stored under appropriate **conditions. Long-term storage foods should generally have a moisture content of about 10% or less. Foods such as brown rice, whole-wheat flour, nuts,** granola, and dried meats are not recommended for extended storage because they do not maintain their quality as reliably.

In addition to these staples, consider storing salt, baking soda, cooking oil, and nonfat dry milk. It is also important to include foods that provide vitamin C and other essential nutrients to help meet your family's nutritional needs.

Start Small, Prepare Faithfully
Building a long-term food supply does not require a large financial investment all at once. Begin by identifying the needs of your household, choosing foods your family can use, and gradually adding to your supply. Store items properly, keep track of what you have, and periodically review your family's needs.

For additional guidance on how much food to store and which foods best meet your family's nutritional requirements, consult the BYU Department of Nutrition, Dietetics, and Food Science resource, An Approach to Longer Term Food Storage.

As we follow the counsel to prepare for times of need, may we remember the example of the Monroe family. Through small, deliberate efforts today, we can provide greater security for our families tomorrow. Our food storage can become a source of comfort, resilience, and generosity—a blessing not only to our own households but also to those who may need our help.

For additional Personal and Family Emergency Preparedness:
https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/bc/content/shared/english/life-help/Personal-and-Family-Emergency-Preparedness-Planning-Guide.pdf

Healing Through the Savior

The Addiction Recovery Program

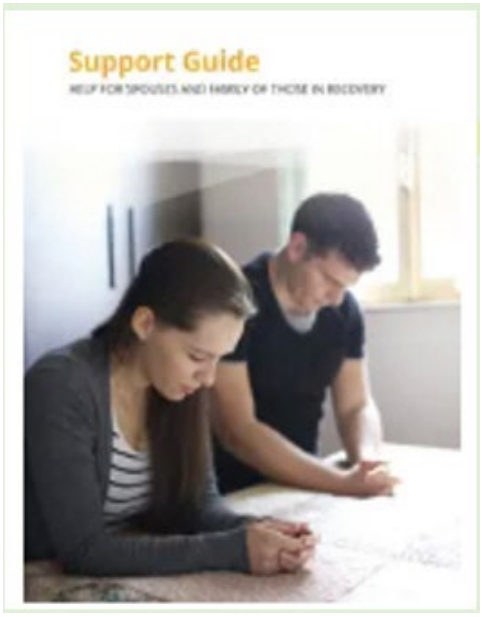


Spouse and Family Support Group
Meets Weekly on Zoom

Tuesdays at 8:00 pm

Click HERE for more information

Click HERE to find additional meetings



Recovery Meetings
Meet Weekly on Zoom

Sundays at 3:00 pm

Click HERE for more information

Click HERE to find additional meetings

Announced 2026 Churchwide Broadcasts

Here are the announced dates for 2026. Make sure to mark your calendars for these special broadcasts/events:

- **November 1** – Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults
- **December 6** – First Presidency's Christmas Devotional
- **December 20** – Sacrament Meeting Only

2026 Stake Dates to Note:

- **November 1** – Stake Choir Rehearsal – Akron Building
- **November 7 & 8** – Stake Conference
- **November 8** – Single Adult Lunch after Stake Conference
- **November 15** – Fireside with The Piano Guys – Medina Building
- **December 8 – January 3** – Giving Machines Available – Beachwood
- **December 31** – Single Adult New Year's Eve Party

SCAN THIS QR Code to access the Stake Website to keep yourself updated with all information for all organizations:

IT'S TIME TO GET READY FOR

GIVING MACHINE CLEVELAND 2026

December 8 - January 3
All open mall hours
Beachwood Place Mall Center Court
26300 Cedar Rd, Beachwood, OH 44122

How can I learn about Giving Machine Cleveland?

Check out our website for more information!

Visit www.givingmachinecleveland.com Or
Visit us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkTree

Can I volunteer?

YES!

Volunteer signups open
November 8, 2026
Watch for the links!

Learn about our Charity Partners

CRS Community Resource Services — Making a difference. Right here at home.

hope & healing — Survivor Resource Center

Lorain County Office On Aging

The Brightside Project

The Way Station

African Girls Hope Foundation

Mentors International

For questions, please contact us at

givingmachinecleveand@gmail.com

LightTheWorld

Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints