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CORONA STAKE NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Corona, California Stake

Stake Presidency Message

BY PRESIDENT RUDY PRECIADO

Brothers and Sisters I am grateful for this opportunity to share some thoughts and words that I hope will bring you solace and comfort to you all. As a convert to the church, I have always been in awe of the concept of a Savior and of God in my early life. I was raised Catholic and was enamored with the Padre at our local congregation, when he would provide a sermon or go through the process of delivering the sacraments to the members. I was being trained as an altar boy at a young age with my cousin in the San Fernando Valley, as I would prepare the wafers for the sacrament, make sure there was incense for the holder that would be waved during mass, and that all of the gold goblets and cups were clean and ready for Sunday. CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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This was my first experience to things that were sacred in my young eyes. As a young Catholic I had made my first communion, attended Catechism, and was preparing to make my confirmation in my early teens.

The nuns that were my instructors at school first brought to my attention the concept of a Savior of the world, who he was and what he would endure on behalf of all mankind.

The impressions that instilled upon me was the filling of peace and gratitude when I attended mass and then went home. I felt good about attending church that day, and the feelings left me grateful.

Today, I am full of appreciation and grateful for parents who took me to church that have prepared me to accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

As I reflect on my life's journey and experiences that I have had, I am full with the deepest sense of gratitude and would not have it changed – as much as some experiences have felt extremely difficult and trying in my life.

Neal A. Maxwell said, "Therefore, how can you and I really expect to glide naively through life, as if to say, 'Lord, give me experience, but not grief, not sorrow, not pain, not

opposition, not betrayal, and certainly not to be forsaken. Keep from me, Lord, all those experiences which made Thee what Thou art! Then let me come and dwell with Thee and fully share Thy joy!" It would be impossible for us to truly experience life without these trials physically and spiritually.

There are two incidents in the Savior's life that have made me ponder and think about often; the words, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matt. 27:46), which from the outset feel devastating and a sense of aloneness.

The other incident was just prior to this event on the cross in the garden of Gethsemane, when Jesus stated, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matt. 26:39).

You can feel apprehension in the Savior's voice as if to not know what He will exactly be experiencing as he takes upon Him the sins of the world from every man, woman, and child in every dispensation of human existence.



Picture: President Preciado and wife Linda

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Just as Christ had to know what it was like to be forsaken for the Atonement to be fully realized, we too will face moments in the refiner's fire. We may experience times when to us it seems the heavens can't hear us, promises go unfulfilled, and or divine intervention does not come. If you have faced this you are not alone as He has felt and is not foreign to your experience.



It may seem difficult to remain true and faithful during such times of despair and even loss – better yet, a question may cross your mind in how can we let God prevail in such seasons in our life?

I remember as a young Latter-Day Saint in my early twenty's how much I admired while serving with friends of mine, whose family has long lineages in the church and pioneer family history. How it seemed to me that their way of life seem to just come natural for them to read their scriptures as a family, do their home teaching (at that time), and just make right choices they needed to do.

We have a lot of praise for those in the church who seem to have unwavering faith as they make decisions. We need to remember the righteous decisions made in spite of a lack of hope or faith are just as good, just as honorable. In fact, this means you have more faith than you realize. It is an act of faith to live like you do when you feel you have none.

It is this ultimate gift that our Heavenly Father has given us in being able to choose for ourselves what we will do in this life. The fact that we have already chosen the right path by being here, we chose the Savior's plan. If we continue to honor the covenants we

made during baptism, and at the temple, we have chosen the covenant path.

We would greatly benefit ourselves and our families by simply "showing up" to sacrament meeting, to the next church activity, and to our Priesthood and Relief Society meetings. When we are feeling at our lowest point in our lives, by letting God prevail is by coming to church and allowing ourselves to feel of His spirit and love through those around us willing to serve. I will say that "suffering is a form of divinity" that is necessary for our growth and increase in this life.

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What brings me much solace and comfort is knowing that our Heavenly Father is within the details of each of our lives and understands completely our joy and our sorrows.

Now, taken one step further, if we are intentional about our presence of being at church, being at the next church activity, and or our Priesthood or Relief Society meetings - how much more blessed will we be in those moments?

I will continue to ponder the initial two incidents I mentioned in the Savior's life and what He had to experience. There is so much imagery and symbolism in those scriptures of the Savior's life that it brings me much pause.

I bear witness and will forever be grateful for the Atonement in my life and how through this ultimate sacrifice on our behalf, we can have a change of heart,

become a better people, and be forgiven for our sins and shortcomings.

I am grateful that Jesus "showed up" and fulfilled His father's will and chose to continue with the covenants He made with our Father in Heaven. In the sacred name of Jesus Christ, amen.

~President Preciado





CORONA WARD GETS NEW BISHOPRIC

JONNY MCKEE
Bishop

SCOTT HOLSTROM
First Counselor

PETER DAHLQUIST
Second Counselor

Picture From Left: Scott Holmstrom, Jonny McKee, Peter Dahlquist



NEW STAKE RELIEF SOCIETY PRESIDENCY

SHELLIE HUNT
President

MICHELE LANG
First Counselor

LESLIE GUTHRIE
Second Counselor

TRISHA MACQUEEN
Secretary

Picture From Left: Trisha MacQueen, Michele Lang, Shellie Hunt, Leslie Guthrie



Six Corona Stake Youth Represent at Santiago High School's Homecoming

BY KIM LAY

Lindsay Rasmussen, a senior from the Circle City Ward was voted Homecoming Queen at Santiago High School's Homecoming game on September 22nd, 2021. In addition, five other seniors from the Corona Stake were nominated for Homecoming. Rylin Sundberg (El Cerrito Ward), Elias Tucker (El Cerrito Ward), Gavin Chambers (El Cerrito Ward), Kimberly Skaggs (El Cerrito Ward), Davis Knoll (Citrus Hills Ward), and Lindsay Rasmussen were all nominated by their peers. Kimberly Skaggs, Davis Knoll, and Lindsay Rasmussen went on to be nominated for Homecoming Court which is the next level. The homecoming court then ran and campaigned to the student body to be this year's homecoming king and queen. After the campaigning was over, the student body voted one last time for their king and queen and Lindsay Rasmussen was crowned Homecoming Queen. Congratulations to our nominees and queen!

Top Picture from Left: Davis Knoll, Klarissa Palacios, Sebastian Torres, Lindsay Rasmussen, Jason Choe, Kimberly Skaggs, Niko Padilla, Reese Le, Ciera Duran. Top Right Picture: Lindsay Rasmussen. Bottom Left Picture: Davis Knoll and Lindsay Rasmussen. Bottom Right Picture: Kimberly Skaggs





CORONA HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER RECEIVES BISHOP'S STOREHOUSE GRANT FOR THE ANGELHART NETWORK CHARITY

by Kim Lay

Nielle Reinhardt, a teacher at Corona High School who runs a program out of her classroom called the Angelhart Network was awarded a \$10,000 Bishop's Storehouse grant from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in September. Mrs. Reinhardt, a former Crystal Apple Award recipient runs a program that helps feed her students that are in need of food during the weekend. Her students that participate fill a provided backpack with food on Friday and then return the empty backpack the following Monday. A Bishop Storehouse grant will help supplement much of the food in Mrs. Reinhardt's food pantry. She will be able to go multiple times a month to her assigned storehouse located in Murrieta. In the past Mrs. Reinhardt has relied solely on donations from community members, churches and other organizations. Through the relationship that was developed with the former Stake Relief Society President Holly Waite, and Stake Communication council members, Mrs. Reinhardt was made aware of the opportunity to apply for the grant. Mrs. Reinhardt was able to fill out the application, have it signed by the Stake President, and submit the application to the Church Welfare and Self-Reliance branch in Salt Lake City where the non-profit was vetted and approved. On September 8th after receiving the news that her grant was approved Mrs. Reinhardt said on her Facebook video story, "I am beyond excited! I may have cried earlier, whatever. A huge thanks for the love and support from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints."

"A huge thanks for the love and support from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." -Nielle Reinhardt

Picture from left: Nielle Reinhardt with Sister Crall from the Murrieta Bishop's Store house.





Women's Leadership Conference JUSTSERVE

Members of the Relief Society and the missionaries came together to help with the annual Riverside County Women's Leadership Conference on September 30th. This event was put on by the Corona Chamber of Commerce and held at Crossroads Christian Church. After the event, the Chamber of Commerce expressed their deep gratitude for the church volunteers. They expressed how competent, professional and beautiful all of the helpers were and they said we couldn't have done it without your support. Thank you!



Picture Top: Sister Kurbricky and Yergensen, Tami Child

Picture Middle Left: Cheryl Brown

Picture Middle Right: Kim Lay, Sarah Anderson

Picture Bottom: Jodi Brokaw, Michelle Tuimauluga, Tammy Harwick, Jenna Sanchez, Trisha Yontz, Jennifer Ward

Stake Relief Society & JustServe Day of Service

September 25th was the 4th Annual Stake Relief Society & JustServe Day of Service. Women and girls ages eight and up were invited to participate. Projects completed included: 37 towel kits and 17 sheet sets for Make It Cozy a non-profit that helps set up homes for the homeless, 80 sets of bereavement beanies for Kaiser Riverside, 18 "Welcome to America" posters for refugees, and 30 fleece blankets for cancer patients at City of Hope-Corona. Girl Scout Troop 1973 donated welcome kits for new refugee families, and Laura Smith donated dozens of handmade beanies for the homeless. CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Bottom Photo: Shandra Carlson, Sister Kurbricky, Sister Price, and Terry Hathaway

Right Photo: Kerri Mahoney and kids

Stake Relief Society & JustServe Day of Service

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In addition, an Amazon refugee donation drive was held in prelude to the event, where members donated items to “Women of Faith” which helps newly arrived Refugee Families settle into their apartments. Items donated included microwaves, tableware, dishes, soccer balls, irons, ironing boards and cleaning cloths!!! Holly Waite, the Stake Relief Society President at the time said “The Corona Stake is amazing!”

Left Photo: Celah and Lacey McKee

Peppermint Ridge fundraising event: Run the Ridge



On September 18th families, youth and missionaries from the Corona and Jurupa Stake came out to help with the Peppermint Ridge fundraising event Run the Ridge. Peppermint Ridge is a non-profit that houses and provides care for disabled adults with a variety of special needs. Members of the church helped clean up after the event, and unload a moving van size truck of items used for the event back into the Peppermint Ridge facility. Danette McCarns the Executive Director at Peppermint Ridge said “Thank you for volunteering, sponsoring, walking, running, giving and caring. It makes all the difference to the men and women of Peppermint Ridge.”



Top Left Photo: Melinda and Jordyn Sundberg, Top Right Photo: Willardson Family, Bottom Left Photo: Sundberg, Smith, Shani Tuimauluga, Ryan Lay Bottom Right Photo: Sister Haskins, Lundberg, Brower, and Alvey



MORMON MISSIONARIES & CORONA

by Tom Richins

It is an encouraging sight to look upon Main street, on a Saturday night. It impresses one with the fact that Corona is fast approaching the condition of an active, bustling, enterprising city. Saturday night finds our citizens out shopping for Sunday. On last Saturday night two Mormon street preachers harangued a large crowd in front of the postoffice.

In the late 1800's there were a few family members from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints here in Corona, but more or less the church was still much more strongly focused in Utah with hopes of eventual growth in California. As missionaries started to arrive in California, it was the Corona Courier in September of 1898 published in their local notes section that two missionaries (street preachers) on Main Street convened a large crowd in front of the post office. Not only is it cool that the missionaries were able to assemble such a large crowd, but it is special to see Mormon history merged with Corona's History...

*The term "harangued" used in the article means "a speech addressed to a public assembly."