

Conference of Restoration Elders (CRE)  
Monthly "Tidings of Zion"  
September, 2017

Greetings to the Saints around the world,

The monthly "Tidings of Zion" is new effort by the CRE to reach out to the Saints. It does not replace the quarterly "Tidings of Zion" magazine which is at the printers and will hopefully be in the homes by mid-September. Feel free to copy and distribute to anyone you know who may not have internet availability. We encourage each pastor to copy and make available to your branches and groups. Your assistance will be very much appreciated.

Saints and branch leaders may send in items for the monthly Tidings as is also done for the quarterly magazine. We would like to receive testimonies, reunion, camp, retreat experiences, branch events and activities, or articles you may want to write and so forth.

September is an important month in Church History as it was on September 21, 1823 when the angel Moroni appeared in vision to Joseph Smith Jr. and told him of the responsibilities he would have, as well as giving him information about the plates, from which came the Book of Mormon. This would be a good time for individuals, families, branches and groups to revisit our Church Heritage. This experience is found in Church History, Volume 1, Chapter Two.

September is also an important month in the United States of America, as September 16, 1620 was the date when the Pilgrims left England, on the Mayflower and headed for and reached the "Promised Land," led by the hand of God. This is also a great time for all of us to "go back in time," and read about the Pilgrims and their travels and trials. Did you know they had planned to take two ships, but ended up with only the Mayflower. Bad luck? No, God's Divine Plan.

September 17, 1787 was the date when the Constitution of the USA was signed. Did you know that the Doctrine and Covenants mentions the Constitution? You can find out what God said about it in DC 95:2 and DC 98:10.

We, in America, remember September 11, 2001, when tragedy struck in New York, City. Remember everyone quoting II Chronicles 7:14? Most, if not all, Americans were in great prayer, but for how long? This would be a great time for all of us to go back and read this scripture, because it mentions much more than just prayer. Prayer is the easy part. Has God heard our prayers, forgiven our sins, and healed our land? You can answer that after reading this scripture and asking yourself the same question.

It was in November of 2001 that the CRE made its first journey to Kirtland, Ohio for the first Priesthood gathering. After 2001, the CRE moved the annual retreat back to the third weekend in September. Mainly because the weather in Ohio is a little "more friendly" in September.

September is also an important month for the House of Israel, as the last three of their feast days occur in September/October. The Feast Days are Trumpets (Rosh Hashana), Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), and Tabernacles, ( Sukkot/Booths). It is good for us to know about these events.

#### SEPTEMBER RETREATS:

##### **CRE Annual Priesthood Retreat at Kirtland, Ohio.**

September 16-17, 2017: Theme: "**Charity is the Pure Love of Christ**" Moroni 7:50-53

Schedule:

##### Saturday, September 16, 2017

All morning activities will be at the Kirtland Restoration Branch

08:00 am Registration.

There is a \$10.00 registration fee payable in cash or by check at Kirtland or before you arrive.

Checks can be made out to CRE and on the memo line write, "Kirtland."

Registration can be done at Kirtland or on line at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KirtlandRegistration2017>

08:30 am Worship

09:00 am Class and small group discussion.

10:30 am Break

10:45 am Discussion and sharing from the morning session.

12:00 pm or so Lunch will be served at the church.

All are encouraged to stay for lunch Cost is by donation.

01:00-04:00 pm Open time for tours, etc.

04:00 pm Gather back at the church for a Sacrament Service in preparation for the evening service in the Temple.

06:00 pm Worship Service in the Temple.

Sunday, September 17, 2017 08:00 am gather at the Temple for Worship.

A suggestion is to fast two meals a week in preparation and use the time in travel for further preparation as well.

##### **September 23-24, 2017 CRE Women's Council Fall Retreat at Odessa, Hills, MO.**

Theme: "**Being Valiant in our Testimonies With the Things We Do**"

Saturday from 8:00am until Sunday at Noon. Cost is \$40.00 for the weekend or \$25.00 for

daytime. Speakers will be Connie Smith and Aubree Wilson, who will be sharing various testimonies and thoughts pertaining to our theme. In the afternoon, we will be making items to uplift and be of service to others. **Please fill out, clip, and send this form along with a \$40 or**

**\$25 check made out to Conference of Restoration Elders. Mail to: Mary Prater, 3513 S. Emery St., Independence, MO 64055 – 816.277.8885 – [mapmemory@gmail.com](mailto:mapmemory@gmail.com)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Roommates preferences? Please list names of those you would prefer to room with.

**Domestic Outreach:** The Domestic Outreach Program, ministry to the USA and Canada, has functioned under the CRE for many years. At the 2017 CRE, a resolution was passed with the intent to "rev up" the Domestic Outreach efforts. The USA and Canada have been divided into ten regions and two priesthood assigned to each area. The intent is to touch base with Saints, leaders, and priesthood in the ten regions. The purpose is to visit with leadership in each area for input as to how the CRE can be more helpful in fulfilling its purpose, as found on the inside front cover of each issue of *Tidings of Zion* magazine.. Leaders in each area will be contacted by those planning to visit in order to make sure all arrangements are satisfactory to all.

**Mission to Nepal:** SEAAM is supporting a mission to Nepal and India. Elders Brian Herren, Doug Smith, and Lyle Smith are in Nepal for the next two weeks. Currently there is much flooding in Nepal and India. Please pray for them.

**Center Place Restoration School (CPRS)** has begun its 26th year of operation. Brother Dan Schoenemann is the school administrator. Brother Eric English is the Board President. About 160 students are expected to attend CPRS this school year.

With the USA in debt but 18 trillion dollars or so, I could be a few cents off either way, I regret to remind the Saints of the ongoing needs for funds to support the publishing of the *Tidings of Zion*, general expenses of the CRE, and the missionary work around the world. Think of this: If every home that receives *Tidings* (over 4,000) would simply send in the suggested \$20.00 donation, it would cover the expenses mentioned above. Pray about it. **We sincerely appreciate those who have already done so, many of them for more than \$20.00.**

Forward to Kirtland Temple, Meditations and Testimonies  
by Earl R. Curry, 1973

The House of the Lord, in Kirtland, Ohio, is dear to the heart of all Latter Day Saints. Great events have happened there, and many of us confidently expect will happen much more gloriously in the future. In speaking about the Temple, as we usually call it, we quite often call it a shrine, or a mecca (Any place that people visit or hope to visit.) These are altogether inadequate, because of the connotations these two words suggest. Rather, I find myself hoping that we shall increasingly speak of this House of the Lord as a Mount of Transfiguration! These words suggest an abiding spiritual Presence, and there is. They cause us to remember that there was, and is, an extremely far-sighted intention for its ultimate use - a use that would cause the divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ to stand out in all its tremendousness!

God bless!  
Paul Gage  
Chair, Publication Council  
CRE