

~ Section 4 ~

Council, Missionary & Program Reports

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Coordinating Council

By: Jay Havener

The new 2025 – 2026 Coordinating Council started to work during the last day of Conference last year. Elder Jay Havener was elected the Council Chairman; Richard Neill was elected Vice Chairman and Dan Schwartz was elected Secretary. Our initial meetings focused on where we felt that the Lord was leading the Council and the Conference in the ensuing year. Our initial meeting also included assignments of Council members to be liaisons for the various Conference Councils.

The Kirtland Priesthood Retreat was also one of the first orders of business and a committee was formed.

The overall sense of the Coordinating Council was the need for the Church's Elders to meet more often, and we began to organize a quarterly Elders meeting to facilitate discussions that are important to the work in which we should be engaged. There is a need within the body of Elders to unify around the Gospel and affirm what we believe. Having these discussions can only help in our ministry to members of the Church.

Also, much of what has been discussed over the past several months is what the Conference does best. The Council has been unified in the understanding that the Conference of Restoration Elders has best supported on-going missionary efforts. We feel this has been the most successful effort by the Conference. All councils within the Conference have played a role in either international or national missions. It is the desire of the Coordinating Council to focus the Conference more diligently on those efforts.

One of the focuses by the Coordinating Council, was moving the Conference offices to the building that was purchased by the Living Hope Branch. The moving of the Conference offices to this location, will provide a more centralized access by those using the Conference offices for meetings. The location will provide better visibility for the work of the Conference to the Saints in the Centerplace. The office will provide space and better access for the Joseph Smith Historical Library, the Education Department, and the Restoration Hymn Society. This location would be a central meeting place for the various councils to hold meetings as well.

The Coordinating Council held a retreat for the council to be held at the Belton Branch October 31 – November 1. The retreat was focused on 2 Corinthians 9:10 – 12:

Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness; Being enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God...

During the retreat, plans were made for the November Quarterly Elder's Meeting, the Stone Church All Saints Worship, and the 2026 Elder's Conference. On November 1st, a discussion was led by Jay Havener on ministering seeds to the sower and our response as the Conference of Restoration Elders ministering bread for our food. Elder Doug Smith led a session on Multiplying the Seed Sown, growing the work. Elder Benjamin Pedersen led a discussion on being Enriched in Everything – Bountifulness and increasing the fruits of Righteousness. Seventy Richard Neill led a discussion on Supplying the Wants of the Saints – Abundance within the Body of Christ. Opening worship for the retreat was led by Elder Jeremy Stephenson and the closing worship was led by Elder Dan Schwartz.



Coordinating Council, Cont'd

By: Jay Havener

The council has been very busy over the past several months. We have been blessed by men who desire to serve in whatever ways they can to promote the Gospel through the continued work of the Conference of Restoration Elders. It is our hope and desire as the Coordinating Council to be a part of the Conference guidance this year, perhaps with a renewed focus that will benefit the work of the Church in these last days.

Elder Jay Havener,
Chairman, Coordinating Council

All-Saints Group

By: Larry Cottrill

It is a joy to report that the All-Saints Group continues its regular weekly Sunday and Wednesday worship times via Zoom. Since being transferred for my job to Columbus, Ohio where there is an organized branch, from time to time the need to cancel a Sunday service is necessary.

This past year, Oak Grove Restoration Branch graciously took the second Sunday each month and is providing ministry to Saints scattered across the globe. We are thankful for the sacrifice of those Priesthood members from other branches who have brought ministry through the spoken word and classes. We are blessed by the many scattered Saints who are regular attenders and participate in the various aspects of worship services, often giving their time and talents to our shared experience.

From time to time, we have the great pleasure of Saints attending that have membership at their organized local branch. Sometimes it is their second service, like those from Africa or Europe, sometimes it's because of weather issues or just not feeling so well. Whatever the reason, this has always been additive to our worship and has extended our reach of the Gospel message. Mission and outreach continue to inspire our Christian faith community to share God's grace with each other and the world where we live. We seek from our worship as do you, a deeper relationship with our Heavenly Father that leads to the living out of our faith daily in word and deed.

To that end, great thanks is due to the CRE for their support and encouragement. And as always, we would welcome your time in support of our efforts through the spoken word or for classes.

With gratitude,
Larry Cottrill



Aaronic Council

By: Mark McCormick

The Aaronic Priesthood Council meets often mostly via zoom. All Aaronic Priesthood of the Restoration are welcome at our meetings, and we welcome each one's participation! Over the past year, We have had two retreats February 2025 and one Witnessing Weekend in October 2025. By the time conference arrives, we will have met for a Fasting Weekend in preparation for and on behalf of the Conference gathering. We hope to be able to share during conference our experience of preparation.

As the Aaronic Priesthood Council, we strive to provide a means for the Aaronic Priesthood to have regular fellowship with other brothers of like faith that have been called by the Lord to magnify their callings in the Aaronic Priesthood offices. We desire to be a support to your congregations by lifting up and encouraging your Aaronic Brothers. Another avenue to support this mission, is to provide opportunities for training specific for the Aaronic Priesthood designed for the benefit of brothers both new and seasoned to the calling in promoting of the Preparatory Gospel!

In February 2025, around 15 Aaronic Priesthood, mainly from outlying areas, gathered together at the Living Hope Restoration Branch to study on the topic of how to Share Jesus with strangers beginning in a "cold-start" conversation. Much of the study was based upon the book "Share Jesus Without Fear" by William Fay. This book gives a good baseline for us to begin the process. As Saints of the Restoration, we have to take his model beyond the asking of "Are you Saved?" type conversation. We conversed on how we can apply the concepts taught in the book to our specific situation carrying the Restored Gospel within our bosom.

In this retreat, after our coursework, we put it into action and went to multiple large stores during the afternoon prior to the Superbowl. We found this to be an optimal opportunity to see the community out making their preparations. The experiences were vast in their detail, but all generally positive and encouraging. We estimated that we started over 100 conversations with local Independence folks asking about their Faith, the general believe in Jesus, and their spiritual experiences if they had had any experiences.

In our October gathering it was what we called a "serving weekend." The Friday evening session was an inspiring message from Brother Andrews from the Living Hope congregation on the need to be willing to serve our fellow man. That set the tone for the rest of the weekend. Saturday morning, we began in pray and testimony, then a session on preaching and teaching spiritual and practical tips was presented and discussed. The second study session was in a workshop set up focused upon the ordinances. We then had lunch and then broke out into size appropriate groups for projects that saints had coordinated with us on needing help with completing. This was a great opportunity to share the countenance of Jesus through our actions, more than our words. There was a mixture of home visits provided in this service as well. We ended the day by inviting all of the congregation to a BBQ and campfire worship at the Living Hope Congregation. We were incredibly thankful to the Living Hope congregation for their support in this endeavor!

In addition to the retreats and serving opportunities. We are striving to meet together in a hybrid in-person and via zoom format the last Saturday of each month at 08:00AM central time zone.

Stay tuned for other opportunities that will be planned over the next year and consider being a part of the fellowship!

We ask for your prayers in our endeavors to strengthen the Aaronic Priesthood, and in-turn the congregations. We ask for your Aaronic Priesthood to consider participating in the opportunities we strive to provide! Remember, the Field is White, ready to harvest! There is a world to win, and many sweet souls



Aaronic Council, Cont'd

By: Mark McCormick

to save – – The Master Calls...there is work for you to do! Contact me for any questions! Call or text is best to Mark McCormick, CRE Aaronic Priesthood Chair / mrmrldsmember@yahoo.com / (402) 639-2952

Domestic Missionary and Outreach Council

By: Brian Mundy

The Domestic Outreach Council has been such a blessing to me and I'm sure to each of the council members. It creates a very physical way how the CRE can assist branches and regions. The men have worked very hard in this regard, and it's been a joy to work together focused on sharing the Gospel and growing the church. The following are reports from each region.

Region 1 (North West)

The regional theme chosen for the Pacific Northwest in 2025 was "Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord". The region enjoyed collective worship at youth retreats, a men's retreat, a women's retreat, a priesthood retreat, a reunion, and a summer preaching series. The summer preaching series was blessed by the ministry of Elder Fred Brown from Michigan. Outreach in the region included invitation to the aforementioned collective fellowships, as well as new contacts developed in Idaho. New members were baptized into the church, and existing members were fed by the gospel. Membership grew at two of the three organized branches, and the third maintained. An election of regional officers was held in conference at the conclusion of the year, and the theme for 2026 established: "Our lives. His heart." In 2026, we have planned a youth retreat in February, a women's retreat in April, a Men's Retreat in May, a summer preaching series in June, a youth camp in July, a reunion in August, and a priesthood retreat in September. The three organized branches will continue their outreach to saints and non-members that are scattered. Some of the membership is traveling approximately two hours, driving over the Cascade mountains, to attend church on Sunday, and two hours home. The branches are sharing ministry in preaching from branch to branch in order to support one another and encourage ongoing unity. Oneness is also promoted through mixing at joint retreats. Solidarity has also resulted through periodic "round table" discussions wherein the regional priesthood assemble together at one table without agenda or any unnecessary formality of hierarchy. Each man is invited to speak his mind on any topic, from deacon to elder, sharing the thoughts on his heart, and then opening the matter to the discussion, counsel, and prayers of his fellow servants. The Lord has increased our understanding, healed many of our hurts, and delivered a more like minded people in 2025. A new Men's Group was formed in Salem, Oregon, where all men are invited into regular fellowship, whether they be member or non-member, active or inactive, old or young. The Men's Group is assembling for regulars breakfasts and planning joint service projects where they can simply enjoy the company of one another regardless of denomination or affiliation.

Domestic Missionary and Outreach Council, *Cont'd.*

By: Brian Mundy



Respectfully submitted,
Your brother and servant in Christ,
Brian Herren
Salem, Oregon

Domestic Outreach

Region 2 (Southwest)

By Elder John L Mundy

Brethren Of the Conference

My Region primarily consists of Arizona and Colorado. In the Past year I have been in contact with my areas a good degree. I have been to the Pheonix area on two different times. The Saints in that area are worshipping on Sunday and Wed. night both in person and on Zoom. On Sunday they meet in the conference room of the Holiday Inn in Peoria. That is considered the west side of Phoenix. That Group of Saints are doing pretty well with Elder David Teeple as Pastor. It was a sad day in January when we

Domestic Missionary and Outreach Council, *Cont'd.*

By: Brian Mundy

heard that his lovely wife had passed on to her Eternal home. Wednesday night they worship via Zoom. They have Saints from Tennessee, Texas, Missouri and other places in Arizona worshipping with them. In February, I had the privilege to visit with Brother Gary Cline from Florence AZ and take him to church on Sunday. Everyone was so happy To see him.

New Mexico as another part of my area, I have made contact with one LDS Person and his Wife. Nevada and Utah have had no activity.

I have been in contact with the saints in Colorado. They are really struggling with branches closing down. Please keep them in your prayers and if anyone is traveling to that area please let me know and I will give you contact information to reach out to.

It has been a real blessing to serve on this council but unfortunately, I will not be able to continue covering a region. It is my recommendation that someone that is familiar with these areas and willing to travel take this region. I will continue to serve where ever I can or am asked to continue to support this ministry.

Domestic Outreach (Region 4 Midwest)

Dale Stafford

During the Conference year several trips were made to congregations outside the center place. Two visits were made to the Aurora Illinois Branch (meeting in Chanoa Illinois). A father and a son were baptized in that branch last year and now a teen-age son has asked to be baptized. In Iowa we provide monthly visits to the Des Moines congregation. Two members of the Outreach Committee attended the Woodbine reunion. The adult class was taught by a Center Place Restoration Elder and preaching ministry was provided by a member of the Outreach committee. Also, ministry was provided to Decator City Restoration branch during the past year.

In Missouri, Ministry was provided in the following Missouri locations, Carthage Restoration Branch twice, The Belton Restoration Branch provides monthly ministry to the Butler congregation in which committee members participate. Ministers traveled to speak at the Maysville Restoration Branch, St. Joseph Restoration Branch and Cameron Restoration Branch retreat.

Ministry has been provided outside the Midwest Region. Twice priesthoods have spoken at the Puyallup, Washington Branch along with two visits to the Miami Oklahoma Restoration Branch.

My project for next year is the help Elder Thomas Smith to re-establish a branch in Indianapolis.

I would invite priesthood who would like to provide ministry in the Midwest to contact Eleder Dale Stafford (816-726-5040) and/or Brian Munday (816-668-4521).

Domestic Missionary and Outreach Council, *Cont'd.*

By: Brian Mundy

Region 5

South Central Region Report: CRE Conference 2026

Outreach activity in the central region was provided primarily in Texas and Oklahoma.

Two elders traveled to Weslaco, Tx to provide ministry and an administration for a young lady suffering from multiple health issues. She is the wife of a member of the church who previously resided in Michigan. We coordinated financial support for needed medical treatments through the young man's former pastor in Michigan. The administration occurred on Jan. 3, 2026. We are continuing to stay in touch and encourage this couple in a very isolated area in the Rio Grande Valley.

The Miami, OK branch continues to receive regular ministry from the Center Place. Priesthood from nearly all of the Restoration Branches in the Independence area provide both teaching and preaching ministry on a weekly basis.

The branch in Miami has one elder who travels from near Tulsa to Miami each Sunday and another elder in Joplin who is experiencing health issues restraining him from being regular at the services. The branch organized a 4-night series focusing on the Native Americans in the area in and around Miami.

Three elders from the Center Place traveled down to provide a Thursday thru Sunday series. We averaged 17-21 attendees. 4 non-members attended during the series. Ministry continues to be provided to the branch as well as contact with the visitors.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Kropp

Domestic Outreach

Region 6 (North Central)

The domestic outreach ministry in the Great Lakes area in 2025 was mainly centered in Michigan. No trips to Canada were scheduled this year. Ministry was provided in the St John's, Garden City, and Oakwood restoration branches as well as family visiting at several homes and resident care faculty ministry. My brother Elder Phil Mitchell and I provided teaching ministry at the Great Lakes area reunion enjoying the hospitality of the saints.

A spring trip over Easter in 2026 has been requested for Garden City branch.

This will be my last official trip to the Great Lakes area as my tenure on the CRE Domestic Outreach Committee comes to an end this spring. I will continue visiting ministry in the Michigan area, as well as other areas in the United States, as a traveling elder. This has been one of the most rewarding opportunities as there are so many wonderful saints across the states. My only regret is not having more time and resources for this large and diverse areas over the last 3 years. Many thanks for the hospitality of Tom and Janine Essenmacher and Jay and Kathy Havener for so many visits staying in

Domestic Missionary and Outreach Council, *Cont'd.*

By: Brian Mundy

their homes, providing meals, allowing me to use vehicles, and picking me up at airports. They enabled So much success I had with any of the Saints in Michigan.

Tom Mitchell

2025-2026 Report Region #7 Presented by Seventy Frank Dippel

Region #7 includes Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky. The only states that have organized branches or groups. Are New Jersey (Group), West Virginia (2 Branches), and Ohio (5 Branches).

The Domestic Outreach Council has been working on some possible ways to assist branches/groups in reaching out to saints and possible new members in their area. Two ministries have been selected as possible outreach tools, Witnessing weekends and Preaching series with visits. There were emails or letters sent to all the leaders of the branches and the group. The letters were to introduce the ministries to the groups, and offer assistance and personnel to conduct those ministries.

This region meets nearly every month in either Priesthood or all saints' business and study sessions. They begin February and will extend through November. Two months normally April and October there are weekend activities. Parkersburg in the spring host's a youth day on Saturday and visits and in the fall Morgantown host's a Hayride and cookout. The Sundays following are worship services, prayer and testimony and preaching at both branches.

We have hosted a joint Priesthood worship and discussion with the Michigan priesthood for the last several years.

Our reunion committee is working on this year's reunion August 1-7. 2026. The registration forms are online at limarestorationbranch.org/TempleGrove or contact Renee Webster 440- 622-5837. Registrar.

Region 9: Northeast

By: Brian Mundy

Once again, I was blessed to serve in the Northeast (Region 9), which consists primarily of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. A few years back God prompted me to talk to them about the financial law and shared the blessings of how if so, He would pour out His blessing upon them. Well at that time one of the congregations was struggling and literally dying. No one was paying tithing or filling out a statement. Over the next couple years there ended up being 8 out of approximately 20, God's blessings really started pouring out. They went from only one priesthood member that was so limited because of physical restrictions to another Elder and a Priest. And now those 2 are the Pastor and Assistant Pastor. He also inspired the other branch about 2 hours away to assist them which has been a huge blessing.

Domestic Missionary and Outreach Council, *Cont'd.*

By: Brian Mundy

They started having regional worship services and also reaching out to the Saints in New Hampshire, which also is growing spiritually too. The scattered Saints in Massachusetts have been visited but it is very difficult to get them together because of location. The reunion for this region will be July 11th to the 18th. If you are able to come, please do, because your presence will bring strength to so many. Please continue to pray for this region with the limited priesthood and members they do struggle but they press forward and by His grace He is developing a peculiar people. In April we have Elder Jason Anderson and his wife again going to Maine and will be assisting the new priesthood to have a preaching series where they are inviting all the community to attend.

I want to thank all the people both men and women, who have assisted in this region. If you would like to provide ministry either short term or long term, please let me know.

In closing, as inspired by the Spirit, I want to encourage each branch and region to set goals and make plans to reach those goals and also to review them and see if you are moving forward. Also, to focus on growing the church. For too long, we have just been sitting idly by, and our numbers have continued to decline. I hear so often that we have to just "wait on the Lord." Recently we had a young priest that preached on this topic and one of the things he shared was that of a waiter or waitress. When they wait on us, they don't just sit idle but serve. Brothers and sisters, it's time for us to reassess where we are and how to progress. The Domestic Outreach Council is here to help you however you would like. We are encouraging you to have preaching series and witnessing weekends to not only grow the church but to stir up that fire in everyone again for us all to realize it's all our responsibility to share the Gospel with people and invite them into the Kingdom, and frankly, not to offend anyone but if we are not going to do that then it's time to gather to the Center Place and build up His City even Zion to be an ensign, a light unto the world.

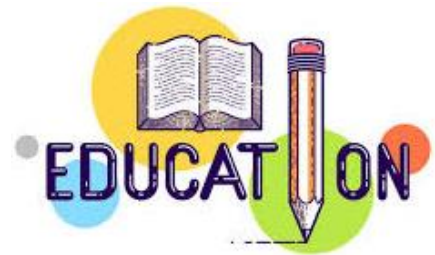
May God bless you as we press forward in His name.

Education Council

By: Vim Horn, Council Chair

To the Conference,

This year the work of the Education Council could best be described as “fits and starts.” As a result, our progress has been modest. We have added a limited number of resource materials and links to the CRE website; however, much remains to be done before it can function as the effective clearinghouse of educational resources for restoration members and priesthood that we envision.



The Council’s goal and objectives for 2026 remain the same as 2025:

CRE Education Council Goal:

To support the development and implementation of a doctrinally sound restoration member and priesthood education program.

CRE Education Council Objectives:

1. To identify, develop, and link to, doctrinally sound educational materials and resources for restored gospel members and priesthood.
2. To make available, through the CRE website, doctrinally sound educational materials and resources for restored gospel members and priesthood.
3. To organize the available educational materials and resources on the CRE website in a user-friendly manner.
4. To market the availability of the educational materials and resources on the CRE website.
5. To recruit additional support with the identifying and developing of doctrinally sound educational materials and resources.

We invite those who have an interest in contributing to the work of the Council to contact us at priesthoodeducation@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Vim Horn

Council Chair

Freedom Stewardship Ministries (FSM)

By: Bob Dickson, Freedom Stewardship Ministries (FSM) Executive Director

As Freedom Stewardship Ministries labors in its seventh year, we can testify that the Lord has used the program to bless many of His saints. We believe that this next year will be something of a rebirth for the ministry. We are working diligently to redouble our efforts toward encouraging our families to observe the laws of stewardship that the Lord has blessed His people with.



To date the membership of the Restoration has recognized the blessings being provided by this ministry. They had donated over \$300,000 of their tithes to this cause. The money has been used to assist 33 families in conquering the high interest debt that has been accumulated. Families have been strengthened financial and spiritually as they recognize the blessings that come from observing good stewardship. Both the donors and the recipients have found that His promises in Malachi chapter three are true! His rich blessings have been demonstrated.

In 2026 the Board and Affiliate Council are turning even greater efforts in the direction of teaching the habits of family budgeting and observation of the command to control spending on “wants” so as to reduce our reliance on the world and its ways. We want to not only refinance family debts at zero interest but help those families see the need to keep out of debt. May God bless us in these efforts.

Note: The Board of Freedom Stewardship Ministries wants to take this opportunity to recognize the invaluable contribution made over the years by our brother Bishop Joe Burkart. We will miss his ministry.

For assistance, contact Bob Dickson at (816) 274-1340 {call or text} or Email: bobdickson3123@yahoo.com

Your FSM Board for 2025-2026 are: Elder Bob Dickson Executive Director
Elder Brian Mundy Assistant Executive Director
Elder Eldon Anderson Education Coordinator
Julie C. Betler Account Manager
Janet E. Dickson Administrative Assistant

Publication Council

By: Jason Hamilton

Greetings to all who read this report in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Publication Council of the Conference of Restoration Elders is responsible for proclaiming the gospel and works of Jesus Christ through the quarterly publication of



Tidings of Zion. This

magazine shares missionary efforts both domestic and abroad, church history, news from the Center Place, upcoming events, and testimonies to encourage and edify the body of Christ.

The council currently consists of Jacob Roberts, April Smith, Jason Hamilton, Rebecca Griffin, Jackie Frinthal, Sandra Moser, Patty Stephenson, and Benji Pedersen, who serves as liaison from the CRE Coordinating Council. We meet both in person and via Zoom to accommodate members who reside outside the Independence area. We are deeply grateful to the many contributors beyond the council who submit articles, design cover artwork, and offer helpful feedback as each issue is prepared.

This year has been one of growth and learning, as several council members have stepped into new roles in support of this ministry. We appreciate your patience as we navigate adjustments and continue finding our footing in this kingdom endeavor. One unexpected challenge was the forced retirement, due to health concerns, of our primary contact at the printing company. Our prayers are with this individual for strength and recovery. As a result, the fall issue experienced some delay while we worked through this transition.

We continually welcome article submissions for Tidings of Zion, and we especially treasure testimonies from the Saints in other parts of the Lord's vineyard. Submissions may be emailed to centerplacetidingsofzion@gmail.com or mailed to 2425 S Chrysler Ave, Independence, MO 64052.

Also, we are sincerely thankful for the donations that help sustain this publication. If you are able to contribute \$15 to assist with printing and mailing costs, it would be greatly appreciated. Contributions may be mailed to the address above or given online at www.eldersconference.org. Please note "Tidings" in the memo line.

It is our continual prayer that Tidings of Zion is a blessing to all who read it, and that the Lord is pleased with our efforts to publish His glad tidings!

Women's Council

By: Monica Rush

The RWC is looking forward to another year serving the women of the restoration. We would like to let the ladies know that we are willing to visit, give retreats, or anything else we can to give our support and encouragement women, near and far.

Our 2026 theme follows closely to the CRE theme and is taken from Ephesians 5:14 - Wherefore he saith Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. The winter theme is: Awake Thou that Sleepest; the spring theme is: Arise From the Dead; the fall theme is: Christ Shall Give Thee Light.

We are excited for our events. Our Winter Gathering was at Oak Grove Rest. Branch on January 31st where around 70 ladies joined us for an informative class, taught by Sherrie Smith on the subject of encouraging us to awake to remembrance of the Book of Mormon; a fun game called Fast Friends, that

Women's Council, Cont'd

By: Monica Rush

the women really enjoyed; and delicious food to top off a wonderful morning. The Spring Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026 located at the Downey Carriage House where we will have a class, activities, and food. This fall will see us at the Odessa Hills Campgrounds, for our annual fall retreat, on Saturday thru Sunday, September 12th - 13th, 2026. We have some great ideas, so please try to join us for the weekend!

Know ladies, that we love you and you are all in our prayers.

RWC

Youth Council

By: Sam Jordison

Over the past year, the Youth Council has focused on fostering spiritual growth, learning, and meaningful connection for high school students and older youth. We have hosted monthly scripture studies featuring a variety of speakers who have led discussions on key elements of salvation. These gatherings have encouraged deeper engagement with scripture, open dialogue, and a growing sense of community among our youth.

In addition to local efforts, the Youth Council supported and sent five individuals to Kenya to participate in a youth retreat this past April, serving both high school and college-aged participants. As a council, one of our primary goals is to open doors for missionary opportunities for any young person who is interested. This retreat was a meaningful experience for all involved, and we are currently planning another retreat in Kenya with a focused study of the Book of Mormon, designed specifically for college-aged youth.

We have also been joined via Zoom by brothers in Kenya during our meetings. The purpose of this collaboration has been to share how we plan events and to strengthen our ties as church members across the globe. In July, the Youth Council organized a Zoom worship service with participants from the Philippines, Kenya, Rwanda, Canada, and across the United States.

Looking ahead to the coming year, our goals include expanding opportunities for young missionaries, developing a Sunday School curriculum for youth who worship via Zoom, and hosting more standalone events while continuing to grow our monthly scripture studies.

African Restoration Ministries (ARM)

By: Shaun Turner

Nigeria:

There are a lot of things happening in Nigeria: Last August, Seventy Richard Neill and Elder Bill Barrett went to Lagos Nigeria to stay with Elder Dayo Samuel and his wife Favour. They had a 4 day National Conference at Atan in Ogun State Nigeria. It was attended by approx. 100 saints from 4 branches including Abuja, Port Harcourt, Alagbado, and Mosalashi (Lagos). It was held at a new location called the Church of Jesus Christ African Zion Ministry Inc. Restoration Legacy Camp. This was built on land that was donated by one of the church members.

African Restoration Ministries (ARM), Cont'd

By: Shaun Turner



Saints from several branches standing on the 2nd level of the future health center-Nigeria conference Lagos, August 2025

The church has purchased another parcel across the street and 2 lots down and is developing it to be a motorpark (motel) for multiple families to stay during conferences. It is currently completed to the point of needing a roof, water and electricity.

There are about 600 church members in Nigeria at this time and many baptisms are taking place. The work is expanding rapidly. A womens and youth retreat are planned for this coming August 2026.

Rwanda

In May, Chris travelled to Rwanda to meet with the priesthood there. With most churches closed and registration requirements very difficult to meet, the church is unable to meet or conduct services. The purpose of our meeting was in response to the leading of The Spirit to show us ways that the priesthood can continue to practice the ordinances and sacraments of Christs Church . We spent 2 days together praying and studying ways to accomplish this call. An extensive list of activities and avenues of service were given to provide ministry to the saints and be “engaged in a good cause”. At the conclusion of these meetings , the men there were excited to move forward and committed to meeting every 90 days to report progress and continue developing new avenues of service and

African Restoration Ministries (ARM), Cont'd

By: Shaun Turner

ministry. Many testimonies are coming forth from their commitment and from the response of the saints, many of whom are very new to the Gospel.

The translation of the Book of Mormon was finished in 2022 into their language of Kinyrawandan. In June of 2025, the priesthood completed the translation of the Doctrine and Covenants. As a result, we were able to print more copies of the Book of Mormon and also copies of the Doctrine and Covenants. In August, Chris and Barb Capps travelled to Kigali, Rwanda with 84 copies of the Doctrine and Covenants and 34 copies of the Book of Mormon which had been translated. The timing coincided with the 90 days time of the priesthood coming together for progress reports, so Chris was able to meet with them and hear the testimonies and trials, as well as blessings from Gods moving among them. Barb was able to meet with the priesthood briefly and share with them about the classes that would be shared in Kenya the following week at the women's retreat. Chris and Barb also shared with the saints on their weekly phone worship which reaches more than 200 saints each Sunday. They also provided hospital ministry at the government hospital in Kigali and visited in the homes of saints.

At the end of this week, Chris and Barb travelled to Kisumu, Kenya for the women's retreat. 14 women from Rwanda were able to travel to Kenya for the retreat. It was amazing to watch as these ladies were able to worship in freedom for the first time in 17 months. Excellent classes were given by Sisters Beth Spencer, Becky Stayton and Barb Capps. Thank you to all of you who helped these ladies to be able to travel and participate in this retreat, it was a blessing to all!

Kenya/Uganda

November 3, 2025, Shaun travelled to Kenya and met up with Eric Odida to bring ministry to the Saints. The first couple of days we brought ministry to the branches in the Nairobi area. As usual, the Saints and the Priesthood were welcoming and eager to worship and hear the lessons that the Lord placed upon our hearts.

We then travelled by night bus to the Mombasa area where we met up with the Saints in Ramisi and Kanana. There were several baptisms and we had many opportunities to share our testimonies and hear the testimonies of the Saints as well. We were also invited to one of the members graduation, which we attended. The brothers and sisters made us feel like family and are so excited about the fullness of the Gospel.

Our next stop was Uganda and Aaron had us on a full itinerary. We spent most of our time in Bulambuli and finished up in Bumageny. The mission in Bulambuli started with one member last year. The mission has grown and their numbers exceeds 16 Baptized members with many having a desire to learn more about Christ's Church. Fortunately, the dear sister that was first to be baptized into Christ's Church, her husband invited his Pastor from a local Church. They spent the day with us and when I had a chance, I asked the Pastor and his Priesthood if anything they heard was disturbing or confusing. Their response was that what they heard was the word of God. Praise the Lord.

There are so many details that I am not capable to write down within this report. However, I want to make sure that I convey the urgency to support this work as much as we can. The area in Mombasa is bursting right now and the need for financial, as well as ministerial support is much needed. In regards to Uganda, they are growing too fast and have had to slow down so that the Saints and their families are given the time to receive instruction and ministry, so that they are not left behind. We do not have enough laborers in the vineyard and there are only a few missionaries that travel there a week or two a year.

African Restoration Ministries (ARM), Cont'd

By: Shaun Turner

I do want to send out a plea for those that have a heart for Missionary work to reach out to me or anyone on the ARM board and discuss how you could get involved. If you cannot travel, there are other ways you can assist; both financial and through the gifts and talents of the Saints are always a benefit to our Brothers and Sisters in Africa.

From Aaron (Uganda)

- There are 180 members all together who comprises of baptised not baptised, children and adults.
- Baptised and confirmed=103
- Not baptised=12
- Children=65.
- Priesthoods=6
- Melchizedek=3
- Aaronic=3.

Bulambuli is now a fully established branch though it's still just renting it's place for worship which we pray that we can secure it's own as renting sometimes has conditions which may not be favorable for the church.

We have had many activities as a church in Uganda and sometimes we are joined by brothers from Kenya and US to help in the Lord's ministry like retreats and missionary work which has helped in the growth of the church and we think more efforts are needed in such activities like youth, women and Priesthood literacy about the church, the church comprises of many youths who are the future church therefore plans to make them know Christ and His church should be prioritised not only in Uganda but the entire world.

Yes more missions are being identified and more branches will be established if we keep everything in prayer and join efforts.

It's our prayer and request that the church of Christ in around the world look into and consider the longterm and short-term proposals for the church growth.

1. Youth literacy, Priesthood literacy women literacy through either retreats or any other means but as Uganda we proposed that we have these activities in Uganda so that everyone is catered for as communication becomes easy.

Finally brothers and sisters let us keep praying for one another because no one can stand on there own but need support from one another.

Eric Odida stated he would have something to me by Monday. I am hoping sooner.

Mildred Smith Mission Health Center Report – Awasi, Kenya

By: Doug Smith

Matthew 25:40–41 “Or when saw we the sick or in prison, and came unto the? And then the King shall answer, and say to them, Verily, I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it done unto me.”



The ministry of the kingdom through the Mildred Smith Mission Health Center has truly been blessed this year. We now have over 1000 people on our patient panel that we are continuing to serve throughout the year. These range from infants to the elderly, with infectious diseases like malaria and parasites, as well as chronic diseases, such as heart, disease, diabetes, and cancer. We have found ourselves being somewhat of a referral center, with patients coming from all over Kenya to be treated. In our

prayers with the staff each morning, we pray that we will be led by the spirit of God to be a blessing, both physically, and spiritually to those that we would treat that day, and also be able to be witnesses for the Lord and the kingdom as we show his love to each patient. The facility is state of the art, and way above what most of the patients would otherwise be able to afford. Because of the blessings of the Lord, we are able to offer glaucoma screening to our patients over 50 years old, ECG heart tracing, point of care, ultrasound using a handheld ultrasound device, recommended age-appropriate Cancer Screening, including for cervical cancer with the HPV machine that tests for the virus which causes cervical cancer. We have also recently been able to enhance our care of patients who are at risk for

Mildred Smith Mission Health Center Report – Awasi, Kenya, *Cont'd.*

By: Doug Smith

cervical cancer with colposcopy, thermal ablation, and LEEP procedure equipment. The clinical laboratory was established and has been able to continue to meet the criteria for a class E lab, the highest rating of laboratory services. This allows our patients to have their laboratory work and be treated on



the same day. Our laboratory services are offered at just a few percentage points above cost, making them much more affordable, as well as more reliable, than the surrounding facilities. We also are able to provide our patients with medication at just above our cost, which allows them to afford the medication's. They need as well. This is particularly important in chronic diseases, such as diabetes and heart, disease and hypertension. In the past treatment has

suffered because patients are not able to continue to take their medication regularly.

We do not only treat illness, but also have wellness as our major focus. The word of wisdom (section 86 of the Doctrine and Covenants) is posted on the wall of the exam room and each patient is taught about the Lord's plan for our temporal salvation, given a schedule for appropriate illness screening tests, and given an individualized plan for their particular situation. And because we know that, while medicines can offer a cure, it is only the Lord who heals, every visit ends with a prayer for the patient, if they desire one. So far, no one has refused, and we have prayed with every patient, which is a constant blessing!



The staff the Lord has provided continue to do amazing work. We have doctors Presler and Sarafina Odida working with Doctor Smith in patient care, Zablon Otipah overseeing the laboratory, Judi Smith and Larry Otieno working on management and financials, and Brendah Juma working as our Medical Records Officer. Avalyn Oyatta works as security and janitorial services.

Mildred Smith Mission Health Center Report – Awasi, Kenya, *Cont'd.*

By: Doug Smith

The Lord has also provided, through the generous donations of the Saints, a new water tower and borehole, which will allow us to have clean, pure water not only in the clinic, but also for the Attenzion Technical College, the church sponsored school that is right next door to the clinic and offers vocational training to those who have graduated High School. It is 10 meters high and hold 50,000 liters of water, which will be more than enough for both facilities.

So, what is next? In the coming year, we are hoping to be able to



expand our services to



include inpatient wards, surgical and obstetrical care, as well as emergency services. We are planning to build a new building, which will house the clinic, the inpatient wards, and the emergency facility in

one building. This will be a major undertaking, but as we have found so often, we trust that the Lord's supply will be sufficient for the work which he has for us to do in the kingdom.

We asked for your prayers and your physical support for this important work, which has been literally saving lives of people both in and out of the church in Kenya and stands as a monument to God's love for those who He created. This Facebook post by a recent patient, unsolicited, may describe this ministry the best.

“Been at my lowest of health condition ever for now almost one year. I have visited hospitals and have been seen by doctors. I must confess that this doctor I started seeing on Saturday has amazed me, spent time with me, started on comprehensive investigations and reignited my fighting spirit, which was



Dramatic Clinic picture, before the storm.

waning. He has convinced me that a doctor can go deep in investigations and apply highly skilled knowledge without the facility. He is working and focusing on squeezing every penny out of you and your family. Mission it is.”

What a joy it would be if you would join with us and be blessed, even as you offer your blessing to those who need it in this world.

Greater European Ministries (GEM)

By: Brian K. Mundy

It was a blessed year and yet a trying one for the Saints in Europe. It was unfortunate that we were unable to visit the Saints in England. Priest Rob Willoughby and his wife Rachel continue to serve the Lord and His people. Please keep them in your prayers not only are they much alone, but there is also a lot of things taking place in their country that is trying. Also, Rob's father had a stroke, and they are struggling in their business. This summer Glen Crowther and his family will be going there to provide some much-needed ministry.



We had 2 trips to Germany. The first was last May and the second in October. Here again it's a real struggle for the Saints there because we do



not have any priesthood members in that country. Consequently, then they only get to have sacrament once or twice a year.



However, each time brings such a wonderful blessing to them. One member says every time we come, then when we leave, she feels warm and



strong to be able to press forward. On the May trip a special blessing came to the youth in Kenya because of a 7-year-old boy, Richard, in Germany. He had heard me share about the

children lack many things.

Well Richard went and got many

of his toys. Some even his favorites plus a lot of clothes. In fact, an entire 50-pound suitcase full of gifts for us to take and share with the youth in Kenya. This brought such a blessing to so many including Richard. Unfortunately, a mother of one of the



Greater European Ministries (GEM), *Cont'd.*

By: Brian K. Mundy



church members passed away; however, this opened the door to share with many other church members who lost their jobs and are really struggling but the Saints in America took a special offering and were able to help them. When I

spoke with the family and shared with them that we are a family and when someone needs help we all join together and help each other. They were so touched that it brought them to tears and they said this is what I want to be part of!



Another highlight came in January 2026 when a couple we had been ministering to for years decided to get married and they asked me to officiate their ceremony in Mexico at his family location. I was so blessed as I am sure they were too.

Many people said in tears they felt a good feeling in their heart during the service. After the wedding was over, I visited with many and gave away several Spanish Book of Mormons as well as other information about the church. We never know who we will end up sharing with or where it will lead us regardless of whatever country we are serving in.



This next year we have Elders Jeff Rew and John L. Mundy going to Germany on April 6th - 19th. Then we will send another team in the fall.



Brothers and sisters, please keep your family in Europe in your prayers. Pray God protects them and fills all the voids in their lives. Pray He provides more members and priesthood for them.

Southeast Asia and Australia Ministries (SEAAM)

By: Seventy Richard Neill

Southeast Asia Australia Mission (SEAAM) covers the world's most populous region of the world. Mainly, we have given ministry in Australia, Nepal, and the Philippines. Through the people's work, we are exploring the possibility of expanding the work into Thailand. We have a brother who has moved there from the Philippines and has begun a worship group.

Australia

The oldest nation on this list, in regard to the Church, is Australia. There are a number of stalwarts that go back generations in the church. They produce a newsletter to keep the saints informed. The Ministry has been brought to this beautiful land by a number of missionaries. We also have three members in Australia who were baptized in the Philippines. One is a nurse, and we anticipate more to follow.

The SEAAM Board has talked about planning for a future trip. If you have an opportunity to travel to Australia, please let us know, and we can provide information to help you contact some of the members. The country is almost the size of the continental United States, and the saints are scattered, which limits the number you can hope to see on one trip to Australia. But they are indeed a delightful people.

Nepal

The work in Nepal has been going on for a few decades. This is the land of Mount Everest and many tall mountains. Hiking and traveling in Nepal is for the hearty. High Priest Francis Harper was instrumental in opening and sustaining this mission. We have been able to have many mission trips over the years. The last team was Brian Herren, and Andrew Smith over a year ago. Please let us know if you plan to visit this magnificent land in the near future.

Philippines

Although this land was not reached by the Restoration Branches until 2007, it has since seen tremendous growth. In the last eighteen months, there have been four missionary trips.

The ministries have been to the entire church. The last three trips we have had have been priesthood gatherings and older youth/young adult gatherings. They have been well attended and enjoyed by all. In both of these gatherings, there were meals offered, which allowed for informal fellowship.

At the last young adult gathering, the classes focused on worship. The classes included teaching and discussing prayer, sharing testimony, and study.

On the last trip, more than 150 ordinances were performed.

*Twenty baptisms, *twenty five confirmations, *well over fifty administrations, *five baby blessings, *one Sacrament service, *one wedding, and *seven ordinations. In addition, one new Branch was organized and set in order.

Southeast Asia and Australia Ministries (SEAAM), Cont'd

By: Seventy Richard Neill

In January 2025, through SEAAM, including Kevin Humphrey and Mark Smith, a house was built for an older, impoverished couple. By God's grace, the family was informed that the landlord planned to evict them to make way for the construction of a nicer home. On the day they were being evicted, they moved into their new home. We were thrilled to walk into that home on this trip.

The Lord knew this couple's need before they did. To His Glory, He had it completely under His control, before the need was known. The family is a dedicated family, and they and the people were moved to tears of joy and praise.

In the intervening year, from the house being built until this trip, an earthquake struck the Maragusan Branch area last fall. We inspected the church building and the homes of the Saints that were damaged. We estimated the cost at about \$5100.

We need to send the funds to purchase materials for the repairs. They will do the work. They have proven they have the necessary skills. Many of them worked on building the new house. If you feel you can help with this great need, please let the SEAAM Board know. You can contact the CRE or the people of the SEAAM Board that are mentioned in this article. We have raised \$ 2,560 to date.

Our work on this trip was centered on the island of Mindanao. This is the largest island in the country. We traveled around and visited many branches. We were blessed to visit and minister to the people in all those branches. There were many occasions to preach and share testimony. The people shared their testimonies, and we prayed together.

I have visited the Philippines eighteen times. I have seen the people grow spiritually. I first came here in 2008, and I have seen young children grow up, complete college, and marry. I have seen them begin their careers and serve in the priesthood and in music. There are many great things yet to come. The Lord has promised this in His Scriptures.

Each time a missionary team goes on a mission, the team discusses new ideas and ways of doing things. It has been inspiring to be among these brothers and sisters and watch them blossom. And they have the gift of music that is something to behold.

They have a place in Zion, the City of God.

Thailand

Thailand is in Southeast Asia. The country has a population of over 79 million people.

The missionary work here was not begun by missionaries from the USA directly. In the last decade, there was a gentleman named Leonard who was baptized in the Pacific Ocean by Elder Tom Mitchell in the Philippines. Soon after he was baptized, he moved his young family to Thailand for reasons of employment.

Southeast Asia and Australia Ministries (SEAAM), Cont'd

By: Seventy Richard Neill

Leonard was on fire. His desire led him to share his conversion to Jesus Christ with the people. So this he did, and people began to believe and meet together for study and worship.

The gospel is moving in ways that it is hard to keep up with. We have provided funds to support this work, and Brother Jun from the Philippines has contributed funds to help them secure a meeting place.

Leonard is not in the priesthood at this time. We will send a team up there to assess needs and pray that the Lord directs the work. If he tells us to proceed, we will organize and set up this mission at that time. According to the law, that will necessarily include a call to the Priesthood or a priesthood member moving into Thailand.

We will need to pray about this and do as the Lord commands.

(Matthew 9:42-44)

42 But when he saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

43 Then said He {Jesus} unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

44 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into the harvest.