

OMAHA NEBRASKA STAKE
NEWSLETTER
January 2026

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"The Journey Home" by Gabriel Heaton

january

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 Fast Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 SYLC 3pm	19 MLK Jr. Youth Service Op, see page 4	20	21	22	23	24 Youth Activity, see page 7
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

WARD CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 2025

25 Jan. Winter Quarters YSA
 22 Feb. Columbus Branch
 22 Mar. Blair
 26 Apr. Fremont
 24 May Bennington
 23 Aug Eagle Run
 13 Sept Elkhorn
 25 Oct Old Mill
 22 Nov Pacific Ridges

NEW YEAR! NEW COME, FOLLOW ME

This year we will be studying the Old Testament for Come, Follow Me. You can find lessons in the gospel library app or [here](#).



Weekly Temple Preparation Classes for those ages 16 - 24 Sundays, Stake Center @ 4pm

COME HOME TO THE LORD

CHOOSE HIM JOIN HIM REJOICE WITH HIM

We invite you to "Come Home to the Lord" in 2026. To do this we want to continue the pattern of **choosing Him** daily, **joining Him** in His work of salvation and exaltation, and **rejoicing with Him** as we experience the blessings of the gospel. In 2026, we emphasize the important role that your **home** and the **temple** play in that process.

YOUR HOME

"Only the home can compare with the temple in sacredness." (Bible Dictionary). Like the temple, your home can become a refuge from the world. This occurs when we "yield to the enticings of the Holy Spirit" (Mosiah 3:19) and choose to have daily experiences with the Lord, personally and as a family. We invite you to commit to join the Lord in His work in your home by:

- Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ - diligently learn, live, and teach the gospel in your home.
- Caring for Those in Need - minister to others in their homes and allow others to do the same for you.
- Invite All to Receive the Gospel - with the Lord's Spirit in your home, it becomes a place where you can share the gospel with those not currently living with its blessings.

You can come home to the Lord as you invite His Spirit into your home daily and allow His work to occur there. (see Revelation 3:20, D&C 88:119, Hymn #1020 Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling).

THE TEMPLE

"The temple is literally a house of the Lord." (Bible Dictionary). The Lord invites us to come home to Him in the temple as we strive to live His gospel and unite families for eternity. President Russell M. Nelson taught us that nothing will bless us more than the time we spend in the temple. We invite all youth and adult members to choose to work with their local church leaders to obtain a temple recommend, and then to worship there, joining the Lord in His work as often as your circumstances permit. (see Psalm 27:4)

PROMISED BLESSINGS

As representatives of Jesus Christ, we promise that coming home to the Lord in our homes and in the temple will be a tremendous blessing. The Holy Spirit will teach each of us how to apply this vision to our individual lives, and as we act on those promptings, we will experience greater peace and happiness. We will have increased opportunities to rejoice with the Lord and with each other. (see Luke 15:6)

YOUTH SERVICE ACTIVITY

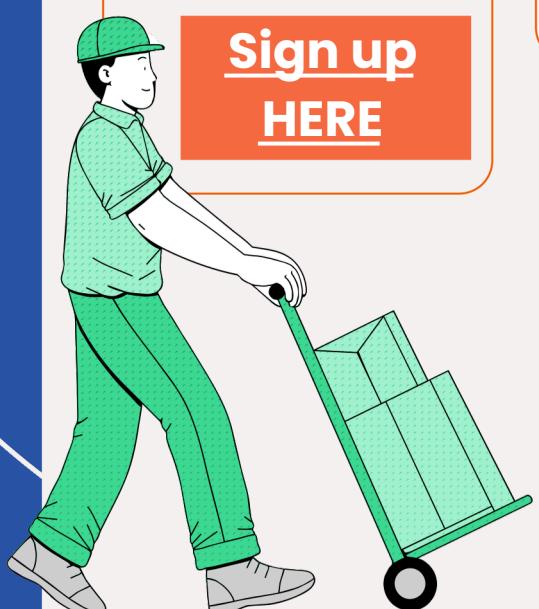


Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

We Need Help With

- Moving filing cabinets at the LFS Warehouse
- Please bring a dolly, if you have one!

[Sign up
HERE](#)



**Monday
January 19, 2026**

10 AM – 12 PM

7929 W. Center Rd.

Refreshments will be provided

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need 30-40 youth!



JUSTSERVE

For more information
& details, please visit:
[Just Serve Activity](#)

Preparing for the Temple



We invite you to join us for a special class designed to help the Youth of the Omaha Stake better understand and prepare for the blessings of the temple, and the making and keeping of sacred covenants. This class is for youth 16-24 who are preparing to receive their own endowment, to serve a full-time mission or to be sealed or any member seeking a deeper understanding of temple worship. This class will run for the first 7 weeks in 2026 in place of the Stake Mission Preparation Class.

Class Details

- **Who's Invited:** All interested members ages 16-24
- **Dates:** 4, 11, 18, 25 January and 1, 8, 15 February
- **Time:** 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- **Location:** Omaha Stake Center Primary Room
14680 California St., Omaha, NE 68154

Topics Covered Include:

- The purpose of temples and their importance in God's plan
- The blessings of temple work
- Temple covenants and ordinances
- Understanding temple symbolism
- Preparing for the temple-recommend interview
- Practical aspects of attending the temple
- Enjoying the blessings of temple attendance

YOUTH CALENDAR

January 18th at 3pm

- SYLC meeting
 - Omaha Stake Center

January 24th 5-7 pm

SEE FLYER
BELOW

- All youth activity
- Glow in the dark party with a special message from the stake presidency
- Omaha Stake Center

February 1st 4-5:30pm

- Young Women Leadership Council
- For all ward/branch YW presidencies and secretaries
- Omaha Stake Center - Relief Society room

Sundays

- Temple Preparation Classes, youth and young adults 16-24, Omaha Stake Center, 4pm

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Youth conference** for those turning 14+
 - June 3 - 6
- **YW camp**
 - June 22-25 at Bear Creek
 - **(Please note the date correction for YW camp)**
- **YM/YW Combined High Adventure**
 - July 13 - 18



OMAHA STAKE ACTIVITY
ALL YOUTH

GLOW IN THE DARK PARTY

SATURDAY
JANUARY 24TH
5:00-7:00PM

BINGO
VOLLEYBALL
FACE PAINTING
PHOTO BOOTH
SERVICE
FOOD & TREATS !!

FOR ALL YOUTH TURNING 12+

OMAHA STAKE CENTER
14680 CALIFORNIA ST

NEW YEAR, NEW YOUTH THEME!

“Walk With Me” Moses 6:34



WORLDWIDE BROADCAST FOR YOUTH

Watching this event will be coordinated with ward leaders. The broadcast is available January 18, 2026. For more information, click [here](#).

Key Dates for Young Men's Camps

January 2-3

- Young Men's Winter Campout

Ages 12-18

- Camp Fontenelle
- Anticipated Cost \$30 per attendee

May 8-9

- Aaronic Priesthood Commemoration
- Ages 12-18 with Fathers
- Place TBD

June 3-6

- Youth Conference
- Ages 14-18
- Seeking approval for Nauvoo

June 18-20

Young Men's Camp

- Deacons and Teaches below Junior in High School
- Place TBD
- Anticipated Cost \$250 per attendee

July 13-18

- Combined YM/YW High Adventure
- Juniors and Seniors (including recent graduates)
- Black Hills, SD
- 1 Youth and their parent needed from each ward for planning committee
- 1 Adult from each ward as Chaperone
- Activities: Hiking, Fishing, Exploring, Water activity, Firesides
- Anticipated Cost \$250 per attendee
- Prep Activities to be recommended by the Stake Youth Leaders

October 9-10

- Young Men's Fall Campout
- Ages 12-18
- Place TBD

We would like a point of contact for camps in each ward. (doesn't need to be a separate calling) We hope to have this group identified by the end of 2025.

Serving The Youth



**We invite you to take this survey
about sharing your skills and
experiences to bless and inspire our
Omaha Nebraska Stake Youth**



[Use this link](#)

Sharing Our Talents

“Walk with Me” Moses 6:34

STAKE HISTORY

Check out what is new in our stake history! Go to <https://unithistory.churchofjesuschrist.org/> and log-in with your Church account credentials. Choose to view the Omaha Nebraska Stake history and begin reading about the stake Primary goals showcase, the Day of the Dead stake activity, or about the Light the World Giving Machines.

1 November 2025
Day of the Dead Family History Fair

5 December 2025
The Impact of the Light the World Giving Machines

Rachel Marie Bonar

Stake

6 September 2025
Leadership Training with Elder Gong

Chelsea Bryan

Stake

1 December 2025
December 2025 Newsletter Omaha NE Stake

1 November 2025
November 2025 Newsletter for Omaha NE Stake



teaching MOMENTS

Whether you are called to teach at church, teaching at home, assigned to speak in church, or sharing with others, becoming an effective Gospel teacher enriches and elevates those around you. The purpose of "all gospel learning and teaching is to deepen our conversion and help us become more like Jesus Christ. For this reason, when we study the gospel, we're not just looking for new information; we want to become a 'new creature' (2 Corinthians 5:17). This means relying on Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ to help us change our hearts, our views, our actions, and our very natures." {Come Follow Me 2026}

As you prepare for your teaching opportunities this year, consider efforts to help you better know and better love those you teach. The late Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, described by many as a powerful Gospel teacher, once said: "You can start by loving God. Then you can ask Him to help you extend your love for Him to others who need your love."

Relatedly, Elder Holland said "the first great truth of all eternity is that God loves us with all of His heart, might, mind, and strength. That love is the foundation stone of eternity, and it should be the foundation stone of our daily life. Indeed it is only with that reassurance burning in our soul that we can have the confidence to keep trying to improve, keep seeking forgiveness for our sins, and keep extending that grace to our neighbor." Perhaps your love of God and those you teach will also encourage them to keep trying, to keep going, and to "deepen [their] conversion" to Him in everlasting ways.

Finally, Elder Holland taught "If [students] are unresponsive, maybe you can't teach them yet, but you can love them. And if you love them today, maybe you can teach them tomorrow. . . . I think that is totally within our power. None of that is dependent upon them. We can love them from start to finish, and miracles will happen."

Paul Davis
Stake Sunday School President



The Winter Quarters temple was dedicated on April 22, 2001. This coming April, we will be commemorating the 25th anniversary of this dedication. With this in mind, I invite you to consider these two questions:

- What does the Winter Quarters Temple mean to you?
- What can you do between now and April to make the temple more meaningful in your life?

This might look different for different people, and we are not limited to a singular means of creating meaning. Ideas include:

- Teaching your children or other family members about the temple,
- Making the temple a regular destination,
- Obtaining, renewing, or using your temple recommend, and
- Engaging in family history work and identifying the names of deceased relatives for whom you can perform ordinances in the holy temple.

In the Book of Mosiah, we read about the teaching of Alma to "as many as would hear his word" after he fled from the servants of King Noah.

In Mosiah 18:30, we read:

"And now it came to pass that all this was done in Mormon, yea, by the waters of Mormon, in the forest that was near the waters of Mormon; yea, the place of Mormon, the waters of Mormon, the forest of Mormon, how beautiful are they to the eyes of them who there came to the knowledge of their Redeemer; yea, and how blessed are they, for they shall sing to his praise forever."

In the Winter Quarters Temple we have the opportunity to receive covenants through sacred ordinances. Temple ordinances allow others to receive baptism – just like those at the Waters of Mormon – to become clean, and to likewise receive additional covenants.

I invite you to prayerfully consider what you might do to make the Winter Quarters Temple a meaningful place, just like the Waters of Mormon were to the people of Alma. Perhaps the Holy Ghost has already whispered to you what you should do. As we follow promptings and seek to more faithfully worship in the temple, we may feel to rejoice and say:

"The temple of Winter Quarters, how beautiful it is to the eyes of us who there came to the knowledge of our Redeemer!"

Creighton Omer

Winter Quarters Temple Construction and Dedication: Were you there?
 We are seeking stories from those who were involved in the temple construction and its dedication in 2001. Please send your stories to Creighton Omer or Rachel Bonar (email addresses are in Tools) by March 15. Accompanying photos are welcome.



FAMILY SEARCH CENTER HOURS

Open every Tuesday noon-2pm and 7pm-9pm,
or by special appointment

(402) 252-5130
Stake Center

Get free help from a Familysearch consultant,
or bring a friend!

TEMPLE RECOMMEND STAKE INTERVIEWS

Matthew Nielsen

719-464-8456

Schedules for members from:
Bennington, Elkhorn, Fremont, Blair, Columbus

Tanner Bosworth

208-221-4650

Schedules for members from:
*Old Mill, Eagle Run, Winter Quarters YSA, and
Pacific Ridges*

**Coming
Soon!**

ROOTSTECH 2026

Did you know? Last year RootsTech had millions of participants from over 230 countries! Come see – and feel – the excitement of discovery and connection. We invite individuals and families to plan now to participate in RootsTech 2026 which will be held **March 5-7**. Online registration is **free**. Visit <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>. There is something for everyone!



The work of the Lord continues to roll forth in the Omaha Stake. 64 Friends have joined the church in 2025.

**WE WELCOME THESE NEW FRIENDS
WHO RECENTLY JOINED THE CHURCH
THROUGH BAPTISM:**

Kayden - Winter Quarters YSA Ward
Jason - Winter Quarters YSA Ward
Elvin - Winter Quarters YSA Ward
Javier - Winter Quarters YSA Ward
Sean - Winter Quarters YSA Ward
Ifeanyi - Winter Quarters YSA Ward
Hortencia - Fremont Ward
Kelsey - Pacific Ridges Ward
James - Blair Ward
Raelynn - Elkhorn
Cesar - Fremont
Brianna - Fremont
Allison - Fremont

CALLED TO SERVE

Behold, I am a disciple of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. I have been called of Him to declare His word among His people, that they might have everlasting life.

3 Nephi 5:13

RECENTLY CALLED!

- **E. Perkes (Elkhorn) Brazil Belo Horizonte Mission (Portuguese) 12 Jan 26**
- **M. Huefner (Pac Ridges) Guatemala City Central Mission (Spanish) 5 Jan 26**

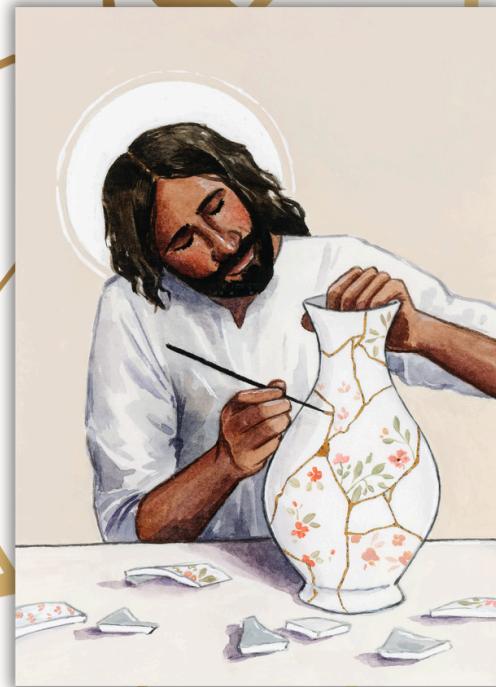
FULL-TIME MISSIONARIES CURRENTLY SERVING

- Sister E. Lilly (Pac Ridges) Michigan Lansing
- Elder C. Eckstein (Winter Qtrs YSA) Ogden Utah
- Sister O. Pincock (Pac Ridges) Ohio Cincinnati
- Elder D. Franzluebbers (Blair) California Newport
- Elder J. Roach, (Old Mill) Alpine German Speaking
- Elder B. Codr (Bennington) California Arcadia
- Elder S. Whiteley, (Pac Ridges) Ecuador Guayaquil
- Elder B. Urbano, (Elkhorn) Brazil Sao Paulo Mission
- Elder C. Dosset, (Fremont) Brazil Santos
- Elder L. Glasgow (Bennington) Korea Seoul
- Sister M. McAllister, (Pac Ridges) Utah Saratoga Mission
- Elder E. Haughwout (Pac Ridges) Anaheim CA
- Elder L. Dorrius (Pac Ridges) São Paulo Brazil South
- Elder P. Omer, (Old Mill) Mexico, Torreon
- Elder L. Bartlett, (Elkhorn) Korea, Seoul
- Sister E. Call (Pac Ridges) Denver, CO
- Elder D. Clark (Bennington) Pretoria S Africa
- Elder S. Jensen (Blair) Portland, Oregon
- Elder T. Hyde (Columbus) Argentina Buenos Aires
- Elder and Sister Carr (Columbus) Vanuatu, Port Vila
- Sister S. Jacobson (Elkhorn) Modesto, CA
- Elder L. Bailey (Elkhorn) Arcadia, CA
- Sister E. Miller (Elkhorn) Riverside, CA
- Elder C. Eichman (Old Mill) Alpine German
- Elder J. Haughwout (Pac Ridges) Teresina, Brazil
- Elder M. Blad (Pac Ridges) Kennewick, WA
- Sister E. Kennington (Elkhorn) Brazil Campinas
- Elder J. North (Old Mill) St George, UT
- Elder K. McLeod (Winter Qtrs YSA) Layton, UT
- Elder M. Marten (Fremont) Omaha, NE

SERVICE MISSIONARIES

Additionally, we have 13 Service Missionaries called from the Omaha Stake serving from 4 to 24 hours per week in the temple, the bishop's storehouse, and family services. If you would like to serve as a service missionary, please contact your bishop or branch president for available opportunities.

Addiction Recovery Program



"HE HEALS WHAT IS BROKEN" BY PAIGE PAYNE

The Omaha Nebraska Stake offers an addiction recovery program for anyone struggling with addiction. Friends and family members of those struggling with addiction are also invited to attend. Attendees can meet in person or join virtually through Zoom. The Zoom link can be found by visiting the addiction recovery website, [HERE](#).

Tuesday Evenings

7:00 - 8:00 PM

Stake Center

Attendees can enter through the stake doors on the east side of the building.



Service with Heartland Hope this December brings the Christmas Spirit to many especially those who are serving. We hope to have more Heartland Hope Projects on Just Serve!

Check out more opportunities to serve in the community by visiting <https://www.justserve.org/>

JANUARY

SETTING GOALS & MAKING A PLAN



Why Plan for Emergencies?

The start of a new year is a great time to set goals—including emergency preparedness. Natural disasters, power outages, and personal crises can happen at any time. Having a solid family emergency plan helps you react calmly and confidently.

Three Steps to Create a Family Emergency Plan

1. Identify Key Information

2. Write down critical details, including:

- Emergency Contacts: Family members, close friends, and an out-of-state contact in case local phone lines fail.
- Meeting Places: One near home (for fires) and one outside your neighborhood (for large-scale emergencies).
- Evacuation & Shelter-in-Place Plan: Know where to go if you must leave home or if staying inside is safer.
- Communication Plan: If separated, how will you reconnect? Text messages often work when calls fail. Essential Supplies Checklist: Ensure your family has food, water, first aid, medications, and important documents ready.

3. Involve Your Family

- A plan is only useful if everyone knows it. Discuss different emergency scenarios with your household.
- Practice emergency drills so everyone knows what to do. Make it fun—time how quickly family members can grab their 72-hour kits and shoes!

Preparedness Tip of the Month: Write down your family emergency plan and review it together. Keep a copy on the fridge and in your emergency kits.

Family Challenge: Complete a Family Emergency Plan Worksheet (free templates available at Ready.gov or the Red Cross).

