

OMAHA NEBRASKA STAKE NEWSLETTER

October 2026

- 2 STAKE CALENDAR
- 3 2026 STAKE VISION
- 4 BLOOD DRIVE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST
- 5 YOUTH CALENDAR
- 6 YOUTH: YM OCTOBER CAMPOUT
- 7 YOUTH: YW YCL MEETING FLYER
- 8 YOUTH: OTHER
- 9 STAKE CHOIR PRACTICE INVITE
- 10 SINGLE ADULTS (35+) CALENDAR
- 11 SINGLE ADULT FLYERS
- 12 SINGLE ADULT FLYERS, CONT.
- 13 ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAM INFORMATION
- 14 YSA INSTITUTE
- 15 MISSIONARY MESSAGE
- 16 CALLED TO SERVE
- 17 JUST SERVE
- 18 JUST SERVE, CONT.
- 19 TEMPLE & FAMILY HISTORY, STAKE INTERVIEW INFO
- 20 TEMPLE & FAMILY HISTORY MESSAGE



“Let us allow the Savior to ease our burdens—allow Him to help remove the rocks of addiction and the weight of our sorrows. Let Him contend with those who would contend with us. Let Him cleanse us from our sins again and again and, yes, even again. Let Him move the mountains before us and change the course of the powerful rivers in our lives that carry us away from Him.”

By Brother David J. Wunderli
Jesus Christ Is Not Our Burden; He Is Our Relief
April Conference 2026

OCTOBER

Thursday, Oct 1

- Red Cross Blood Drive at Stake Center (12:00 PM – 6:00 PM) **see page 4**

Saturday, Oct 3

- General Conference (11:00 AM & 3:00 PM Sessions)

Sunday, Oct 4

- General Conference (11:00 AM & 3:00 PM Sessions)

Friday, Oct 9 – Saturday, Oct 10

- Fall YM Campout (Elkhorn Crossing), **see page 6**

Saturday, Oct 10

- Multi-Stake Youth Dance at Omaha Stake Center (6:00 PM – 9:00 PM), **see page 5**

Sunday, Oct 11

- Fast Sunday

Sunday, Oct 11

- "Why I Believe" Fireside at Trail Center (6:00 PM)

Sunday, Oct 25

- Old Mill Ward Conference

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, Nov 1

- Worldwide Devotional for Young Adults (7:00 PM)

Saturday, Nov 7

- Stake Conference – Leadership Session (3:00 PM)
- Stake Conference – Adult Session (6:00 PM)

Sunday, Nov 8

- Stake Conference – General Session (10:00 AM)
- "Why I Believe" Fireside at Trail Center (6:00 PM)

Sunday, Nov 15

- Omaha Stake Youth Devotional at Elkhorn Building (6:00 PM)

Sunday, Nov 22

- Pacific Ridges Ward Conference

Note: Giving Machines will not be in Omaha this year.

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)



Celebrate
MORE LIFE. GIVE BLOOD.



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive
**Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter Day Saints**
Cultural Hall

Thursday, October 1, 2026
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: OMAHALDS to schedule an appointment.

Questions...

Contact Ben Bartlett at benjamin.bartlett29@gmail.com



1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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YOUTH CALENDAR

	Date	Event	Who's Invited	Time	Location
OCT.	9-10 Oct	Fall YM Campout	YM	See Flyer	See Flyer
	10 Oct	Multi-Stake Dance	Youth turning 14+	6-9pm	Omaha Stake Center
	11 Oct	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	18 Oct	SYLC	Stake youth on this committee	3:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	18 Oct	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	25 Oct	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
NOV.	8 Nov	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	15 Nov	SYLC	Stake youth on this committee	3:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	15 Nov	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	15 Nov	Omaha Stake Youth Music Devotional	All Youth	6:00 PM	Maple Street Building
	22 Nov	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	29 Nov	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
DEC.	13 Dec	Mission Prep	High School YM/YW	4:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
	20 Dec	SYLC	Stake youth on this committee	3:00 PM	Omaha Stake Center
2027					
	2 Jan	Multi-Stake Youth Dance	Youth turning 14+	6-9 PM	Omaha Stake Center





STAKE YOUNG MEN'S **FALL** CAMP-OUT

ELKHORN CROSSING RECREATION AREA

25198 Bennington Rd, Valley, NE 68064



WHEN:



Begins: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 6:00 PM



Ends: SATURDAY OCTOBER 10th, 10:00 AM



WHAT TO BRING (GEAR):



Sleeping Bag



Ground Pad (Optional)



Seasonal Clothing & Toiletries



Tents (Appropriate number for your group)



Folding Camp Chair



IMPORTANT CONTACT: Contact Lance Bailey
if stake tents are needed at 402.578.5645



FOOD DETAILS:



Friday Night: Each young man brings a
FOIL DINNER (to cook in camp)



Saturday Morning: BREAKFAST PROVIDED
BY STAKE (Pancakes, Sausage, & Fruit)



NOTE ON ALLERGIES: Bring alternative
breakfast if you have allergies or concerns.



COST: THE STAKE WILL COVER ALL COSTS



YCL ACTIVITY

FOR GIRLS GOING INTO THEIR JUNIOR AND
SENIOR YEAR IN 2027



NOVEMBER 14, 2026

6:30PM

ELKHORN BUILDING

DESSERT | GAMES | PLANNING

WE WANT YOUR
IDEAS FOR
CAMP!





PAL LEAGUE BASKETBALL

Sign up for one of our Stake Basketball teams! We have teams for boys and girls, middle school (5th-8th grades). Teams compete in the Omaha CYO league with other parochial, Christian, and Catholic organizations. 8-12 games depending on the grade with a postseason tournament. This is our 5th year playing and it is a great way to participate with other like-minded youth in Omaha and compete together. The Junior Cougars are a lot of fun. Reach out to omahaldsxc@gmail.com with any questions.



**FAITH
SPORTS
AND
ACTION**

REAL CONVERSATIONS.
BRIGHTER PATHS.

*Same
Dreams.
Bigger
Perspective.*

A CONVERSATION WITH

AMBER & AMARI WHITING

D1 COACH. D1 ATHLETE.
A REAL PERSPECTIVE ON
THE RECRUITING JOURNEY.

Hear both sides of the recruiting process. Ask your questions. Get real advice.



Our Mission
We want to help Omaha youth athletes in their pursuit and understanding of college athletics.

Our Purpose
Connecting Omaha youth with college athletes, coaches, staff, and alumni to help them better understand the process and opportunity of collegiate athletics.



REAL STORIES
from college athletes and coaches



YOUR QUESTIONS
about recruiting, college life, scholarships, and more



REAL PERSPECTIVE
to help you make informed decisions



BRIGHTER FUTURES
on and off the field



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18



6:30 PM
(1 HOUR)



OMAHA STAKE CENTER
14680 California Street
Omaha, NE 68154

ALL JV AND VARSITY ATHLETES WELCOME!

LEARN • CONNECT • BE INSPIRED • KNOW YOUR OPTIONS

YOUTH
ATHLETES...
CHECK THIS
OUT!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

STAKE CHOIR PRACTICE

SUNDAY, OCT 25TH AND NOV 1ST
5-6 PM
OMAHA STAKE CENTER

WE WILL PERFORM TWO SONGS FOR
STAKE CONFERENCE ON NOV 8TH

Omaha Regional LDS Single Adults 36&up

FALL ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Please RSVP!

Save your spot for every activity, potluck, and fireside below.

September 28th

- Hike with weather alternate to be an indoor scavenger hunt

October 10th

- Temple

October 11th

- Break the Fast potluck and Fireside

October 12th

- FHE

October 24th

- Blank Slate Blitz

October 26th

- FHE

November 8th

- Break the Fast Potluck and Fireside

November 14th

- Temple

November 21st

- Thanksgiving Dinner

November 23rd

- FHE

December 6th

- Break the Fast potluck and Fireside

December 12th

- Temple

December 14th

- FHE

December 19th

- Ginger Bread Houses and Cookie Exchange or Plastic wrap Balls

Please RSVP to Activities

**Visit the Omaha Regional LDS Single Adult Group 36&up for
updates and
details:**

**[https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1E1KxbkV3c/?
mibextid=wwXlfr](https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1E1KxbkV3c/?mibextid=wwXlfr)**

Scavenger Hunt Hike

September 26, 2026

7:00 pM

Lake Zorinsky

meet first parking lot behind the swimming pool

if rains meet at 11027 Martha Street

Go Hiking:

Explore local trails and enjoy the beauty of nature.

Scavenger Hunt

Do you think you can find them?

GET SPOOKY!

Single Adults 36+

Save the date details to come!

OCTOBER
24, 2026

Halloween
Party

Break the Fast Potluck & Fireside

October 11, 2026 Papillion Stake Hold Fireside

November 8, 2026 Council Bluff stake Fireside

December 6, 2026 Omaha Stake Fireside

6:00 PM
11027 MARTHA STREET
OMAHA NE

BEING A POTLUCK ITEM TO SHARE

JESUS CHRIST

Christmas
PARTY

DECEMBER | 19 | 6:00 PM

To BE DETERMINED on location

COME CELEBRATE CHRIST WITH 36+ SINGLES

SEE YOU THERE!

Missy 402-303-2541

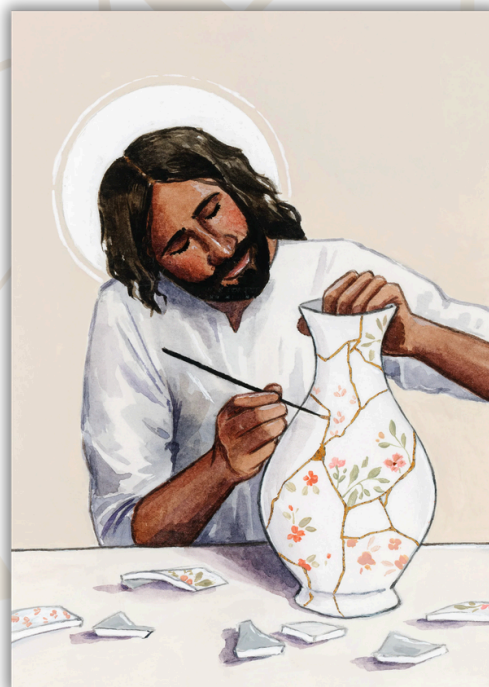
Single Adult
Temple &
Lunch Following

Sep 12 Lunch following
Oct 10 11:00 session
Nov 14 at Jason Deli
Dec 12 7010 Dodge St
1-1:30pm



RSVP:
402-303-2541

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.

Attention YSAs:

Whether you are
going to school,
working,
returning from missions,
waiting for missions,
or just hanging out while you are in transition

INSTITUTE

is for **you**.

Click [HERE](#) to view institute class options and other details.



Missionary Message

By Gus Checketts

Number of full time
missionaries
surpasses 90,000

Friends in the Omaha Stake
who Recently Joined the
Church



Kyleigh - Elkhorn Ward

Lendell - Eagle Run Ward

CHURCH ANNOUNCES MILESTONE: 90,000 MISSIONARIES



LEVELS OF GLOBAL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT PARTICIPATION IN THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS CONTINUE TO DEEPEN AND GROW.

MISSIONARY GROWTH

- ▶ **November 2025:** First Presidency announces women age 18 can serve as missionaries.
- ▶ **September 2026:** **30,000 women** serving now make up one-third of all Church missionaries.
- ▶ Missionaries now serve in more than **500 missions worldwide**, sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ, serving in local communities, and inviting others to come unto Christ.

“MISSIONARY
WORK IS
SOARING TO
NEW HEIGHTS.”
—President Dallin H. Oaks

RIISING GENERATION PARTICIPATION



- ▶ Church data show that over the last decade, there has been an **increased level of Church participation** across children, youth and young adults.
- ▶ More than **1.09 million youth and young adults worldwide** are now enrolled in the Church's seminary and institute programs, the highest enrollment in the programs' history.
- ▶ Institutes of Religion have added more than **100,000 students in the past two years** and now **serve more than 450,000 young adults**.

CHURCH GROWTH & PARTICIPATION

- ▶ Nearly **900,000 people** have joined the Church during the past three years, bringing total Church membership to **17,887,212 in 2025**.
- ▶ During the first six months of 2026, convert baptisms increased:
 - **20%+** across Europe, Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America
 - **17%** in North America



THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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ONS CALLED TO SERVE

RECENTLY CALLED

- Ethan Lilly (Pac Ridges) Colorado Denver East, Nov 4
- Westlee Bird (Fremont) France Paris South, Feb 17
- Warren Coles (Bennington) Texas Houston South



FULL-TIME MISSIONARIES CURRENTLY SERVING

- Elder K. McLeod (Winter Qtrs YSA) Layton, UT
- Elder M. Blad (Pac Ridges) Washington Kennewick
- Elder M. Marten (Fremont) Nebraska Omaha
- Sister E. Call (Pac Ridges) Colorado Denver North
- Elder L. Bartlett, (Elkhorn) Korea Seoul
- Elder P. Omer, (Old Mill) México Torreón
- Elder L. Dorius (Pac Ridges) Brazil São Paulo South
- Elder E. Haughawout (Pac Ridges) California Anaheim
- Elder S. Whiteley, (Pac Ridges) Ecuador Guayaquil West
- Elder B. Urbano, (Elkhorn) Brazil São Paulo East
- Elder C. Dossett, (Fremont) Brazil Santos
- Sister M. McAllister, (Pac Ridges) Utah Saratoga
- Elder L. Glasgow (Bennington) Korea Seoul
- Elder & Sister Jenkins (Bennington) Nebraska Omaha
- Elder B. Codr (Bennington) California Arcadia
- Sister O. Pincock (Pac Ridges) Ohio Cincinnati
- Elder J. Roach (Old Mill) Alpine German Speaking
- Elder D. Franzluebbbers (Blair) California Newport Beach
- Sister E. Lilly (Pac Ridges), Michigan Lansing
- Elder C. Eckstein (Winter Qtrs YSA) Utah Ogden
- Elder A. Allen (Elkhorn) Uruguay Montevideo East
- Sister M. Huefner (Pac Ridges) Guatemala City Central
- Sister E. Perkes (Elkhorn) Brazil Belo Horizonte
- Roy & Thelma King (Eagle Run) Utah Salt Lake City Headquarters Mission
- Sister M. Beck (Old Mill) Japan Tokyo North
- Sister F. Munoz (Columbus) Guatemala Retalhuleu
- Sister S. Peterson (Pac Ridges) New Jersey Morristown
- Sister K. Dossett (Fremont) San Juan Puerto Rico
- Elder N. Davis (Pac Ridges) Nebraska Omaha
- Elder D. McCune (Elkhorn) Uruguay Montevideo West
- Sister M. Spangler (Blair) Lima Limatambo Peru
- Elder E. Himes (Blair) Arizona Tucson
- Elder D. Bishop (Columbus) Brazil São Paulo North
- Elder K. Foy (Blair) Bolivia Santa Cruz North
- Sister K. Ferguson (Old Mill) Florida Tampa
- Sister V. Marten (Fremont) Nebraska Omaha
- Elder McAllister (Pacific Ridges) Brazil Santa Maria
- Sister Thompson (YSA) California Arcadia

SENIOR SERVICE MISSIONARIES

Additionally, we have 13 Senior 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.

Omaha Stake had the privilege of participating in the 9.11 National Day of Service by packing and serving food and personal items to our friends in the Macy and Walt Hill reservations in northern Nebraska.

Here's what some of our volunteers had to say:



The Checketts

Nancy, John and I helped with the food distribution in Macy and Walt Hill. The organizers did a great job of setting things up, providing some wonderful fresh foods and Staples to those in need in those indigenous communities. It was great to associate with such kind and generous people the recipients were so thrilled with the food provided. There is not real Grocery Store in either of these two communities. Tribal members must travel dozens of miles to the closest grocery store. It's great to be part of something good.

We participated in the Walthill/Macy mobile food pantry for the second consecutive year. Working side by side with some wonderful Catholic members from the Omaha community, we unloaded pallets of food gathered by Catholic Charities and sorted them into boxes. We then loaded the boxes of food into cars of people from the Walthill and Macy area. In addition to providing food we were also able to help distribute diapers and milk to families with infants and young children. Providing this kind of service to our brothers and sisters is always a blessing. There is a definite need for food and supplies in this community so our time was well spent. It was a very hot day but we worked cheerfully building relationships with members of our stake and also from the great people with Catholic Charities.



The Bartletts



The Clements

We were honored to work with Catholic Charities helping with food delivery in Macy and Walthill. The activity was well organized and the work went smoothly. It was a blessing to provide so many people with food.



Missionaries are great examples of service! These missionaries were honored in the Habitat for Humanity Newsletter this month. Do these missionaries look familiar?

Learn more about these special missionaries by clicking on this link:

[Mormon Missionaries Volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of Omaha - Habitat for Humanity](#)



Our annual Stuff A Truck event is coming up October 8–11 at all 12 Omaha/Papillion/Gretna Hy-Vee stores, and we're getting closer to filling our shifts! We're so thankful for everyone who has already signed up, but we still need 100 volunteers to help make this important food drive possible!

GREATEST NEED: Our biggest need right now is **SATURDAY EVENING!** We need volunteers at all locations for this shift, so if you're available Saturday evening, we would especially love to have you join us!

SATURDAY UPDATE: Our Saturday morning shift is almost completely full! If Saturday morning works best for you, we still have openings at 78th & Cass and 108th & Fort.

LOCATION NEEDS: Our greatest-need locations overall are 78th & Cass and 90th & Center, but there are still open shifts at several of our other Hy-Vee locations throughout the event.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: We're asking volunteers, donors, and supporters to consider serving just one 2.5-hour shift. Kids of all ages can serve alongside a parent or grandparent, making Stuff A Truck a fun and meaningful way for families, friends, coworkers, and small groups to serve together.

WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING: When customers enter, you will be at a station inside with a \$5 or \$10 sign and say, "Buy a \$5 or \$10 flyer to feed a family for the holidays!" They will then take the flyer to the check-out counter, and the donation will be applied to their total bill.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT: Stuff A Truck is one of our most important food drives of the year, helping us provide turkeys and all the fixings for families this Thanksgiving & Christmas.

We still need 100 Hope Heroes, will you be one of them?

Thank you for continuing to stand alongside Heartland Hope Mission and the families we serve!

[VOLUNTEER](#)

Or you can go to 'Just Serve' for the same link.



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*

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Temple and Family History Onboarding is underway. Please contact Creighton Omer (info in Tools) if you would like to be added to the distribution list!

October is Family History Month!

By Creighton Omer

Grab your October calendar! Before it fills up, identify some family time for temple and family history activities. There are numerous ideas within the resources below. While some activities may be planned and are best suited for a dedicated block of time, there are small and simple things we can do in small windows of time during our days. A few ideas follow:

- Share personal or family stories while out and about (school drop offs, music lessons, sports practices, etc.).
- Call Grandpa or Grandma at lunch time or after school or work.
- Text a cousin or relative who you have not seen recently.
- Play family history “Guess Who?” around the dinner table (“Twenty Questions” on relatives or ancestors).
- Replace some scrolling or social media time with “Name Review” or “Verify Places” (see [Get Involved](#)).
-

Remember also that you are creating history each day with your family. Spend meaningful time together and make memories. In October (and April), General Conference is a wonderful opportunity for family time and traditions!

Resources

- FamilySearch [Family History Activities](#) – In-home and online activities for the whole family!
- FamilySearch: [31 Ways to Celebrate Family History Month](#) – Pick one, or pick one each day!
- National Genealogical Society: [Celebrate Family History Month](#) – Download and use free guides to 1) Scan and Label Family Photos and Documents, 2) Record and Preserve Family Memories, and 3) Write and Share Family Stories

Here are the full URLs for the four links included in the text above, in case they are needed:

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/getinvolved/>

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/discovery/>

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/celebrate-family-history-month>

<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/family-history-month/>