

The Gospel News

Repent, Renew, Rededicate *April 2026 General Church Conference*

By Sister Sabrina Fisher

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*Happy
Mother's
Day!*



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From April 17-19, the General Church gathered together centered on a clear and focused theme: repent, renew, rededicate. Throughout the conference, the Spirit moved in a unified message that God is calling His people to change, grow and prepare. Alma chapter 5 served as a scriptural anchor throughout the conference.

At the heart of this theme is a foundational truth, The Church of Jesus Christ has been restored. Because of that restoration, the plan of salvation continues to move forward. The purpose of the Church remains unchanged, to bring salvation through Christ to all people. As given in the Great Commission, we are called to go into all nations, teaching, baptizing, and sharing the Gospel.

It was during the Saturday morning meeting that the actions taken by the Church were highlighted, along with new opportunities to share the Gospel. As the Church stood firm in its beliefs, the Lord opened new doors for this work.

Like unto the journey in 1 Nephi, the Church has begun to move forward in faith and explore new paths. Our journey is one of outreach to the House of Joseph. Among the actions taken were the placement of trailers on the San Carlos and Navajo Native American Reservations (Tse Bonito), as well as tent revival meetings held in Tse Bonito. There has also been increased outreach to Indigenous peoples throughout North, Central, and South America. New locations have been established in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and South Dakota, along with new opportunities in Canada, Mexico, and Guatemala. New opportunities were opened to expand outreach and build relationships with the leadership of Indigenous peoples. These efforts have not been without challenges, but they have brought valuable lessons and continued growth as the Church moves forward in the work the Lord has set before it.

The conference reminded us that our mission is not just a responsibility, it is a promise. God keeps His promises. He has not forgotten His covenant to Abraham, nor His commitment to gather His people. As doors continue to open, whether in Southern Mexico, Utah, or beyond, we are witnessing that God is actively working. He is inspiring the minds of His people and preparing hearts to receive Him.

(Continued on page 4)



MEMORIALS

STUDY HELPS IN GOD'S WORD

Exodus 31:16-17 The Sabbath

A weekly, perpetual covenant memorializing God's creation and rest.



EXODUS 12:14

The Passover

An annual feast established to remember God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

Joshua 4:1-9
Stones of the Jordan
12 stones placed at Gilgal to commemorate the miraculous crossing of the Jordan River, serving as a sign for future generations.



Alma 46:11-20
The Title of Liberty
Captain Moroni ripped his garment to create a flag, symbolizing their covenant to remember God, religion, peace, freedom, wives and children.



1 Nephi 16:29
The Liahona
The compass functioned as a continuous, physical memorial that worked according to faith, directing Lehi's family and reminding them of God's guidance.



Luke 22:19
The Lord's Supper
Established by Jesus to memorialize his sacrificial death and the new covenant.

1 Nephi 9
The Plates of Nephi
These records acted as a "book of remembrance" for generations to remember the commandments and the Lord's dealings with their ancestors.



1 Samuel 7:12
The Ebenezer
A stone erected by Samuel to mark God's help in defeating the Philistines.



Blast From The Past *By Sister Kellie Speck*

Sixty-seven years ago this month, on Saturday, May 2, 1959, the ministry of the Detroit and Windsor Branches met at the spacious west side Detroit Branch #2 on South Electric Street to organize as a district of the General Church. Answering the call for change — as first set by the organization of the California District in June 1954 — Brothers Gorie Ciaravino, Querino Bologna, and Nicholas Pietrangelo became the Michigan-Canadian District's first president and first and second counselors.

Region Choir ▶



Purpose Statement

- To fulfill the plan of God by bringing salvation through Christ to all people.

Mission Statement

- The Church of Jesus Christ will teach the Gospel to all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things commanded by Jesus Christ, while working to draw Israel to Christ through efforts focused on the indigenous peoples of North, Central, and South America



Vision Statement

- Living and worshipping in unity and righteousness will result in the fullness of God's Spirit and power among the Saints, culminating in continuous growth of the Church and fulfillment of Christ's promises concerning His Kingdom on Earth.



Sin Less vs. Sinless

By Brother Doug Obradovich

“Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her committeth adultery with her already in his heart.” - Matthew 5:28

very act,” so they must have believed themselves 100 percent correct. Maybe being right doesn’t necessarily grant absolute rightness.

Jesus first reaffirmed the law, “Thou shalt not commit adultery.” He probably paused just long enough to give them a sense of false security before He added, “But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.” The Law of Moses addresses activity, while the message of Christ encompasses motive. This amendment to the original commandment had the same effect as His words had to the scribes and Pharisees, “He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone.” He understood the ease in which they claimed righteous indignation by casting figurative stones at sinners.

While Jesus never condoned the woman’s sin, He provided a more loving, generous means for all to view the guilty. If “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God,” (Romans 3:23) who is qualified or truly empowered to condemn? This means we have adulterers, liars, and thieves amongst us. Some of these have fully experienced the sin, while others have only desired to participate. Said differently, some have been overcome by the specific act itself while others have

wanted to follow through. Which should be condemned and feel the wrath of our judgment? Love and forgiveness are always appropriate.

When someone falls short, guilt and embarrassment overtake them, leaving them feeling separated, even unworthy to associate with other church attendees, who they view as better than themselves. When these feelings of inadequacy are confirmed by harsh judgment, the sinner is pushed away even further. Unless someone embraces generous forgiveness and welcomes them home, they can be lost forever. The salvation of the saints is undeserved and only comes through the grace of Jesus Christ, not deservedly through righteous behavior.

If all have “sinned and come short,” then all should experience His forgiveness. This is an explanation for our behavior, not an excuse to misbehave. The apostle Paul answered this when he said, “God forbid!” to the question, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?” We may not be sinless, but we can definitely sin less. This is manifested through love.

So, if you feel a need to take a side, side with Jesus Christ and be “taken in the very act” of gentle, loving forgiveness for all people.

Too often we deal in absolutes, yet few subjects satisfy this standard. Is this based upon our need to take sides? A quick scroll through Facebook uncovers politics, gender, ethnicity, sports teams and other factions utilized to divide people as each claims to be right. It would be wonderfully refreshing to read, “I voted for this one, but the other one is doing such a great job, I must have been wrong.” Prideful one-sidedness is such a tool of separation.

I’m certain the scribes and Pharisees felt empowered by their one-sided self-righteousness when they dragged the adulterous woman to Jesus Christ to attain His deciding, final vote of judgment, as she had been “taken in the very act.” The law supported their stoning of a woman to death when caught “in the

Recent directives from the Lord were also brought before the congregation, reminding the Church that God continues to guide His people. In Experience #310, accepted in October 2022, the Church was directed to focus on the House of Joseph:

“Hear the Father’s voice this morning: Know now that I direct, and I inspire the minds of men, and that I have given these words before; they apply now! They direct you to this part of my vineyard. For though My Jesus, My Son, My Savior that I have given for the entire creation, though He is for all, yet know, yet know that in My plan, it begins with the House of Joseph. And as I have made covenant with those righteous throughout the ages of time, My covenants will be fulfilled! And so now it is in My plan that the knowledge of My Son Jesus Christ begins with the House of Joseph! And this will unlock the latter-day blessings.”

This directive reinforces both the mission and the vision of the Church. While the Gospel is for all, God works according to His covenant and His timing. As these words remind us, He continues to direct and open the way forward. The responsibility then rests with us to listen and move forward in faith. It echoes the journeys of Nephi and Lehi, pressing forward in faith toward the promises of God.

Across the conference, testimonies of growth and new opportunities were shared. From small beginnings, like gatherings of 50 souls, to expanding missions and new contacts, the Lord is nourishing those who are searching. People are not just looking for words, they are seeking the Spirit. And this Church belongs to Him.

Our future hope and divine commission is centered on Zion. We are united in focus, seeking to align ourselves with the purposes of God as we move forward. In doing so, we are exploring all opportunities with the House of Joseph, as referenced in 2 Nephi 3:11:

“But a seer will I raise up out of the fruit of thy loins; and unto him will I give power to bring forth my word unto the seed of thy loins—and not to the bringing forth my word only, saith the Lord, but to the convincing them of my word, which shall have already gone forth among them.”

This scripture reinforces the unfolding purpose of God’s work, that His word will go forth and that hearts will be prepared to receive it. As a Church, we move forward in faith, seeking to participate in this divine commission and the gathering work God has set in motion. But this vision requires something of us. If our hearts are closed, locked by pride, fear, or distraction, how can we receive the blessings God desires to give? Again and again, the call returned for each of us to examine our hearts.

The proclamation was made that the Church is going to change—not in doctrine or belief, which will remain pure, true, and unadulterated—but in heart. There is a call for greater love, deeper forgiveness, stronger support for one another, and a renewed desire to be closer to the Lord. When we come together in prayer and unity, we move the arm of God.

The question, “Can you sing the song of redeeming love?” was asked as an invitation to examine the heart. When we sing, do we truly mean the words? Do they reflect our own experience? Have we come to know for ourselves the redeeming love of Christ? Have you experienced a mighty change of heart? Do you feel so now? These questions invite honest and personal reflection.

The brothers that spoke reminded us that repentance is not a one-time act but a continual turning toward God. It is choosing Him first in all things. It is important that we continue guarding our hearts, resisting the pull of the world, and striving to reflect the mind of Christ. We must compare ourselves not to others, but to Jesus Christ, the true standard.

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The Nature of a Mother's Heart

By Brother Anthony Scolaro

In setting down a few words about the nature of a mother's heart, I chose, rather than highlight a mother in the scriptures, to begin with something to which Alma assigns a feminine quality:

"For behold, justice exerciseth all his demands, and also mercy claimeth all which is her own; and thus, none but the truly penitent are saved." (Alma 42:24)

While it may not completely describe the heart of a mother, mercy covers a good part of it, as a mother will tend to show compassion or forgiveness when it is within her power to exact a more serious consequence. In doing so, she is exhibiting a very important quality of our heavenly Father.

We can learn a good deal about God's grace toward us through a mother's merciful demeanor toward her children. It is during the least mature period of their lives that a mother has the most influence over them, and the unconditional love she demonstrates can help them understand the loving, benevolent God we serve. This nurturing behavior can be applied to spiritual children as well: Paul, James, Peter, and Alma all prescribe a gentle approach, rather than a forceful one, in their writings (2 Corinthians 10:1, Galatians 5:22, 1 Thessalonians 2:7, 2 Timothy 2:24, Titus 3:2, James 3:17, 1 Peter 2:18, and Alma 7:23).

Though they may try her patience at times, a mother will demonstrate pity, forbearance, and grace in response to her children's behaviors. While they are young, a mother grounded in the Lord can steer her children toward Christ when their human tendencies lead them away, and teach them how repentance brings God's mercy and forgiveness.

As her children grow, a mother's understanding of the Lord's perfect love will guard her heart against enabling and indulging them when their choices aren't good. While our spiritual adversary might tempt a mother's heart beyond the point of mercy toward leniency and tolerance, and contemporary society will insist that the values of past generations no longer apply, a mother will love her children regardless of the choices they make, and pour her heart out to the Lord on behalf of her sons and daughters.

Like our Heavenly Father, a godly mother is keenly invested in her children's spiritual welfare from the very beginning. She will sacrifice whatever is necessary, and do everything within her power, to provide opportunities for her child to develop and grow to their God-given potential—not so much for temporal gain, but ultimately to glorify God.

As a mother watches her direct influence on her offspring wane as they grow into adulthood, her heart's cry for as long as she lives will be that they cultivate a relationship with the Lord, finding joy, like so many of the mothers that went before them, in seeing her children obtain salvation through Jesus Christ and becoming instruments in God's hands.

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The Strength of Many Mothers

By Sister Sydney Lovalvo

When I think of Mother's Day, I can't help but think about how God has richly blessed my life. My mother, Sister Darlene, has been a constant figure of steadfastness, love, and support thus far in my life. Before their passing, both of my grandmothers showed me true love that only a mother or grandmother could show and give towards their loved ones. I have also been fortunate to have so many aunts and other sisters throughout the Church who have shown me motherly love when I needed it most. When I think of these women, I think of unconditional love, a nurturing nature, selflessness, resilience, and empathy as key characteristics that they possess. I know that we all have special women in our lives and in the Church that the Lord blessed us with.

As I reflect on the roles all the wonderful mothers take on, I always circle back to the role of a prayer warrior.

Throughout my life, when I think back to times when I needed prayer, I realized how often it was the mothers and sisters throughout the Church who constantly prayed for me, checked in on me, and sent me cards. This is not a "dig" on our brothers or fathers, but just examples that there is something about a woman's nature that possesses the innate ability for them to be faithful and steadfast figures of support.

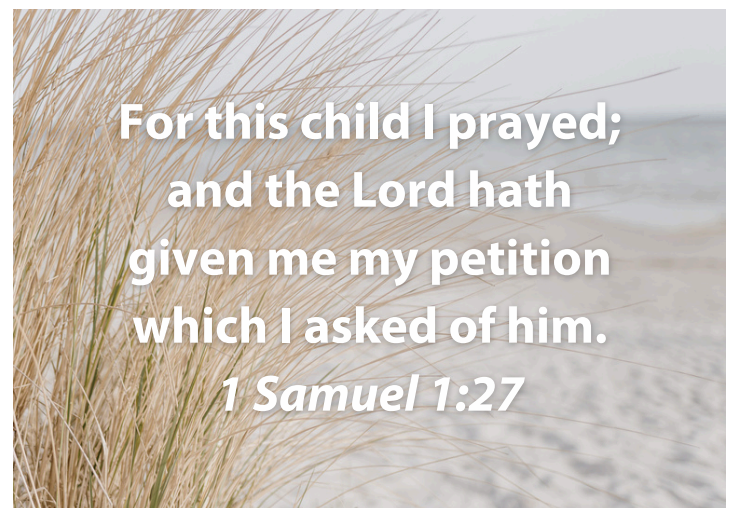
As probably mentioned elsewhere in this issue, Hannah comes to my mind. In the book of 1 Samuel, Hannah exemplifies a woman who has a persistent faith who prays honestly to the Lord. Her prayers are not sugar-coated, and they are honest and filled with emotion and even pain. But she is steadfast with her prayers and is never wavering in her faith, knowing that the Lord will take care of her.

Sometimes as young people, when reading the scripture, it can seem like it was written too long ago and does not apply to the situations that we face in life today. However, when thinking about our spiritual mothers, I find that it is easy to draw comparisons to today. Without even asking, every sister I encounter, some that I have known my whole life or some that I just met, shows me love and kindness when I am in their presence. I immediately feel warmth, love, and support from them. And if I asked for something,

whether it be prayer or advice, I know that they would take the time to help me in my time of need. There has never been a time in my life where I haven't been able to ask a sister to pray for me or offer advice and they say no. To me, that is love from scripture in today's world: love in action. This love is motherly, selfless, and reminds me of Sarah.

This Mother's Day can be sad for some, maybe your mothers or grandmothers passed away, or you didn't have a close relationship with your mother. And it is understandable; this will be my first Mother's Day without both of my grandmothers, and I do feel sadness. However, I encourage you to think about the natural and spiritual mothers that the Lord has blessed you with in your life. Sisters who are filled with the love of Christ and who want the very best for you. Who will pray for you without ceasing and who will be a constant pillar of strength, love, and support. So, while I may feel sadness, I also feel overwhelming gratitude for the mothers in my family, but also for all of the women in my life who have treated me like their own child.

These women exemplify the love of a mother that we read about in the scripture and that show again, love in action. The Lord has blessed all of us beyond measure, and this Mother's Day is a special reminder of those blessings and the unconditional love in our lives.



The Day I Asked *By Sister Marty Jumper*

Several years ago, one of our sisters from the PMA Area Ladies' Uplift Circle had a dream. In the dream, "along with many others, she was in a large room. There were many tables and people sat together. As sisters were recounting their testimonies, others were recording them." In 2008, the Area Circle began the process of collecting the testimonies of our sisters. This compilation of testimonies was entitled, "The Blessing of a Testimony." The booklet included eighty-two testimonies. The "Little Ladies" chose the title and did the artwork for the book. I have chosen several that reflect the Mother's Day theme. I hope you enjoy reading them as much as we enjoyed compiling them.



My name is **Sister Ella May Abbott**. I was attending another church before I came to The Church of Jesus Christ. One

night I had a dream that I was in that other church for the Sunday School service and it was Mother's Day. Before they closed the meeting, they were giving out flowers to each mother. At the time, I was a mother and when they came to me, the person delivering the flowers said, "I'm sorry we can't give you any flowers because you don't belong and are not a member." I said, "That's all right, when I become a member, it will be in The Church of Jesus Christ." That was the end of the dream, and I knew I was not to be going to that church.

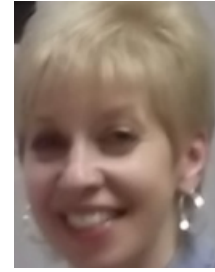
As time went on, I started to go to The Church of Jesus Christ in Roscoe and continued. On Sunday, March 30, 1958, I asked for my baptism. I was baptized in the Monongahela River by Brother L. O. Waltz and confirmed by Brother George Johnson. It was the most glorious and happy day of my life and I was really blessed. I thank God for calling me into His Gospel and His church. The Lord has blessed me all the days of my life and I know He will continue to take care of me. I want to live for Him until I take my last breath.



My name is **Sister Rosemarie Ali** from the Glassport Branch. I asked for my baptism on November 4, 1956, when I was 18 years

old. I was sitting in the Glassport Branch and Brother Donald Curry was preaching. As I was sitting and listening to the sermon, God's Spirit came over me and I felt a great pounding in my heart.

I had been asking my mother about our beliefs for quite some time. I was getting a lot of pressure from a very close friend trying to convince me that her religion was right and that I should change to that belief. When I felt the pounding in my heart, I knew what was right and that it was my calling. Brother Donald Curry baptized me. After my baptism, I felt a great relief and peace come over me. Sister Jonnetta Guba testified that she had a dream of my baptism. "Count Your Blessings" is my favorite hymn and Psalm 103 is my favorite scripture. What I love about The Church of Jesus Christ is that we follow God's teachings and being a part of this beautiful family of God. What I love best about Ladies' Circle is the fellowship of the sisters and the great work we do to help the Church in whatever way we can.

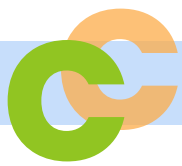


I am **Sister Donna Bogle** from the Aliquippa Branch. I was baptized on August 26, 1970, at a GMBA Campout in Canfield, Ohio.

We were watching a softball game between the Michigan-Ontario Area and the Pennsylvania Area when Harold Batalucco slid into second base and his collarbone broke. Immediately he was anointed on the field and the bone which was visibly broken went back into place. He asked for his baptism, and we headed to the lake, which was a short distance away.

This was the first miracle I ever witnessed and I was touched. We all gathered on the hillside and seven others asked for their baptisms. While we were singing, "I Surrender All," the Lord poured His Spirit on me. I was taken down to the lake shore and to my uncle, Brother Paul Palmieri. Being only 14 years old, Brother Paul looked to the top of the hill where my grandmother, Sister Sabina D'Antonio stood. She smiled and nodded, giving approval for my baptism. My grandfather, Brother Tony Palmieri, came to camp that evening and confirmed me. I believe it was the only camp he ever attended.

My favorite hymn is "Just for Me" and my favorite scripture is Alma 37:37. I love everything about the Church. I love being part of the Lord's church and His wonderful people. What I love about Ladies' Circle is the opportunity to meet and learn the scriptures with my sisters and friends.



God Helped Nephi and Will Help Us Too!

Dear Friends,

Many years ago my friend Sister Darlene Large from Pennsylvania was inspired to teach Bible School at our Church on the Six Nations Indian Reservation. It is a beautiful place, but in those days there were no places nearby to shop and buy supplies. We had to pray, figure out what we needed, and be sure to bring it with us.

She and I were both teachers and had been taught by great teachers in our Church. Now we wanted to make new friends and share what we knew. We printed up our lesson plans and prayed about what crafts to bring. I looked around my craft room and picked up a spool of blue thread, not knowing why, but just following the Spirit. We were on our way.

As the first days passed, Sister Darlene and I met Chief Richard Issac, who was also a member of our Church! Sister Darlene told me, "I'd love to make a special tie for him, and I have the beautiful blue fabric, but no thread." I was thrilled and pleased, because I'd brought the perfect thread that she needed, which I gave her!

Each day we taught lessons about our God and did a fun craft. But these kids quickly mastered each craft and with one day left I realized we were out of craft supplies and there was no place to buy anything! All I had left were small paintbrushes, big tongue depressors, and paint. What could I do? I remembered the story in The Book of Mormon when Nephi was hunting for his family and broke their only steel bow. His starving family needed food! (1 Nephi Chapter 16). His brothers were furious with him, but they prayed and Nephi made a new bow. Then they prayed where he should go and it was shown to him on the Liahona, a ball which gave them words and directions where to travel or hunt for food.

I thought, "God is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Mormon 9:9). So I quietly went in the other room, knelt and asked God what I could do for the children's craft the next day. I wondered how I could use those tongue depressors. I knew that Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest steamed wood to make beautiful boxes. Could I do this? I wondered. I put on a pan of water to steam, laid out the tongue depressors on top of a grater in the pan and

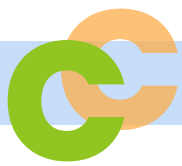
watched. Time passed, and they were more flexible! Now I needed God to inspire me how to bend them into bracelet shapes. I tried empty soup cans. Nope. They popped out. I went back into the other room and asked God for more ideas. Then I saw the old leather couch we had been sitting on. What if I wedged the bent tongue depressors into shape there and left them overnight to dry? It worked! When I woke in the morning we had nice wooden bracelets for our students to decorate. It was fun and again, everything worked out!

So I learned to lean on the Lord with every crazy challenge I came up against. I constantly ask God how to do things, or what words to use, where to go or what to do to help someone. Try it! Lean not on your own understanding but lean on the Lord. It works! Pray and ask God in the name of Jesus. He loves to bless His children and help us. Sometimes it is unbelievable how He finds solutions for us. We serve a living God!

With much love,
Your friend and Sister in Christ,

Sister Jan





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(Repent, Renew, Rededicate - continued from page 4)

We are called to eliminate the pride within ourselves, as stated in Alma 5:28, which calls us to prepare quickly, for the kingdom of heaven is soon at hand; if we are not stripped of pride, we are not prepared to meet God.

The invitation extended to all was unmistakable: repent, renew, rededicate. Not partially, but fully. Not tomorrow, but today.

As one brother declared, we must return to our "first love." With broken hearts and contrite spirits, we are called to come before the Lord, to be changed, and to walk daily with Him. Repentance means turning, face to face, with God, removing anything that stands between us and Him. So the question remains: Are we willing? Willing to open our hearts, to let go of pride and to change. Because in the end, the vision is sure: God wins. And there is a place prepared for all who will come.

“What is a lesson you’ve learned from a mother (natural or spiritual) that stuck with you?”

“I remember this quote: ‘There’s a difference between nice and good.’ This applies both naturally and spiritually. Many times, someone or something can come across as nice, very appealing on a surface level. But we need to look beyond that.”

- Brother Tim Scolaro, Mesa, AZ, Branch

“My mother taught me from a very young age to put my faith in God. By the age of 10, I could already see the evidence in its fullness and truly recognize how incredible life can be when you place your faith in the Lord. My faith in God has carried me through every storm that came to my door.”

- Brother Michael Zaino, Edison, NJ, Branch

“Keep your eyes forward and focused on God, not man. Man will fail you, but God never does.”

- Sister Kathleen Pastorelli, Ocala, FL, Mission

“My mother, Gerry Bravo, taught me how to give from the heart. An example of this is her cookie-making venture during the holidays. After Thanksgiving, she would begin to make butter cookies using an old-fashioned cookie press. After baking cookies, she would make a wash of powdered sugar, spread it on the cookies, and add sprinkles for decorations. As Christmas approached, she would make trays of cookies for friends, families, neighbors, and members of the church. One time, I tried to make almond crescents. She told me, ‘Theresa, they look like dog bones.’ It was so true! We had a good laugh! Unfortunately, I didn’t inherit the cookie gene, but I learned to give in other ways that are suited to my abilities. I thank God for my mother because she taught me to give from my heart.”

- Sister Theresa Bravo, Edison, NJ, Branch

“My mother taught me that hard work and perseverance pay off”

- Brother Logan Azzinaro

“One big lesson I’ve learned is that when you’re going through the toughest trials and struggling, one of the best things you can do is serve others. Whether that be volunteering at your local food bank, writing a card to someone sick, or just taking the time to call someone you feel to check in on, all of these are great ways to lift the spirits of others as well as your own. When I was having a difficult time, my Mom told me to stop focusing on what was happening to me and instead focus on others. When I took her advice, it helped alleviate the stress and worries I was experiencing. God has called us to serve others and not only does it edify the Lord, it helps us as well.”

- Sister Anna Maria Mott, Columbus, OH, Branch

“A lesson my mother has taught me that has stuck with me is to never give up when times are rough, because everything is possible with God. She always reminds me that even if God doesn’t stop a trial from happening, He will always bring you through it. I thank God that every time I do face a challenge, He helps me get through it. Praise the Lord!”

- Sister Isabella Kerby, Irvine, CA, Branch

BB A Family Who Worships Together

I moved in with my Brother, Mike, and sister-in-law, Dee, to a new house in Ocala, Florida. My prayer was for a church to be in this area and the Leesburg mission moved to Ocala within 45 minutes of our house. At that time, I was the only baptized member of my family, but Mike and Dee would attend with me on Sundays. This past year, both my brother and sister-in-law were baptized—Mike last January and Dee this past Sunday! Now, the peace in our home is like a breath of fresh air. I thank God for everything He does for us and the answered prayers we receive! Our family is now gathered together serving God.

– Sister Kathleen Pastorelli,
Ocala, FL Mission

BB Still In Control

On the morning that my mom passed away, I was driving to my parents' house, unaware of what I would find. During that drive, full of unknowns and fear, a song by Mack Brock called "Still in Control" started playing on the radio. I felt that it was God telling me He was in control, despite anything that was about to happen. A year later, I was getting ready for church and that song came on the radio again, at the exact same time my dad had called me the year before with the news that changed my life forever. A year later, God is still telling me that He's still in control. I'm very grateful for how He speaks to me and has carried me through this year.

– Sister Alyssa Maddox,
Lake Worth, FL Branch

BB Angels Unaware

I lost my parents and in-laws between 2001 and 2003. The grief was unbearable. I decided to take a trip alone to Florida to visit my daughter and son-in-law. I needed to "decompress" and heal my broken heart. My natural brother knew that I would be flying and he said he would pray that an angel would accompany me! During the 2-hour flight, a man named Michael sat in the seat next to me and ministered to my broken heart. He told me things that were like a healing balm for my grieving heart. I pondered the experience and thought, "That man was just like an angel"! Years later, as I was rehearsing the encounter with my son-in-law, Scott, he was given the Word of the Lord. "My daughter, I indeed sent you an angel. Now continue to exercise faith and I will bless your life, Thus Saith the Lord!"

– Sister Cathy Genaro,
Forest Hills, FL Branch

*Got a blessing?
Share it here!*



Send us your Blessing Bits by contacting Sister Elizabeth McDonnell at eksanchor@gmail.com. (In approximately 150 words). Send answers to Question of the Month to gospelnews@thechurchofjesuschrist.org.



Question for this month:

What is a Godly trait your father (or father figure) displays that you admire or strive to imitate?



Answer from last month:

What is a lesson you've learned from a mother (natural or spiritual) that stuck with you?

Turn to page 10 for answers.

