

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Utah Silver Lake Stake

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Over the past few months we have been guided by the Holy Ghost in what has been a revelatory process. We have felt of the love that Heavenly Father has for you, His children. We rejoice in the beautiful doctrine of the family, and we know that families are central to the great plan of happiness (*Alma 42:8*).

Our Stake demographic is unique and exciting. Over 40% of our membership is under the age of 12. What a tremendous blessing to live in such an incredible circumstance as this! No doubt, the Lord is raising up an army of righteous children right here in the Silver Lake Stake. We know there is real spiritual protection when children are "nourished by the good word of God" in the home (*see Moroni 6:4 and 3 Nephi 17:3*).

As outlined in the Church Handbook of Instructions, Stakes may make simple adaptations to certain Church programs, based on the needs of the area (*Handbook 2, Section 17.2*). With the encouragement of the Holy Ghost, we have decided to make an adjustment for the members of the Silver Lake Stake.

We are excited to announce *Family Week*. This special week is being created for the benefit and protection of families. Beginning in July of 2016, the first week of every month will be set aside for the family. There will be no Church meetings Monday - Saturday. This will include all activities including Mutual, Cub Scouts, 11-year old scouts, Activity Days, Stake and Ward sponsored activities, Leadership Meetings, Bishop Interviews, Temple Recommend Interviews, Auxiliary Presidency Meetings, Stake Sports; and the list could go on. (*Please note that no changes are being made to Sunday meetings*)

We encourage you to spend this new allotment of time loving your family. President Dieter F. Uchtdorf wisely taught that "*in family relationships love is really spelled t-i-m-e, time. Taking time for each other is the key for harmony at home*" (*October, 2010*). What an amazing opportunity this can be!

We caution parents to not use this opportunity to be away from home even more than they already are. President David O. McKay so *powerfully* reminded us that "*no other success can compensate for failure in the home*" (*FHE Manual, 1968*).

After a period of time, we will re-evaluate to ensure that this change is accomplishing the intended purpose.

We love each of you and pray for you and your families. We take comfort in the truth that as families are strengthened, so too will the Church be strengthened.

With love,

Russell M. Clayton
Gregory S. Hooke
Benjamin L. Reaves

Eagle Mountain Utah Silver Lake Stake Presidency