

Feather River California Temple Fact Sheet



Location: 1470 Butte House Road, Yuba City, California 95993

Announced: October 7, 2018

Groundbreaking: July 18, 2020

Construction Start: July 20, 2020

Public Open House: Saturday, August 19–Saturday, September 9, 2023 (excluding Sundays)

Dedication: Sunday, October 8, 2023
(Two sessions: 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.)

Property Size: 9.24 acres

Building Size: 41,665 square feet

Building Height: 135 feet, including the statue of the Book of Mormon prophet Moroni

Architect: Richardson Design Partnership;
Church Architect: Lanny Herron

Interior Design: Gloria Haley and Richardson Design Partnership

Contractor: Okland

The Feather River California Temple is the 183rd operating temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The temple is situated in the Sacramento Valley, and the beauty and uniqueness of its design reflect the location and the culture that surrounds it. The interior features designs representative of regional agriculture, such as rice fields and endless fruit and nut orchards. The main exterior patterns are based on the neo-Byzantine-style architecture found throughout the region.

EXTERIOR FEATURES

BUILDING: The building is constructed of structural steel and precast concrete panels, fabricated and installed by Willis Construction in San Juan Bautista, California.

EXTERIOR ART GLASS: Richardson Design Partnership designed the art glass with assistance from Holdman Studios. The glass's main design motif is the regionally significant almond blossom.

LANDSCAPING: The landscape architect is Loci, with local support from HLA Group of Sacramento, California. The landscape plan is inspired by the mediterranean climate of the Sacramento Valley and the area's rich history and biodiversity. The design incorporates several mature native oak, redwood, and hackberry trees already on the site. Some prominent features are the 100-year-old olive trees transplanted from a local orchard, which will be arranged in groves both in front of and behind the temple.

FENCE AND WALKWAYS: The temple grounds are enclosed with a six-foot-tall steel picket fence, powder-coated with a bronze color to match other metal fixtures on the site. Precast concrete pillars are located at the gated entrances to the grounds.

INTERIOR FEATURES

FLOORING: The general carpet pattern was pulled from early Christian architecture. The green color represents the rice fields and the farming community in the area.

The carpet carving design incorporates the almond flower to coordinate with the art glass. The rug designs

are reminiscent of an open field of local wildflowers and the California poppy, the state flower.

The stone floor consists of Crema Beige (Iran), Emperador Light (Turkey), Inca Gold (Pakistan), Verde Lichen (Iran), Rojo Alicante (Spain), and Vanilla (Turkey) marble. Colors were chosen to correspond with the fabrics and represent the local flora. The stone pattern throughout the building references other buildings in the area. The stone pattern around the baptistry is pulled from the art glass designs.

DECORATIVE PAINTING: Decorative paint is used in a simple fashion along the patron path. In the ordinance areas, the decorative paint is an abstraction of the local flora and its underlying geometry. It is used to accentuate the architecture at key points and connections. It signifies the natural beauty of the local area and the principles that contribute to that beauty.

INTERIOR ART GLASS: Art glass is in all the windows of the temple. The arched windows of the second level and the ordinance spaces depict the almond blossom, representing the agricultural industry of the area. It is a celebration of beauty and the rewards of hard work. The natural colors of the almond blossom are used against a backdrop of yellow fading to blue.

LIGHTING: The interior lights are brass, with crystal being added in the ordinance spaces. All the fixtures feature a shallow bowl. In the ordinance rooms, the

shallow curve of the bowl is in opposition to the vault of the ceiling, representing two complementary elements that complete the circle.

MILLWORK: Decorative millwork is used on the altars, the recommend desk, the baptismal font, and the doors leading into ordinance spaces. The pattern used in the millwork is a modified quatrefoil. This again comes from early Christian architecture and is an abstraction of the four-leaf clover.

BAPTISMAL FONT RAILINGS: The font railing is an abstraction of tall reeds that grow at the edges of bodies of water. It also draws on the shape of the rice plant grown extensively in the area.

DOORS AND HARDWARE: The doors are made of cherry wood, cherries being a significant agricultural product in the area. The door hardware is brass. The hardware design uses arches as well as a reed-and-ribbon motif. The design also features abstract forms of flora.

WALLS: Simple textured wallcoverings are used throughout the building. A leaf pattern adorns the bride's room, hearkening to the art glass and rug designs. This leaf pattern is derived from early Christian representations of the olive branch.

CEILINGS: The ceilings in the temple's ordinance spaces are vaulted. This is a reference to early Christian and local historical architecture.



California Community Welcomes Feather River Temple



Wearing face masks amid the COVID-19 pandemic, helpers removed cabinets and doors, furniture, pews and even the gymnasium floor of the Yuba City California Stake Center, a multicongregational house of worship for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The building, which served Latter-day Saints for more than 40 years in the twin cities of Marysville and Yuba City, was razed to make way for what is regarded as the most sacred of structures to members of the faith: a temple.

Church President Russell M. Nelson announced plans in 2018 to build the 38,000-square-foot Feather River California Temple at 1470 Butte House Road in Yuba City. The temple is now completed and will open its doors for a free public open house Aug. 19–Sept. 9, 2023 (excluding Sundays), prior to its October dedication.

“Many people have felt like this ground is sacred,” said local Church leader Yuba City California Stake President Steve Hammarstrom, referring to the familiar landmark. “When you walk around, you can feel it.”

THE TUMBER FAMILY

In the early 1970s, before the Church owned the property, Mehar Tumber and his family, devout Sikhs, owned the land, where they grew peaches. His widow, Surjit, and her children fondly remember Mehar as a

man of great faith. “He loved God,” Surjit recalled. “He was a gentlemen’s gentleman and with that, came his spirituality and his belief in God,” added his son, Ravi.

During that time, the Church had difficulty locating suitable acreage on which to build a stake center. Mr. Tumber was not in the market to sell, but that changed when he was approached by representatives of the Church.

Mehar’s daughter, Raji, remembers the day her father announced to the family he had sold the property to the Church. “He had the biggest smile on his face and was so happy,” she recalled. “He thought it was a blessing to have a religious organization ... as an anchor to our property.”

For nearly 50 years, the relationship between the Tumbers and the Church has grown in mutual respect and admiration. “There’s a special spirit associated with their faith and our faith, merging together,” said President Hammarstrom.

“Dad was so thankful that it went to a church and it was about God,” said Ravi.

“The roots are established here for this place, this location and what’s surrounding it,” added Raji. “With the new temple, it’s just deeper roots.”

As with the Tumbers and their Latter-day Saint neighbors, a similar friendship has formed between the Church and the Yuba-Sutter community at large.

“This is a small town. We can’t do without each other,” said John Nicoletti, deputy director of Yuba-Sutter Habitat for Humanity. “Our faith community is actually in an uptick. We’re excited about the new temple.”

REPURPOSING STAKE CENTER MATERIAL

That bond of fellowship was exemplified in the outpouring of service in May 2020, when more than a dozen different faith and charity organizations helped dismantle and repurpose valuable material from the Church’s Yuba City California Stake Center, ensuring it has another chance to benefit others in the community.

"We want to give some of what we are to others," said local Church leader Paul Watkins, an Area Seventy in the North America West Area. "This, in some ways, symbolizes that."

President Hammarstrom added, "Even though the building's going away, a piece of it is living on in more than a dozen churches and other ... nonprofits and schools."

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Solid-wood doors and cabinets from the stake center were given to Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, which helps fund the construction of new homes. "We're probably dealing with 10 or 20,000 dollars' worth of basic materials, because it's in really good condition," said Nicoletti, who estimated the money will help place families into new homes.

YUBA-SUTTER COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

This latest service project is not unusual for the twin cities of Marysville and Yuba City but rather the norm. It's the result of a remarkable concept forged out of love and friendship, known as the Yuba-Sutter Community Task Force.

Marysville City Council member Stephanie McKenzie said divine inspiration was instrumental in creating the task force.

"What has been the most successful are the relationships that we've built. We know each other. We trust each other," said McKenzie, who is also the director of the committee. "Because of those relationships ... everybody is so supportive of each other. It's so easy to make something happen. We just say, 'OK, we're in this together.'"

Virgil Atkinson, a Latter-day Saint who has served on the task force since its inception, said, "The task force is the vehicle to bring all of the churches and all of the political entities ... and organizations ... together. And so, that breaks down that wall between everybody."

Atkinson helped many of the faith and charity organizations in the twin cities procure their lists of needed items from the stake center prior to dismantling. "We walked the halls with about 12 to 14 different pastors and organizations. That was a cherished experience," he remembered.

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH

Gwen Ford was part of the group with Atkinson and is the church administrator for one of the oldest African American churches in California, which dates back to the gold rush era. "We are planning to start a couple of nonprofits, economic development and education," said Ford.

The Bethel A.M.E. Church does a lot with very little. Folding chairs, chalkboards and display stands and cases are a welcome addition to the church's community efforts. In addition, a decorative stone bench now complements the A.M.E. Church entrance.

"We can't afford to buy this stuff," said Ford. "[These] things are going to be very, very helpful. It's not an overabundance of things, but it's the exact things that we need."

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Yuba stake center's baby grand piano is exactly what the Faith Lutheran Church needed. Its music now accompanies worship services and chorale performances. Pastor Bernie Fricke, a talented singer and chorale leader, said the new piano replaced their well-used piano. "We're not a money-making church with our concerts, but we certainly want to serve the community. So I was very happy for the Church to offer that for us."

FIVE30 CHURCH AND EVENTS CENTER

Pastor Jim Carpenter said he was divinely inspired to create a church and events center as a refuge for the community. "It's about our common ground. And what we're doing with the change that we want to see in our culture, our community, our society."

Pastor Carpenter said it was a tender mercy and a literal answer to prayer when he got a call from his Latter-day Saint friends. His newly organized church needed chairs — lots of chairs — that could quickly be set up and taken down for various events. "What we need is the convenience of the folding chairs, and not only the folding chairs but the carts to stack it up and make a smooth turnaround."

Smaller items that help a church and events center function were also needed, but they were pricey to

purchase on the ministry's budget. "My wife had just made a list and said, 'Lord, we need water pitchers, and we need salt and pepper shakers.' We walked [into the stake center kitchen] and there's this tray full of 50 sets of salt and pepper shakers. I said, 'I will take those!' My faith grew immediately," recalled the pastor.

CHERISHED RELATIONSHIPS, NEW BEGINNINGS

What was cultivated by a gracious peach grower more than 40 years ago has borne amazing fruit and promises so much more to Latter-day Saints and their friends and neighbors as they say goodbye to an old friend and hello to a new one: the Feather River California Temple.

"This church and our house — it's all been blessed a million times," reflected Raji Tumber. "We are glad Dad made that decision [to sell]."

"The temple coming here ... is special. And he would be absolutely thankful for it over anything else," added Ravi Tumber.

Video and downloadable photos are available at <https://newsroom.churchofjesuschrist.org/article/california-community-welcomes-construction-of-temple>.



Temples throughout the World

More facts and statistics can be found at [Newsroom.ChurchofJesusChrist.org](https://newsroom.churchofjesuschrist.org)

315 TEMPLES: DEDICATED, UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND ANNOUNCED

NORTH AMERICA

Albuquerque New Mexico	Ephraim Utah	McAllen Texas
Anchorage Alaska	Farmington New Mexico	Medford Oregon
Atlanta Georgia	Feather River California	Memphis Tennessee
Austin Texas	Fort Collins Colorado	Meridian Idaho
Bakersfield California	Fort Lauderdale Florida	Mesa Arizona
Baton Rouge Louisiana	Fort Worth Texas	Missoula Montana
Bentonville Arkansas	Fresno California	Modesto California
Billings Montana	Gilbert Arizona	Monticello Utah
Birmingham Alabama	Grand Junction Colorado	Montpelier Idaho
Bismarck North Dakota	Grand Rapids Michigan	Montreal Quebec
Boise Idaho	Halifax Nova Scotia	Moses Lake Washington
Boston Massachusetts	Harrisburg Pennsylvania	Mount Timpanogos Utah
Bountiful Utah	Hartford Connecticut	Nashville Tennessee
Brigham City Utah	Heber Valley Utah	Nauvoo Illinois
Burley Idaho	Helena Montana	Newport Beach California
Calgary Alberta	Houston Texas	Oakland California
Cardston Alberta	Idaho Falls Idaho	Ogden Utah
Casper Wyoming	Indianapolis Indiana	Oklahoma City Oklahoma
Cedar City Utah	Jacksonville Florida	Oquirrh Mountain Utah
Charlotte North Carolina	Jordan River Utah	Orem Utah
Chicago Illinois	Kansas City Missouri	Orlando Florida
Cleveland Ohio	Knoxville Tennessee	Palmyra New York
Cody Wyoming	Kona Hawaii	Payson Utah
Columbia River Washington	Laie Hawaii	Philadelphia Pennsylvania
Columbia South Carolina	Las Vegas Nevada	Phoenix Arizona
Columbus Ohio	Layton Utah	Pittsburgh Pennsylvania
Dallas Texas	Lethbridge Alberta	Pocatello Idaho
Denver Colorado	Lindon Utah	Portland Oregon
Deseret Peak Utah	Logan Utah	Prosper Texas
Detroit Michigan	Lone Mountain Nevada	Provo City Center
Draper Utah	Los Angeles California	Provo Utah
Edmonton Alberta	Louisville Kentucky	Raleigh North Carolina
Elko Nevada	Lubbock Texas	Red Cliffs Utah
	Manhattan New York	Redlands California
	Manti Utah	Regina Saskatchewan

Reno Nevada
Rexburg Idaho North
Rexburg Idaho
Richmond Virginia
Sacramento California
Salt Lake
San Antonio Texas
San Diego California
San Jose California
Saratoga Springs Utah
Seattle Washington
Smithfield Utah
Snowflake Arizona
Spokane Washington
Springfield Missouri
St. George Utah
St. Louis Missouri
St. Paul Minnesota
Star Valley Wyoming
Syracuse Utah
Tacoma Washington
Tallahassee Florida
Tampa Florida
Taylorsville Utah
The Gila Valley Arizona
Toronto Ontario
Tucson Arizona
Twin Falls Idaho
Vancouver British Columbia
Vernal Utah
Washington D.C.
Wichita Kansas
Willamette Valley Oregon
Winchester Virginia
Winnipeg Manitoba
Winter Quarters Nebraska
Yorba Linda California

AFRICA

Aba Nigeria
Abidjan Ivory Coast
Accra Ghana
Antananarivo Madagascar
Beira Mozambique
Benin City Nigeria
Brazzaville Republic of the Congo
Cape Town South Africa
Durban South Africa
Eket Nigeria
Freetown Sierra Leone
Harare Zimbabwe
Johannesburg South Africa
Kananga Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Kinshasa Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Kumasi Ghana
Lagos Nigeria
Lubumbashi Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Monrovia Liberia
Nairobi Kenya
Praia Cape Verde

ASIA

Alabang Philippines
Bacolod Philippines
Bangkok Thailand
Bengaluru India
Busan Korea
Cagayan de Oro Philippines
Cebu City Philippines
Davao Philippines
Dubai United Arab Emirates
Fukuoka Japan
Hong Kong China
Iloilo Philippines
Jakarta Indonesia

Kaohsiung Taiwan
Manila Philippines
Naga Philippines
Okinawa Japan
Phnom Penh Cambodia
Santiago Philippines
Sapporo Japan
Seoul Korea
Shanghai People's Republic of China
Singapore Republic of Singapore
Tacloban City Philippines
Taipei Taiwan
Tokyo Japan
Tuguegarao City Philippines
Urdaneta Philippines
Yigo Guam

CARIBBEAN

Port-au-Prince Haiti
San Juan Puerto Rico
Santo Domingo Dominican Republic

CENTRAL AMERICA

Cobán Guatemala
Greater Guatemala City
Guatemala City Guatemala
Huehuetenango Guatemala
Managua Nicaragua
Panama City Panama
Quetzaltenango Guatemala
Retalhuleu Guatemala
San José Costa Rica
San Pedro Sula Honduras
San Salvador El Salvador
Tegucigalpa Honduras

EUROPE

Barcelona Spain
Bern Switzerland
Birmingham England
Brussels Belgium

Budapest Hungary
Copenhagen Denmark
Frankfurt Germany
Freiberg Germany
Hamburg Germany
Helsinki Finland
Kyiv Ukraine
Lisbon Portugal
London England
Madrid Spain
Oslo Norway
Paris France
Preston England
Rome Italy
Russia
Stockholm Sweden
The Hague Netherlands
Vienna Austria

MEXICO

Ciudad Juárez Mexico
Colonia Juárez Chihuahua Mexico
Cuernavaca Mexico
Culiacán Mexico
Guadalajara Mexico
Hermosillo Sonora Mexico
Mérida Mexico
Mexico City Benemérito Mexico
Mexico City Mexico
Monterrey Mexico
Oaxaca Mexico
Pachuca Mexico
Puebla Mexico
Querétaro Mexico
San Luis Potosí Mexico
Tampico Mexico
Tijuana Mexico
Toluca Mexico
Torreón Mexico
Tula Mexico

Tuxtla Gutiérrez Mexico
Veracruz Mexico
Villahermosa Mexico

OCEANIA

Adelaide Australia
Apia Samoa
Auckland New Zealand
Brisbane Australia
Hamilton New Zealand
Melbourne Australia
Neiafu Tonga
Nuku'alofa Tonga
Pago Pago American Samoa
Papeete Tahiti
Perth Australia
Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
Port Vila Vanuatu
Suva Fiji
Sydney Australia
Tarawa Kiribati
Wellington New Zealand

SOUTH AMERICA

Antofagasta Chile
Arequipa Peru
Asunción Paraguay
Bahía Blanca Argentina
Barranquilla Colombia
Belém Brazil
Belo Horizonte Brazil
Bogotá Colombia
Brasília Brazil
Buenos Aires Argentina
Buenos Aires City Center Argentina
Cali Colombia
Campinas Brazil
Caracas Venezuela
Chiclayo Peru
Cochabamba Bolivia
Concepción Chile

Córdoba Argentina
Curitiba Brazil
Cusco Peru
Fortaleza Brazil
Guayaquil Ecuador
Iquitos Peru
La Paz Bolivia
Lima Peru
Lima Peru Los Olivos
Londrina Brazil
Maceió Brazil
Manaus Brazil
Mendoza Argentina
Montevideo Uruguay
Natal Brazil
Porto Alegre Brazil
Quito Ecuador
Recife Brazil
Ribeirão Preto Brazil
Rio de Janeiro Brazil
Salta Argentina
Salvador Brazil
Santa Cruz Bolivia
Santiago Chile
Santiago Chile West
Santos Brazil
São Paulo Brazil
São Paulo East Brazil
Teresina Brazil
Trujillo Peru
Vitória Brazil



History



THE FIRST VISION One of the most influential events in religious history occurred during the spring of 1820, when two heavenly beings appeared to a young boy named Joseph Smith.

Joseph lived in New York in 1820, when a religious revival was sweeping the region. Confused by the conflicting claims of the various faiths, he went to the Bible for guidance and there found the counsel to “ask of God” (James 1:5).

In a wooded grove near the family farm, Joseph knelt to pray for guidance. In answer to his prayer, God, the Eternal Father, and His Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to Joseph and told him to join none of the existing churches. Further, he was instructed that through him, God would restore to earth the Church originally organized by Jesus Christ, with all its truths and priesthood authority. Joseph Smith officially organized The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 6, 1830, in Fayette, New York.

THE BOOK OF MORMON: ANOTHER TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST In September of 1823, a resurrected being named Moroni appeared to Joseph and showed him a religious history of an ancient American civilization engraved on metal plates and buried in the ground. Joseph translated this record into English by the gift and power of God. Named for one of the ancient prophets who compiled it, the Book of Mormon was first published in 1830. Today it is available in more than 110 languages.

The Book of Mormon contains religious writings of civilizations in ancient America between about 2200 BC and AD 420. It includes an eyewitness account of the ministry of Jesus Christ on the American continent following His Resurrection in Jerusalem.

RESTORATION OF PRIESTHOOD AUTHORITY

Apostles and prophets in all ages have had authority from God, called priesthood, to act in His name. The original Twelve Apostles received the priesthood under the hands of the Savior Himself, but with their persecution and passing, that priesthood authority disappeared from the earth. An essential component of the Restoration, therefore, was the reestablishment of this authority. This was accomplished in 1829 when John the Baptist and Peter, James, and John—all resurrected beings—appeared and, placing their hands on the heads of Joseph and his associate Oliver Cowdery, restored this authority to the earth.

GROWTH AND OPPOSITION Like the ancient Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a missionary church. In the mid-19th century, converts were encouraged to gather with the Saints in America, but these growing groups of immigrants from Europe and the Eastern United States provided fuel for contention.

To escape this escalating turmoil, the Church moved from New York to Ohio, then to Missouri, and later to Illinois. In 1839 the Latter-day Saints established the community of Nauvoo, Illinois. But mounting suspicion and anxiety within neighboring communities fed an atmosphere of extreme agitation and distrust. Some began to call for the Latter-day Saints’ extermination.

At the height of this turmoil, Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum were shot to death by an armed mob in nearby Carthage, Illinois.

BRIGHAM YOUNG AND THE WESTWARD TREK

Mobs attacked Latter-day Saint settlements in the region, burning crops, destroying homes, and threatening to exterminate the people. Church leaders knew another relocation would be necessary. This led to one of the most visionary and significant migrations in American history.

Brigham Young succeeded Joseph Smith as the leader of the Church. In 1846 he led the Latter-day

Saints across the frozen Mississippi River into unsettled Iowa territory and eventually on to the remote valley of the Great Salt Lake, 1,000 miles to the west, arriving in July 1847.

During the next 22 years, an estimated 68,000 Latter-day Saints from around the globe flowed into this Great Basin refuge. Most crossed the plains in wagons, but nearly 3,000 walked pulling handcarts.

From the Salt Lake Valley, Brigham Young directed the establishment of more than 350 communities in western America.

INTO THE MODERN ERA When Utah gained statehood on January 4, 1896, Church membership totaled a quarter of a million, mostly in Utah. When Church membership reached a million in 1947—100 years after the desperate exodus from Nauvoo—it was still largely a North American organization. After 1947, however, worldwide growth accelerated.

At the end of 2020, the worldwide membership of the Church stood at 16.5 million, in 196 nations and territories, with only 40 percent living in the United States.



Core Beliefs and Doctrines



THE NATURE OF GOD A central doctrine of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a belief in God the Father; His Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Ghost. The three comprise the Godhead. They are one in purpose but separate beings.

CHRISTIAN The Church is Christian but is neither Catholic nor Protestant. Rather, it is a restoration of the Church of Jesus Christ as originally established by the Savior.

DIVINE PRIESTHOOD AUTHORITY The Church emphasizes the need for divine authority. As Joseph Smith taught, “A man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands by those who are in authority, to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof” (Articles of Faith 1:5). The authority to act in God’s name is called the priesthood.

PRINCIPLES AND ORDINANCES “The first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost [or confirmation in the Church]” (Articles of Faith 1:4). Since young children are incapable of sin, they are not baptized until the age of eight, when they begin to be accountable.

CONTINUING REVELATION Divine revelation for the direction of the Church comes from God through the President of the Church. The Presidents of the Church are viewed by Latter-day Saints as prophets in the same sense as Moses, Abraham, and Peter. In addition, parents can receive divine revelation for their families, and individuals are entitled to revelation for their personal lives.

SCRIPTURES The Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ is divinely inspired scripture, as is the Holy Bible. They are used together with other approved scriptures: the Doctrine and Covenants, a compilation of revelations received since the time of the Restoration, and the Pearl of Great Price, a selection from the revelations, translations, and writings of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

PURPOSE OF LIFE Each of us is literally a child of heavenly parents, with whom we lived in a premortal existence. Through God’s divine plan, we come to earth to receive a physical body, gain experience, and prove ourselves worthy to return to God’s presence. Through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, all will be resurrected, and through His Atonement, all may partake of His love, mercy, and forgiveness. All have the potential to obtain eternal life, conditioned upon obedience to the Savior’s teachings and ordinances.

FAMILY AND MARRIAGE Family relationships are central to the gospel of Jesus Christ. “The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” issued by the First Presidency and Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in 1995, proclaims that “the divine plan of happiness enables family relationships to be perpetuated beyond the grave. Sacred ordinances and covenants available in holy temples make it possible for individuals to return to the presence of God and for families to be united eternally” (ChurchofJesusChrist.org). That is why the Church builds temples.

MORALITY The Church follows the Savior’s law of strict morality. Faithful Church members observe principles of honesty, integrity, obedience to local laws, chastity

outside of marriage, and fidelity within marriage between a man and a woman. The Church opposes abortion (with few exceptions), pornography, gambling, and same-sex marriage.

HEALTH CODE The Word of Wisdom, a health code revealed to Joseph Smith in 1833, cautions against using tobacco, alcoholic beverages, tea, and coffee and emphasizes the benefits of wise eating habits for physical and spiritual health. The Church interprets the misuse and abuse of all drugs—illegal, legal, prescription, or controlled—as a violation of God’s law.

TITHING AND FAST OFFERINGS The Church embraces the biblical pattern of tithing, which is contributing one-tenth of one’s income. Faithful members also fast for two meals once a month and donate the money they would have spent on those meals, or more, to help the needy. These generous offerings enable the Church to finance construction, education, missionary, welfare, and humanitarian efforts.

MISSIONARY WORK The Church accepts the Savior’s charge to “go . . . into all the world” and share the blessings of the gospel (Mark 16:15). Consequently, the Church has more than 50,000 full-time missionaries serving throughout the world. Most are college-age men and women, but many are retired couples. All have accepted an assignment from Church leaders and serve at their own expense for a year and a half to two years.

CHURCH SERVICE Prophets have taught that “when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God” (Mosiah 2:17). The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints functions with a lay ministry, giving millions worldwide the opportunity to grow by rendering faithful Christian service to others.



Families Can Be Forever



THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

The Church teaches that we all lived in a premortal state as children of heavenly parents. Each person comes to earth to gain a physical body and learn through the mortal experience. By obedience to God's commandments, each of us may return to His presence, where we will live eternally in a family organization.

A distinctive Latter-day Saint teaching is that marriage can be for eternity. Such marriages must be performed in a temple by authority from God, called priesthood. Latter-day Saint temples are not places of regular Sunday worship. They are sacred buildings for family-centered sacraments and ceremonies, or ordinances. For these

ordinances to remain in effect, a husband and wife must love and be faithful to each other throughout their marriage and continue to follow a course of Christian service and commitment throughout their lives.

TEMPLES AND FAMILY HISTORY For millions of people who lived before the time of Christ or during the intervening centuries between the death of the Apostles and the Restoration of Christ's Church, these ordinances were not available. Even today, millions live and die without ever hearing the name of Jesus Christ or learning and accepting the saving principles and ordinances of the gospel He taught.

Provision must be made, then, for those who have died without the opportunity to receive those temple ordinances. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teaches that all saving ordinances are performed on earth on behalf of the dead. Latter-day Saints stand as proxies for their own deceased ancestors in these sacred ceremonies, which include baptism, sealings of husbands and wives, and sealings of parents and children in eternal family units. These ordinances are only binding if willingly accepted by each individual.

Temples are central to Latter-day Saint belief. Members are taught that they have an obligation to trace their family tree and perform temple ordinances for their deceased ancestors.



MARK A. BRAGG

General Authority Seventy



Elder Mark A. Bragg was sustained as a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 2, 2016. He served in the South America South Area Presidency and as an assistant executive director in the Family History Department and the Church Communication

Department. He is currently serving as the President of the North America West Area.

Elder Bragg majored in marketing and Spanish at the University of Utah. He also completed executive education programs at UCLA, University of Michigan, and other universities. He began his career as vice president of Great Western Bank in Los Angeles in commercial and residential real estate operations. Most recently, he worked as a senior vice president of Bank of America in complaint resolution and legal and government relations.

Elder Bragg has served in a number of Church callings, including full-time missionary in the México Monterrey Mission, ward mission leader, high councilor, bishop and stake president. At the time of his call, he had been serving as a member of the Fifth Quorum of the Seventy in the North America West Area.

Mark Allyn Bragg was born in Los Angeles, California, on April 16, 1962. He married Yvonne King in 1984. They are the parents of four children.



ADILSON DE PAULA PARRELLA

General Authority Seventy



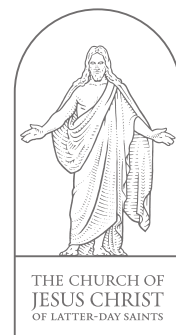
Elder Adilson de Paula Parrella was sustained as a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 1, 2017. He previously

served at Church headquarters in Salt Lake City. He is currently serving as President of the Brazil Area.

Elder Parrella received a bachelor's degree in communications in 1989 and a master's degree in business administration in 1991, both from Brigham Young University. He worked as managing director at Kodak Polychrome Graphics until 2005 and was partner at Korn/Ferry International until 2009 and recently a partner at Caldwell Partners.

Since joining the Church in 1971, Elder Parrella has served in a number of Church callings, including full-time missionary in the Brazil Porto Alegre Mission, branch president, bishop, high councilor, stake president's counselor, Area Seventy and president of the Brazil Belo Horizonte Mission.

Adilson de Paula Parrella was born in Guarujá, São Paulo, Brazil, in November 1962. He married Elaine Finholdt in 1988. They are the parents of five children.



KEVIN R. DUNCAN

General Authority Seventy



Kevin R. Duncan was sustained as a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 3, 2010.

At the time of his call as a General Authority Seventy, Elder Duncan had been serving as a member of the Fifth Quorum of the Seventy in the Utah South Area.

He previously served as President of the Central America Area. He is currently serving at Church headquarters as Executive Director in the Temple Department.

Elder Duncan has served in a number of Church callings, including full-time missionary in Chile, temple ordinance worker, service missionary as the associate international legal counsel in South America, president of the Chile Santiago North Mission, and Area Seventy.

Elder Duncan received a bachelor's degree in accounting, a master's degree in taxation, and a Juris Doctor from Brigham Young University in 1991. He began his career as a tax attorney in Seattle, Washington. In 1996 he founded CaseData Corporation, from which he retired in 2005.

Kevin Read Duncan was born in Ogden, Utah, on October 6, 1960. He married Nancy Elizabeth Smart in June 1986. They are the parents of five children.

