Volunteers Can Build LDS Media Library Online

LDS Media Library's theme—"Learn, Share, Create"— accurately describes what members can do using the resources the website provides, especially the "share" part.

The new section of LDS.org is designed to help members access gospel-oriented media such as videos, audio files, and still images in one trusted location, and members can help achieve that goal by submitting their own work.

As opposed to a general web search, the Media Library is "a safe place to go and find good content to help members share the gospel," said Marianne Jennings, associate producer in the Media Services Department.

Church members can submit their own work—such as photos and video—at create.lds.org. Those materials go through an acceptance, editing, and tagging process and are then placed in the LDS Media Library for general Church membership to use in teaching in the home and performing their callings.

Media Library materials may also be used for personal blogs, websites, and other places where members would like to share gospel messages. Content could also be used in official Church publications and materials.

The resource is designed to help individuals, families, and organizations come unto Christ through the use of wholesome media.

"We hope people will be able to learn through the media and share with their friends something that touches them," product manager Vicki Bird said.

Media on the site can be accessed with many common mobile devices, including e-books, as well as with Internet TV. It can be shared through podcasts and RSS feeds, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and online broadcasts

LDS.org/media-library also offers suggestions for using the media resources, information on how the Church is using the material, and instructions for members who wish to contribute additional media to the site.

Joseph Smith Papers Going Online

Selections from the Joseph Smith Papers are now available online at josephsmithpapers.org and are accessible free of charge. The goal is to eventually publish all of the Church History Department's 7,000 Joseph Smithrelated documents online.

Gospel Materials Available for Electronic Readers

Users of electronic reading devices such as Nook, iBook, and Sony Reader can now access Church manuals, scriptures, study helps, and general conference talks in EPUB format.

Go to LDS.org/manual and click on New EPUB format for scriptures, general conference, and many manuals under "Additional Resources."

Church Announces BeSmart Firesides for 2011

Sixteen days of BeSmart firesides kick off on August 23, 2011, in Wyoming, USA. Other firesides will follow in various areas of the United States and will offer youth advice about higher education preparation, institute, and Church schools. Learn more at BeSmart.com.

Free Genealogy Classes from FamilySearch

FamilySearch.org now offers more than 140 classes online free of charge to help people with family history. Courses ranging from beginning to expert skill level include half-hour filmed sessions taught by experts as well as electronic handouts. ■

