

## Relief Society Meeting Guidelines

In her address, Sister Beck told how the meetings formerly called “home, family and personal enrichment” would now simply be called Relief Society meetings.

Sister Beck described how the ward Relief Society president should oversee all Relief Society meetings and counsel with the bishop or branch president, who approves all meeting plans.

The Relief Society president should oversee the meetings, but may ask the first or second counselor—or recommend a sister in the ward or branch be called—to be coordinator of the meetings. At least one member of the presidency should be present at all meetings.

Meetings generally should be held monthly, but at least quarterly, at a time other than Sunday or Monday evening. The bishop or branch president and the Relief Society president determine the frequency of the meetings, and sisters should not be made to feel it is mandatory to attend all these meetings.

When planning meetings, the Relief Society presidency should consider such issues as time commitment, cost, safety, and travel distance.

Meetings should accomplish the “charitable and practical responsibilities” of Relief Society, increasing faith and personal righteousness and seeing to the spiritual and temporal needs of individuals and families.

In planning meetings the Relief Society presidency should give priority to topics that fulfill Relief Society purposes; meetings can focus on one topic or be divided into more than one class or activity. Teachers should generally be members of the ward or stake.

“Using Relief Society meetings appropriately will increase the ability of the Relief Society to work in powerful ways with priesthood leaders in every ward,” Sister Beck said. ■

## IN THE NEWS

### Annual Pageants Begin with Mesa

Each year the Church sponsors five pageants across the United States. Information about each pageant is included here.

#### Mesa Arizona Pageant

The Mesa Arizona Pageant, *Jesus the Christ*, retells the story of Jesus Christ’s birth, ministry, selfless death, and miraculous Resurrection. The show runs March 24 to April 3. See [www.easterpageant.org](http://www.easterpageant.org) for more information.

#### Manti Utah Pageant

Manti Utah’s *The Mormon Miracle Pageant* intertwines the stories of the Restoration of the gospel, the witness of the Book of Mormon, and the journey of the faithful pioneers to the Sanpete Valley. The show runs June 17 to 26. See [www.mormonmiracle.org](http://www.mormonmiracle.org) for more information.

#### Nauvoo Illinois Pageant

The Nauvoo Illinois Pageant, *A Tribute to Joseph Smith*, celebrates the restored gospel, the prophetic mission of Joseph Smith, and the legacy of early Latter-day Saints in Nauvoo. The show runs July 6 to July 31. See



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[www.nauvoopageant.org](http://www.nauvoopageant.org) for more information.

#### Hill Cumorah New York Pageant

The Hill Cumorah New York Pageant, *America’s Witness for Christ*, retells the Book of Mormon story, including the trials of Lehi’s family and his descendants, the climactic visit of Jesus Christ to the Americas, and Joseph Smith’s discovery of the plates. The show runs July 9 to 17. See [www.hillcumorah.org](http://www.hillcumorah.org) for more information.

#### Castle Valley Utah Pageant

The Castle Valley Utah Pageant is an elaborate outdoor historical drama that portrays the settling of a pioneer village in Castle Dale, Utah. The show runs July 29 to August 7. For more information, call 1-435-687-2403. The Castle Valley Pageant alternates every other year with the Clarkston Pageant, *Martin Harris: The Man Who Knew*, in Clarkston, Utah. ■