NEW MISSION PRESIDENTS CALLED TO SERVE

The First Presidency has called 122 new mission presidents and their spouses to serve in their assigned locations effective July 2014. For information about the new mission presidents, go to lds.org/go/2014mission.

LEADERS OFFER COMFORT, SUPPORT IN PHILIPPINES

In February, 100 days after Typhoon Haiyan devastated Tacloban, Sister Linda K. Burton, Relief Society general president, and Sister Carol F. McConkie, first counselor in the Young Women general presidency, traveled to the disaster zone to offer support and comfort.

"I knew I needed to hug the sisters," Sister Burton said. "I knew I couldn't do much else, but I knew I needed to come to Tacloban and hug the people that I could."

Typhoon Haiyan destroyed more than 1.1 million homes in the central Philippines, leaving more than 6,100 people dead, including 42 Latter-day Saints. Following the storm, the Church sent relief supplies and partnered with local and international organizations to assist with food, shelter, water purification, debris removal, and livelihood restoration.

Both Sister Burton and Sister McConkie reported that they found hope and optimism among the Saints, who are rebuilding their homes and strengthening their testimonies by serving each other.

Sister Carol F. McConkie visits with children in the Tacloban Philippines Stake Center.

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland speaks to members in Taiwan.

Apostles Minister to Many Nations

Members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles continue to carry the ministry of the Church throughout the world. During recent assignments:

- Elder Russell M. Nelson and Elder Neil L. Andersen offered counsel and direction to Saints in Australia, New Zealand, French Polynesia, Fiji, New Caledonia, Tonga, and Papua New Guinea. Elder Nelson spoke of the need to strengthen families, and Elder Andersen reminded members to be of good cheer. On a separate assignment, Elder Andersen met with members and community leaders in areas of the Philippines devastated by earthquakes and tropical storms.
- Elder Dallin H. Oaks dedicated the Mexico City Missionary Training Center. He encouraged missionaries to study hard and dedicate themselves to the Lord.
- Elder M. Russell Ballard told Saints in the South America South Area that "the day of the sons and daughters of Lehi is blossoming," with 4.5 million members and 14 temples in South America. This fulfills a prophecy made by his grandfather Elder Melvin J. Ballard (1873–1939) that South America would become a power in the Church.
- Elder Jeffrey R. Holland encouraged members in Taiwan and Hong Kong to make the temple part of their lives by attending as often as they can.
- Elder David A. Bednar reminded Latter-day Saints in Uganda that they are pioneers in building the Church in their country. He reminded members in Kenya of the importance of consistently showing love at home.
- Elder Quentin L. Cook taught members in Central America of the importance of service to God, to each other, and to their neighbors.

To learn more about the ministry of the Apostles, go to lds.org/prophets-and-apostles. ■