



podcast site on iTunes, all accessible from [mormonchannel.org](http://mormonchannel.org).

## Thousands Find Synergy at RootsTech Conference

Some 3,000 genealogy and technology enthusiasts from around the world—with thousands more participating online—participated in the first annual RootsTech Family History Conference, held in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.

The three-day conference, hosted by FamilySearch—a service provided by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—was designed to bring together those who are involved with family history work and those who create the technology they use.

Conference participants chose from more than 40 classes on various genealogical and technological interests. Vendors featured the latest products, tools, and services. ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Local Church Members Respond to Disasters in Australia

Between December's flooding that continued into January and Cyclone Yasi making landfall in northern Queensland on February 2, Australia has been hard hit by natural disasters in early 2011.

Local Church members in southern Queensland have assisted with cleanup, fundraising, assembling cleaning kits, and distributing relief supplies. Local Church leaders began coordinating relief efforts with government officials.

### "One in a Million" Shares Children's Stories

As the Church reaches one million Primary children, the *Friend* is sponsoring the "One in a Million" project featuring photo and audio slideshows of individual Primary children around the world.

The slideshows are made to create a sense of community among the worldwide Primary. They will be added to throughout the year and can be viewed at [lds.org/friend](http://lds.org/friend).

### Distribution Services Merges with Deseret Book

To improve efficiency and better serve Church members, Distribution Services

has expanded an agreement with Deseret Book to provide Church-produced materials through Deseret Book outlets. Under the new agreement, Deseret Book will offer Distribution materials according to prices and policies established by the Church.

Visit [Newsroom.lds.org](http://Newsroom.lds.org) for more details and information.

### Latter-day Saint Charities Provides Clean Water

Nearly a billion people on the earth lack access to clean water, often resulting in water-borne diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, and typhoid. But since 2002, the Church has helped seven million people in more than 5,000 communities obtain access to clean water sources. "Water Is Happiness," available on [news.lds.org](http://news.lds.org), shows the story of LDS Charities bringing clean water to a village in Sierra Leone. ■

**"Water is Happiness" on [news.lds.org](http://news.lds.org) tells about clean water coming to Sierra Leone.**

