

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

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New Area Leaders Assigned

The First Presidency has announced changes in area leadership assignments, effective on August 1, 2015. All members of Area Presidencies are members of the First or Second Quorum of the Seventy.

The Seventy are called by revelation, under the direction of the First Presidency, to assist the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in their ministry throughout the world.

“The history of the Seventies really goes back to the Old Testament,” said President Boyd K. Packer, President of

the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.¹ The first reference to the Seventy is found in Exodus 24:1, and they are later referred to in Numbers 11:16–17, 25, when they are gathered to assist Moses.

During Christ’s mortal ministry, He called the Seventy, instructed them in a manner similar to the Twelve Apostles, and sent them out “before his face,” explaining that those who heard their voices would hear His voice (see Matthew 10:1, 16–17; Luke 10).

“We believe in the same organization that existed in the primitive Church,” President Packer said. “And it included Seventies.” (See Articles of Faith 1:6.) In today’s rapidly growing Church, the Seventy play an important role in assisting the Twelve. “Seventies by delegation can do anything the Twelve tell them to do,” President Packer said.² ■

NOTES

1. Boyd K. Packer, in “The Twelve and the Seventy, Part One: Revelation and the Role of the Seventy” (video), LDS.org.
2. Boyd K. Packer, in “The Twelve and the Seventy.”

Presidency of the Seventy



Ronald A. Rasband
Assists in all areas



L. Whitney Clayton
Utah North
Utah Salt Lake City
Utah South



Donald L. Hallstrom
North America Northeast



Richard J. Maynes
North America Northwest
North America West



Craig C. Christensen
Idaho
North America Central



Ulisses Soares
North America Southeast



Lynn G. Robbins
North America Southwest

Africa Southeast



Stanley G. Ellis
First Counselor



Carl B. Cook
President



Kevin S. Hamilton
Second Counselor

Africa West



Terence M. Vinson
First Counselor



LeGrand R. Curtis Jr.
President



David F. Evans
Second Counselor

Asia



Randy D. Funk
First Counselor



Gerrit W. Gong
President



Chi Hong (Sam) Wong
Second Counselor

Asia North



Kazuhiko
Yamashita
**First
Counselor**



Scott D.
Whiting
President



Yoon Hwan
Choi
**Second
Counselor**

Brazil



Jairo
Mazzagardi
**First
Counselor**

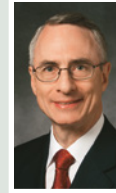


Claudio R. M.
Costa
President



Marcos A.
Aidukaitis
**Second
Counselor**

Caribbean



Claudio D.
Zivic
**First
Counselor**



J. Devn
Cornish
President



Hugo E.
Martinez
**Second
Counselor**

Central America



Adrián
Ochoa
**First
Counselor**



Kevin R.
Duncan
President



Jose L.
Alonso
**Second
Counselor**

Europe



Paul V.
Johnson
**First
Counselor**

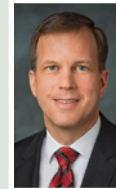


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Kearon
President



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Dyches
**Second
Counselor**

Europe East



Jörg
Klebingat
**First
Counselor**



Bruce D.
Porter
President



Larry S.
Kacher
**Second
Counselor**

Mexico



Paul B.
Pieper
**First
Counselor**



Benjamin
De Hoyos
President



Arnulfo
Valenzuela
**Second
Counselor**

Middle East/Africa North



Larry R.
Lawrence



Wilford W.
Andersen

**Administered from
Church headquarters**

Pacific



O. Vincent
Haleck
**First
Counselor**



Kevin W.
Pearson
President



S. Gifford
Nielsen
**Second
Counselor**

Philippines



Shayne M.
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Ardern
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South America Northwest



W. Christopher
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