How many temples can you find in this issue?
Share Your Blessings

My favorite story in the Friend is “The Coat” (March 2012), a true story from the childhood of President Heber J. Grant. The lesson I got is to share your blessings. When I saw that my classmate didn’t have food, I gave her some. Now she is my best friend.
Donna M., age 11, Pangasinan, Philippines

The Friend Is Fun!

I really enjoy reading the stories in the Friend each month. I like how they teach lessons in fun, short stories. It’s fun looking for the hidden CTR ring each month too!
Tanner B., age 11, Minnesota, USA

A Friend for Sisters

The happiest day of each month is when the Friend comes in the mail. I love to read all of the stories to my little sister.
Mardi H., age 7, Utah, USA, with Whitni, age 3

How We Read the Friend

Amy and Adam are twins, and they like to look at the Friend together.
Amy and Adam L., ages 3 and 3, Utah, USA

Dear Friends,

There’s no more beautiful or sacred place on earth than a temple. It’s a place where Heavenly Father invites us to come inside to feel His Spirit and make special covenants that will help us return to Him.

We hope this month’s Friend will help you learn more about the temple and look forward to the day when you can go inside!

Heavenly Father loves you!

The Friend

P.S. Write and tell us what you love about the temple.

Was there a letter or a story in this month’s issue that helped you? Tell us about it. Turn to page 48 to find out how.
**Stories and Features**

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**Cover by Adam Koford**

See the Guide to the **Friend** on page 48 for family home evening ideas.
When President Thomas S. Monson was about 14, he loved raising pigeons. He captured them and kept them in a loft built from scrap lumber. Tom held the Aaronic Priesthood, and Harold Watson was the adviser of Tom’s priesthood quorum. Brother Watson raised pigeons too, but his were beautiful, expensive Birmingham roller pigeons that somersaulted through the air.

One day Brother Watson offered Tom a pair of Birmingham rollers. The female was a small pigeon that had lost an eye to a cat. “Keep your two pigeons inside for about 10 days,” Brother Watson said, “and then release them to see if they will remain at your house.”

Tom was thrilled. He followed the instructions. After a little more than a week, he released the pigeons. The male strutted about the roof of Tom’s pigeon loft and then ducked back inside to eat. But the female flew off immediately. Tom called Brother Watson to see if she had flown back to his loft.

“Come over and we’ll have a look,” Brother Watson said.

As the two walked to the loft, Brother Watson said, “Tom, you’re the president of the teachers quorum. What are you doing to help Bob come to church?”

“I’ll have him at our quorum meeting this week,” Tom answered.

They found the one-eyed pigeon.

“Keep her for a few days,” Brother Watson said as he handed her to Tom. “Then try again.”

The same thing happened the next week. Again, Tom went to Brother Watson’s house. “Good job getting Bob to priesthood meeting,” Brother Watson said as they searched for the pigeon. “Now what are you going to do to help Bill come to church?”

Each week the pigeon flew back to Brother Watson’s house, and each week Brother Watson asked Tom about members of the quorum who weren’t attending church. When President Monson grew up, he realized that Brother Watson was teaching him something more important than how to take care of pigeons. He was teaching him how to watch out for others and serve the Lord.
WORDS FROM PRESIDENT MONSON

“Step up to serve. Reach out to rescue.”


HOW CAN YOU HELP?

There are many reasons that people sometimes don’t come to church. Look at the people below and try to think of a way you or your family could help.

I've been sick for a long time.
I haven't been to church very often, and I'm not sure what to do when I go.
I don't have any friends at church.
My family doesn't always go to church.

FOLLOWING TOM

Here’s a map of President Monson’s neighborhood when he was a boy! Use the clues to unscramble the names of places in the neighborhood, and then find them on the map. Answers are on page 48.

1. BIABRT THUHC: Tom had several white, furry pets that lived here.
2. DOL OBB: Tom’s grandfather let this man live in the empty house behind his. (To read a story about this, look in the August 2012 Friend.)
3. GPENOI FOLT: This is where Tom kept the birds he collected and raised.
4. ALOC EHSD: One day Tom hid six stray dogs in the same place that his family kept fuel.
5. LABL RAAE: Tom and his friends often played here. (To read a story about this, look in the September 2012 Friend.)
Hannah Goes to the Temple

“Do you know why?”
Hannah nodded. “The Salt Lake Temple will be dedicated today. Then it will be a real temple.”

“Yes,” said Papa. “And why else do you want to go?”

“‘It is thy house, a place of thy holiness’ (D&C 109:13).”

Hannah sat on the train seat between her father and her sister, Bessie. Papa had let Bessie sit next to the window, but Hannah didn’t mind because that meant she could sit next to Papa. She snuggled up next to him, and he reached out to squeeze her hand.

“Today we’ll go inside the house of the Lord,” Papa said, his voice trembling a little.

“Yes, Papa,” Hannah said.

“To see how beautiful it is inside,” Hannah answered. Papa smiled. “Is that why we go to the temple?”

Hannah looked down at the pink ticket she was holding on her lap. It had President Wilford Woodruff’s own signature on it. She would show it at the door so she could go inside to see the temple dedication.

“To see President Woodruff?”

“We do love our prophet, but why else do you want to go?” Papa tilted his head and raised his eyebrows.
Hannah leaned back in her seat. What answer was Papa after?

“You think about that.” Papa patted her knee. “On the way home, you can answer again.”

What did Papa want her to know about the temple? She knew that he and Mother had been writing down names of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other people in their family who had died. Mother had explained that in the temple a living person acts as a substitute for a person who has died so that everyone can have a chance to be baptized and sealed to his or her family. Did she want to go to the temple for those people?

Hannah thought about her older brother, Charley, who had died six years ago when the diphtheria came. Hannah had been only five when Charley died, but she still remembered how he taught her to make clay marbles and put them in the sun to dry. Mother said that Charley would always be her brother, and if they kept the commandments and honored their covenants, they would be together again because their family was sealed together forever. Did she want to go to the temple because of Charley?

Then Hannah thought about Grandfather Bird. As a young man, Grandfather had gone on a mission to Wisconsin. He had cut down trees, which were then floated down the Mississippi River and used to build the Nauvoo Temple. Hannah had heard him talk about how important temples were. Did she want to go to the temple because of Grandfather?

The train ride went by quickly, and soon Hannah found herself staring at the Salt Lake Temple. She couldn’t take her eyes off it. Looking up at the spires made her delightfully dizzy. The angel Moroni sparkled in the morning sun. “Holiness to the Lord,” Hannah read from the inscription on the wall. She felt a powerful joy in her heart. She promised herself that someday she would be married right here in the temple.

Hannah whispered to her father, “I know why I want to go to the temple. It’s because of Charley and Grandfather Bird and the rest of our family. It’s for Holiness to the Lord and for me too.”

Papa nodded, tears pooling in his eyes. “That’s why I want to go too.”
By Darcie Jensen

When the Salt Lake Temple was completed in 1893, Latter-day Saints rejoiced. It had taken 40 years to build the temple. Because children had donated money to help build the temple, President Wilford Woodruff decided to hold five special dedicatory sessions for children to attend.

Today temples dot the earth, and children still help celebrate the completion of temples. See how children have participated then and now. ◆

More than 12,000 children came to the Salt Lake Temple for the dedication. These children from the Sugar House Ward rode a train.

This ticket allowed children up to the age of 16 to attend special dedicatory services for the Salt Lake Temple. Apostles and members of the First Presidency spoke to the children inside the temple.

Sometimes temples are rededicated after they are remodeled. Primary children sang and carried lights in the performance that celebrated the rededication of the Anchorage Alaska Temple.

When the San Diego California Temple was being built, Primary children from Mexico made a colorful rug for the temple. General Authorities stood on the rug during the cornerstone service at the dedication.

Celebrating Temples!

Each week as the Gilbert Arizona Temple is being built, Primary children from the Gilbert Arizona Highland Stake have set a goal to serve someone in their wards.
Each temple has a cornerstone that shows the year it was dedicated. At the dedication, General Authorities seal the cornerstone with mortar. Isaac B., age 9, helped put mortar on the cornerstone of the Kansas City Missouri Temple.

Primary children in Manitoba, Canada, drove three hours to the Regina Saskatchewan Temple to touch the walls and commit to go inside one day.

More than 800 Primary children from West Africa sang “I Am a Child of God” at the cultural celebration before the Accra Ghana Temple was dedicated.

Primary children at the Kyiv Ukraine Temple open house welcomed visitors by singing “I Love to See the Temple.”

Primary children sang for President Gordon B. Hinckley when he arrived to dedicate the Aba Nigeria Temple.
Why do we have temples?
Temples of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are holy places where we learn eternal truths and take part in sacred ordinances.

What is it like inside the temple?
The temple is a peaceful, reverent, and beautiful place. Everything inside the temple is clean and orderly. Everyone dresses in white and speaks with quiet voices.

What happens in temples?
A husband and wife can be sealed together, and children can be sealed to their parents. The sealing makes it possible for families to be together for eternity. In the temple, men and women also receive a gift of spiritual blessings called the endowment. They can also receive the endowment and be sealed for those who died without making temple covenants.

What else happens in temples?
Besides the sealing and the endowment, other ordinances are done in temples. People can be baptized and confirmed for those who were not able to join the Church while they were alive. When you turn 12 and are worthy to enter the temple, you may have the opportunity to be baptized and confirmed for those who died without the gospel.

What if my family hasn’t been to the temple?
Heavenly Father knows and loves you and your family. He wants everyone to have the blessings of temple ordinances. Live worthy to enter the temple. Set a goal now that you will receive the endowment and marry in the temple some day. Your Heavenly Father will bless you and your family.

“My young friends . . . , always have the temple in your sights. Do nothing which will keep you from entering its doors and partaking of the sacred and eternal blessings there.”
President Thomas S. Monson
By Emília Maria Guimarães Correa

When a man speaketh by the power of the Holy Ghost the power of the Holy Ghost carrieth it unto the hearts of the children of men (2 Nephi 33:1).

Vítor lived with his mother and sister at his grandma’s home in Brazil. Vítor’s grandma became ill and could not leave her bed for many weeks. She was lonely in her room by herself.

Vítor decided that he could keep Grandma company. Every day when he came home from school, he took a copy of the Liahona into Grandma’s room and read her stories from the children’s pages.

After he read all the copies of the Liahona that his family had, he began reading the Book of Mormon and the Bible to her. Grandma was not a member of the Church, but she loved hearing Vítor read to her. She was happy to learn about the gospel.

Grandma asked many questions. If Vítor did not know the answers, he asked his Primary teacher or looked in the scriptures. Grandma called Vítor her little missionary.

Grandma told Vítor that she had learned a lot from him. She promised that she would attend church with him when she got well. What she had learned made her want to get better and study more about the gospel.

When Grandma was well, she kept her promise. She went to church with Vítor to learn more about what he had taught her. It was not long before Grandma was baptized and confirmed. Vítor had helped her learn that the gospel is true.

When Vítor grew up, he became a full-time missionary in the Boston Massachusetts Mission. Before he left, he went to the temple—with his grandma.
CRUNCHY CHICKEN CASSEROLE

1. Warm the vegetable oil in a pan and cook the chicken until it is light brown.
2. Place the browned chicken in the bottom of a baking dish.
3. Mix together the soup, sour cream, and broth. Pour it over the chicken. Top with crushed crackers and sprinkle with poppy seeds. Pour the melted butter over the crackers.
4. Bake at 350°F (180°C) for about 30 minutes.

BASIC MASHED POTATOES

2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 pounds (1 kg) boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into chunks
8 ounces (227 g) sour cream
1/2 cup chicken broth
1 cup cream of chicken soup
1 sleeve (about 40) saltine crackers (try crackers with different seasonings for added flavor)
2 teaspoons poppy seeds
1/2 cup butter, melted

1. Warm the vegetable oil in a pan and cook the chicken until it is light brown.
2. Place the browned chicken in the bottom of a baking dish.
3. Mix together the soup, sour cream, and broth. Pour it over the chicken. Top with crushed crackers and sprinkle with poppy seeds. Pour the melted butter over the crackers.
4. Bake at 350°F (180°C) for about 30 minutes.

SIMPLE MASHED POTATOES

2 pounds (1 kg) baking potatoes
3 tablespoons butter
3/4 to 1 cup milk
Salt and pepper to taste

1. Peel the potatoes and cut them into 2-inch (5-cm) pieces.
2. Put the potato pieces in a large saucepan and add water until the potatoes are covered. Add a pinch of salt.
3. Simmer potatoes for 10 minutes, or until they slide off easily after being poked with a fork.
4. Drain. Add butter and milk.
5. Mash the potatoes until smooth, adding more milk if you want to make it creamier.
6. Stir the potatoes over low heat until warm, and season with salt and pepper.
Sharing the Book of Mormon around the World

By Arie Van De Graaff

These children wrote their testimonies in the Book of Mormon to share them with others throughout the world. Follow the clues to figure out whose copy of the Book of Mormon is going to each continent. Answers on page 48.

Clue 1: Beth’s copy is going to a continent that touches two other continents.

Clue 2: Emma’s copy is going to a continent that doesn’t touch any other continents.

Clue 3: The continent where Emma’s copy is going is the color you get when you mix the colors of Adam’s and Beth’s continents.

Clue 4: Doug’s copy is going to a continent that touches the continent where Adam’s copy is going.

Clue 5: The continent where Chris’s copy is going is a primary color.

2. South America: _____________ 5. Asia: _____________
3. Europe: _____________ 6. Australia: _____________
Be Thoughtful

Jesus Christ said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me” (Mark 10:14). Jesus always treated everyone like they were important. Once, while Jesus was teaching, some people brought their children for Him to bless. His disciples were upset, but Jesus wanted the children to come to Him. Jesus took them in His arms and blessed them. (See Mark 10:13–16.)

Following Jesus

I LOVE TO SEE THE Temple

Are you getting ready to do baptisms for the dead for the first time? Here are some helpful tips.

- Dress respectfully. Wear nice clothes that you would wear to church.
- If you are a girl with long hair, tie it into a nice braid or ponytail so it doesn’t get tangled.
- If you’re nervous, talk to someone who has already gone.
- While at the temple, leave your cares behind. Think about those you are helping, and try to feel the Spirit.

For more tips, see “Getting Ready to Go to the Temple” in the March 2012 New Era, or “Juliana’s First Temple Trip” in the October 2012 Friend.

This Month’s Challenges:

**Challenge 1:** In Primary or at school, sit by someone your age who is alone and talk to them.

**Challenge 2:** Spend extra time cheering up a parent, brother, or sister who is having a hard day.

**Challenge 3:** Work with your family to help a neighbor or someone in your ward. You could do yard work, make a treat, or leave a friendly note!
Temple Bracelets

Have you met Edward B. from Canada yet? On page 26, he talks about how his family made colorful bracelets to remind them of their goal to be sealed together. You can make a bracelet to remind you of the blessings of the temple.

1. Cut three strands of different-colored string or embroidery floss. Tie a knot at one end and tape the knot to a table so you can pull against the strings as you braid.

2. Put the string on the right between the left and middle strings. Then put the left piece of string between the new right and middle strings.

3. Pull the two strings on the left and the string on the right away from each other so the braid is tight.

4. Repeat steps 2–3 until your bracelet is long enough to fit around your wrist, then tie the ends together.

Missionary Moment

One time I went on a field trip for school. On our way we went by the Boise Idaho Temple. I was so excited to see the temple. Some of my friends asked what the temple was. An LDS classmate and I told them about it, and I was able to bear my testimony to them. It made me feel wonderful to bear my testimony and be a missionary.

Lybee B., age 10, Oregon, USA
Where the Church Was Organized

If Maggie and Lily E. want to see where the Church was first organized, they don’t have to look very far. It’s right next door to the chapel in Fayette, New York, where they go to church every Sunday!

The Church wasn’t organized in a church building, but in a log house. The Prophet Joseph Smith had come to stay there with the Whitmer family in 1829. The original house no longer stands, but this log cabin is on the same spot.

The church building where Maggie and Lily go to church has a visitors’ center with displays about the Whitmer home and the special things that happened there. ◆

1. Joseph Smith finished translating the Book of Mormon here.

By Jan Pinborough
Church Magazines

Come along with us to explore an important place in Church history!
BAPTISM THEN AND NOW

Maggie, age 11, and Lily, age 9, were baptized in a font near the place where the first members of the Church were baptized.

Both girls were very excited to be baptized. When it was Lily’s turn to be baptized, she had an interview with her bishop. “He asked me if I had a testimony of the prophet and if I paid my tithing,” Lily said.

The girls both have good memories of their baptismal days. “When I came out of the water, I had a feeling that I could do anything,” Maggie said.

Both girls got journals so they could record their feelings about their special days.

2. Outside, not far from the house, three men saw the angel Moroni and the gold plates. They are called the Three Witnesses because they witnessed, or saw, the plates. You can find their testimonies in the front of the Book of Mormon.

3. On April 6, 1830, about 60 people came to a special meeting. Joseph Smith officially organized the Church, and the sacrament was blessed and passed. This was the first sacrament meeting!

4. Right after the meeting, Joseph Smith’s parents and several other people were baptized outside.
Jesus Christ Is the Head of the Church

When Jesus Christ lived on the earth, He organized His Church. He called Apostles, and He blessed the sacrament and gave it to them. But after Jesus was resurrected and His Apostles had died, nobody was left to lead His Church.

In 1830, Jesus Christ told Joseph Smith to organize His Church again. On April 6, Joseph Smith organized the Church in a meeting in Peter Whitmer’s home in Fayette, New York. Close to 60 people came. In the meeting, the sacrament was blessed and passed, like Jesus blessed the sacrament and gave it to His Apostles when He lived on earth.

Afterward, several people were baptized. Today, more than 14 million people around the world are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
“Scriptures are like packets of light that illuminate our minds and give place to guidance and inspiration from on high.”

Elder Richard G. Scott
Of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

From the October 2011 general conference.
Do you know what the word “courage” means? It means you don’t give up when situations are hard or painful. Everyone can have courage, including children like you! Katie V., from Florida, was born with Down syndrome and has had lots of health problems. But because of Katie’s courage, she has had a lot of good experiences too.

I had to have surgery near my vocal chords. But guess what? I still learned to sing! I also learned to read, even though some people thought I might not be able to. What are some things you like to do?

When I was little, it was hard for me to walk and talk. Doctors were afraid I might not be able to move very much. But over time, I learned to dance. Now I love dancing with my friends!

I love my family so much. And I know Heavenly Father loves me.

Learn more about helping friends with disabilities by visiting disability.lds.org.
To get ready for the Primary program, I learned the songs and memorized my part. But when it was my turn to speak into the microphone, I was scared by all of the people watching me. My Primary teachers tried to help me, but I was still too scared to say anything. Then my dad came up and held my hand. I didn’t feel scared anymore, and I said my part just right. That must be like how Heavenly Father helps all of us.

Do you want to see more pictures of Katie and meet other friends from all around the world? Go to lds.org/friend and click on "One in a Million."
Darkness fell, and Brent began to panic.

By Brent L. Top (Based on a true story)

Whatsoever ye ask the Father in my name it shall be given unto you, that is expedient for you (D&C 88:64). The sun began to set behind the baseball diamond. Brent squinted, focusing on the pitcher in front of him.

Brent shifted his weight back and forth, waiting for the next pitch. As the pitcher started his windup, everything seemed to slow down. Brent watched the ball sail from the pitcher's hand and arc toward him.

Brent swung his arms and watched his bat smack the baseball with a mighty crack! The next thing he knew, Brent was watching the ball sail over the head of the outfielder.

“Great job, Brent!” Coach said. “All right, guys. Practice is over. I'll see you all in a couple of days for our big game against the Tigers.”

Brent had a lot of fun playing baseball, and he was glad to be on his new team. Usually he walked home with teammates who lived in his neighborhood, but tonight he decided to walk home alone. After all, he was 11 years old and an all-star. Getting home couldn't be too hard.

After walking for a few minutes, Brent realized that
nothing really looked familiar. He didn’t recognize any of the houses or the people he passed by. Still, he wasn’t too concerned—until he noticed that the once-bright orange sky was now turning gray.

Brent felt relieved when he crossed the railroad tracks. He knew that his neighborhood was somewhere on the other side of these tracks. But as the evening light faded into darkness, his confidence faded into panic and fear.

Brent didn’t know how long or far he had walked, but he could definitely tell that he was not near his home. Trembling with cold and fear, Brent did the only thing he could think to do. He knelt down in the tall weeds of a vacant lot and prayed more sincerely than he had ever prayed before.

Then something wonderful happened. Brent’s fear and panic disappeared. A feeling of peace and joy washed over him. Brent was still lost, but he knew that Heavenly Father had heard his prayer.

Brent wiped tears from his eyes and stood up. He knew everything would be OK.

As Brent looked around, wondering which way to walk, he had a new idea.

“The temple,” Brent thought. “Of course!” Brent lived only a few blocks from the temple. He knew that if he could just find the temple, he would be able to find his way home.

Brent walked up the hill that was just ahead of him. When he reached the top, he could clearly see the spire of the temple illuminating the night sky.

Brent had seen the temple many times before, but seeing the temple standing as a beacon in front of him now felt especially meaningful.

Brent changed his direction and continued to walk, always keeping his eyes on the temple. Finally, he reached his home.

Brent felt grateful that Heavenly Father had heard his prayer. And he was especially thankful that he had the gift of the temple to help him find his way home.

On a drive to see my dad’s family, we had to drive over a big mountain. At the top of the mountain, I started to get nervous. Then I saw the Jordan River Temple and felt a warm feeling inside that made me feel safe and comfortable. Then a hill blocked my view. But when I thought about the temple, I felt that same feeling. For the rest of the night, I was safe.

Peter W., age 9, Idaho, USA
I belong to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I know who I am. I know God's plan. I'll follow Him in faith. I believe in the Savior, Jesus Christ. I'll honor His name. I'll do what is right; I'll follow His light. His truth I will proclaim.
Why does the Church have such a long name?

The members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles are special witnesses of Jesus Christ.

The words Church of Jesus Christ declare that it is His Church.

Jesus Christ Himself named the Church (see D&C 115:4).

Of Latter-day explains that it is the same Church as the Church that Jesus Christ established when He lived on earth but restored in these latter days.

Saints means that we follow Him and strive to do His will.

Our members have been called Mormons because we believe in the Book of Mormon, but we should use the full name of the Church whenever possible.

Adapted from “The Importance of a Name,” Ensign, Nov. 2011, 79–82.

ILLUSTRATION BY BRAD TEARE
1. Designing the Outside:
After the prophet announces a new temple, architects prayerfully study the scriptures and local culture while designing floor plans for the temple building. These plans are presented to the First Presidency for approval.

2. Designing the Inside:
Interior designers look through a room filled with hundreds of material samples to decide what will be used to make the temple furnishings. When the final selections are made, the samples are placed on boards and presented to the First Presidency.

While designers and architects are busy creating furnishings, artists create beautiful art and murals for the temple.

After about five months of designing, the temple rooms are drawn on a computer. These images, called renderings, are presented to the First Presidency.

3. Putting Everything Together:
Once a temple is constructed, all the furnishings need to be put in! Workers lay carpet and tile, install murals, and hang art. They clean windows, dust furniture, and polish metalwork in preparation for the temple’s upcoming open house.
Sculptor Stan Watts polishes a baptismal font before it is installed in the Brigham City Utah Temple.

This art glass was made for the Provo City Center Temple.

This desert painting was made for the Gilbert Arizona Temple.

Interior designer Linda Marshall looks at samples in the temple design sample room.

President Monson at the cornerstone ceremony during the dedication of the Oquirrh Mountain Utah Temple.

Designers often incorporate local materials and culture into a temple’s design. This doorplate from the Calgary Alberta Temple represents the many wheat fields growing in the area.

Many materials are created especially for a temple. These color samples were used to create furniture for the Tijuana Mexico Temple.

The final result is a brand-new temple!
Our First Family Home Evening

You are never too young to strengthen your family. Just ask Edward B., age 7, from Halifax, Canada. His testimony helped his father realize that the Church is true. Now their family is holding family home evening for the very first time and getting ready to go to the temple!

When I was born, my dad wasn’t a member of the Church. When he tucked me in at night, I always told him, “Daddy, you have to know that this really is the true Church.” Mom and I prayed and prayed that he would join the Church. Finally, one day he told me that he wanted to be baptized!

Even our cat came to family home evening!

We sang my favorite Primary song, “Nephi’s Courage,” and had chocolate brownies, which I love.

We braided bracelets out of colorful string. The strands of the bracelet are tied together to remind us that our family can be sealed together forever.

To prepare for family home evening, we visited the Halifax Nova Scotia Temple grounds. I took lots of pictures.

During our first family home evening, we talked about how our family could get ready to go to the temple. Every time we thought of a way we could prepare to go to the temple, we put one of my pictures of the temple up on a board.
The great work to be done in the temples of the Lord . . . [includes] the sealing of the children to their parents (D&C 138:48).


Six months ago my family adopted a baby girl, Ava. This little infant brought so much love and joy into our house. We loved her so much that we wanted to have her sealed to our family, but we had one problem.

In our state a baby has to be six months old before you can finalize an adoption. When the court date finally arrived, we went to the judge. He said, “This baby will be yours, just as if she had been naturally born to you.” Ava was officially adopted! Jumping for joy, we got back in the car and drove to Utah to get Ava sealed to us.

I was so excited as we drove to the Bountiful Utah Temple. I was going to the temple! Ava and my older sister, Bailey, and I were taken to the children’s center in the temple. When I told the temple workers the size for my white dress, I finally realized that this was really happening.

When we walked into the beautiful sealing room, right away I felt the Spirit. I knew this was an experience that most children don’t have. I was able to be in the sealing room when Ava was sealed to my parents.

Afterward, the sealer let the five of us stay in the sealing room by ourselves. My dad pointed out the mirrors on both sides of the altar. When you stand in between both mirrors, you can see hundreds of your own reflections looking like they go on forever. This reminds us that now we are sealed for eternity. Seeing the five members of my family standing there made me feel like we would all be together forever.

Now that I have gone through this experience, I know how important temples are. When I grow up, I want to get sealed to my husband and have our children sealed to us for time and all eternity.◆
The Church Is Organized in Fayette

By Arie Van De Graaff

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized on April 6, 1830, inside the Peter Whitmer home in Fayette, New York. Find the hidden objects in this scene of the Whitmer home.
A Picture of the Temple

By Shari Pingel

A picture of the temple
Hangs upon my wall.
I see it from my bed,
And I see it from the hall.

It makes me feel so peaceful;
Sometimes I sit and stare
And try hard to imagine
That I am standing there.

This picture of the temple
That hangs so I can see
Helps me to remember
The things that I can be.
For the temple is a holy place where we are sealed together. As a child of God, I’ve learned this truth: A fam’ly is forever (Children’s Songbook, 95).

I think you have plenty of petals,” Mom said to Autumn as she carefully placed another handful of pretty pink and white rose petals into Autumn’s basket.

Autumn frowned. “Just a few more,” she said, picking up some red ones.

The rose bushes that lined the sidewalk near Autumn’s house dropped what seemed like thousands of petals on the ground every spring. The neighbor who owned the bushes told Autumn she could collect all the petals she wanted. And Autumn wanted lots of them!

Autumn loved to dress up like a bride and act out pretend weddings. Sometimes she asked her sister to play the wedding song on the piano as she walked down the aisle, and sometimes she convinced a friend to be the pretend groom. And Autumn loved to scatter rose petals on the ground, just like flower girls did for brides in the movies.

One day, Mom told Autumn that her favorite cousin, Angie, was getting married in a few months. She had asked Autumn to be her flower girl! “That means I can walk down the aisle in a real wedding with a real bride
and groom!” Autumn exclaimed. “I know just what to do. I’ll carry a little basket with rose petals, and I will wear a beautiful dress, and—”

“Well, not quite,” Mom said. “You will be wearing a beautiful dress, but Angie is getting married in the temple, so she will not walk down an aisle.”

“Will I still throw rose petals at the wedding?” Autumn asked. Now she felt worried.

“No, honey,” Mom said. “Only people who have made special covenants with Heavenly Father can go inside the temple to see a wedding. But you can wait in a special room at the temple, and when Angie and Noah come out, you will be one of the first to see how happy they look. Then they will want to take lots of pictures with you, and they might need your help at the reception that night.”

“But Mom, won’t Angie be sad not to walk down the aisle?” Autumn asked. “That’s the best part of a wedding.”

Mom pulled Autumn close. “No, Angie won’t be sad,” she said. “And I think you know why. What do you remember about the temple?”

“When you get married in the temple, you can be together forever,” Autumn said.

“Right,” said Mom. “For time and all eternity. That means that Angie and Noah will be married forever if they obey the commandments. That’s the best part—and it makes them very happy.”

Autumn believed Mom. But deep inside, she still wished that Angie could walk down the aisle and that she could carry her little basket of rose petals.

On Angie’s wedding day, Autumn wore a pretty new dress and had pink flowers in her hair. At the temple, Autumn waited in a room with her cousins while Mom and Dad went inside to watch Angie and Noah get married. When Mom and Dad came out, they walked with Autumn around the temple grounds, and she saw flowers even prettier than the roses at home.

Soon Autumn saw the temple door open, and Noah and Angie walked out with radiant smiles. They looked so happy! It made Autumn feel warm and light inside.

As Angie and Noah walked around the temple grounds holding hands, Autumn knew they had made the right choice to be married in the temple, even though it meant that Autumn did not get to scatter rose petals like she had seen in the movies.

Mom noticed Autumn looking at Angie and squeezed her hand. Autumn smiled back. “I’m glad I got to see Angie and Noah come out of the temple,” she said, looking up at the beautiful white building. “It was much better than petals.”

“Why wasn’t Autumn’s cousin going to have a wedding like the ones in the movies?”

“There is nothing more important than honoring the marriage and family covenants you have made or will make in the temples of God.”

President Henry B. Eyring, First Counselor in the First Presidency
Max got ready to play superhero. He put on his red t-shirt. He put on his superhero cape. Then he went to his little sister’s room.

“Come on, Mia,” said Max. “Let’s go save the day!”
Max and Mia went into the living room. They saw a basket full of clothes. “Will you help me?” asked Mom. “OK,” Max said. “Then we can go save the day.”

Max and Mia helped Mom fold all the clothes and put them away.

Then Max saw some trash on the floor. “Let’s pick up all the trash,” said Max. “Then we can go save the day.”
Max and Mia raced around the house. They threw away all the trash they could find.
They saw Mom sweeping the kitchen floor. “We can help you,” Max said.
Mia held the dustpan while Max swept the floor.

“Now let’s go save the day,” Max said.
Mom looked around at the clean house. Then she hugged Max and Mia. “I think you already did!”
Jesus Walks on the Water

And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid (Matthew 14:26–27).
Matt and Mandy and their parents have moved to a new town and a new home. Now they are going to their new ward for the first time.

Dad says it's natural to be nervous, but if I act friendly, other people will be friendly too.

This looks kinda the same . . . but kinda different too.

I recognize the songs from our old ward.

But I feel good here, like going into the chapel at home. I mean, our old home.

The sacrament's exactly the same, and Mom always says that's what we're really here for.

Hi, we're the Coopers. We just moved into the ward.

Hi, my name's Mandy Cooper. We just moved in.

Hi, my name's Mandy Cooper. We just moved in.

Man, I'll sure be glad when I'm taller.

This is Sister Rogers, the Primary president. She'll introduce you to your teachers. And Dad and I will meet you here right after the meetings.

Hmmm. People here are nice too.

This really isn't so hard after all.

(To be continued.)
Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone (James 2:17).

One of the important lessons my mother taught me by her example was about praying with a plan. She said it was important to pray that Heavenly Father would guide me. But I should also do my part by having a plan to help my prayer be answered.

One day when I was about six years old, I learned what that meant. I had earned a nickel, so I decided to buy some candy. On my way to the store, I started flipping my shiny nickel in the air. On its way down, I missed catching it, and it fell into some tall grass. My nickel completely disappeared.

I felt very bad, and I decided to pray. I knew Heavenly Father would help me find the nickel. As I finished my prayer, I thought about what my mother had taught me. What plan could I make to help with my prayer?

Suddenly I had a great idea. I would go home and get another nickel. Then I would come back to the exact spot where I had lost my nickel. If I flipped the second nickel in the same way, I thought Heavenly Father could help me find my lost nickel.

I ran home and borrowed another nickel. Then I went back to the spot where I had been before. I flipped the second nickel, this time watching carefully to see where it landed. When I looked down, I saw both nickels lying side by side. I knew that Heavenly Father had helped me.

Heavenly Father loves me, and He loves you. When you have problems in your life, remember to pray and also to think about what plan you will have after your prayer. Heavenly Father will always guide you.
At school I made an awesome football field out of clay. My friend accidentally knocked it over and broke it. I was very sad. My friend also made a football field, so my teacher asked him to give me his. He had been so excited to show his parents that I said, “No, you can keep it.” He said he was sorry, and I forgave him. It made me feel good to forgive because that’s what Jesus would want me to do.

William S., age 8, Texas, USA

I am looking forward to getting baptized. I am trying to choose the right. Some things I do are send pictures to my grandma on her mission, read to my little sisters, and clean up. I also try to set a good example for my school friends. One time on the bus, my friend was saying bad words. I knew he was doing the wrong thing, so I asked him to stop. He did.

Palmer C., age 7, Washington, USA

One day I was playing on the computer, and a bad picture came on the screen. I had a bad feeling inside. I called my mom to come to the computer to help me change to a different game. I felt good knowing I was following Jesus Christ.

Maxx M., age 5, Utah, USA

Children in the Charleston West Virginia Stake attended a Primary activity where they learned about Captain Moroni and the title of liberty. Their stake president also taught them about a title of liberty that their stake made.

Ande B., age 7, Alaska, USA
Prayer
We pray to Heavenly Father.
It’s very simple, you see.
You bow your head and close your eyes
And fold your arms like me.
That is how you start a prayer.
It isn’t hard to do.
The more you pray, the more you’ll know
God watches over you.

Alex R., age 8, Arizona, USA

Madison T., age 6, Iowa, USA

Allison H., age 8, California, USA

Le Grand T., age 6, Philippines

Bronwyn and Tegwen B., ages 12 and 8, Manitoba, Canada, are sisters and best friends who enjoy playing together. They both attend a French-speaking school and like to figure skate and dance. Bronwyn’s hobbies are playing the violin and reading. Tegwen likes playing the piano and swinging from monkey bars.

Hyrum B., age 7, South Dakota, USA, is the only one his age in his ward. He tries to be an excellent example at church and school. He has memorized all the Articles of Faith, and he is a good brother to his two younger brothers and younger sister. He is excited to be baptized soon.

Benjamin, David, Andrew, and Rebecca, S., ages 4, 8, 2, and 6, Florida, USA, are excited that a new temple is being built an hour from their home. Each Sunday, they bring their scriptures to Primary and the Primary presidency adds a penny to a jar for each set of scriptures. When the jar is full, the pennies will be donated to building the temple. They love the temple and know their family can be together forever because of temples.

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Have you visited a temple? Write us a letter about how you felt. Turn to page 48 to find out how.
Imagine going on a treasure hunt. Where would you look for the treasure? How would you find it? Would there be a treasure box? What would be inside?

Some treasure boxes contain beautiful jewelry and precious coins. But as members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we have a treasure that is even more valuable: the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Many people don’t know about this treasure, so one of our duties is to share it with as many people as we can.

After Jesus and His Apostles died, some important gospel teachings and ordinances were lost or changed, including baptism, priesthood authority, temples, living prophets, and the sacrament.

All of these gospel treasures were restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ appeared to Joseph Smith in the Sacred Grove when he prayed to know the truth.

Later Joseph received the gold plates and translated them into the Book of Mormon. The Book of Mormon contains teachings that we treasure because it explains truths that were once lost. We receive many blessings because we have these gospel truths.

What precious treasures these are!◆

Jesus Christ Restored His Church in the Latter Days

You can use this lesson and activity to learn more about this month’s Primary theme.

Scripture and Song

- Doctrine and Covenants 35:17
- “The Sacred Grove,” Children’s Songbook, 87 (or another song about the Restoration of the gospel)

Let’s Talk

Share how the treasures of the gospel of Jesus Christ bless your family.
MAKE A GOSPEL TREASURE BOX

Cut out, fold, and paste this treasure box like the diagram at the bottom shows. Cut out the coins that list some of the treasures the gospel has given you and place them inside the box. Look at the treasures in the box often to remind yourself of the blessings of the gospel. You can cut out more coins and think of more gospel treasures to add to your box.
By Jane McBride Choate
(Based on a true story)

I'm much too young to go abroad to teach and preach the word of God, but I can show I know it's true, quite simply, by the things I do (Children's Songbook, 170–71).

W hy does André have to stay in my room?” Chad complained.

“Because he's closest in age to you,” Mom said.

Chad's family was hosting a French foreign exchange student. André was fourteen, two years older than Chad.

“He does weird things,” Chad said. One morning André had asked if he could have coffee with breakfast. He said everyone in France drank coffee, even the children.

“Maybe he thinks the things we do are weird as well,” Mom pointed out.

Chad thought about that.

When Chad’s alarm rang early Sunday morning, he jumped out of bed. Chad had just turned 12, and this was the day he would receive the Aaronic Priesthood.

André rubbed his eyes. “It is Sunday. No school.”

Chad nodded. “True. But I’m going to church. You can come if you want.”

André sat up and yawned. “Thank you. I would like that,” he said.

At church, André watched as Chad was ordained a deacon by his father, the bishop, and another man in the ward.

“What is this Aaronic Priesthood?” André asked on the way home.

“The priesthood is authority God gives so we can do things for Him here on earth,” Dad explained.

André turned to Chad. “What kinds of things can you do? You are only a boy.”

“Next week I can pass the sacrament.”

“That is where you eat the bread and drink the water?” André asked.
Chad nodded.
During the next week, André asked more questions about the Church. Chad did his best to answer them.
When Chad and his father planned a shopping trip to buy Chad a suit and white shirt for Sunday, André asked to come along.
“Sure,” Chad said.
At the store, Chad looked at suits with his father and André. “I like this one,” Chad said, pointing to a dark navy suit.
Dad nodded. “It looks nice. Let’s find a white shirt to go with it.”
“Why do you get so dressed up?” asked André.
“I want to look my best when I pass the sacrament to show respect,” Chad said. “The bread and water remind us of Jesus Christ and of the promises we make when we are baptized.”

André looked thoughtful.
“André sure asks a lot of questions,” Chad said to his father later that evening.
“He’s adjusting to American culture,” Dad said. “Not to mention learning to live with an LDS family.”
As the weeks passed, Chad spent more time helping André learn about the Church.
When it was time for André to go home, Chad had a hard time saying good-bye.
“I’ll email you,” Chad promised.
Several months later, Chad’s family received an email from André saying he had been baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He included pictures of himself dressed in white and standing between two missionaries.
“That’s the best news ever!” Chad said. ◆

THE NAME OF THE CHURCH IN OTHER LANGUAGES

French: Église de Jésus-Christ des Saints des Derniers Jours
Spanish: La Iglesia de Jesucristo de los Santos de los Últimos Días
Finnish: Myöhempien Aikojen Pyhien Jeesuksen Kristuksen Kirkon
German: Kirche Jesu Christi der Heiligen der Letzten Tage
An Unexpected Test

By Kelly Hunsaker
(Based on a true story)

Dare to do right! Dare to be true! (Children’s Songbook, 158).

It was only the first day of school, and already the whole fifth grade was talking about the dance that would be held after school later in the year.

Morgan took another bite of her peanut butter and honey sandwich as she listened to her best friend, Leisel, chatter away.

“Did you hear that Bryson already asked Kayla to go to the dance with him?” Leisel asked, placing her tray on the table next to Morgan’s lunch bag. “I heard that Caden is going to ask you.”

“Really?” Morgan asked, surprised. She remembered being taught not to date until she was 16. Would this count as a date? It sort of sounded like it from the way everyone was talking.

The more she thought about it, the more Morgan’s stomach began to feel uncomfortable. She knew something wasn’t quite right.

“I don’t think I’m going to go to the dance,” she said. “Why? I think it will be fun,” Leisel said. When Morgan
didn’t say anything, Leisel shrugged and kept talking. “Besides, you’ve been friends with Caden forever. What if you hurt his feelings and he doesn’t want to be your friend anymore?”

Morgan quietly swallowed her last bite of her sandwich. “There’s Kayla,” Leisel said, interrupting Morgan’s thoughts and pointing to the field. “Let’s go play soccer with her.”

Before she could answer, Morgan heard someone call her name. She turned around. Caden was running toward her!

“Hi, Morgan. I want to ask you something,” Caden said. He took a deep breath. Morgan braced herself. She knew what was coming next.

“Will you go to the dance with me?”

Morgan’s stomach did a flip-flop. She glanced over her shoulder. Her friends were watching her and whispering and giggling. If she said no to Caden, would they think she was weird? Would Caden be sad?

For a moment, Morgan thought about saying yes. She could probably find a way to go if she really wanted to. But the uncomfortable feeling came back.

Now it was her turn to take a deep breath. “I’m going to wait until I’m older to date.”

Caden’s eyebrows shot upward. “It doesn’t have to be a real date,” he said. “We can just go as friends.”

Morgan slowly shook her head. She could tell by the way she felt that it was not the right choice.

“The dance is too much like a date,” Morgan said. “I’m sorry.”

Caden looked at his feet. His voice was quiet as he turned to leave. “All right. I guess I understand.”

Morgan didn’t want Caden to be sad. She quickly started talking again before he had the chance to walk away.

“Caden, I want to be friends with you. We can still do fun things together.”

Caden looked up. “Really?”

“Sure! Like right now. Why don’t we play some soccer?” Morgan asked, flashing him a grin. “C’mon, they’re waiting!”

As she and Caden ran toward the game, Morgan felt the knot in her stomach disappear. She knew she had made the right choice.

Morgan couldn’t wait to tell her family that there had been a test on the very first day of school—and that she had passed it with flying colors. ◆
The Church today is the same as the Church was in ancient times. Draw a line from each gospel subject in the middle row to the scripture verses on either side that talk about it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IN CHRIST’S TIME</th>
<th>THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST</th>
<th>IN MODERN TIMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matthew 3:13–17</td>
<td>Apostles</td>
<td>D&amp;C 20:37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew 10:1–4</td>
<td>Baptism</td>
<td>D&amp;C 20:75–79</td>
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I found some pictures to go with my family home evening lesson.
We would like to know what you think about the *Friend*. With help from a parent, will you please fill out this survey and mail it to us? You can find our address on page 48. Thank you!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am a:</th>
<th>This is how I read the <em>Friend</em> (please check one):</th>
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<tr>
<td>□ Boy</td>
<td>□ I flip quickly through the pages. If anything looks good to me, I read it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Girl</td>
<td>□ I read a little at a time until I’ve read most or all of it.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ I read it cover to cover as soon as I get it.</td>
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<td>I am ____________ years old.</td>
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<th>I have brothers or sisters who also read the <em>Friend</em>:</th>
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<td>□ Yes</td>
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<td>□ No</td>
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<th>My favorite part of the <em>Friend</em> is (please check one):</th>
<th>The part of the <em>Friend</em> that I like the least is (please check one):</th>
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<td>□ Bright Idea</td>
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<td>□ Stories about Church leaders</td>
<td>□ Stories about Church leaders</td>
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<td>□ Stories with illustrations</td>
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<td>□ Matt and Mandy cartoons</td>
<td>□ Matt and Mandy cartoons</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Pictures and poems from other children</td>
<td>□ Pictures and poems from other children</td>
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<td>□ Stories written by other children</td>
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<td>□ Coloring pages</td>
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<td>□ Recipes</td>
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<td>Other: ________________________________________________</td>
<td>Other: ________________________________________________</td>
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<th>Here’s a suggestion I have for making the <em>Friend</em> better:</th>
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Illustration by Mark Robison
Possible Ideas for Family Home Evening

1. Use the Bringing Primary Home lesson and activity to learn more about this month’s Primary theme (pages 40–41).

2. Read “A Special Pigeon” (pages 2–3). Talk about something you can do to help and serve another family in your ward.

3. As a family, read “Our First Family Home Evening” (page 26). Edward’s family made bracelets to remember the temple. Think of your own creative way to remember the temple in your family.

4. Read “An Unexpected Test” (pages 44–45). Discuss as a family what to do if you were in a situation where you had to defend your standards.

5. Fill out the Friend survey (page 47) and send it in to us! Talk about how you can use the Church magazines more in your family.

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Key 040204
Wilford Woodruff served a mission in Great Britain in the 1840s. Because of his service, more than 1,000 people were baptized. Wilford Woodruff later served as president of the St. George Utah Temple. As President of the Church, he pushed for Utah to become a state. He also received the revelation and issued Official Declaration—1 instructing the Saints to stop practicing polygamy.
What’s online?

Did you find the “I Can Play It!” song? This month’s “I Can Play It!” song is “The Church of Jesus Christ.” Go to lds.org/friend and click on “I Can Play It!” to find many more songs to learn and listen to.

Are you keeping up with the “On the Trail” map? Each month you can find and cut out another piece to add to it. Find the map in the January Friend or print it out by going to lds.org/friend and clicking on “Other Issues” to find the January Friend.

Through Your Eyes

I am very grateful for Heavenly Father’s beautiful creations, and I am very thankful for the flowers He gives us.

Andrew C., age 11, Utah, USA

Do you like taking photos? We’d like to see your best shots about how Heavenly Father blesses your life. Email them to friend@ldschurch.org and include your name, age, and where you’re from. Please also include a sentence explaining how your picture shows Heavenly Father’s blessings in your life. Remember, we can’t publish your submission without a parent’s permission in the email. If there are people in the photo, we also need to know that they gave their permission to be photographed. We’re looking forward to seeing Heavenly Father’s blessings through your eyes!