

Jean B. Bingham
Relief Society General President



Sharon Eubank
First Counselor, Relief Society
General Presidency

aving lived in several locations in the United States, Sister Jean B. Bingham appreciates how the gospel provides a stable influence during changes in environment.

Born in 1952 in Provo, Utah, USA, to Robert and Edith Joy Barrus, she grew up with six sisters and two brothers. She attended elementary school in Texas and Minnesota, USA, and finished high school in New Jersey. She and her siblings were the only LDS students in their schools until they moved to New Jersey, where she was delighted to discover a girl from her new ward in her class.

After she and Bruce Bingham married in the Provo Utah Temple on December 22, 1972, they moved to Illinois to continue his schooling.

Two children were born to Brother and Sister Bingham, and they claim as their own others whom they have fostered. She earned an associate degree in family living, and when their youngest child was in high school, she returned to school and earned a master's degree in teaching.

Sister Bingham's first calling in Relief Society came shortly after the birth of her first child. "I was called to teach the mother education lessons. It was a great opportunity to learn from the examples of other sisters as well as the manual."

Sister Bingham traveled extensively during her service as a Primary general board member and as a counselor in the Primary General Presidency. She has seen the challenges and blessings of being a member of the Church in areas across the globe.

She hopes Relief Society sisters will recognize the goodness in one another. "It's a temptation to compare ourselves with others, which is counterproductive and opposite of what Heavenly Father wants for us." She says that Relief Society helps each sister develop an understanding of who she is in the eternal realm. "When we center our lives on Jesus Christ, we really know who we are," she said.

As a new employee with LDS Humanitarian Services, Sharon Eubank witnessed misery, sadness, and grief that made it hard for her to function. Through prayer, she came to understand that although she could help the Lord take care of His children, she was not in charge of that sorrow. "Jesus Christ is in charge. He will bear this burden. They are His people, and He hears and answers their prayers." That answer changed her ability to reach out and serve.

Years later, Sister Eubank, as the director of LDS Charities—the humanitarian arm of the Church—has delivered aid and promoted self-reliance to those in need across the globe.

Sustained on April 1, 2017, to the Relief Society General Presidency, she will continue in her role as director of LDS Charities. There is a "great link" between LDS Charities and Relief Society, where members of the Relief Society General Presidency sit on the board of directors for LDS Charities, she explained. Her responsibilities with both organizations will strengthen that link.

Born in 1963 in Redding, California, USA, Sharon is the oldest of Mark and Jean Eubank's seven children. Raised in Bountiful, Utah, USA, Sister Eubank grew up on a 10-acre (4 ha) plot of land where the Eubank children picked apricots, repaired sprinklers, and had close access to Utah's mountains.

Sister Eubank received her bachelor's degree in English and history from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and served in the Finland Helsinki Mission.

In addition to her work with the Church's Welfare Department, Sister Eubank worked on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., USA, was co-owner of a small business, and lived abroad in Japan and France.

Each opportunity was a "leap of faith" that helped her learn the skills she uses today, allowed her to meet wonderful people inside and outside of the Church, and gave her a love and appreciation for many of the world's cultures, languages, and foods.