

South Weber Utah Stake
Stake Temple and Family History Plan
 October 2019

The vision for our area and stake is to “Become and help others become true followers of Jesus Christ, receive the blessings of the holy temple, have enduring joy, and qualify for eternal life.” Temple and family history work is one of our important prophetic priorities.

Stake Leadership and Resources

Stake Presidency	Joel Workman
Stake Temple and Family History Leader	TBD
Ward Consultant Training and Help	TBD
Family History Research Training and Help	Sunny Price
FamilySearch Indexing Training and Help	Heather Gamble

Stake Presidency and High Councilors

1. Make temple and family history an important emphasis of leadership meetings, talks and stake activities.
2. Assign a motivated and dependable high councilor to be the Stake Temple and Family History Leader to oversee and promote temple and family history efforts in the stake.
3. Conduct bi-monthly training for ward temple and family history leaders and consultants.
4. Conduct specialized training as needed for new consultants, family history research, indexing, etc.
5. Coordinate with the full-time missionaries and stake mission leader regarding missionary teaching, activation and retention efforts
6. Invite family history consultants into your home for personalized family history experiences.

Bishop and Counselors

1. Make temple and family history an important emphasis of leadership meetings, lessons, talks and ward activities.
2. Call a motivated and dependable priesthood holder to be temple and family history leader. This can be the elders quorum president, a counselor in the elders quorum presidency or another priesthood holder.
3. Call several (4+) temple and family history consultants including some youth consultants. Invite them to



become trained, do their own family history work and make 2-3 personalized home visits per month.

4. Review and discuss the Family History Activity Report for your ward (in LCR).
5. Invite family history consultants into your home for personalized family history experiences.

Elders Quorum President and Counselors

1. Under direction from the bishop, lead the ward temple and family history work in the ward. Make temple and family history an important emphasis of ward council discussions, presidency meetings and quorum meetings.
2. Help the ward council and temple and family history leader develop a ward temple and family history plan.
3. Provide appropriate coordination between the bishop, ward council and temple and family history leader (temple preparation efforts, 11-year-old youth, recent converts, etc.).
4. Participate in ward temple and family history meetings.
5. Recommend individuals and families to receive personalized family history experiences.

Relief Society President and Counselors

1. Support the ward temple and family history work in the ward. Make temple and family history an important emphasis of ward council discussions, presidency meetings and Relief Society meetings.
2. Help the ward council and family history leader develop a ward Temple and Family History Plan.
3. Participate in ward temple and family history meetings.
4. Recommend individuals and families to receive personalized family history experiences.

Family History Leader

1. Become a very good family history consultant (see below).
2. Under the direction of the elders quorum president, organize and coordinate temple and family history efforts in your ward. Maintain and implement the ward temple and family history plan.
3. Orient and train ward family history consultants.
4. Conduct regular ward temple and family history coordination meetings.
5. Arrange for and track one-on-one visits conducted by ward consultants
6. Organize ward and class temple trips and family history activities
7. Speak in sacrament meetings and other meetings about temple and family history work
8. Coordinate with the ward missionary teaching, activation and retention efforts

Family History Consultants (Youth and Adult)

1. Dig in. Learn how to use the FamilySearch website and mobile application, complete your own four-generation chart, perform descendancy searches, check and add resources to family records, merge duplicate records, add memories, index and take your own names to the temple.
2. Watch <https://www.rootstech.org/video/serving-as-a-temple-and-family-history-consultant>

3. Review often and use the training resources at <https://www.familysearch.org/help/helper>.
4. Visit the Layton FamilySearch Center and become familiar with the resources there. Take classes offered at the center including:
 - a. Consultant and Leader Training
 - b. Youth Family History Consultant Training
 - c. Using Helper Resources to Discover Family History Experiences
5. Attend RootsTech and/or review the RootsTech resources online at <https://www.rootstech.org>.
6. Make 2-3 home visits each month to provide a “personalized family history experience” for individuals and families (see below). Start with ward leaders, family members and friends. Initially you could say, “I’m a new family history consultant. Can I practice by visiting with you in your home and helping you with family history work?” Learn and follow the steps: pray, prepare, minister one-on-one and invite. Follow up with additional training and encouragement.
7. Promote temple and family history in the ward through activities and trips.

[Temple and Family History in the Home](#)

Ward members are encouraged to attend the temple regularly and take their own family names to the temple. Where possible, each member should be involved with one or more additional aspect of family history work – family history research, indexing, adding memories, etc. Church leaders have emphasized the need for 10- and 11-year-old children and recent converts to have personalized family history experiences. Family history experiences may include:

1. Keeping a personal journal.
2. Organizing family history information and capturing stories and memories about your first four generations using the [My Family: Stories That Bring Us Together](#) booklet (\$1 each).
3. Adding details to your family’s story by following Record Hints, performing descendancy searches, adding sources to records, correcting errors, merging duplicates, searching historical records, etc.
4. Gathering and sharing family stories, photos and audio recordings in the FamilySearch Family Tree and FamilySearch Mobile apps.
5. Helping make genealogical records searchable through FamilySearch Indexing.
6. Finding ancestors needing temple ordinances by adding new names that need temple work, or by adding new information to existing names. The Ordinances Ready feature in the FamilySearch Family Tree app is also available if needed.
7. Submitting names for temple ordinances (a “temple submitter” is an individual member who prints a Family Ordinance Request (FOR) or a family ordinance card to take to the temple or who shares an ordinance with the temple)
8. Planning fun trips and other activities that highlight temple and family history.

[The Ward Temple and Family History Plan](#)

A simple ward temple and family history plan is developed and discussed by the ward council and approved by the bishop (see Example below). The plan outlines specific ways to lift the ward’s overall vision and attitude toward temple and family history work. Ongoing ward efforts could include:

1. Encouraging ongoing temple and family history work in the home.
2. Using ward family history consultants to provide personalized family history experiences to ward members and families.
3. Involving 10- and 11-year-old children and new converts in family history work.
4. Helping ward members complete their own four-generations pedigree chart.
5. Helping with temple preparation and temple attendance (ward temple nights, youth baptisms for the dead, etc.).
6. Teaching members how to use FamilySearch and FamilySearch apps.

Personalized Family History Experiences

Temple and family history consultants provide personalized family history “discovery” experiences. These are simple activities or lessons that help another person or family feel closer to each other and their ancestors. Each discovery experience should be based on the interests of the person or family. When planning these experiences, consultants should prayerfully consider what will best help the individuals they are helping increase their love of family, build connections, and provide needed temple ordinances for their ancestors.

Consultant visits need not be long (30-40 minutes) but return visits are encouraged. An emphasis should be placed on teaching members to do family history work using their own computer or other devices. A few basic principles will help consultants create more meaningful personalized family history experiences and bless the lives of the people they serve:

1. The first principle is to **pray**. God knows who is prepared for a personalized family history experience. He knows too the story, activity, or even photograph that could soften that person’s heart and turn him or her to God. Consultants can pray to be led to ancestors waiting for their temple ordinances and ask that the person or family they are helping do the same.
2. The second principle is to **prepare**. Getting things ready for a personalized family history experience takes time—time to pray, time to plan, and time to talk to the other person or family and find out what they are interested in learning about.
3. The third principle is to **minister**. Consultants serve people one-on-one, as the Savior did. They meet in homes and in meetinghouses—wherever is most convenient. They likewise adapt their teaching methods to the other person’s physical or spiritual circumstances.
4. The final principle is to **invite**. Following a personalized family history experience, the consultant invites the person to build on what he or she has discovered. These invitations are simple and achievable. They point towards a specific task that the person can do on his or her own or that a family can do together.

Sample Ward Temple and Family History Plan**ABC Ward Temple and Family History Plan**

- The bishopric and ward council will encourage adults and youth to obtain a temple recommend, attend the temple at least once per month and take their own family names to the temple.
- Individuals and families will be encouraged to engage in temple and family history activities on the Sabbath and other days. These activities could include journal writing, adding memories to family records, indexing, family history research, finding ancestor names for the temple, temple trips, family history trips, etc.
- Family History Consultants will be trained and available to help members with FamilySearch, four-generation pedigree charts, descendency searches, family history research, indexing and other family history activities.
- Family History Consultants will provide personalized family history experiences in 2-3 member homes each month. Special focus will be placed on 10- and 11-year-old members and new converts to the church.
- The youth will organize a monthly temple activity to do baptisms for the dead. This will usually be on the 2nd Saturday at 6:00 am. They will take their own family names to the temple. The bishop will provide donuts afterward.
- Ward temple coordinators will organize monthly ward temple nights.