

Date: **April 6, 2019**
From: **Restoration Women's Ministries (RWM)**
Barbara Giertz, Chairperson
Report: **Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

This has been a year of review for the RWM committee. It has also been a time of experiment and expansion.

For the past ten years, the RWM committee has prepared lesson books for women's study. They have had a mixed response. A few branches have fully used these lessons, but they seem to have been largely ignored by others. We have not prepared any new lessons for 2019. Instead, we are in process of reviewing the prior ten years for any corrections that may be needed in either content or presentation. This is currently in process and will be completed in the next few months.

We would encourage the various branches to investigate the lessons available and utilize them in their gatherings.

The RWM has consistently offered to go to any gathering of women and present classes. The most we have been able to do is in the international areas simply because we prefer to be invited. Sister Rita Woolery has ministered to women in Rwanda, and around the United States this year. There are plans for international ministry in this coming fiscal year of 2019-2020.

However, early this year, 2019, the RWM did prepare and present three women's retreats on the same day, in three different venues (Keosauqua, IA, Dallas, TX, and Independence, MO) on the subject, "We ARE Daughters of the King". Because the winter weather also presented difficulties, attendance was not what we had hoped. However, reports from each of the locations voiced a firm understanding and acknowledgement that the Spirit of the King was with His daughters.

Our sincere desire for the coming year is that we may assist the Daughters of the King to move on from 'trying' to the 'DOING' of the Will of our Father and King in all aspects of life. We continue to ask for invitations to come and share wherever the Lord leads his daughters to walk. We will also prepare again to present whatever and wherever the Lord leads us to do.

Respectfully,

Karen Bates (2019)

Debbie Newman (2021)

Lorrie Turner (2019)

Betty Vickery (2021)

Rita Woolery (2020)

Barbara Giertz, Chair (2020)

Date: **April 10, 2019**
From: **The Beacon Committee**
Report: **Latter Day Saints' Beacon Activities and Plans**

December 2018 marked the 11th birthday of *The Latter Day Saints' Beacon*, the official magazine of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches. There have been a few struggles to overcome in the most recent year, but they have been addressed and we are moving to establish a more regular production schedule.

The magazine has a current circulation of approximately 1400 addresses in the United States. Since last Conference we have produced four issues. Two more issues are in line for printing.

The Beacon Editorial Board consists of the following persons:

Editorial Staff: Gary Whiting, Editor-in-Chief
Hugh Caldwell Nancy Clardy Barbra Jordison
Chad Nestman Genie Simmons Alan Smith

Graphic Designer: Tara Broadway

In July 2018, the Editors voted to make a minor change to the way we handle scripture references in the magazine. For the first 10 years of the *Beacon*, references to the Book of Mormon and Doctrine and Covenants used the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Community of Christ) chapter and verse system. This was an adequate system because at that time our readership overwhelmingly used those versions of scripture.

In recent years the JCRB has been actively interacting with members of the Church of Jesus Christ (Bickertonite) and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons). To make the *Beacon* more accessible to readers of those traditions, references to the LDS numbering system are now given immediately following the RLDS references as follows: **Jacob 3:68/5:25** or **D&C 17:10a-e/20:46-52**. We also match Inspired Version references from Genesis with parts of the Book of Moses.

We are pleased to announce the beginning of a new feature in the magazine – a word puzzle called 10:16~TriCrostics. An introductory puzzle with an introduction to acrostics is included on the last pages of this report. We look forward to receiving feedback from our readers regarding this new feature.

The TriCrostic word puzzles coincide nicely with the thematic plans we have for the Beacon. It has always been the plan to have each issue of the magazine focus on a single theme. For the foreseeable future, the theme of the Beacon will be the Book of Mormon. We have already done issues on 1 Nephi, 2 Nephi and Jacob.

For the Restoration, there is no better object for our study and attention than the Book of Mormon. It is the primary testimony of the Restoration and we hope that a brief look at the riches of this book will refresh the interest in and appetite for the Book of Mormon which the Lord called the New Covenant in D&C 83:8b/84:57.

We also have plans for extending the reach of the Beacon into other countries. In our budget for the next year we are seeking funding to support printing the Beacon in Nigeria and Brazil. The Nigerian version will be the full magazine in English and in full color. Our budget request is

based on a firm bid from a printing firm in Umahia, Nigeria. The plan is to begin with 500 copies which will be distributed to the members through the branches.

The plan in Brazil was presented to us by Elder Lucinaldo Bezerra. He has been translating portions of the *Beacon* into Portuguese on his own and sending them around. He has even posted some on his website. We will be developing a template to standardize the appearance of his translations and we desire to fund the printing work there. He is only translating select portions of the magazine and we are grateful for his desire and efforts.

Many of the missionaries travel with copies of the *Beacon* and leave them in the places they visit. There are still places, however, where English is not the primary or customary language. Hopefully, in the near future, we can expand into other languages and countries.

It is a privilege and a joy for us to produce this magazine. The support of the Saints is very encouraging to us as is the willingness of the Saints to contribute in support of this magazine. We have asked for a donation of \$25.00 from each subscriber to support the magazine. This would more than cover what we have requested in the budget. A donation of \$25.00 per year is \$2.08 a month. We rarely mention the costs of this project, but this is an appropriate time to address the matter.

We remain dedicated to producing a quality magazine technically and with a clear and accurate witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Please address your prayers to the Lord on our behalf and your comments to beacon@conferenceofbranches.org.

The Beacon Staff

New Beacon Feature Announced

By Gary Whiting

We are pleased to announce a new feature for *The Latter Day Saints' Beacon*. It is called **10:16~TriCrostic**, and, at least for now, it is available exclusively in the *Beacon*. If well-received, we are assured by the creator of these word puzzles, it will remain so.

10:16~TriCrostics are crossword-type puzzles that are designed to educate, entertain and promote the Restoration. The **10:16~TriCrostic** is unique in that it features, as its inspiration, the Book of Mormon. Each **10:16~TriCrostic** has a series of main clues. The letters from the answers to those clues are then re-arranged to form a passage from the Book of Mormon. The first letter of each answer spells out the source/location of the

passage. Each 10:16~TriCrostic has three layers of difficulty. Using only the main clues to solve the passage is most challenging. Using the main clues and the ancillary clues and illustrative quotes and pictures makes solving it somewhat easier. And finally, many (sometimes all) of the answers can be found in the given citations to the Book of Mormon meaning everyone can somehow solve the puzzle and discover the passage.

Crostics have a long tradition in the Church. In 1844, five years after the Saints' general exodus from Missouri and just a few months before Joseph Smith's assassination, *Times and Seasons* published an acrostic tribute to him (*Times and Seasons*, Volume 5, Number 5, March 1, 1844, pages 461-462):

AN ACROSTIC ON THE GREAT MORMON PROPHET.

Jehovah's voice let every nation hear! Hold fast ye saints, and keep your eyes on heav'n –
On mighty winds, his chariot wheels doth roll!! 'Ere long you'll hear the mighty trumpet sound!
Sing loud his praise, and let the heathen fear Woe to the men who are not then forgiv'n
Earth tremble – heaven inspire the holy soul Each cries for pardon, when it can't be found.
Proclaim his will as now to me 'tis given See cloud on cloud in august grandeur roll!
Heaven's last direction in the way to heaven! To judgment come, to judgment every soul!!

The Spirit cries to my standard, come, Earth's mighty mountains then shall disappear –
Haste all ye pilgrims, – fill our fertile plains Rivers and seas to mingled blood shall turn,
Enlarge our borders, – find us a home, Night's awful reign is now approaching near,

Gain peace and joy, where heavenly pleasure reigns! Each saint rejoices while the wicked mourn!
Reject the creeds, that long have kept you bound, 'Midst flaming worlds, thy servants God of Love,
Enter our sanctum Nauvoo's holy ground. Pass on unharmed, to glorious realms above!
Attend ye nations to his great command! In Christ believe and God who dwells on high;
The time is now when men must rise or fall, Repent and pray your sins may be forgiven;

Proclaim his will-the judgment's near at hand! Escape the death that's never doomed to die,
Regain your freedom and obey this call – On wings of faith your souls shall soar to heaven –
On Zion's shore doth hope and virtue dwell,
Peace to the righteous that no tongue can tell!
Hosanna to the Lord who guards our host –
Encamped with gospel armour purely bright,
Tis with the sword of truth we conquer most,

Our foes shall perish, when they dare to fight.
Fierce bigots with their creeds dare not contend,

They fall beneath the truth and find their end. Farewell to earth – now joys immortal rise,
Hosanna to the Lord who guards our host –
Encamped with gospel armour purely bright,

Sing loud hosanna's as you mount the skies.
Almighty power! protect our little band,
Increase our faith, our virtue and our love,
Nor let our foes e'er get the upper hand,
To drive our people from their chosen land –
Surround us with a HALO from above.

The Restorer, a Saints' publication from Great Britain, published their mission statement in the form of an acrostic in 1866 (*The True Latter Day Saints' Herald*: Volume 10, Number 4, August 15, 1866, page 63).

“The Restorer”

AN ACROSTIC.

Tell ye in England – tell in Wales,
How o’er fair Zion’s hills and dales,
Eternal light and love prevails.

Rich are the blessings that we claim,
Eternal truth in Jesus’ name;
Sent through Joseph’s favored seed,
To nations in this hour of need;
Opening anew the gospel plan,
Restoring all the gifts to man,
Enlightening all, so that they may
Return to God without delay.

In his autobiography, Apostle Charles Derry, noted missionary and “... one of the most stalwart leaders that the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has produced” (Derry, Charles, *Autobiography of Elder Charles Derry*, (Independence, Missouri: Price Publishing Company, 1997), page xi), mentioned that on March 3, 1863, he sent an acrostic to the Prince and Princess of Wales (Derry, pages 131-132). In the 1940’s, *The Saints’ Herald* often offered “Complete service materials for church school needs, including responsive readings, songs, recitations, and acrostics.” And, of course, the best-known single crostic (acrostic) is Psalm 119, an eight-fold alphabetic acrostic based on the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

Double crostics, similar to [10:16~TriCrostics](#), occasionally appear in the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. They, however, do not feature the Book of Mormon; their clues are not thematic; and their format and content, not so entertaining and worthwhile.

We are excited for the opportunity to obtain this feature for the readers of the *Beacon*. We sincerely hope that you enjoy it and profit from it. Solving them is a great family and teaching activity. It is a way to engage all who can read. Everyone will enjoy seeing the passage emerge as the clues are deciphered. You may need to refer to a dictionary, the Bible, and, of course, the Book of Mormon as you work the puzzles. [10:16~TriCrostics](#) may be reproduced (color-copied) from our magazine or reprinted (in color) from the pdf versions of *Beacon* which are available at our website (conferenceofbranches.org). They may be reused in branch newsletters or bulletins, for missionary work, or for Sunday school or classroom purposes without any further permission – they have been created for our use and benefit. Children, even if they cannot solve the [10:16~TriCrostics](#) on their own, enjoy finding the answers in the citations from the Book of Mormon or guessing the answers as the letters fill in.

Be sure and email us about your personal experiences with this feature at beacon@conferenceofbranches.org or by letter at JCRB/Beacon, 1100 West Truman Road, Independence, MO 64050.

10:16~TriCrostic

"Introduction"

petz grass

01. Account* translated by Joseph Smith 079 123 025 088 120 056 038 091 051 112 063 015 043 097 002
02. Proverbial waste maker 066 001 101 127 107
03. Pleasure 013 045 108 074 087 033 048 061 021
04. Qualities of the word of Jesus 064 049 092 023 080 014 057 078
05. Bountiful sea 034 124 053 011 027 071 105 109 060
06. Cowdery, Harris and Whitmer - famously 082 031 012 054 044 006 070 104 093 067 040 126 059 095
07. Place of disfavor 099 029 008 119 106 081 114 058 077 090 072 052 003
08. Results 113 075 042 100 122 030 022
09. Established route 096 018 036 069 046 103 083
10. Affectionate bonds 118 009 068 037 055 024 085 016 062 115 102
11. Deprived of an essential part 076 117 020 094 050 110
12. Religious perspective 039 026 032 005 017 121 086 007 065 047
01. And the source* of all the passages in 10:16~TriCrostics
06. And what it takes to expel an unrepentant sinner
08. Followers of special, side or sound
10. What Nephi had for Lehi and Sariah
12. Religious perspective
- To solve this TriCrostic: Use the blue-numbered clues (01-12) to determine the answers that go in the spaces to the right of the clues. Then transfer each answer's letter to its red three-digit (001-127) space below. Those spaces, when filled in, will reveal a passage from 01, 1908 Ed. When you can determine a letter in the passage, transfer it up to the specified blue two-digit clue.
- Work back and forth. Note: The first letter of each clue's answer will spell out the exact location of the passage.
- Tips: If a clue is plural or past tense, the answer often ends in "s" or "ed". An apostrophe usually indicates an "s" or "t". And a single letter is always an "a", "I" or "O".
- Answers to the clues listed below can be found in these citations:
- 02. 3 Nephi 9:80 (20:42)
 - 03. 2 Nephi 6:35 (9:14)
 - 04. Alma 18:12 (38:9)
 - 05. 1 Nephi 5:64 (17:5)
 - 06. Moroni 6:7 (6:7)
 - 07. Mosiah 3:13 (5:10)
 - 08. Mosiah 5:49
 - 09. Proverbs 12:28 (IV)
 - 12. Ether 5:19 (12:19)
- Eric Woolery and friends made a banner quoting Alma: "Do you look forward with an 12?"

00102 00201 00307 00404 00512 00606 00712 00807 00910 01004 01105 01206 01303 01404 01501 01610 10 often go with emails too.

S T

01712 01809 01904 02011 02103 02208 02304 02410 02501 02612 02705 02804 02907 03008 03106 03212

F ; "Regret for 030-040 of yesterday must not blind us to the tasks of today." - Roger C Gault

04609 04712 04803 04904 05011 05101 05207 05305 05406 05510 05601 05704 05807 05906 06005 06103

F

06210 06301 06404 06512 06602 06706 06810 06909 07006 07105 07207 07304 07403 07508 07611 07707 07804

07901 08004 08107 08206 08309 08404 08510 08612 08703 08801 08904 09007 09101 09204 09306 09411

E "As we drink the water clear, Let thy Spirit linger near. Pardon 017-022, O Lord, we pray; Bless our efforts day by day." - Annie Pinnock Malin

E San Andreas and New Madrid are 017-022.

12001 12112 12208 12301 12405 12504 12606 12702

"Indeed, 01* is the very foundation of the Restored church, providing not only another testimony of 122-127. Jesus but a model of how we should live our lives in expectancy of a personal relationship with him." - Chadwick Nestman

10:16~TriCrostics may be reproduced and used for educational or church purposes without permission.

"Combined with the Spirit of the Lord, 01* is the greatest tool which God has given us to convert the world." - Ezra Taft Benson

"I found ... that as I ... read 01*, I came to feel an increasing warmth that I had often felt when I had read the New Testament narrative on the birth and the mission of 122-127." - E Y Hunker

"Every sister who stands for 04 diminishes the influence of evil." - M Russell Ballard

Date: **April 11, 2019**
From: **The Quorum of Restoration Apostles**
Report: **April 2018 – April 2019 and a Look Ahead to 2019 - 2020**

Greetings to you in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Savior. We have had a productive year in the missionary field. We have labored in 14 states of the United States of America and in 14 countries of the world. We have had contacts with Saints in many other states and countries.

We had the opportunity to work with most of the members of the Quorum of Restoration Seventy, at least 8 elders, members of the Patriarchs, the Aaronic order and with many other members of the church, including the sisters of the church in variety of settings. We ministered in several different reunions, retreats and in several branches. We have had the opportunity to meet with the ministry and members of several Restoration churches and organizations.

Several members of the Quorum contributed in written ministry through *The Latter Day Saints' Beacon*. Brother Patrick McKay published a book this year, *Healing the Breach: Mormonism, Metaphors, and the Pieces of the Puzzle*.

The current roster of the Quorum of Restoration Apostles is:

Gary Whiting	West Africa
Randy Vick	Asia and Russia
Kent Pedersen	Central United States and Canada
Doug Patterson	Western United States and Canada
Hugh Caldwell	South America and Native American Ministry
Rex Curtis	Eastern and Southern Africa
Dave Drummond	Eastern United States and Canada
Patrick McKay	Pacific Islands and Europe
Avilio Herrera	Central America and the Caribbean

In a Quorum meeting on January 12, 2019, the Quorum sustained Gary Whiting as Quorum President and Kent Pedersen as Secretary. Brother Rex Curtis will serve as the Quorum's representative on the Missionary Funding Committee and his alternate will be Randy Vick.

A Review of the Mission Field

Central America

Brother Avilio Herrera has been active in Guatemala, Belize and Honduras. The work in Guatemala can be challenging because of the risk of personal harm which exists there. Nevertheless, the work continues and a few are being brought to faith in Christ through the Restored gospel. Brother Mike Meier has been active in Belize.

Many branches in Honduras joined together this spring and decided to work with the JCRB. Brother Avilio is working with the brethren there. There is still work to do before all of the Saints in Honduras are fully united, but the gospel is being taught by all the Restoration Saints there.

Plans for this region include continued labor in these countries and a trip to Haiti is planned.

South America

During 2018-2019, Seventy Erwin Schnettler has labored hard in Chile and in Brazil. He continues a radio ministry in Chile. In Brazil, Elder Lucinaldo Bezerra has been active in Brazil in cooperation with Apostle Caldwell. Work is beginning on a new translation of the Book of Mormon into Portuguese, the language of Brazil. There are prospects developing in Venezuela also.

North America

Three of the apostles are assigned here, Doug Patterson, Kent Pedersen and Dave Drummond. All of them hope to increase the activity in their regions. They have utilized a number of the Seventy and elders in their work and expect to do more of the same in the new budget year.

Asia and Russia

There are two branches associated with the Conference in India. There has been communication with these Saints and it is hoped that a mission to them can be made in the next year. The churches associated with Ananda Rao are currently not laboring with us, but contact and good relations remain. One of these trips will also try to visit Saints in Nepal.

Contacts have been made in Pakistan, but this work is very early in development. Some communication has been made with individuals there. The same is true in Russia and other countries of this region. Many countries have not had Restoration ministry ever or with much success. It is hoped that over the next five years some breakthroughs in these countries will be possible.

The current plan is to visit where it is possible. Strengthen the Saints in the region while praying for and looking for open doors to reach across new borders and into new hearts.

Pacific Islands

The effort to renew the Restoration gospel and testimony in Tahiti, or French Polynesia, continued in the past year. Trips by Apostle McKay and Seventy Dan Norman, and others, met with some success in establishing the Restored gospel there. There are several Saints in the islands, but as yet, no branch has been established. Seventy Rereao Foster is working there and is a capable gospel teacher.

It has been many years since the fullness of the gospel has been preached in Tahiti and many hurdles must be overcome before the Restoration is well established there. The evidence suggests, however, that the people there have a heart for the Book of Mormon and the gospel.

The work in Tahiti will continue and perhaps intensify if some current plans come to pass. In the next inter-conference period a team will try to visit Hawaii. Seventy George Thomas opened the Restoration work there and it is hoped that more work can be accomplished in the next year.

Europe

This region has been relatively inactive in recent years. There is little or no Restoration activity in European countries today. There are some Saints in England. A trip to the United Kingdom is planned for the next year to see what can be done there.

Eastern and Southern Africa

Brother Curtis has ministered in this area. He has traveled with Randy Vick and Patrick McKay at different times. The Lord has been good to open many hearts to the gospel in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. The work has been greatly assisted by the labors of Seventy Kingsley Zacharias.

As the 2019 General Conference opens, Brothers Vick and Zacharias are in Mozambique doing what they can to assist the Saints who have lost homes and loved ones in the devastation caused by a severe cyclone and flooding from heavy rains inland. The last published report named 12 Saints who had died from the disaster and at least 70 have suffered total or significant damage to homes and personal goods.

Western Africa

Nigeria and Liberia were visited since the last conference. A planned visit to Nigerian was accelerated because of the death of Seventy Hensley Mbanaso. Brothers Whiting and Jim McKay traveled there for the funeral and assisted in the service and performed other ministry. There is a need for teaching materials for the membership and the priesthood. There is a good core of priesthood, but a lack of good meeting space. The whole church needs support after Brother Hensley's death, but his family does especially need prayer. A return visit to Nigeria is planned during the next year.

Liberia was visit in February 2019. Many wonderful Saints live there. The church suffered a significant betrayal by leadership a few years ago and the whole country is still suffering from the damage of the civil wars and inconsistent governing. The Saints are recovering, but need support and training. Some of this was accomplished in the recent visit, but much more is needed. A follow-up visit is planned during the next year.

Cameroon is racked by violence and it is not safe to visit the Saints we know there. When the situation improves for western travelers there, a visit will be planned. Some email communication is possible and continues.

Native American Ministry

Apostles Hugh Caldwell and Doug Patterson made contact with several Native American individuals introducing the Restored gospel and the Book of Mormon as they were able. They intend to follow up on these contacts with trips to Idaho and North Carolina in the next year.

We have built a budget that will support the work described above. We are asking for a little less than our last budget. It is not that we intend to do less, it really represent plans for more labor. This budget has some experience underlying the numbers which are based on trips made, real costs and a better idea of what can and cannot be accomplished effectively.

This budget includes the work of the Quorum of Seventy, our essential partner in the task of proclaiming the gospel into all lands and among every tribe and nation. The Seventy have been active in their calling despite the losses in personnel they have suffered this past year.

We are very much thankful for the support of the Saints and the prayers and monetary gifts that have been given. These funds and your support are a tremendous stewardship which the Seventy and the Apostles take very seriously.

Comments

It is the right and duty of the General Conference to select its own leadership. This duty has been exercised well over the years. As we, the Apostles, have contemplated the kind of role we ought to play in the leadership of the Conference we continue to believe that the act of presiding over the conference planning and logistics ought to be carried out by men of the standing ministry. On the other hand, we also see that we may be in a good position to offer spiritual counsel to the

conference leadership to assist them in planning, worship and instruction to help the Conference participants to grow spiritually and increase their understanding of what it means to “remember the New Covenant” and to “preach nothing but repentance to this generation.”

We believe we can best provide this spiritual leadership responsibility by coming along side of the elected leadership of the Conference and the Saints at large. When invited, we are pleased to provide ministry in branches and the various gatherings of the Saints.

Since the onset of activities in Brazil with Mauricio Berger and the “plates,” the Quorum has been asked to comment on various developments out of that group. Our internal discussions and our collected discernment teach us that nothing has changed in the movement there to make us change or question our initial assessment that this is not a divinely empowered activity.

There are many new developments that sound exciting and may stimulate the imagination of some people. Each of these developments is much like new ice over a stream or pond early in the winter. It looks strong enough to give support , but it doesn’t take much weight to break through and plunge into the frigid water beneath.

We find no evidence to convince us that this movement from Brazil is of God. It is at best a serious distraction from the real calling and purpose of the Restoration and at worst an awful deception which will cause some to deny the faith and be destroyed.

Like many of the Saints, we are monitoring the activities. We know what is going on, but our main responsibility is to be witnesses for Jesus Christ, to declare the gospel of Christ and to extend the work of God through the Book of Mormon and the Bible to the remnants of Israel and to Gentile alike.

The Quorum of Restoration Apostles looks forward to being with you in this conference which calls us to be ready to meet the Bridegroom. Jesus Christ is the bridegroom and he will come to claim his bride, the Church and present her to the Father. We are called to worship by this theme. We are called to remember the covenants of the Father to us and our covenant to him. We are humbled, shamed, encouraged, challenged, edified and called to service by this theme.

This is a day for the Saints, like Joseph Smith on the evening of September 21, 1823, to bend our knees before the Lord and confess that he has given us great blessings and promises including the remission of our sins, but we have fallen into the follies of life and have been “entangled again in the vanities of the world” (D&C 17:2a). From that position, may we request of the God of heaven and earth some understanding of our place and role in the great work of redemption and restoration in which he is engaged through the gospel of Jesus Christ (see D&C 42:5a). If with sincerity, through faith we make this petition, like Joseph so many years ago, we can receive commandments from on high to inspire us and empower us to serve him in our day (see D&C 17:2a-c).

The Quorum of Restoration Apostles, Gary R. Whiting, President