

# The Anchor



The Great Lakes Restoration Branches

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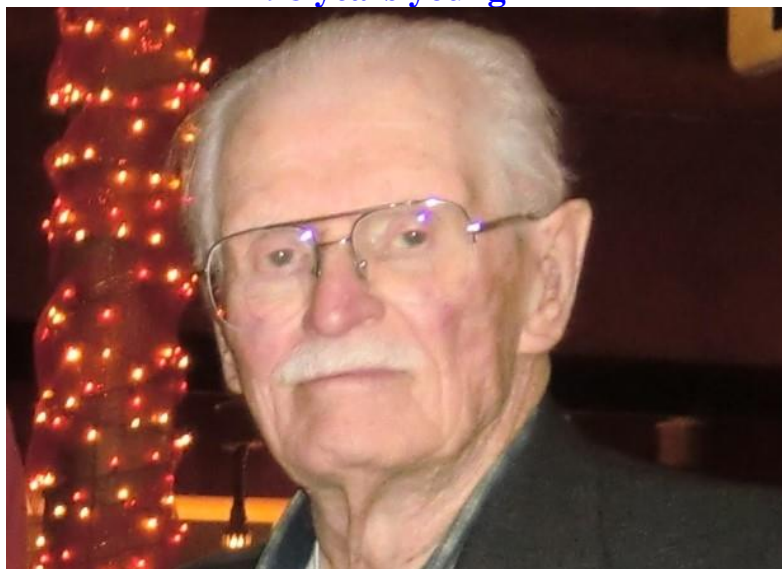
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## News From Around the Region

Algonac-Atlanta-Dowagiac- Garden City- Lima-Oakwood-Otter Lake-Port Huron-Sanilac-St. Johns-Stoney Creek Saints      Editor: J. Bradley, Email at [zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net)

“By faith all things are fulfilled: Wherefore, whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God which hope cometh of faith maketh an Anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast, always abounding in good works, being led to glorify God.”    Ether 5:3b-4

## Elder Don Everhart-Oakwood Restoration Branch 98 years young



A warrior for God his whole life. Goodbye to our dear friend.  
A Heavenly Homecoming 11-21-2019

## Algonac Branch



**By: Val Bradley**

“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33) Our Algonac Elders Hod Powers and Eric Eliason attended the Kirtland Priesthood Retreat on September 14 & 15. The theme was “Look Up and Press Onward.” The ministry for the weekend was brought by Richard Neill, Brian Mundy, David Joyce, Jay Havener, and Howard Parker. Eric mentioned that one unique thing about this retreat was that the restoration branches were able to use the Temple for a communion service. He also pointed out that he was really impressed by the dedication of the older and disabled priesthood. Hod stated that the highlight of the weekend for him was Richard Neill’s ministry and taking communion in the Temple. The Younger Youth Fall Retreat took place at the Port Huron/Sarnia Restoration Branch the weekend of October 18. Briggs and Bryer Eliason were excited to attend for the first time! They were taught about stewardship, keeping financial records, the 3 Standard Books, and prayer. They really liked a book that was read to them called, “Growing Up in a Troubled Time,” about Nephi growing up with Laman and Lemuel and all he went through. They appreciated being given the book to take home with them so they could finish it. Some of the activities they

enjoyed most were morning walks, campfire, and swimming. When they returned, they gave a report to our branch on the “Light a House” project (African Restoration Ministries). They were very enthused about this outreach program and encouraged our congregation to contribute and help those in need. We thank Betty Lou Newman and her staff for all the time and hard work they put into teaching and mentoring these youth.

Over 40 women attended the Fall Women’s Retreat at Wesleyan Woods Campgrounds the weekend of October 4<sup>th</sup>. Six of our Algonac ladies were able to attend. Elder Todd Moses from Algonac was our guest minister, assisted by Elder Jay Havener on Sunday. The women were all given silver bird necklaces to go along with our theme, “His Eye is on the Sparrow, and I Know He Watches Me.” The tables and meeting room were decorated beautifully with birdcages, birds, and autumn leaves. The weekend began on Friday evening with a fun Mixer led by Kathleen Modders. As always, she put a lot of time and effort into the activities. We all learned something new about people from the Scriptures and each other, and had a lot of laughs. Saturday started out with Lynnette Daniels bringing the morning Devotions. She shared a personal testimony how God was with her (and still is!) during a very difficult, challenging time. At this year’s Praise Gathering Kelli Williams, Denise Rich, Amanda Ruch, and Mary June Garn shared hymns that were special to them. They each gave a testimony on what the song meant to them, then we all sang the hymn. Through their stories, we got to know them a little better and it drew us closer together. The first class, taught by Brenda

Telljohann, was titled, "Covered with His Feathers." It was about protection. Brenda opened up about a personal experience in her life and how God protected her and continues to be with her daily. Afterwards, several of the women (Barb Eliason, Jeanne Fangboner, Tracy Stokes, Bonnie Murphy) shared personal testimonies pertaining to our theme. That afternoon, the 2<sup>nd</sup> class ("How do you know He watches over you?") was taught by Kathi Havener. All of the women were asked to bring teacups or coffee mugs with them. They were each put in a small bag with their name inside, and then handed out to each of the women during this class. We each got someone else's cup. When we saw the name of who it was from, we had to find that person. We were then instructed to share a testimony with that woman on how we personally know that God watches over us. We also shared with the one who received our cup. It was a great activity and helped us get to know each other a bit better, while being encouraged by their story of how God watches over them. Later in the afternoon we took part in a craft, led by Kathleen Modders and Amanda Ruch. We were given a pine cone, then we spread peanut butter on it and rolled it in bird seed. A great idea to help feed the birds that God put on the earth! The last class of the day took place after dinner. It was taught by Twyla Burnard, and was entitled, "Beneath His Wings." The main theme of this class was encouragement. Twyla shared a very personal experience with us. She was very transparent as she related her testimony of love, support, and forgiveness, and how God was with her and continues to bless and direct her journey. Afterwards we had a Talent Show.

As always, the ladies did not disappoint. They shared stories, songs, and laughter! The evening ended with a campfire and fireside chat led by Todd. We had such fun singing and fellowshiping together. A perfect way to end our day! Sunday morning, we had an early (7:30 a.m.) communion service. Elder Todd Moses conducted the service, assisted by Elder Jay Havener. Afterwards we had breakfast together, then ended the weekend with a dedication service at 9:30 a.m. Elder Todd Moses brought the message, and Elder Jay Havener offered the prayers. Sherri and Grace Johnson sang a beautiful duet, "His Eye is on the Sparrow." Both services that morning were wonderful. We really felt the Lord's Spirit all weekend. We drew closer to our Lord and to our sisters in Christ. Thanks again to Todd Moses and Jay Havener (who graciously stepped in to assist at the last moment) for their special ministry. We are so grateful for everyone who participated, assisted, and for all the prayers and support of this retreat. We are most thankful to Jesus for keeping watch over us, guarding us, directing us to a place of hope and peace.

#### Update from Bethany Moses

Hi everyone! It's me, Bethany! I am currently attending Western Michigan University and am having a BLAST! I'm involved in Marching Band, Women's Chorus, Gold Company (a vocal jazz ensemble), and many other music classes. I was accepted into the Choral Music Education program on a whim on the first day of school! Everything has been going swimmingly since. The vocal jazz ensemble that I am a part of will be traveling to New Orleans, Cleveland, and New York in the spring semester. Additionally, I am

still continuing with Disney as a seasonal employee and will be headed back again next summer. All in all, life is busy, but amazing!

Ongoing prayers would be appreciated for Marge and Gary Holmes, Marilyn Canham, Kevin & Analyn Powers, Elaine King, Nina and Hod Powers, Kelli Williams, Elaine Harm, Dick Burns, and Bruce and Barb Krinkie. We are keeping you and your congregations in our prayers, as well.

### **Garden City**



**By: Kurt & Susan Fishwild**

#### **Guest Ministers**

In August we were happy to welcome Elder Todd Yaney from Algonac Branch as our guest minister. We enjoyed a potluck after the service. In September, Elder Marty Garn from Charlotte Branch preached at Garden City. Marty's wife Leslie also attended with him and they enjoyed spending time visiting with members of the congregation and also their son Matt who attends Garden City Branch. Thanks to both of these men for giving of their time.

#### **Younger Youth Fall Retreat – Port Huron – Oct. 18-20 (submitted by Betty Lou Newman)**

As the weekend developed, we realized God had a plan for our time together and we pray that we followed His promptings. At this retreat the youth were taught the basic steps of God's financial law. They were challenged to take the

first steps (inventory and filing their first statement) to learn how much they owe the Lord in tithes. Each branch has been asked to assist and encourage those youth with their record keeping and filing an annual statement. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me...in tithes and offering." Malachi 3:8

Other class topics that filled the weekend were 1) The Three Standard Books 2) the Communion Prayers 3) Teach me to pray and 4) The Lord's Prayer. Games, songs and crafts reinforced the learning. "Growing Up in a Troubled Time" (Nephi's Life) by Viola Velt Presler was the novel studied by the youth and adults who gave it wonderful reviews.

Report on "Light a House" Project – Thank you to everyone who dropped in coins/bills to support our service project. When the coins and bills were counted, we were able to purchase 20 lights. Every branch should now have a "bank" for their coins because this project will continue until July 2020. Keep dropping in those coins and thank you for helping us help others.

#### **Kirtland Priesthood Retreat**

Four Elders from our congregation (Rex Monarch, Carl McKiddie, Jeff Stoker and Kurt Fishwild) made a one-day trip to the Kirtland Priesthood Retreat on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. The men were able to take in part of a class and discussion on the Living Church and then viewed the Stone Quarry. A tour of the Kirtland Temple was also taken in where the group sang the first verse of "The Spirit of God Like a Fire Is Burning". The men were also able to attend the evening communion service in the Kirtland Temple. This was the first time that the Restoration Branches were able to use the temple for a communion



service. The men drove to and from Kirtland in one car and were able to have fellowship together. It was a long day but a very good day.

### **Outreach**

Our congregation continues to collect cans/dry goods for our church pantry. We also keep toiletries such as toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, soap etc. on hand so when people who live in the neighborhood stop by looking for assistance then we are able to help them with their various needs.

### **Prayers**

Our Garden City Prayer List is posted monthly on our website which is [gardencityrestorationbranch.org](http://gardencityrestorationbranch.org). Please pray for those listed.

### **Windsor/Essex County Group (Canada)**

We meet once a month on a Sunday evening at 6:00 in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Our services generally take place on the first Sunday of the month. There are usually 12-15 people in attendance. If any minister is interested in speaking at our services for any month, please call Elder Kurt Fishwild or send an email to [kurt2sue2@gmail.com](mailto:kurt2sue2@gmail.com). We also welcome visitors anytime to join us in our services.

### **Oakwood**



**By: Kathleen Modders**

8/18/19 Annual BBQ picnic, Priest Mike Modders headed this event.

Mike grilled the burgers, hot dogs and brats on the grill and members from the congregation brought a dish to pass to compliment the burgers and hot dogs. Everyone had a nice time fellowshiping one with another.

8/23/19 Mission Trip to Wisconsin from Jay Havener.

On August 23, 2019 I met Brother Brian Mundy at the St.

Paul/Minneapolis airport and we traveled to Eau Claire, Wisconsin and on to Barron and Chetek, Wisconsin. We went to meet with a group of Saints that have had no priesthood or communion for six years. In Eau Claire, we had a wonderful visit with Elder Bernard and Sister Marge Holler. It was through "Bernie" that this trip came about. The Hollers get Oakwood's DVDs and have worshiped with Oakwood for several years through Oakwood's DVD ministry. The Hollers have not been able to travel due to health issues and brother Bernie's ability to minister has been very limited because of it. Bernie and I have spoken many times over the phone and it was one such conversation that led to the discovery of a group of Saints in Barron and Chetek that have no priesthood in their area for several years. They too, receive Oakwood's DVDs and have met as an informal group from time to time to study and worship via those DVDs. For several weeks, the Lord laid it heavily on my heart that some priesthood needed to get up there to bring ministry to those dear Saints. I kept asking the Lord, who should go. His answer was that I needed to go. I spoke with Brother Brian Mundy about the need in Wisconsin and we quickly made plans to travel together to Wisconsin. When we pulled up into the driveway of Sister Sue Allen's home, her and

her mother Jeanette Lampien were outside and when I got out of the car, Sister Lampien pointed her finger at me and said, "I know who you are! You are Brother Jay. I have seen you many times on the DVDs!" At once, it felt like we had known one another for a long time. Sister Allen and her husband were gracious hosts and we spent time sharing in particular with Sister Allen and talking about how the Saints had managed to stay so true, without priesthood and regular church services. We also shared with her husband who is a nonmember but supports his wife's beliefs in every way that he can. He truly has a servant's heart. Saturday, we spent time with extended family and visited Brother Bill, a Navy veteran, in the local nursing home. Brother Bill was 96, an Elder in the church (and sadly has since gone to his reward), and although he had Alzheimer's, he could recall his days in the Navy doing his duty on a submarine during WWII. We administered to him. Brother Bill kept his scriptures well-guarded in the seat of his walker. His son Tom opened the seat to show us and Brother Bill told him, "Put those back! They are mine and no one is going to take them from me!" Later that evening, we visited with family at the home of Jeanette Lampien. Her husband was the last able-bodied priesthood that served the group before his passing several years earlier. We learned how the Saints in Wisconsin sang happy birthday (Jeanette who has heard our branch sing it on the DVDs from time to time, said we have been singing it all wrong) as her niece was having a birthday. They add the phrase "The Lord bless and keep you, happy birthday to you." Sunday morning, we held church service in the basement of the Allen home. There were about 20 in attendance. It was

the first time in six years that they had been able to partake of communion. What an experience for me! I will never take the sacrament for granted again. As I watched as they partook of the bread, most of them had tears in their eyes as they ate of the bread. There was such a sweet spirit there. Brother Bryan brought the message of the hour as I presided. Then afterwards, Brother Brian and I shared in a class setting with them and shared testimonies. It was a wonderful weekend of fellowship and there is such a core of Saints in the area. Brother Brian and I talked about how Wisconsin was the seed-bed of the Reorganization and we feel that Wisconsin can once again can be important to the Restoration because of the dedication of the Saints. At one time there were many RLDS churches throughout the state of Wisconsin. We both believe there are many yet in Wisconsin that have a great heritage in the Church but have forgotten it.

#### God Slowed Time (A Testimony of Jay Havener)

In latter August of this year, Elder Brian Mundy and I went to Wisconsin to minister to a group of Saints who have been without priesthood for several years. As we were making our way back to the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport, we stopped in Eau Claire to minister to Elder Bernard and Sister Marge Holler. As often happens when visiting the Saints, time slipped by faster than we had anticipated and it was a rush to get to the airport in time for our flights. My flight was to leave at 5 p.m. and Brian's was a bit later. Eau Claire is about 2 hours from Minneapolis and Brother Brian dropped me off at the front of the departure terminal at 4:00 p.m. and I still had to check my bag! By the time I checked my bag, it

was 4:15 and boarding was to start at 4:30! I still had to make it through security. I have never seen a security line so long in all my travels! As I stood in line knowing I was on the last flight of the day back to Michigan, I started thinking that I had to call Kathi and let her know that I would not be making it home that evening. I had only moved about 10 feet in as many minutes! I bowed my head and prayed to my Heavenly Father. I prayed, "Lord, I really do want to make this flight, but I realize that the only way that I can is for you to slow time down. Would you Father, slow down time that I would make my flight home? I truly believe you are able to do so and you have blessed us so much on this mission trip already. So, I understand if you have another way or for some reason do not want me to make my flight, but I am ready to go home." It was already 4:25 p.m. Five minutes to when they would start boarding my flight home. I stayed in line and never once looked at the clock again. The line was not moving any faster than it had before. I cleared security and crossed two concourses to get to my gate. I was pretty sure it was a futile effort. When I got to my gate, they just called the first passengers to board the plane. I took out my cell phone and looked at the time. It was 4:30! There was no way! The last time I looked at my clock, it was 4:25 and I was very far back in the security line. The only explanation was that God had fulfilled my request and slowed down time! What an awesome and excellent God we have!

9/14-15 Priesthood Retreat Kirtland, Ohio theme, "Look Up & Press Onward." Oakwood attendees were Elder Jay Havener and Fred Brown Jr.

10/4/19 Women's Retreat, from Kathi Havener

"His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me..." was the theme of this year's Fall women's retreat. More than 40 women gathered at the Wesleyan Woods camp ground in Vassar on October 4-6 to fellowship and worship. Attending from Oakwood were Kathi Havener, Julie Fox, Raven Franks, Amanda Ruch, Tracy Stokes, Kathleen Modders, Dawn Modders, Deanna Smith, Suzanne Konkle, Beth Everhart, Helen Brown, Bonnie Murphy, Kim Gilchrist, Twyla Jones, Lily Jones, Yvette Leal, Rebecca Servin, and Jamie Servin.

Kathleen Modders led us in several fun ice breaker games Friday night to set the pace for a fun, "stress free" weekend.

Kathi Havener and Val Bradley directed this year's retreat, which was decorated with beautiful fall birdcages on every table. This year we had a cup exchange on Saturday afternoon, which the women really enjoyed. Each woman brought a coffee cup or tea cup, which was put in a single brown lunch bag so that the giver would remain a secret. Then, the bags were randomly passed out. Women were to find who gave them their cup, and then share their testimony. We spent the afternoon sharing our stories. Later, Amanda Ruch led us in making bird feeders out of pine cones, peanut butter, and birdseed. Saturday night Twyla Burnard taught a very inspiring class about how we know He is watching and helping protect us.

Elders Todd Moses from Algonac and Jay Havener from Oakwood were the guest ministers. Todd led a wonderful campfire and fireside chat Saturday night. Sunday morning, we had an early communion service followed by a spirit-filled dedication

service.

And of course, we finished the weekend by singing "Joy to the World!" It was another wonderful sister-sharing weekend! Our God is an awesome God!

11/8-10 Older Youth Retreat was held. The theme was "Put your fears on Him." Elder PJ Fought was the retreat director. Oakwood attendees were Heather and Parker Mervyn, Samantha, Gustavo Servin, and two friends Sam brought with her. Tracy Stokes was the retreat cook. Kathleen Modders did the mixer, games, the craft (which was a new and revised Campfire book!). Look out reunion campfire, we now all can have books to sing from!!! Kathleen also put on the Campfire and took pictures for the retreat. Lynnette Daniels was a retreat counselor along with Nick Brown. Elder Fred Brown Sr. taught a class and PJ did also. There were twenty-two older youth that came to the retreat. They were an awesome bunch of youth! Everyone had a fantastic time.

Every year the congregation takes up a special offering for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Contact is Chet Slagor.

Special Prayers needed for: Cruz Nagy, Troy & Angela Hanna, Bob Modders & Family, Beth Everhart and family, Marge and Gary Holmes, Chet & Cheryl Slagor, Becky Smith Humphrey, Eloise Boat's family, Shaun Turner and Brian Mundy, Richard Neil, Graham & Brenda Fishwild, and Virgil Struble, Lynnette Daniels, Jake Havener, Bev Ruch, and Lilly Johnston.

Mick and Shawn Ruch no longer have a home phone. Please use their cell phone numbers when

contacting them.

#### Upcoming events:

11/24 our Annual Thanksgiving luncheon, contact Kathleen Modders  
12/1/19 Prayer & Testimony Service 10:00 am  
12/15 Christmas Program, Contact Edward MacDonald  
12/27 Women's Christmas Party, 11 am contact Kathleen Modders and Amanda Ruch,  
12/24/19 4pm Christmas Eve services, Contact Edward MacDonald

#### Oakwood upcoming Birthdays:

12/04 Ty Millen, 12/06 Drew Vandenberg, 12/08 Parker Mervyn, 12/09 Helen Brown, 12/11 Lois Porter, 12/13 Mark Burnard, 12/23 Amanda Ruch, 12/25 Laurie MacDonald, 12/26 Mick Ruch, 12/26 Jonathon Modders, 12/27 Marissa Wilson, 01/01 Bev Ruch, 01/09 Dustin Michael, 01/10 Brenda Fishwild, 01/17 Kim Gilchrist, 01/27 Stacy Ruch, 01/28 Ed MacDonald, 01/28 Reese Nagy, 02/03 Lilly Jones, 02/04 Suzanne Konkle, 02/09 Steve Ruch, 02/14 Fred Brown Sr., 02/19 Deanna Smith, 02/28 Joe Brown

### **Port Huron-Sarnia Branch**



**By: Sharon Smerer**

Port Huron-Sarnia Restoration Branch  
By: Sharon Smerer

Well Saints, Summer has gone and Fall has come with the beauty only God can



make. Enjoy His bright colored leaves and the cool brisk mornings! Winter is approaching, be safe.

We would like to send our condolences to the family of Beverly R. Rowe. She was born, July 14, 1943 to the late John and Fern Gardner. She is survived by her husband, David Rowe of Clyde Township, son and daughter-in-law, Troy and Dr. Jeannie Rowe of Avoca, daughter, Loraine Reynolds of Texas, son and daughter-in-law, Jason and Inice Rowe of Virginia, two grandchildren, Alexandria Hollenbeck and Jade Rowe. Beverly was preceded in death by her son, Harry David Rowe. Funeral Services were held at 11:00 am Saturday, August 10, 2019 in the Jowett Funeral Home, 1634 Lapeer Avenue, Port Huron, Mi. Reverend Max Amstutz will officiate. Burial to take place in Kinney Cemetery.

Bernard Pearl gave me 63 years of his life history, starting with his military career on July 13, 1956. He had passed the physical in Detroit, and onto Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. for more tests and basic training was at Fort Hood, Texas. In October 18, 1956, he had traveled to Fort Dix, New Jersey for advance infantry training to go to Korea. He then had choice assignments and he chose Europe. He then boarded a ship, USS Geiger in New York for Germany. He was able to have his wife, Janice and daughter, Tina who flew the following year to Germany. There is more of his life's adventures in a U. S. Army Military book in the Library of Congress. Bernard has had many exciting and mysterious ventures and with God's protection through his many travels.

Deacon Andrew Scott Bolt preached on August 18 and Bruce Reid sang, "Daystar (Shine Down on Me)" by Bill Gaither and "Mansion Over the Hilltop"

by Elvis Presley. They both did a fine job.

On August 23, 2019 our Branch was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for recognition of our generosity to the Lakota children. Last year the Younger Youth, and other branches, saved their money and donated to the Lakota children of St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain, South Dakota. This year the Younger Youth are saving their money for the, "Light a House" project for the African Restoration Ministries. The light is 150 lumen output from 10 bright white LED lights. These lights charge in 14 hours in direct sunlight or 2-3 hours via USB and last up to 50 hours (USB cord included). The African children usually have kerosene lamps in their homes. The smell and the light have caused some of the people health issues. Kerosene is expensive costing \$1.12 per liter (\$4.24 per gallon) at the current rate and price. This is very expensive for the many poor families. These Solar Lanterns that our Younger Youth are saving for are giving more of cleanliness, brightness and safety to the children and families over in Africa. The cost of one of the solar lanterns is \$13.50 each. Our Michigan, Ohio, and Ontario children and their families have collected \$270.00 which is enough for 20 solar LED Lights. Elder Brian Mundy, from Missouri, receives the money and takes the solar lanterns to Africa. It is a worthwhile project for us all to get involved in helping others who are less fortunate, and it also helps the children to do their school homework.

We want to send Chase (Skip) and wife, Michelle (Shelly) Miller and the family of Skip's sister, Shirley (Miller) Ryan condolences of her passing on August 31, 2019. She is survived by her husband, Guy F. Ryan, Sr., her children, William and Jody Ryan and Patty Ryan (John Teichow), her grandchildren, Amber, Daniel, William, Tyler, Alison,

Nolan, Nathan, Jacob and Justin, her two brothers, Skip and Bill Miller, her pet, Thunder.

Memorials were made to the American Cancer Society. She was predeceased by her parents, William and Marion Miller; her son Guy F. Ryan, Jr. A memorial service was held on Saturday, September 7th, 2019 at 10:00 am at the Restored Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. 1404 Garfield St., Port Huron, Mi. Elder John DeBell will officiate.

On August 31, 2019, Andrew Kercher, Port Huron Museum Manager of Community Engagements, wore gloves while handling John Riley's New Testament at the Port Huron Museum on Thursday. Andrew revealed what was faded but clearly etched inside: "John Riley. Indian Chief. His Book." John Riley, had settled in present-day St. Clair County with a store and trading post that he lived in year-round. His fence and gardens reached to 6 th. St. and south to Pine Street. Riley's father was an American trader and his mother a Chippewa, and he went on to become the leader of the Black River Band of her tribe in the early 1800's. John Riley's father, General James Van Slyke Riley, had signed the Treaty of Saginaw in 1816 with General Lewis Cass and they mention him, especially John Riley, because his father had three kids. John had two brothers, James and Peter Riley and they're divvying up huge portions of the Thumb area. John" was a pretty big deal in the early part of the 19th century." Riley Township was named for John Riley in 1841. Since this was written in the Port Huron Times, Bernard Pearl sent me a little over three pages of information on John Riley and I in turn sent this on to Chris Kercher or Andrew Kercher for further information for the Museum. John Riley's Indian name was Black Cloud. John Riley died at Muncietown, Ontario in 1842. H. P. Chase gave his burial eulogy. One other

source, cites Courtland, New York as his burial place.

We would like to send condolences to the family of Robert E. Galeski, of Port Huron, who passed away on September 3, 2019. He is survived by his wife, Connie; five children, Missy Galeski, April Gentner, Joe (Melissa) Galeski, Joy (Derrick) Daggett and Rodney Galeski; seven grandchildren; a brother, Richard Galeski and several nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held at 11:00 am on Friday, September 6, 2019 in Griswold Street Baptist Church. Memorial contributions were suggested to the Griswold Street Baptist Church.

Lydia, Owen and Elise DeBell, went to, "See You at the Pole." Students at schools all across America annually gather at their school's flagpole on the third Wednesday in September to pray for their schools, friends, teachers, government and nation.

Conference of Restoration Elders met at Kirtland Temple and had a Priesthood Retreat on September 14 and 15, 2019. Their theme was, "Look Up and Press Onward." The main brothers who took part were Jason Webster, Richard Neill, Brian Mundy, Jay Havener and David Joyce on Saturday and on Sunday was Brother Howard Parker. They said, they had a very spiritual weekend. This was the first time that the Men's Retreat were granted permission to conduct a Sacrament Service in the Kirtland Temple. This was historic and we are very appreciative for this opportunity.

Lydia DeBell received her Academic Letter at her 3.5 assembly. She is taking four AP (Advanced Placement) classes. She can take a test at the end of the year and if she passes with a certain score (3,4 or 5) she gets C college credits. We are behind you, Lydia! Elise DeBell, attends Youth for Christ weekly at the Marysville Middle

School. Owen DeBell and his sisters are the children of Jim and Marnie DeBell and grand-children of John and Connie DeBell.

The Fall Women's Retreat theme was "His Eye is on the Sparrow and I Know He Watches Me." The date was, October 4-6, 2019 at the Wesleyan Woods Camp, Vassar, Mi. The ladies who attended from our Branch were Jane Ann Goodwine and Sherry Purcell. This was Sherry's account: God's spirit was surely felt throughout the weekend, weaving among all 40 plus women in a loving, caring manner. Heartfelt prayers and wonderful testimonies, united hearts, minds and souls. Friday evening, the ladies enjoyed mixer fun games, put together by Kathleen Modders. The conference room was decorated with birdcages and various colorful ceramic birds. All of the women were gifted with silver necklaces with three birds connected to each other. Meaningful and informational classes were presented by Brenda Telljohann, Lima, Ohio, "Covered by His Feathers (Protection), Kathi Havener, Oakwood Branch, "How Do You Know He Watches Over You," and Twyla Burnard, Oakwood Branch, "Beneath His Wings," (Encouragement). Saturday evening all ladies laughed and the fun continued with a talent show. Of course, a campfire followed, led by Elder Todd Moses and assisted by Grace Johnson. Sunday morning, all women came together at 7:30 am for a Communion service led by Elders Todd Moses and Jay Havener. Mother and daughter, Sherri and Grace Johnson, sang a very beautiful and moving, "His Eye Is On The Sparrow." Thank you to Elders Todd Moses and Jay Havener for joining the women and providing their kind, loving guidance and insightfulness throughout the weekend. Thanks also, to Kathi Havener and Val Bradley for devoting their time, effort, and prayerful consideration each year so the retreat can take place, and be such a success. It is

greatly appreciated and looked forward to each year. It is always a special time to meet with dear sisters in Christ, and to share with each other that special bond, and also to have that special relationship with our Heavenly Father. By Sherry Purcell

The Younger Youth Retreat was held at our Branch on October 18-20, their theme was, Prayer, Stewardship and Recording. They hope to put what they learned into use in their own lives. Their project this year is, "Light a House," which I already spoke about, for the African Children and their families.

The future is uncertain of the retired US Coast Guard Bramble which is now up for sale after a lawsuit. It is to be auctioned at noon Nov 6, 2019 at the U. S. Courthouse in Mobile, Alabama. This was commented on by Andrew Kercher, Port Huron Museum, Manager of Community Engagements. Andrew is the son of Christina Kercher and grandson of John and Connie DeBell.

McLaren Hospital of Port Huron has congratulated Judy Convary for her 35 years of nursing-medical service. Judy is a Nurse Practitioner. We also want to commend her for her tender, loving care for every patient she has come across and helped.

The DeBell Children played at the Band-a-Rama Concert on October 21, 2019. Owen and Lydia both signed up for solo and ensemble. Lydia will be playing a solo on her alto saxophone and a duet on tenor saxophone. Owen will be playing a solo on his flute. Lydia and Elise plan to participate in winter guard again this winter. These children are Jim and Marnie DeBell's and grandchildren of John and Connie DeBell.

We send condolences to Kevin McCormick in the loss of his father, Donald L. McCormick, October 13,

2019. His mother, Betty Jean Mayer, daughter of Michael and Lillian (Lydia) Mayer passed away June 1, 2017. They are survived by their son, Kevin. A graveside service with military honors was held at 2 pm on Sunday, October 27, 2019 in Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Fort Gratiot, Mi.

Marysville Viking Regiment came in Fourth place at MCBA State Championship on November 2, 2019 at Ford Field. There were 10 School Bands for the State of Michigan. Lydia played her alto saxophone and Owen was a freshman helper. Way to go Vikings and Lydia and Owen! Super!!

Cameron Britz, son of Jason and Carrie Britz and grandson of John and Barbara Tynan has accepted an English teaching job in China. We wish him a successful year of teaching and our prayers go with him for God's Protection.

Bernard Pearl took a fall and has broken several ribs. He was released from Mt. Clemens McClaren Hospital a week ago and has been moved to Richmond Medi-Lodge.

Esther Hunter was in the Port Huron McClaren Hospital, Friday - Monday and was moved to Regency room 324 for rehab.

### **Sanilac Branch**



**By: Denise Rich**

In September, Barent and Eric Eliason, Hod Powers, and Kerry Horton attended the Elder's Conference together in Kirtland. We were told that there was a wonderful spirit. Barent reported how

happy he was to have been able to attend with both of his sons, as Barry was able to attend from Missouri.

October was the Women's Retreat at Wesleyan Woods. Barb Eliason, Kerri Daniels and Denise Rich were in attendance. The theme was "His Eye is on the Sparrow." The classes were inspiring and were good reminders that God does take care of us, even if we don't see it at the time. A special thank you to Val and Kathi and the ladies who assist to make this wonderful gathering possible. As always, we are looking forward to the next gathering with our sisters.

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, Gary and Rebecca DesJardins welcomed their beautiful baby boy, Henry James. He was 5 lbs., 10 oz and 17 ½ inches long. Congratulations to them and Grandparents Randy & Debbie DesJardins, Jim & Stacy Bradley, and great-grandparents Bill & Kathleen Palmer.

The congregation completed the teaching series "The Maya Magi Mission". The archaeology is so exciting! The proof of Christ in America is so overwhelming. We were able to witness the scientific proof of the "bright night" on the night of Christ's birth. There was much learned over the course of the series.

Thank you so much to our guest ministers. September – Todd Yaney and Roy McAllister, October – Bill McLeod.

Bev Miller has moved to Port Huron. I'm sure she would appreciate cards or visits.

Her new address:  
Mercy Village,  
4170 24<sup>th</sup> Ave – Apt 233  
Fort Gratiot 48059



## **UPCOMING REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**December 6 & 7 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.), Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale  
Algonac Restoration Branch  
Contact: Wendy Holmes**

**From The Editor's Desk:** Sadly, as noted on page 1, Elder Don Everhart passed away on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. Many of you didn't get to know Don because of his declining health during his later years. I personally have known Don for about 25 years and had lunch with him, his son Elder Gary Everhart and Deacon Kerry Horton often to discuss the Gospel and Current Events in regards to the Church in these Latter-Days. I grew to love Don very much. He had a passion for the Angel Message to the very end. It is with great sadness that I must say goodbye to my beloved friend. He had and will continue to have a very special place in my heart. Adios my friend...until we meet again in the Father's House. I love you buddy!

**Editor: Jim Bradley  
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