2010 SALT LAKE
SUNSTONE
SYMPOSIUM and WORKSHOPS
Reflecting on Maturing Faith
4–7 AUGUST 2010
SHERATON SALT LAKE CITY HOTEL
150 WEST 500 SOUTH, SALT LAKE
FINAL PROGRAM

THIS SYMPOSIUM is dedicated to the idea that the truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ are better understood and, as a result, better lived when they are freely and frankly explored within the community of Saints.

WE RECOGNIZE that the search for things that are, have been, and are to be is a sifting process in which much chaff will have to be carefully inspected and threshed before the wheat can be harvested.

WE WELCOME the honest ponderings of Latter-day Saints and their friends and expect that everyone in attendance will approach every issue, no matter how difficult, with intelligence, respect, and good will.
WELCOME!

We’re excited about the 2010 Salt Lake Sunstone Symposium and all the great workshops and sessions that are part of this year’s event! This year’s theme, Reflecting on Maturing Faith, was inspired by Sunstone’s reaching a milestone in 2010: 35 years of publishing. The first issue of Sunstone magazine rolled off the presses in winter 1975, and we’ve been going strong ever since. Let’s take a moment to reflect on this milestone by enjoying some birthday cake and ice cream in celebration. Join us for sweet refreshments in the Canyons Lobby after the Smith-Pettit lecture Wednesday night.

Please stop by our book vendor room for the latest hot titles, or cruise the registration desk to buy yourself a new Sunstone T-shirt. If we happen to sell out of your size, you can peruse and purchase a wide array of Sunstone merchandise in our online Cafe Press shop: CAFEPRESS.COM/SHOPSUNSTONE.

PARKING: The Sheraton offers FREE parking in the lots on the west and north sides of the hotel. Enter from 500 South, and go through the parking gate on the far west side of the hotel.

PARENTS ROOM: If young symposium-goers get fussy or need room to get the wiggles out, feel free to take a break in the NORTH STAR meeting room—open all day. Cheers to the parents!

DISCOUNT COUPONS for the Olio Restaurant: The Olio restaurant is offering a 20% discount to symposium attendees who eat any meal at the restaurant. Pick up your discount coupons at the symposium registration desk, and enjoy the savings!

Sunstone is providing space for Amanda and Devery Anderson to take photo portraits of Mormon Studies scholars. Appointment sign-up sheets will be available at the Sunstone registration desk.

THANK YOUS!

Our thanks to the volunteers who were part of this year’s proposal selection committee: LAURA COMPTON, HOLLY WELKER, LORIE WINDER, DAN WOTHERSPOON, and MICHAEL J. STEVENS.

Audio/Visual Heroes: We’re bringing back the dedicated team from 2009 to manage the AV equipment and symposium recordings. Thanks in advance to the fellows who toil well out of the spotlight: GREG BRIGHTON, WADE GREENWOOD, ANDREW HAMILTON, TIM SWENSEN, MATTHEW WRIGHT, and team coordinator MICHAEL J. STEVENS.

Staff Stalwarts: CAROL B. QUIST and HOLLY WELKER have gone the extra mile in managing the preparations for this year’s event. We couldn’t have managed without them!

STEPHEN CARTER has been generous with his time and design talents and has toiled at the Salt Lake office to design T-shirts and prepare the preliminary and final programs for press.

Office volunteers: Our thanks to Sunstone office workers who helped with preparations: STEPHEN CARTER, ELLEN DECOO, BEVERLY HOPPE, HUGO OLAIZ, CAMI THORNÖCK, SHARI THORNÖCK, HOLLY WELKER, and DAN & LORRI WOTHERSPOON.

Onsite Volunteers: It takes a village to help the Symposium run smoothly. We give heartfelt thanks to SCOTT GRANER, DON and LUCINDA GUSTAVSON, JANI FLEET, BEVERLY HOPPE, ROD SHIRLEY, SHAREE HUGHES, LORELEE QUIST, and MATT THURBER for being part of our team of volunteers on site.

Underwriting: Special thanks to TYSON JACOBSEN for providing underwriting for Mr. Deity’s performance at the Symposium and to the Sunstone Board of Directors for underwriting cake and gelato in celebration of Sunstone’s 35 years of publishing.

Cameraman: Once again, STEVE MAYFIELD will be capturing Symposium highlights on film. Smile when you see him taking photos. And be forewarned: he likes to take pictures of Symposium attendees dozing off. Be careful when and where you nap!

Music: We are pleased once again to have ALAN EASTMAN at the piano and musical director ARDEAN WATTS leading the always-spirited congregational singing.

Alas, this will be ARDEAN’s last year directing the music at Sunstone; 2010 marks his 30th year in this role, and he would like to retire. While there’s no one who could possibly replicate Ardean, the 2011 symposium music stand is now taking applications.

Board: The Sunstone Board of Directors is a valuable ally in every Symposium event. A warm thank-you to board chair MICHAEL J. STEVENS and directors LAURA L. BUSH, LAURA COMPTON, DOE DAUGHTREY, KIM MCCALL, J. FREDERICK (TOBY) PINGREE, JANA BOUCK REMY, CHARLES T. SCHOFIELD, MARK D. THOMAS, MATT THURSTON, CLAY WHIPKEY, and DAN WOTHERSPOON. Our thanks for the service rendered by members whose terms of service ended in 2010: NADINE HANSEN, J. BONNER RITCHIE, and RORY SWENSEN.

Hotel: We’re pleased to have our event at the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel, and we’re grateful for the support of PAULA VOLZ, JESSE JAIME, and other members of the Sheraton staff.

Presenters: We’re excited to have both new and returning presenters on this year’s program. We hope your presentations go well and that you’ll enjoy being part of the conversations at Sunstone. We value your participation and hope you will continue to join us as presenters and symposium attendees.
SESSION CHANGES
The following sessions have been changed from the preliminary program:

SESSIONS CANCELLED—

123. LOSING A FOUND LANDSCAPE: MORMON SACRED GEOGRAPHY AND LDS APOLOGETICS
TREVOR LUKE

165. FROM C.S. LEWIS TO OWEN BARFIELD: AN EVELOUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS, AND EVOLUTION OF FAITH
JULIE J. NICHOLS

SESSIONS ADDED—

115. ONE SOUL SHALL NOT BE LOST: A HISTORY OF THE WAR IN HEAVEN IN MORMON THOUGHT
BOYD J. PETERSEN

126. JOSEPH SMITH, MATTHEW PHILIP GILL, AND THE DYNAMICS OF MORMON SCHISM
MATTHEW BOWMAN

166. A MORMON BIGFOOT: DAVID PATTEN’S CAIN AND THE CONCEPTION OF EVIL IN MORMON FOLKLORE
MATTHEW BOWMAN

SESSIONS MOVED TO NEW TIME SLOTS—

274. ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MORMONISM
moved to session 356

275. PANEL. FAITH AND NARRATIVE
moved to session 376

333. PANEL. WHERE IS YOUR FAULKNER? MORMON FICTION AND AMERICA
moved to session 374

336. PANEL. NO MORE FELLOW CITIZENS BUT STILL STRANGERS: TWENTY YEARS OF STRANGERS IN PARADOX: EXPLORATIONS IN MORMON THEOLOGY
moved to session 375

351. PANEL. THE ROLE OF FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG IN THE "MATURING" OF MORMON FEMINISM
moved to session 333

374. PANEL. EXIT, VOICE, AND LOYALTY IN THE MORMON COMMUNITY
moved to session 274

375. PANEL. GROWTH AND DISPERSION OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN "ZION" AND "BABYLON": THE CONSEQUENCES OF MORMON DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION
moved to session 336

376. PANEL. DEVELOPMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST 2010 WORLD CONFERENCE
moved to session 275

GROWING SUNSTONE

FOR 35 YEARS, Sunstone has been cultivating independent thought and spiritual exploration in Mormonism. During that time, hundreds of thousands of people—you and I included—have been spiritually and intellectually nourished by thought-provoking SUNSTONE articles and spiritually invigorating symposium presentations. There is no doubt that Sunstone makes life in Mormonism deeper, richer, and more rewarding.

Long-time Sunstone supporters Rebecca England and Jordan Kimball of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Steve and Nicole Kovalenko of Ashburn, Virginia, have generously volunteered to help carry on Sunstone’s legacy by matching up to $10,000 of the donations Sunstone receives between now and 31 August—in other words, anything you donate to Sunstone before the end of August will be doubled.

Though Sunstone does charge for subscriptions and symposium registrations, these fees cover only direct publication and event costs. The rest of our annual budget relies solely on the support of those who have benefitted from Sunstone and who want to nurture it for Mormonism’s future seekers.

If you’re looking for donation ideas, check out the Giving Tree in the lobby and purchase a few decorations, or visit with Michael Stevens to talk about how you can make Sunstone a part of your estate planning. As always, your donations to Sunstone are fully tax-deductible.

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<tr>
<td>Powder Mountain</td>
<td>112 Out of Context: Using and Abusing Quotations</td>
<td>124 More Stories from the LDS Borderlands</td>
<td>132 Studies of 20th Century Mormon Sects</td>
<td>141 1:30 p.m. BOOK SIGNINGS Deer Valley</td>
<td>Michael Austin, Ann Chamberlin, Mark Decker, Aaron Sanders, Afton Lovell (Pettegrew) Wilkins</td>
<td>152 A Field Guide for Turning History into Myth</td>
<td>163 Maturity, Meaning &amp; Mormonism</td>
<td>174 The Book of Job</td>
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<td>Sundance</td>
<td>113 Maturing Faiths: A Comparison of Mormonism and Islam</td>
<td>125 Francophone Mormons and the Internet</td>
<td>133 Peculiar Portrayals: Mormons on the Page, Stage &amp; Screen</td>
<td>153 Toward an LDS Account of Physician-Assisted Suicide</td>
<td>161 Seerstones to Triangals: A Church’s Journey with Scripture</td>
<td>173 Some SAHD Stories</td>
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<td>Bryce</td>
<td>114 Money Troubles: Fiscal &amp; Psychological Crises at Kirtland</td>
<td>121 Bella’s Body: Physicality, Mortality, Spirituality, etc.</td>
<td>134 Are We Moving Toward Wholeness? Women &amp; the Feminine, etc.</td>
<td>154 Two Short Plays: “Adam &amp; Eve” and “Prodigal Son”</td>
<td>162 Whose Wife Will She Be? Marriage, Embodiment, Salvation</td>
<td>175 Theological Ramifications of Excommunication</td>
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**Sunstone Symposium Thursday 5 August 2010**
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<td>212 Sacred Secrecy in the Teachings of Boyd K. Packer</td>
<td>223 Spaceship Earth</td>
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<td>213 Joseph Smith III: From Reorganization to Community of Christ</td>
<td>222 Inspired Fictionalization of the United Firm Revelations</td>
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<td>Arches</td>
<td>201 Devotional: Wrestling Jacob's Angel: On Trials &amp; Maturing Faith</td>
<td>214 Meditation on William H. Chamberlin &amp; Remaining Mormon</td>
<td>221 Relief Society &amp; the Invisible Hand of Patriarchy</td>
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<td>211 The Cost of Discipleship: Thoughts on Being a Mature Believer</td>
<td>225 Same-Gender Marriage and Religious Freedom</td>
<td>231 Why We Stay</td>
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<td>314 Dating Fanny Alger: An Early Polygamous Relationship</td>
<td>326 Joseph Smith’s Meditation on Power</td>
<td>333 Role of the Mth blog in the Maturing of Mormon Feminism</td>
<td>LUNCH BREAK Singles Lunch at the Olio in room VIP 2</td>
<td>333 Faith in the Midst of Life’s Difficulties</td>
<td>364 Oliver Cowdery’s Rod of Nature</td>
<td>374 Where is Your Faulkner? Mormon Fiction and America</td>
<td>DINER BREAK</td>
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<td>313 Church, Priesthood, and the Gay/Lesbian Journey Toward Spiritual Maturity</td>
<td>324 50 Years of Transformation in Community of Christ</td>
<td>334 Pros &amp; Cons of Writing Confessional Memoir in the Mormon Milieu</td>
<td>355 The Mormon Bibles</td>
<td>366 Bash: Mormonizing Eupides</td>
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<td>316 The Future of Catholic / Mormon Dialogue</td>
<td>322 Gender Differences in Early LDS Patriarchal Blessings</td>
<td>336 Growth &amp; Dispersion: LDS Demographic Transition</td>
<td>Mormon Clips from The Daily Show &amp; Colbert Report</td>
<td>341 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>341 BOOK SIGNINGS: Deer Valley</td>
<td>354 Joseph Smith’s Personal Polygamy</td>
<td>365 Reasons for Technological Interpretations of Mormonism</td>
<td>373 Men &amp; Priesthood: Taking on the Feminine</td>
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<td>301 Devotional: Gratitude: A Contagious Choice</td>
<td>315 Toward a Theological Justification for Environmental Activism</td>
<td>325 Mormon Women HAD the Priesthood in 1843</td>
<td>335 Mormonism and Radical Politics</td>
<td>346 On Social Justice and Mormonism</td>
<td>363 Two Loves: Documenting Gay Mormons’ Stories (short film)</td>
<td>372 Seeing As Believing</td>
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<td>Canyons</td>
<td>311 Trouble in Zion (Film Screening)</td>
<td>321 Trouble in Zion (Film Screening, Continued)</td>
<td>331 Glenn Beck: Likely Mormon or Unlikely Mormon?</td>
<td>351 Mobilizing the Saints: Strategies on Same-Sex Marriage</td>
<td>362 Mormon Feminist Community of Exponent II</td>
<td>371 Gay &amp; Mormon on the Stage and Screen</td>
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**SUNSTONE SYMPOSIUM SATURDAY 7 AUGUST 2010**

**Room** | **8:00–8:30** | **8:45–9:45** | **10:00–11:00** | **11:15–12:45** | **12:45–2:15** | **2:15–3:15** | **3:30–4:30** | **4:45–6:15** | **6:15–8:00** | **8:00** |
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Powder Mountain | 313 Church, Priesthood, and the Gay/Lesbian Journey Toward Spiritual Maturity | 324 50 Years of Transformation in Community of Christ | 334 Pros & Cons of Writing Confessional Memoir in the Mormon Milieu | 355 The Mormon Bibles | 366 Bash: Mormonizing Eupides | 376 Faith and Narrative |
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**LUNCH BREAK**

**Singles Lunch** at the Olio in room VIP 2

**1:30 p.m.**

**BOOK SIGNINGS:**
- Deer Valley Phyllis Barber
- Stephen Carter
- Ann Chamberlin
- Johnny Townsend

**10:00–11:00**

**325 Mormon Women HAD the Priesthood in 1843**

**335 Mormonism and Radical Politics**

**336 On Social Justice and Mormonism**

**351 Mobilizing the Saints: Strategies on Same-Sex Marriage**

**352 Homosexual Spirituality & Redemption of Pleasure**

**361 Hindering the Saints: Taking Away the Key of Knowledge**

**DINNER BREAK**

**BANQUET:** Reader’s theater panel: LDS Women in the 20th Century: Witnesses to a Changing Church

Findings from the Claremont Mormon Women’s Oral History Project

Featuring: Claudia Bushman, Lisa T. Clayton, Bethany Saunders, Lauren Kennard & Caroline Kline

Room: Wasatch (upstairs)

The banquet requires a separate registration fee of $46. "Lecture only" tickets are not available.
The personal essay is one of the most “natural literary forms” of Mormon literature, related as it is to journal-keeping and the first person. This class will explore ways to turn anecdotes and journal entries into more artistic and shapely forms of nonfiction storytelling. We will look at different angles of approach to the stories we need/want to tell; we’ll explore what it means to be “taught by the language pooled inside of each of us” that assists us if we allow for its subliminal wisdom; we’ll discuss the discretionary range of what we feel we can and cannot write; and we’ll look at some contemporary personal essays to discover the spectrum of possibility with this literary form.

**Instructor**

**JOHN DEHLIN** is an active member of the LDS Church and founder or co-founder of several Mormon-themed blogs and podcasts including: Mormon Stories podcast, MORMONMATTERS.ORG, STAYLDS.COM, and MORMONSFORMARRIAGE.COM.

John Dehlin has spent the past five years speaking with more than 1,000 LDS Church members in crises of faith. This workshop will address components of an LDS faith crisis and explore various options available to those in such crises, including taking a break from full activity, leaving the Church altogether, or remaining in the Church as a non-traditional believer/participant. In addition, John will bring several friends who are in various stages of crisis to help field questions and brainstorm options with attendees.

**Room**

**SNOWBIRD**

**W-3. Title**

**CLEANSE YOUR TEMPLE: INTRODUCTION TO YOGA ASANA FOR MORMONS** with BRENT CORCORAN

**NOTE** Part One of the workshop runs from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. Comfortable clothing recommended.

**Description** During my decade teaching yoga in Salt Lake City, I have not been surprised that many members of the LDS faith have added a yoga practice to augment their Mormon spiritual life. As Benjamin Park states in a recent Dialogue article, "The body is an especially apt lens through which to view theology because it so penetrates religious thought, practice, and symbology that its significance often goes overlooked. Not only do many religious analogies employ the body for understanding, but the body itself serves as a metaphor for an entire religious construction." (Summer 2010; 3.)

This session will provide an introduction to the practice of various yoga postures, breathing techniques, and anatomical alignment principles, and also serve as a forum for discussing both the places of accord and discord between yogic and Mormon spiritual practices. Please consult your doctor before attending this introductory-level session. You may not sweat, but you might glimpse! Mats will be provided, or bring your own.

**Instructor**

**BRENT CORCORAN** is credentialed as Anusara-Inspired (TM) Yoga teacher at Kula Yoga Studio in Salt Lake City. He is employed by Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought as production manager and by the Journal of Mormon History as compositor.

**Title**

**AN INTRODUCTION TO AROMATHERAPY AND ESSENTIAL OILS** with AMY CLARK

**NOTE** Part Two of the workshop runs from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm and includes a foot massage using scented essential oils.

**Description** Once I started having children, I became interested in natural home health remedies. I found that essential oils can help prevent and treat illness and can also help create a deeper bond with
loved ones. They are now an integral part of our household and are easy to use! A quick starter course is all you need to help put yourself and your surroundings on a healthier course. Come to this workshop if you'd like to explore an all-natural approach to healing or just want a great emotional boost.

A relaxing foot massage will give class members hands-on experience using essential oils. You can pair up with a classmate to give each other foot massages or massage your own feet.

**Instructor**

AMY CLARK has a BS and MPA from BYU and has worked for Microsoft, Utah Valley University, United Way of the Greater Salt Lake Area, Economic Development Corporation of Utah, Johnson & Johnson, and AstraZeneca. Essential oils are a hobby she enjoys sharing with others.

**Room**

ALTA

**LUNCH BREAK, 12:30–2:00 PM**

**Where to eat**

THE SHERATON HAS a very nice on-site restaurant, the Olio, where we encourage workshop participants to dine. Stop by the symposium registration table for a 20% Olio discount coupon.

**AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS, 2:00 PM–5:30 PM**

**W-4. Title**

NAVIGATING A MARRIAGE WHEN ONE OF YOU LOSES AN LDS TESTIMONY

with JOHN DEHLIN

**Description**

If an LDS Church member loses his/her testimony, it can significantly impact the person's marriage. Many marriages dissolve due to an inability to understand each other's perspective. From the true-believing spouse's perspective, the unbelieving spouse has violated covenants and may no longer be worthy of the union (or the children, for that matter). From the unbelieving spouse's perspective, the believing spouse has been brainwashed and is considered naive, ignorant, and unwilling to face "reality." Can this chasm be bridged? Can (or should) the marriage be saved?

Over the past five years, John Dehlin has consulted with dozens of couples who are struggling with these questions. Come to this workshop to explore ways to better understand and support the other's perspective. To provide insight and perspective on the process, John will bring several friends who have recently struggled with these issues.

**Instructor**

JOHN DEHLIN is an active member of the LDS Church and founder or co-founder of several Mormon-themed blogs and podcasts including: Mormon Stories podcast, MORMONMATTERS.ORG, STAYLDS.COM, and MORMONSFORMARRIAGE.COM.
John is currently pursuing a PhD in clinical counseling psychology from Utah State University with a specialty in anxiety-spectrum disorders. John is happily married and the proud father of four kids.

**Instructor**

NATASHA HELFER PARKER, MS, LCMFT, received a BA from BYU in psychology and an MA in family therapy from Friends University in Wichita. She began working in a drug addiction treatment center, then contracted with the Chicago chapter of LDS Family Services, and has been in private practice for the last seven years. She is a clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapists. In February 2009, she started The Mormon Therapist, an LDS “advice column” blog. It has visitors from 50 states and 80 countries. She has been married for 14 years and has four children.

**Room**

SNOWBIRD

**W-5. Title**

THE ENDURING PRINCIPLES: THE PERSONALITY OF THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

with SUSAN SKOOR

**Description**

Fifty Community of Christ international leaders from around the world met for more than two years to discuss the core values of their faith. Out of that dialogue came “Enduring Principles,” a document as remarkable in its conclusions as it was in its creation. “Enduring Principles” are the underlying truths and affirmations that shape the personality of the church. They guide how we live in our communities, families, workplaces, and congregations. An expression of diversity and unity, they bind church members together across cultures, languages, and theological differences. This workshop uncovers the story behind “Enduring Principles,” explores the nature of the core values revealed, and provides insights into the widely divergent applications that still pose challenges and paradoxes for the members of the Community of Christ.

**Instructor**

SUSAN SKOOR, member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles in Community of Christ, was called and ordained in 2005. Born in St. Joseph, Missouri, Susan has lived in several countries and currently is the member of the Twelve in charge of Canada and the Pacific Islands (Hawaii, Australia, French Polynesia, Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand).

**Room**

ALTA

**W-6. Title**

MEDITATION FOR MORMONS: PRACTICES FOR A MATURING FAITH

with JOHN KESLER

**Description**

Joseph Smith promised that the personal revelations and mystical experiences he received are available to each Latter-day Saint who seeks them. However, Church members receive relatively little guidance on reflective, contemplative, and meditative practices. John Kesler has taught meditation for many years and has striven to develop a practice of meditation and awareness that correlates with principles of the restored gospel, with the goal of providing a more reflective and meditative path for Latter-day Saints. John will offer instructions and meditations for the beginning Mormon meditator as well as facilitate deeper meditative experiences as a taste of the growth made possible by an inward journey, personal awareness, and communion and union with the Spirit.

**Instructor**

JOHN KESLER was director of the official meditation center for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City and a founding teacher of the Integral Spiritual Center, a group of senior members of various Eastern and Western spiritual traditions who emphasize meditative approaches in their own traditions. John has served as a bishop, in several bishoprics and high councils, and is a practicing attorney and social activist.

**Room**

SUNDANCE

**WEDNESDAY 4 AUGUST**
During the past several decades, sociologists and scholars in Religious Studies have created an additional category, "new religious movements," to use in the study of religion. This category is proving extremely useful not only in the consideration of new movements in modern times but also in examining the coming into being of such world traditions as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Professors Butler and Shipps, both senior scholars in the field of American religion, will talk about the many religious movements that originated in America across the years. They will reflect on what occurred when such movements could no longer be described as pristine or innovative. Which ones were likely not just to survive, but to grow? Because many new religious movements did not endure, the fascinating question of why some survived and some did not will be addressed. Many possibilities existed for those that lived on. What were they, and what happened as they matured? How did these religious movements change when they advanced beyond the boundaries of the United States? These questions will be the focus of this free-wheeling conversation that will move past the general and settle on the particular—Mormonism—before it draws to a close.

**Moderator**
Philip L. Barlow, Arrington Chair of Mormon History and Culture, Utah State University.
THURSDAY 5 AUGUST

2010 Salt Lake
SUNSTONE Symposium and Workshops

REGISTRATION, 8:00 AM–7:30 PM

Registration Information
Admission to sessions is by symposium name badge or ticket only. This policy will be strictly enforced. Badges and tickets are available at the conference registration table in the Canyons Lobby on the far east side of the hotel.

DEVOTIONAL, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

101. Devotional THE CALL TO PRAISE AND RESPOND

Presenter SUSAN SKOOR, member, Quorum of Twelve Apostles, Community of Christ; called and ordained in 2005. Susan is currently the member of the Twelve in charge of Canada and the Pacific Islands (Hawaii, Australia, French Polynesia, Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand).

Abstract From childhood to maturity, we celebrate the gifts of God to us and the worth of all persons. We respond to God’s challenge to be a global family working to bring forth the cause of Zion. Using song, statements of praise, and guided meditation, we will focus on God’s generous and unconditional grace, the inestimable and equal worth of all persons, our vision of Zion, and God’s reign on earth.

Chair LAURA COMPTON

Room ARCHES

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:45 AM–9:45 AM

111. Paper EUGENE ENGLAND’S CALCULATED RISK: THE STRUGGLE FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

Presenter CHARLOTTE HANSEN recently completed a BA in English at the University of Utah and is president of the Latter-day Saint Student Association (LDSSA). She is a granddaughter of Charlotte and Eugene England and wrote her honors thesis about Eugene England’s writings.

Abstract I analyze the writings of Eugene England, Mormon literary critic, focusing on his advocacy for dialogue and academic freedom, beginning with his editorial in issue one of Dialogue and ending with his last SUNSTONE Symposium lecture in 2000. How might we move forward from what Eugene England taught in order to achieve greater academic freedom today?

Chair DENNIS CLARK

Room SUNDANCE

112. Paper OUT OF CONTEXT: USING AND ABUSING QUOTATIONS

Presenter BARRY LAGA, PhD, professor, English, Mesa State College, Grand Junction, Colorado; teaches American literature, literary theory, and cultural studies.

Abstract Nearly all LDS writers and speakers quote scripture as well as passages from other writers. Whether it is Neal A. Maxwell citing C. S. Lewis, Boyd K. Packer quoting a poem from Best-Loved Poems of the LDS People, or President Monson invoking Abraham Lincoln, the time-honored practice helps clarify thoughts, extend arguments, and provide authority and credibility. Contemporary literary theory even reminds us that the citation is inevitable, for “grafting” another text is inherent in any use of language. Given how often LDS authors quote other writers, I explore the effect of these literary borrowings in an LDS context, examining how citing another’s text generates, expands, and multiplies meaning as well as distorts, limits, and re-interprets the original source text.

Chair KAREN M. MOLONEY

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

113. Paper MATURING FAITHS: A COMPARISON BETWEEN MORMONISM AND ISLAM DURING THEIR FIRST TWO CENTURIES

Presenter ANN CHAMBERLIN, author of ten historical novels and The Veil in the Looking Glass, a history of women in the Middle East; majored in archaeology of the Middle East at the University of Utah and spent a summer in Israel excavating Beersheba, traveling the Holy Land, and living in the old city of Jerusalem.

Abstract In this paper, I explore the first two hundred years of Islam and compare and contrast with Mormonism during a similar time frame. I use three foci of comparison. First, I explore ways Mormonism and early Islam seek to control the telling of history. Second, I will explore similarities in the rift between Sunni and Shi’a playing out today and the more peaceful schism of the Utah Saints and RLDS/Community of Christ. Finally, I focus on the differences between a movement that began in the desert and swiftly moved to take political control of older seats of power, and a movement that was forced from seats of power and sought refuge in the desert.

Chair DENNIS CLARK

Room SUNDANCE

114. Paper MONEY TROUBLES: FISCAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CRISIS AT KIRTLAND

Presenter RICHARD DELEWSKI, counselor, licensed clinical social worker, emergency departments, inpatient psychiatric units in Salt Lake County.
Abstract
In Kirtland, Joseph Smith began to take a greater role in managing the financial matters of the Church. His efforts met with resistance from some Saints, which mushroomed into outright rebellion from others. When the Kirtland Safety Society began to fail, intense anger and opposition began to mount against the prophet. Many asked, “How much control should a spiritual leader have over financial matters?” This presentation examines the psychological impact of Joseph Smith’s role in managing the Church’s money and how this fact may have contributed to the intense opposition he experienced in 1836 and 1837.

Chair
GLEN R. LAMBERT

Room
BRYCE

115. Paper
ONE SOUL SHALL NOT BE LOST: A HISTORY OF THE WAR IN HEAVEN IN MORMON THOUGHT

Presenter
BOYD J. PETERSEN, PhD, comparative literature, University of Utah; program coordinator for Mormon Studies, Utah Valley University.

Abstract
The idea of a War in Heaven is rooted in the biblical story of fallen angels (Genesis 6), a reinterpretation of Isaiah 12, and the apocalyptic writings of John (Revelation 12). Developed in the literature of post-biblical Judaism, the idea is more fully expanded in Christianity. Mormon scripture—the Book of Moses and the Doctrine and Covenants—transforms the War into a conflict of ideas about salvation: Satan attempting to prohibit agency and guarantee universal salvation; Christ allowing choice but providing atonement for sin.

In Mormon thought, the War in Heaven has been used to convey moral messages about the correct use of agency, to tie Church history to future prophetic events of cosmic history, and, most interesting, to convey an allegory about the origins of inequality and the proper role of government. Significantly, this narrative of premortal ideological confrontation also becomes a tool for earthly, political debate.

Chair
H. PARKER BLOUNT

Room
BRIGHTON

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 10:00 AM–11:00 AM

121. Paper
BELLA’S BODY: PHYSICALITY, MORTALITY, SPIRITUALITY, AND DESIRE

Presenter
HOLLY WELKER has a PhD in English literature from the University of Iowa. Her poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and scholarship have appeared in publications ranging from The New Era, the New York Times, Best American Essays to Bitch.

Abstract
Bella’s body is what propels the action of the Twilight series. The lust (for both sex and violence) it arouses, the lust it feels, the way pain...
makes her feel alive and close to Edward and is therefore enjoyed, the human fragility she must overcome, the bloodlust she feels as a vampire—these elements of physicality drive the story. But just as the saga avoids explicit discussions of sex despite an emphasis on erotic desire, it also avoids explicit discussions of what physicality means. Bella’s ways of inhabiting and relating to her body reveal much about her character and about the cultures—both Mormon and western—that produced her. What do they tell us about a spiritual self?

Chair ELLEN DECOO
Room BRYCE

122. Paper AUTHORS MEET THE CRITIC

Abstract This discussion brings together scholars and thinkers to discuss two books: Gary Topping’s Leonard J. Arrington: A Historian’s Life and Polly Aird’s book about Peter McAuslan entitled Mormon Convert, Mormon Defector: A Scottish Immigrant in the American West, 1848-1861.

Through the publication of his groundbreaking Great Basin Kingdom: An Economic History of the Latter-day Saints and numerous other works, Leonard Arrington established the dominant interpretation of the Mormon experience. Yet until now, there has been little analysis of his contribution to Western history. Gary Topping re-examines Arrington’s role in founding and promoting what is known as the New Mormon History. Arrington has been criticized for relying on the assistance of staff members in the Church’s history division, but Topping shows that this collaborative approach is in keeping with the cooperative spirit of Mormonism.

Polly Aird’s biography describes Peter McAuslan’s conversion to Mormonism in 1848 and journey to Utah in 1854. In the next four years, the Mormons experienced natural disasters, the Mormon Reformation, the handcart disasters, the Mountain Meadows Massacre, and the Utah War. These events and the insistence on absolute obedience to Church leaders tore at McAuslan’s faith. In 1859, he and other members of his extended family applied for an army escort out of Utah. In spite of abandoning the faith he once loved, McAuslan never lost his regard for the Mormon people.

Critic CURT BENCH, owner and proprietor of Benchmark Books in Salt Lake City; he buys, sells, and appraises Mormon and Utah-related rare books, documents, and artifacts; reviews and writes about books.
Respondents GARY TOPPING, professor of history, Salt Lake Community College; archivist of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City; author of ten books and dozens of historical articles about Utah and Western history. POLLY AIRD, independent historian based in Seattle, Washington; member, editorial board, Journal of Mormon History; author of several award-winning articles published in Utah Historical Quarterly, Nevada Historical Society Quarterly, the Journal of Mormon History, and Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought.

Room BRIGHTON

123. THIS SESSION HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

124. Paper MORE STORIES FROM THE LDS BORDERLANDS

Presenter D. JEFF BURTON, author, "Braving the Borderlands" column in SUNSTONE magazine.

Abstract I will give a short presentation about a few not-yet-published Borderlanders’ stories and discuss issues associated with life in the LDS Borderlands today. As in past Borderland sessions, after the main presentation, we invite audience members to ask questions of the presenters and, for those so inclined, to share stories of how you (and/or a loved one) have coped (or failed to cope) with Borderland issues and what being a "Borderlander" has meant to you and to your family and friends. By using a positive, non-blaming and non-critical approach, we can learn from your experiences and better cope ourselves. It might also help those in the closet to twist the doorknob and come out more fully into the warming lights of honesty and peace of mind.

Respondents JOHN DEHLIN, PhD student in clinical/counseling psychology at Utah State University; co-founder, STAYLDS.COM.
Chair J. FREDERICK (TOBY) PINGREE
Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

125. Paper FRANCPHONE MORMONS AND THE INTERNET: DISCOVERING SPACE FOR RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION, DIALOGUE, AND DEMOCRACY

Presenter CARTER CHARLES, BA, MA, North American Studies, Université Michel de Montaigne–Bordeaux 3. A native of Haiti, he teaches English in the French educational system and is a temporary lecturer at universities Montesquieu–Bordeaux IV (law and management), and Michel de Montaigne–Bordeaux 3 (humanities), where he is also a PhD candidate.

Abstract While Anglophone Mormons developed a habit of media communication over the years, their Francophone counterparts lagged behind. Few could afford the printed media, nor did they have much training in discussing topics as personal as belief or as sensitive as religious history, and they feared criticism if they tried. Hence, Francophone
Mormons remained virtually silent until the Internet became more accessible to them. This paper will explore Mormon Francophone participation in and production of websites, blogs, and virtual discussion groups to present their beliefs and engage in constructive dialogues with each other and with non-Mormons.

Chair  BOYD J. PETERSEN  
Room  SUNDANCE  
126.  Paper  JOSEPH SMITH, MATTHEW PHILIP GILL, AND THE DYNAMICS OF MORMON SCHISM  
Presenter  MATTHEW BOWMAN is a PhD candidate in history at Georgetown University and a 2010-2011 Charlotte Newcombe Fellow. His dissertation is about the rise of evangelical fundamentalism in early twentieth-century New York City.  
Abstract  In 2007, Matthew Philip Gill of Derbyshire, England, announced the formation of the Latter Day Church of Jesus Christ. He claimed to be acting under angelic direction and produced a new scripture, the Book of Jeraneck, to usher in his new faith. Gill claims to have restored the Mormon movement which Joseph Smith founded as a restoration of the church Jesus organized but which Gill claims has fallen into apostasy—particularly its primary iteration, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), which Gill was raised in but abandoned. This paper points out ways Gill draws upon the Mormon tradition to claim authority for his new church but also the ways he seeks to alter the balance between the LDS Church and the culture around it. In particular, I explore Gill's founding narrative, comparing the language, motifs, and forms of spirituality in the Book of Jeraneck with Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon.

Chair  DAI NEWMAN  
Room  ARCHES  
131.  Panel  REDISCOVERING EUGENE ENGLAND IN THE 21ST CENTURY  
This session is sponsored by the Eugene England Foundation.  
Abstract  The Eugene England Foundation has launched EUGENEENGLAND.ORG, a comprehensive website that makes the life and writings of one of the most influential Mormon thinkers and activists easily accessible to another generation. Panelists will discuss the new website, photos, the Eugene England papers at the University of Utah’s Marriott Library, and draw on journals and correspondence to explore and give context to two key events in his life: his mission with his wife, Charlotte, to Samoa and the infamous 1981 letter from Elder Bruce R. McConkie.

Moderator/Panelist  DAN WOTHERSPOON, PhD, former editor, SUNSTONE; EUGENEENGLAND.ORG project director.  
Panelists  JODY ENGLAND HANSEN, visual artist, England’s daughter.  
CHARLOTTE ENGLAND, chair, Eugene England Foundation; England’s wife.  
CHARLOTTE HANSEN, president, LDSSA, University of Utah; England’s granddaughter.  
REBECCA ENGLAND, editor; England’s daughter.

Room  ARCHES  
132.  Panel  STUDIES OF TWENTIETH-CENTURY UTAH MORMON SECTS  
Abstract  This panel presents three case studies documenting and analyzing the expressions of Utah Mormonism as they developed in the twentieth century. Through these case studies, the presenters will demonstrate the diverse schismatic response to well-documented theological and cultural change within the LDS Church.

Unlike Mormon Fundamentalism, (e.g. the FLDS Church, the Apostolic United Brethren), these two movements have rarely been studied by modern academics. The Order of Aaron, the subject of the first paper, has not received scholarly attention since Hans Baer’s *Recreating Utopia in the Desert* in 1968. The subject of papers two and three, the Church of the Firstborn, has never been the focus of an academic study.
This panel takes the audience through the rise, development, and disintegration of these religious communities, and each speaker will address why one expression of the Restoration may survive and thrive while others last only a few years.

**Introduction**

PHILIP L. BARLOW, Leonard Arrington Chair of Mormon History and Culture, Utah State University.

**Panelists**

RYAN T. ROOS spent more than a decade in the rare book and document trade; worked for Benchmark Books in Salt Lake City; former acquisitions manager, Pioneer Book, Provo; currently attending Utah State University with a focus on Mormon history and philosophy.

CHRISTOPHER BLYTHE, completing MA in history at Utah State University; earned BAs from Texas A&M in anthropology and Utah State in religious studies; editor-in-chief of the *Intermountain West Journal of Religious Studies* and co-director of "Mormonisms: An Oral History Project."

CHRISTINE BLYTHE, MA student, Utah State University; associate editor, *Intermountain West Journal of Religious Studies*; serves on the executive committee of USU's religious studies student association; currently conducting research on nineteenth-century Mormonism and disabilities.

**Room**

POWDER MOUNTAIN 133.

**Panel**

PECULIAR PORTRAYALS: MORMONS ON THE PAGE, STAGE, AND SCREEN

**Abstract**

Published this spring by Utah State University Press, *Peculiar Portrayals* is a collection of new scholarly articles examining depictions of Mormon characters in mass market venues. The panelists, who are editors of and/or contributors to the project, will discuss the personal and professional reasons behind the book's creation.

Michael Austin will read a part of his chapter, which discusses how the HBO series *Big Love* uses polygamy to comment on contemporary American notions of the family. Mark Decker's presentation places *Peculiar Portrayals* in the context of broader questions about the depiction of ethnicity in American narrative. Aaron Sanders will read a section of his chapter, which explores the way blood atonement has been critiqued in novels written by Mormon authors who are attempting to reach a broader audience.

**Moderator/Panelist**

MICHAEL AUSTIN, PhD, provost and vice-president for academic affairs, Newman University, Wichita, KS; published books and articles on topics in twentieth-century American and eighteenth-century British literature.

**Panelists**

MARK T. DECKER, PhD, assistant professor, English, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania; published essays on William Faulkner, Thomas Pynchon, Richard Wright, E. M. Forster, and Charles Brockden Brown.

AARON SANDERS, PhD, American literature, University of Connecticut; MFA, fiction, University of Utah; assistant professor, English, Columbus State University, Georgia, teaching American literature and creative writing.

**Room**

SUNDANCE 134.

**Panel**

ARE WE MOVING TOWARD WHOLENESS? WOMEN AND THE FEMININE IN MORMONISM

This session is sponsored by the Mormon Women's Forum.

**Abstract**

Wholeness, balance, and inclusiveness characterize maturity. This panel will consider the relationship of both the masculine and the feminine and women and men in the LDS Church. Are feminine and masculine principles, values, and perspectives balanced in Church teachings and structures? Does the Church encourage and provide resources for the spiritual development of both men and women? Do men and women receive equal opportunities to develop their talents and serve in the Church? Do the governing structures of the Church reflect and work toward wholeness, balance, and inclusiveness?

**Moderator/Panelist**

MARGARET TOSCANO, PhD, assistant professor, classics and comparative literature, University of Utah; co-author, *Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology*; pub...
WHITNEY MOWER grew up Mormon in Provo, Utah. Received a bachelor’s degree in English this spring from Utah Valley University and will attend an MFA program for fiction this fall. Her goals: write an honest novel; teach English.

RICHARD TERRY LaPOINTE channels his passion for storytelling into transplanting the Moth Radio Hour tradition (stories told live on stage, sans scripts, notes, props, or accompaniment) to Salt Lake City. Here, he renovates a circa-1892 pioneer house on a downtown urban farm with a dog named Salt, a mess of barn cats, 120,100 honeybees, and a rooster named LaVern.

ROOM BRIGHTON

LUNCH BREAK, 12:45 PM–2:15 PM

Where to eat
THE SHERATON HAS a very nice on-site restaurant, Olio. We encourage symposium attendees to dine at the hotel. Stop by the symposium registration table for 20% discount coupons to use at the Olio.

141. Book Signings

AUTHOR SIGNINGS

Please Note Signings will begin at 1:30 pm in DEER VALLEY.

Author MICHAEL AUSTIN, co-editor, Peculiar Portrayals: Mormons on the Page, Stage, and Screen

Author ANN CHAMBERLIN, A History of Women’s Seclusion in the Middle East, Sofia, The Sultan’s Daughter, The Reign of the Favored Women, Snakesleeper, and Leaving Eden

Author MARK T. DECKER, co-editor, Peculiar Portrayals: Mormons on the Page, Stage, and Screen

Author AARON SANDERS, contributor, Peculiar Portrayals: Mormons on the Page, Stage, and Screen

Author AFTON LOVELL (PETTEGREW) WILKINS, Warts and All: Family Memories

ROOM DEER VALLEY

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:15 PM–3:15 PM

151. Paper

LINE UPON LINE: HOW THE NEW PERSONAL PROGRESS/DUTY TO GOD PROGRAMS ARE DEFINING TOMORROW’S LEADERS

Presenter LAURA COMPTON has a degree in journalism from Humboldt State University and is on the SUNSTONE board of directors. She has served in several ward Young Women presidencies but currently spends her church service on the organ bench.
Abstract
I compare and contrast the new Personal Progress/Duty to God programs and discuss how the requirements, suggested goals, and reading assignments are similar/different for girls and boys. I will also explore how the Proclamation on the Family has been integrated into the Primary program, discuss what seems to be the most-quoted portion of the Proclamation, and examine the possible ramifications based on the rather narrow way it is quoted/used in Primary/Young Men/Young Women.

Respondent
TRESA EDMUNDS has served in Young Women’s in various wards for seven years and counting; writes about serving from a progressive viewpoint at BEGINNINGSNEW.BLOGSPOT.COM.

Chair
JANEANNE PETERSON

Room
ARCHES

152. Paper
A FIELD GUIDE FOR TURNING HISTORY INTO MYTH

Abstract
The LDS Church has released a guide for journalists titled Approaching Mormon History. The document acknowledges that some journalists “have questioned the miraculous aspects of the faith” and wonder “why Latter-day Saints continue to believe them as reality and not myths.” The document argues for the historical reality of the Mormon foundational stories, namely the Joseph Smith story. They are of value, the document tells us, because they “actually happened,” and not for any “symbolic” value. In this presentation, I will look at the mythological themes in the First Vision story and suggest that in the effort to celebrate and glamorize it, the story has become more mythological than literal history.

Presenter
H. PARKER BLOUNT is a retired school teacher who lives on the Ohooppee River in Tattnall County, Georgia.

Chair
MARK D. THOMAS

Room
POWDER MOUNTAIN

153. Paper
TOWARD AN LDS ACCOUNT OF PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE

Presenter
SAMUEL BROWN, MD, assistant professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine; division associate in medical ethics and the humanities at Intermountain Medical Center and the University of Utah.

Abstract
Washington state recently followed Oregon’s lead in legalizing physician-assisted suicide. The Netherlands and Belgium have passed even broader laws allowing assisted suicide and limited euthanasia. These trends reflect an evolution in medical technology and culture surrounding death though they generate controversy about the meaning and significance of active control over the timing of one’s death. In this presentation, I explore the ethical, cultural, and religious implications of this debate, attempting to formulate a distinctly Mormon approach to the problem.

Chair
PERRY PORTER

Room
SUNDANCE

154. Performance
TWO SHORT PLAYS: ADAM & EVE AND PRODIGAL SON

Presenters
DAVEY MORRISON DILLARD is New Play Project’s workshop director and has had more than a half dozen short plays produced and performed through NPP over the past two years.

BIANCA MORRISON DILLARD is an unofficial founder of New Play Project and is currently the artistic director.

Abstract
With two back-to-back AML awards for Best Drama and a commitment to producing consistently solid scripts and productions, New Play Project will continue to have an important part in the world of Mormon arts and literature. We will share Adam & Eve and Prodigal Son—some of the best work from NPP—and open a dialogue about emerging Mormon theater.

Adam & Eve cast:
EVE: ADELE GABRIEL
ADAM: DAVEY MORRISON DILLARD

Prodigal Son cast:
DAD: GIDEON BURTON
SON: GRAHAM WARD
CHRISTY: PAIGE GUTHRIE

Chair
BOYD J. PETERSEN

Room
BRYCE

155. Paper
A CRISIS OF FAITH IN NEWTONIAN MORMONISM

Presenter
MICHAEL FARNWORTH, EdD, educational psychology, BYU; retired from Ricks College after thirty-one years of teaching family psychology.

Abstract
This paper will explore the marriage of Mormonism to the Newtonian paradigm of truth. The Newtonian worldview orients all of our cultural thinking, and the Church has fully embraced its values. In this paradigm, the ego can use the notion of truth to self-aggrandize. A compelling invitation to wake up from both the paradigm trances of our ego and cultural truth is needed. Truth and reality begin to look different when we are no longer held hostage to their spell. When we awaken, the Church’s narrative of history/ideology can take on new philosophical meaning while providing alternative options of faith.

Chair
DENNIS CLARK

Room
BRIGHTON
CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 3:30 PM–4:30 PM

161. Paper FROM SEER STONE TO TRIFOCALS: A CHURCH’S JOURNEY WITH SCRIPTURE

Presenter ROBIN LINKHART, MA, Christian ministry, Graceland University; president, sixth quorum of Seventy, Community of Christ; missionary coordinator for the Western USA mission field.

Abstract What is this church birthed from the experience of a teenage boy praying in the woods? What is the role of scripture “translated” by an uneducated man sitting behind a veil with golden plates, a hat, and seer stone? This presentation will explore eras of Restoration, Reorganization, and Community and review ten articles pertinent to understanding the Community of Christ’s journey with scripture to help bring a clearer focus of scripture’s role in the Community of Christ, yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Chair WILLIAM D. RUSSELL
Room SUNDANCE

162. Paper WHOSE WIFE WILL SHE BE? MARRIAGE, EMBODIMENT, AND SALVATION

Presenter JANICE ALLRED, writer and speaker on theological topics, author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays.

Abstract The relationship between faith and works provides the framework for much theological reflection on the Christian doctrine of salvation. Although Mormon writers address salvation from this perspective, they usually do so in dialogue with the larger Christian community. Within contemporary Mormonism, discourse about salvation tends to focus on teachings about eternal marriage and the eternal family. A Mormon is more likely to ask “Will I reach the celestial kingdom?” than “Am I saved?” Can the Mormon view of eternal marriage be harmonized with scriptural texts on salvation? Is temple marriage required for exaltation in the celestial kingdom?

Chair DENNIS CLARK
Room BRYCE

163. Paper MATURITY, MEANING, AND MORMONISM

Presenter LOWELL LEMESANY, farmer, rancher, scientist, soldier, businessman, lay minister, student of psychology.

Abstract In adulthood, our priorities shift from “making our way in the world” to “making sense of our mortal journey.” To aid our efforts to understand the meaning of life, Carl Jung suggests that as we mature, we should focus on becoming more conscious, more creative, and more receptive. This presentation examines the principles and doc-
trines of the Latter-day gospel that support and promote such a rich and spiritual experience. It also looks at today’s LDS community to see what opportunities beckon us and what obstacles block us in our quest to develop these attributes.

Chair  BECKY JOHNS
Room  POWDER MOUNTAIN

164.  Paper  ADAM-ONDI-AHMAN: AN AMERICAN EDEN
Presenter  BOYD J. PETERSEN, PhD, comparative literature, University of Utah; author, Hugh Nibley: A Consecrated Life, which won the best biography award from the Mormon History Association; program coordinator for Mormon Studies, Utah Valley University.

Abstract  In 1838, Joseph Smith proclaimed Spring Hill in Daviess County, Missouri, as Adam-ondi-Ahman, the place where eventually Adam “shall come to visit his people” (D&C 116). He had already established the idea of Adam-ondi-Ahman as the land into which Adam and Eve were exiled and where Adam gave his final blessing to his children. Tied into Book of Mormon revelations declaring this land “choice above all other lands” (Ether 2:9–10), these ideas integrated religious past with prophetic future, uniting sacred time with sacred space and bringing the natural world into a cosmic order. In this paper, I place Joseph Smith’s ideas about “spiritual creation” and the land of Zion into historical context and explore the evolution of these ideas in Mormon thought.

Chair  CLAIR BARRUS
Room  BRIGHTON

165.  Paper  THIS SESSION HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

166.  Paper  A MORMON BIGFOOT: DAVID PATTEN’S CAIN AND THE CONCEPTION OF EVIL IN MORMON FOLKLORE
Presenter  MATTHEW BOWMAN is a PhD candidate in history at Georgetown University and a 2010-2011 Charlotte Newcombe Fellow. His dissertation is about the rise of evangelical fundamentalism in early twentieth-century New York City.

Abstract  The Fife Folklore Archives at Utah State University contain dozens of tales which include a line similar to the opening of a story collected at BYU in 1987: “Did you guys know that Cain is really Bigfoot?” Where did this Mormon meme come from? What cultural tendencies does it reflect? What does the evolution of this tale reveal about the changing nature of Mormon folklore, theology, culture, and daily life? The story is long, convoluted, and fascinating. It features the Apostle Paul, Eliza R. Snow, Joseph Fielding Smith, and Spencer W. Kimball; it begins in 1833 and is still evolving today. We’ll touch on demonic possession, the Three Nephites, Yeti sightings in Weber County, and Heber Kimball’s experiences in the British mission. Finally, we’ll try to answer the question: what does folklore tell us about what it means to be Mormon?

Chair  PAULA GOODFELLOW
Room  ARCHES

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 4:45 PM–6:15 PM**

171.  Panel  “THOSE MEMBERS OF THE BODY, WHICH SEEM TO BE MORE FEEBLE... ARE NECESSARY”: PLACING DISABILITY AT THE HEART OF ZION

Abstract  The Apostle Paul compares members of Christ’s church to a body and suggests that God set each member “as it hath pleased him.” He adds that members of the body who are less comely or honourable are those upon whom “we bestow more abundant honour” (I Cor. 12:18, 23). How do we as Mormons include people with disabilities, mental illness, or other vulnerabilities as equal members within the body of Christ? This panel explores the maturing of Mormonism toward the ideals of a Zion community through examinations of fragility and strength, challenges to the ability of some members to act as free agents, and our tradition’s history of reflection on disability.

Moderator/Panelist  DAN WOTHERSPOON, PhD, former editor, SUNSTONE.

Panelists  J. MARK OLSEN, PhD, University of Utah, specializes in ethics of psychiatry and therapeutic practice; instructor, Westminster College.

ANNE LEAHY, American Sign Language translator for more than twenty years; directing a project on the intersection of Mormon theology and disability.

Room  BRIGHTON

172.  Panel  THE STORIES WE TELL: HOW AN UNPLEASANT TRUTH CAN BE MORE INSPIRATIONAL THAN A PLEASANT FICTION

Abstract  Most stories in LDS publications almost always result in a predictably happy ending, but life doesn’t usually wrap up so tidily. Divorce, addiction, abuse, disability—they happen to the best of us no matter how righteous we are, and many of us feel the impulse to hide tragedy in our lives. While it can be terrifying to open up about heartbreaks and disappointments, there are surprising benefits, both for those who share and those who listen. Join a panel of bloggers as they discuss why they share and what the results have been.

Moderator/Panelist  STEPHEN MARSH and his wife, Win, have buried three children: Jessica (12 February 1986 to 26 January 1993), Courtney (16 February 1992 to 26 December 1993), and Robin (6 July 1997 to 31 August 1997). When asked, he said he does know that life is more than loss. He blogs at MORMONMATTERS.ORG and ETHESIS.BLOGSPOT.COM.
173.  **Panel** SOME SAHD STORIES

**Abstract**
There is no Primary song that starts out, "I'm so glad that Daddy stays home," probably because both the culture and teachings of the LDS Church overwhelmingly encourage the father to earn the living and the mother to raise the family at home. What happens when that arrangement doesn't work out? Panelists talk about their experiences as stay-at-home dads. How has their unique role molded their self-perception and worldview? What challenges and supports have they encountered at home, in church, and in the larger world? What changes have they gone through in a role that few of their male contemporaries will ever held. They have been primary caregiver and househusband for six foster children and two sons.

**Panelists**
- TRESA EDMUNDS compulsively overshares at FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG, and writes about motherhood and other creative endeavors at her blog, REESEDIXON.COM.
- TRACY MCKAY is raising her three children as a single mama in Washington state. She writes for BYCOMMONCONSENT.COM and tells stories on her personal blog, DANDELIONMAMA.WORDPRESS.COM.
- KATHRYN LYNARD SOPER is the founder and editor-in-chief of Segullah: Writings by Latter-day Saint Women, and author of the memoir The Year My Son and I Were Born: A Story of Down Syndrome, Motherhood, and Self-Discovery (Globe Pequot Press, 2009).
- JANET GARRARD-WILLIS, doctoral candidate, literature, Saint Louis University; blogger, FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG.

**Room** ARCHES

174.  **Panel** THE BOOK OF JOB

**Abstract**
The Book of Job has been labeled the ur-text of both tragedy and the practical joke; it has inspired such interpretations and responses as Answer to Job by Carl Jung and A Serious Man by the Coen Brothers. Often considered a tale of mature spirituality, it both elicits and demands thoughtful consideration. This panel will present analyses and testimonies of the comforting and uncomfortable truths found in the Book of Job.

**Moderator/Panelist**
HOLLY WELKER has a PhD in English literature from the University of Iowa. Her poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and scholarship have appeared in publications such as The New Era, the New York Times, Best American Essays, and Bitch.

**Panelists**
- JOANNA BROOKS is associate professor and chair of the Department of English and comparative literature at San Diego State University. Her writing on contemporary Mormonism has appeared in The Huffington Post, RELIGIONDISPATCHES.ORG, and has been featured in the New York Times and on NPR.
- RICHARD DELEWSKI, counselor, licensed clinical social worker, emergency departments, inpatient psychiatric units in Salt Lake County.

**Room** POWDER MOUNTAIN

175.  **Panel** ETERNAL PERDITION? BUREAUCRATIC LIMBO? THE THEOLOGICAL RAMIFICATIONS OF EXCOMMUNICATION

**Abstract**
The Church Handbook of Instructions explains in detail the mechanics of excommunication but says little about its theological import. Our panelists, several of whom have been excommunicated, will explore the theological and spiritual ramifications of this ultimate Church sanction. Why does excommunication not require a ritual? If blessings are "restored" to an excommunicated person who returns to the Church, what became of those blessings in the interim? Is it reasonable that God would give fallible human leaders the power to separate people from him or their families in eternity? How does excommunication impact a person's relationship with the Savior?

**Moderator**
HUGO OLAIZ, news editor, SUNSTONE.

**Panelists**
MARVIN RYTING, retired psychology professor and university administrator, regular SUNSTONE columnist and presenter from 1981 to 1986.

MARGARET TOSCANO, assistant professor, classics, University of Utah; co-author of Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology.

PAUL TOSCANO, author of The Sanctity of Dissent and The Sacrament of Doubt; co-author of Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology.

Where to eat
THE SHERATON HAS a very nice on-site restaurant, The Olio. We encourage symposium attendees to dine at the hotel. Stop by the symposium registration table for 20% discount coupons to use at the Olio.

PLENARY SESSION, 8:00 PM

191. Chair MATT THURSTON, member, SUNSTONE board of directors
Title DOUBLE FEATURE: PERFORMANCES BY SISTER DOTTIE S. DIXON AND MR. DEITY
Abstract Had enough scholarly goodness for one day? How about an evening of lightmindedness and loud laughter? Don’t miss this evening’s special LOL performance double feature.

First up: Salt Lake’s own Sister Dottie S. Dixon performs excerpts from her award-winning one-woman show, The Passion of Sister Dottie S. Dixon. Learn more about the story behind this powerhouse Mormon mother turned fierce activist on behalf of her gay son.

CHARLES LYNN FROST is a Utah native, front-line LGBT activist, director, certified coach, business leader, civic volunteer, actor, and playwright. His alter ego Sister Dottie S. Dixon was recently named BEST UTAHN 2010 by S.L. City Weekly’s reader-voters, and she was the Grand Marshal for the UTAH PRIDE 2010 celebration. Frost, a member of Actor’s Equity Association and the Screen Actor’s Guild, was awarded best actor by Q-Salt Lake Magazine and named best theatre performance by Salt Lake City Weekly’s 2009 ARTYs Awards. The Passion of Sister Dottie S. Dixon was also honored with ARTYs for best original play and best production.

Charles has been active his entire life in the arts, with degrees in film and theatre directing, instructional design and adult learning, theatre education, and psychology. He is in a committed relationship with Douglas Lott for the last eight years and is the father/grandfather/daddy to four adult children, five grandchildren, and an obstinate West Highland Terrier named Deacon.

Emotional and musical support for Sister Dottie is provided by her dear friend Dartsey FoxMoreland (played by Kent Frogley).

Following Sister Dottie, we’ll be graced by the presence of Mr. Deity, of the Internet web-show/podcast HTTP://WWW.MRDEITY.COM/ which offers a humorous (and slightly irreverent) look at the day-to-day operations of the universe and the “Big Man” in charge. It’s a behind-the-scenes look at how Mr. Deity (the god of this universe) and his long-suffering assistant, Larry, grapple with the complications of their Creation. “What kind of Evil will be allowed?” “How do you go about finding a Savior?” and “Why won’t these damned lights work?” are just some of the thought-provoking questions raised by this three-to-five minute series of shorts. Joining Mr. Deity is Lucy, AKA Lucifer, Mr. Deity’s on/off girlfriend.

BRIAN KEITH DALTON is the creator of Mr. Deity, a web show that began as an iTunes podcast and became a YouTube sensation garnering hundreds of thousands of views and the attention of Sony Pictures Entertainment. Brian writes, directs, produces, stars in, edits, and composes music for the show.

Brian likes to say he is a “Formon”—a former Mormon. In his late teens, he got religion with a vengeance and began studying theology, philosophy, and psychology. But in his mid-twenties, he began to question his devotion to Mormonism and religion in general. This questioning led him to a life of skepticism and a deep reverence for science, the scientific method, and the value of free thought and critical thinking.

Brian has an adult daughter and lives in Southern California with his wife Amy (who plays Lucy/Lucifer on the show), and her two kids.

Room CANYONS BALLROOM

The Mr. Deity segment of this session is sponsored by a generous donation from Tyson Jacobsen.
Consider a multi-generational Latter-day Saint entering college, who has been raised to believe that the world is thousands, rather than billions, of years old. She takes an entry-level class on evolution and finds the science to be as beautiful as the story of Adam and Eve. She decides to accept both. A young history student discovers unfamiliar theology in Brigham Young’s public speeches and decides it is misguided but that he still admires Young’s attempt to make sense of the world ...

Take a jaded historian who holds to his tradition against all odds or a lonely widower waiting to die, who is unsure of an afterlife. Navigation through faith, like life, is complicated, personal, and changes with time.

Some of us periodically reevaluate what our tradition means to us—those who are great in faith and those who may no longer have any belief at all. A few put their thoughts to paper; their stories of struggling with reason and doubt will resonate with some readers and perplex others. The solution for each person will be different. We hope you find answers that work for you.


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FRIDAY 6 AUGUST

2010 Salt Lake
SUNSTONE Symposium and Workshops

REGISTRATION, 8:00 AM–7:30 PM

Registration information
Admission to sessions is by symposium name badge or ticket only. This policy will be strictly enforced. Badges and tickets are available at the conference registration table in the Canyons Lobby on the far east side of the hotel.

DEVOTIONAL, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

201. Devotional WRESTLING JACOB’S ANGEL: ON TRIALS AND MATURING FAITH

Presenter MICHAEL VINSON, MST, Divinity School, University of Cambridge; author, SUNSTONE’s Scripture Notes column.

Abstract The story of Jacob’s wrestling match with an angel is puzzling at best; Martin Luther famously said that all men hold this story to be the most difficult Bible passage to understand. I approach the story within the larger context of Jacob’s life and suggest that the angel may be a metaphor for trials and engagement with God.

Chair RON SCHOW

Room ARCHES

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:45 AM–9:45 AM

211. Paper THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP: DIMENSIONS OF A MATURE MORMON FAITH

Presenter ROBERT A. REES, PhD; author of numerous studies of Mormon culture and religion; editor of Why I Stay: The Challenges of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons, forthcoming from Signature Books.

Abstract What does having mature faith mean? This session examines the dimensions of a mature Christian/Mormon discipleship, including responsible doubt, blind obedience, institutional loyalty, thoughtful non-conformity, and loving challenge to authority. It considers the challenges, complexities, and conundras of what it means to be obedient both to the principles of Christ’s gospel and the demands of a conservative faith community while seeking the sacred in a secular world.

Chair KAREN ROSENBAUM

Room CANYONS

212. Paper SACRED SECRECY IN THE TEACHINGS OF PRESIDENT BOYD K. PACKER

Presenter HUGO OLAIZ, news editor, SUNSTONE.

Abstract From “The Unwritten Order of Things,” to “The Holy Temple” to “Keeping Confidences,” President Boyd K. Packer has established himself as simultaneously a revealer and keeper of secrets: an expounder of revealed truth who broaches topics not often discussed, but at the same time is emphatic about leaving certain things unspoken in the name of protecting the sacred. Using Douglas Davies’s notion of sacred secrecy, I analyze four categories of “secrets” in the teachings of President Packer—the unwritten, the unsuitable, the confidential, and the sacred—and show how these categories serve to draw boundaries and reinforce apostolic charisma.

Respondent D. MICHAEL QUINN, independent researcher and historian.

Chair MARK D. THOMAS

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

213. Paper JOSEPH SMITH III: FROM REORGANIZATION TO COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

Presenter LACHLAN MACKAY lives in Nauvoo, Illinois, and is director of Community of Christ Historic Sites.

Abstract An illustrated exploration of the life of Joseph Smith III, his impact on the Reorganization, and ways in which Community of Christ members still find meaning and value in his teachings and experience. The year 2010 marks the sesquicentennial of the 1860 Reorganization and provides an opportunity to explore how our history can be mined for stories that have been forgotten or deemed unimportant. Following the presentation, we can discuss the appropriateness of history being used as a tool to improve the world we live in today.

Chair JOHN SILLITO

Room SUNDANCE

214. Paper MEDITATIONS ON WILLIAM H. CHAMBERLIN AND WHY ONE SHOULD REMAIN MORMON

Presenter JAMES MCLACHLAN, PhD, professor of philosophy and religion, Western Carolina University; co-chair, AAR Mormon Studies Consultation; president, Society of Mormon Philosophy and Theology.

Abstract “Even if Mormonism were not true, we could make the cause they loved true, and bend it to the service of our God.” —William H. Chamberlin.
Few people have had more reason to leave Mormonism than William H. Chamberlin. He was one of the first Mormons to do formal studies in philosophy and biblical criticism and ended up blacklisted from teaching for Church Education after the 1911 modernism controversy at BYU. Harvard colleagues suggested Chamberlin seek a position outside of Utah, but he refused to consider it. "I had never thought of it; but for me it would be quite impossible. If I cannot live in the mountains and work among the people I love, it may as well be all over." Chamberlin not only stayed in the culture, he also stayed in the Church despite opposition he faced in the Church education system. Chamberlin's life and idea of truth suggest ways to think about the truth of religion in general and Mormonism in particular.

Chair  J. FREDERICK (TOBY) PINGREE
Room  ARCHES

215. Paper  RACHEL ANN NUNES'S ARIANA SERIES: A FICTIONAL VIEW OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN MODERN-DAY FRANCE

Presenter  HELYNNHE HOLLSTEIN HANSEN, professor of French and English, Western State College of Colorado; former visiting professor, French, BYU; long-time member, Association for Mormon Letters.

Abstract  Can a Utah-bound author truly capture the spirit of Latter-day Saints in contemporary France? Rachel Ann Nunes is a Utah housewife and mother of six in tandem with her successful novel-writing career. Her four novels of the Ariana series from the 1990s are romantic and family sagas about LDS Church members in their native France struggling with the challenges of late twentieth-century life. This study will analyze how or if a Utah author can create a realistic portrait of modern Latter-day Saints in today's French society.

Chair  ELLEN DECOO
Room  BRIGHTON

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 10:00–11:00 AM

221. Paper  RELIEF SOCIETY AND THE INVISIBLE HAND OF PATRIARCHY

Presenters  TAMARA TAYSOM, MS, elementary education, Indiana University; pursuing an MA in colonial history, University of Utah; interest in education, history, and feminism.

ELLEN DECOO, native of Belgium; has lived in Provo, Utah, for the past 11 years; BA candidate, sociology, BYU.

Abstract  Relief Society, the Church's official organization for women, is an auxiliary of the priesthood, which means that it does not technically belong to the women it is intended to serve. If it becomes preoccupied with the patriarchal nature of the Church, it can fail to do its most necessary work: to meet the spiritual, emotional, and social needs of LDS women. This session explores how patriarchy operates in male-dominated organizations in general and in the Church in particular, especially since the advent of Correlation; examines problems this creates for Relief Society members; and offers suggestions for how Relief Society can better meet the needs of LDS women.

Chair  DAI NEWMAN
Room  ARCHES
ological question of “inspired fiction” but also provides a striking example of how Joseph Smith blended mystical and practical concerns. He sought to maintain secrecy by mystically identifying the Firm and the Kirtland brethren with the ancient Adamic order.

Chair CLAIRE BARRUS
Room SUNDANCE

**223. Paper** SPACESHIP EARTH

**Presenter** DENNIS CLARK, retired librarian living in Orem, Utah. Though an aspiring poet, he is no aspiring prophet.

**Abstract** Shortly before our 40th wedding anniversary, I realized that Valerie had been cleaning our toilets for 40 years—and that I had let her. I felt that I should not have, and I resolved to do it from then on. From that realization sprang the observation at the heart of this talk: one of the marks of a mature civilization is that it cleans up after itself.

Chair BECKY JOHNS
Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

**224. Paper** WHY ELIJAH (OR JOHN THE BAPTIST) MUST COME BEFORE CHRIST’S RETURN

**Presenter** PAUL SAVAGE, Apostle in The Church of Christ and a fourth-generation Restorationist; office manager of The Church of Christ; editor of the church’s periodical *The Voice of Joy*.

**Abstract** The scriptures outline not only events that must happen before the Second Coming but also the order in which these milestones can be expected to occur. An important forerunner of the Restoration is the coming of Elijah/Elias/John the Baptist. In Matthew 11 and 17, Jesus explains who Elias is and that Elias must come first and restore all things. In this presentation, I explain that our concept of the Restoration is out of order and outline the timelines and major figures in the Restoration to demonstrate why Elijah must return before the second coming of Christ.

Respondent STEVE SHIELDS, author, *Divergent Paths of the Restoration*; high priest in the Community of Christ.

Chair LOWELL LEMESANY
Room BRIGHTON

**225. Paper** SAME-GENDER MARRIAGE & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: A CALL TO QUIET CONVERSATIONS AND PUBLIC DEBATES

**Presenter** REV. DR. C. WELTON GADDY leads the national Interfaith Alliance, dedicated to promoting religion as a positive and healing force in the life of the nation. He is pastor for preaching and worship at Northminster (Baptist) Church in Monroe, Louisiana.

**Abstract** While many faith traditions, including Mormonism, have grappled with issues of equality, such as same-gender marriage, much of that work has been viewed through a traditional or scriptural lens. Our goal is to shift the perspective of LGBT equality from a place of “problem” to “solution,” from a scriptural argument to a religious liberty agreement, and to address the issue of equality as informed by the U.S. Constitution.

Chair WILLIAM D. RUSSELL
Room CANYONS

**PLENARY SESSION, 11:15 AM–12:45 PM**

**231. Panel** WHY WE STAY

**Abstract** This perennially well-received session features the stories of those who have chosen to remain active, dedicated Latter-day Saints even in the face of challenges to traditional faith. How have these members wrestled with their faith and yet emerged more determined than ever to be a part of the Latter-day Saint community?

Moderator J. FREDERICK (TOBY) PINGREE

Panelists ALAN EASTMAN; PhD, chemistry, University of Utah. Worked for Phillips 66 in Oklahoma for 28 years, mostly in research related to refining, earning 35 patents along the way. He will discuss “how to keep several contradictory things in your head simultaneously without going nuts.”
CAROL B. QUIST, associate editor and office manager, SUNSTONE; BA Stanford, radio-TV production; MA, University of Utah, women’s history and literature; taught at LDS Business College and Salt Lake Community College; has traveled all seven continents and learned where the promised land is.

MARK D. THOMAS, SUNSTONE board member; best known in Mormon circles for interpretive scholarship on the Book of Mormon; works professionally in public finance and has taught in MBA programs at BYU and USU; main church calling: tenor in the Valley View 9th Ward choir.

SUZANN WERNER, BA, BYU, sociology/psychology; married 48 years to Dean, has four children and 16 grandchildren; enjoyed being a stay-at-home mom and part-time office manager in her husband’s law firm; interested in women’s studies and has had articles published in Exponent II.

RON FREDERICKSON, actor in a few early BYU films; now a retired professor of theatre at Emporia State University in Kansas, having directed more than 80 plays and musicals, most recently for the University of Utah, College of Eastern Utah, Westminster College, and Pinnacle Acting Company.

ROOM CANYONS BALLROOM

LUNCH BREAK, 12:45 PM–2:15 PM

Where to eat
THE SHERATON HAS a very nice on-site restaurant, The Olio. We encourage symposium attendees to dine at the hotel. Stop by the symposium registration table for 20% discount coupons to use at the Olio.

241. Lunchtime comedy
Clips of coverage of Mormons & Mormonism from Comedy Central’s The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. Clips assembled by MICHAEL J. STEVENS.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:15 PM–3:15 PM

251. Paper
RESPONSES TO THE DOCUMENTARY 8: THE MORMON PROPOSITION

Abstract
Billed as a documentary but made in a style that some find reminiscent of anti-Mormon exposés, 8: The Mormon Proposition documents the crucial role that the LDS Church played in the campaign to ban same-sex marriage in California. After seeing a clip from the film, panelists will address the following questions: Can the film be classified as anti-Mormon propaganda? What are the film’s strengths and weaknesses? What is its likely impact on the same-sex marriage debate and the LDS Church’s treatment of gays and lesbians? What is the likely effect of the film on the Church’s public image? Will it influence the Church’s involvement in future political campaigns in favor of same-sex marriages?

8: The Mormon Proposition was not widely released. If you would like to see the film before attending this session, please visit HTTP://WWW.MORMONPROPOSITION.COM/ for options.

Moderator
HUGO OLAIZ, news editor, SUNSTONE.

Presenters
LAURA COMPTON, same-sex marriage supporter whose views were featured by Associated Press and KUED; organizer of a vigil marking the 10th anniversary of Stuart Matis’s suicide; blogs at MORMONSFORMARRIAGE.COM.


Room CANYONS

252. Paper
IN MEMORIAM: LINDA SILLITOE

Abstract
Writer and poet Linda Sillitoe’s death in April 2010 left a hole in the heart of SUNSTONE. Join us for remembrances from family and friends.

Presenters
JOHN SILLITO, Linda’s husband. A native of Salt Lake City, John Sillito received degrees in history and political science from the University of Utah. He has been an archivist, curator of special collections, professor of libraries at Weber State University, and a long-time SUNSTONE participant and volunteer.

PAUL SWENSON’s earliest memory of Linda Sillitoe was her suggesting that he put his children in an open classroom school when they were still small. He knew her through Mormons for ERA and was lucky to work with her while he was editing Utah Holiday and saw her become the fabulous writer and reporter we all admired.

PHYLLIS BARBER first knew Linda when they were both writers for Utah Holiday in the late 1970s and early 1980s; they kept up on each other’s writing projects thereafter.


There will be time at the end of this session for audience members to share memories of Linda.

Chair
DENNIS CLARK

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN
253. Paper WHAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WILLIE AND MARTIN HANDCART DISASTER? ONE SMALL COW

Presenter TRENT D. STEPHENS, PhD, professor of anatomy and embryology, Idaho State University; bishop of the Pocatello University 18th Ward (a married student ward).

Abstract When any disaster occurs, people look somewhere to place blame. In a maturing society, the better approach is to examine the data objectively. When this approach is applied to the Willie and Martin handcart disaster, two major problems emerge for the companies: one was the late start, and the other was inadequate food supplies. The former problem seems to have been exacerbated by the ending of the Crimean War, and the latter was exacerbated by more military mouths to feed at Fort Laramie because of an incident a year earlier involving one small cow.

Respondent KEVIN HOLDSWORTH is a fiction writer and a writing instructor at Western Wyoming College. In his memoir Big Wonderful: Notes from Wyoming (Colorado, 2006), he describes the ill-fated 1856 handcart trek of his great-great grandmother and illuminates the recent controversy at Martin’s Cove.

Chair POLLY AIRD
Room ARCHES

254. Paper TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL VS TREE OF LIFE

Presenter RICHARD C. RUSSELL, M Ed; retired instructor, Church Education System; vice-president of a business training and consulting firm.

Abstract Lehi’s dream tells us that the Tree of Life represents the Love of God. What the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil represents is less clear. What is in opposition to the Love of God? A clue comes from Adam’s behavior and feelings once he tasted the fruit. He experienced guilt, fear, and shame. Since Adam did not “sin,” but only “transgressed,” what caused him to fear God?

Chair BOYD J. PETERSEN
Room SUNDANCE

255. Paper LIFE AFTER: THE JOURNEY FROM ACTIVE MORMON TO REFLECTIVE UNITARIAN

Presenter MARVIN RYTTING, retired psychology professor and university administrator living in Indiana; regular SUNSTONE columnist and presenter from 1981 to 1986.

Abstract Rytting recounts his spiritual path from being congenitally and incorrigibly Mormon to struggling with the paradoxes and perplexities of his Mormon faith in the pages and symposia of SUNSTONE to his excommunication to life after Mormonism and finally to his chosen faith of Unitarian Universalism.

Chair WILLIAM D. RUSSELL
Room BRIGHTON

261. Paper MORE PRECIOUS THINGS: EVIDENCE FOR WOMEN’S PRIESTHOOD IN THE EARLIEST CHRISTIANITY

Presenter BRIDGET JACK JEFFRIES, MA candidate, history of Christianity in America, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; BA, classical studies, BYU; member of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Abstract Mormon feminists have centered their arguments for women’s priesthood on data from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, contending that the Church’s founding leaders granted women a form of priesthood that was subsequently choked out. Through an exploration of texts, inscriptions, and frescoes from the earliest Christianity, the author reaches back even farther into history to show that women once served as apostles, elders, deacons, and bishops in addition to performing baptisms and administering the Eucharist.

Respondent MAXINE HANKS, feminist theologian; gnostic clergy; scholar, women’s studies in religion; fellow, Harvard Divinity School; editor, Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism.

Chair JANEANNE PETERSON
Room ARCHES

262. Paper IS THE AFGHANISTAN WAR JUST?: A BOOK OF MORMON APPROACH

This session is sponsored by the Mormon Worker’s Collective.

Presenters JOSHUA MADSON, BA, JD, BYU; an attorney practicing in Alpine, Utah; editor and contributor for the Mormon Worker.

WILLIAM VAN WAGENEN, BA, German, BYU; MA, theological studies, Harvard; worked in Iraq for seven months for a small human rights organization in 2005-2006; regular contributor to the Mormon Worker.

Abstract At the 2010 BYU Studies Symposium, two presentations attacked Hugh Nibley’s argument that the Book of Mormon advocates pacifism and declared that the war in Afghanistan is a just and noble war. In response, Madson outlines a framework for analyzing when, if ever, war is justified, suggesting that the Book of Mormon not only allows for but strongly promotes pacifism. Van Wagenen outlines evidence that the Book of Mormon does allow for war, but only under well-prescribed conditions, namely in self-defense against aggressors or in rebellion against a government/ruler that requires its subjects to engage in acts of aggression. Both authors con-
tend that the Afghanistan war does not meet the requirements of either a pacifist or defensive war and therefore should not be supported.

Chair BOYD J. PETERSEN

Room CANYONS

263. Paper IN MEMORIAM

Abstract SUNSTONE lost a number of dear friends in the past year. Join us as we pay tribute to their lives and contributions to the SUNSTONE community.

Presenters ANNE WILDE pays tribute to the life and intellectual work of C. JESS GROESBECK.

DOUGLASS TABER remembers his wife, author SUSAN BUHLER TABER and shares some of her writings. He writes: "Our children's biographies will read: Their father was a distinguished research scientist. Their mother was the brains of the family."

BEVERLY HOPPE describes the life of KARL SCHNIBBE, who was Helmuth Huebener’s compatriot in distributing anti-Nazi propaganda.

KAREN ROSENBAUM felt fortunate to be a friend of former SUNSTONE board member REED HUNTER for more than 40 years.

Chair J. FREDERICK (TOBY) PINGREE

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

264. Paper THE BIG FAN: JOSEPH SMITH AND THE DANITES IN MISSOURI


Abstract In 1838 Missouri, certain Mormons organized in a secret paramilitary organization called the Danites, led by Sampson Avard, who later left the Church. Many Mormons then disavowed the Danite movement, portraying it as lies concocted by Avard. When Leland Gentry wrote his groundbreaking 1965 thesis about the 1838 Mormon War, however, he reported that irrefutable evidence showed loyal Mormons had been involved in the group. One crucial issue at stake is the question of whether Joseph Smith was involved in the Danite movement. He certainly attended Danite meetings and possibly knew Danite passwords, though the evidence for this from Luman Shurtliff’s diary is ambiguous.

Respondent D. MICHAEL QUINN, independent researcher and historian.

Chair CLAIR BARRUS

Room BRIGHTON
265. **Paper**  THE WILL TO POWER AND EXALTATION: AN EXPLORATION OF MORMON AND NIETZSCHEAN CONCEPTIONS OF POWER  
**Presenter**  RACHAEL MORRIS, BS, physics; MA, comparative religion, University of Washington.  
**Abstract**  In the modern world, humans are often conceived of as biological automatons, or in religious contexts as dependent, derivative, contingent beings utterly dependent on a necessary God. Both Nietzsche and Mormonism have strong replies to these limitations and exalt the potential for human growth. By comparing and contrasting Nietzsche’s concept of the will to power and Mormonism’s exaltation, we gain insight into the nature of power and its relation to individuals. While Nietzsche emphasizes the unbounded individual, Mormonism argues the greatest human potential is cultivated by persons bonded through covenant to God and family.  
**Chair**  JOSEPH WEST, JR.  
**Room**  SUNDANCE  

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 4:45 PM–6:15 PM**  

271. **Film**  SCREENING THE SONOSOPHER, AN EXPERIMENTAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE MIND OF SOUND WIZARD AND POET, ALEX CALDIERO  
**Abstract**  The Sonosopher is an experiential voyage into the peculiar life and art of Alex Caldiero. Born and raised in rural Sicily, Caldiero came of age as a poet in New York City, then is found living in conservative Utah years after his conversion to and subsequent separation from Mormonism. The film explores Caldiero’s lifelong artistic investigation into “sonosophy,” a unique hybrid of sound, poetry, and philosophy. Borrowing techniques from such diverse genres as avant-garde film and cinéma vérité, The Sonosopher portrays Caldiero’s life and work at its most traditional and most bizarre. There will be a question and answer period with Alex and filmmakers TORBEN BERNHARD and TRAVIS LOW following the screening.  
**Chair**  DAVEY MORRISON DILLARD  
**Room**  CANYONS  

272. **Panel**  OUR VOICES, OUR VISIONS: A MORMON WOMEN’S LITERARY TOUR ENCORE PERFORMANCE  
**Abstract**  The Mormon Women’s Literary Tour returns to Utah for a repeat performance at SUNSTONE! If you missed readings in California, Arizona, and Utah this spring, take this chance to hear from established and new Mormon women writers. Readers will include: JULIE J. NICHOLS, WHITNEY MOWER, ELISA PULIDO, ELIZABETH PINBOROUGH, HOLLY WELKER, and JOANNA BROOKS  
**Chair**  JOANNA BROOKS  
**Room**  SUNDANCE  

273. **Panel**  PERSISTENCE OF POLYGAMY: A MORMON ANTHOLOGY  
**Abstract**  This session discusses the forthcoming volume Persistence of Polygamy: A Mormon Anthology edited by Newell G. Bringhurst and Craig L. Foster. The book’s 20 essays explore various aspects of Mormon polygamy from its beginnings in the nineteenth century to today. Contributing authors will present summaries of their respective chapters and take questions from the audience.  
**Moderator**  JOHN HAMER, editor of John Whitmer Books; president-elect of the John Whitmer Historical Association.  
**Presenters**  NEWELL G. BRINGHURST, PhD, professor emeritus, College of the Sequoias, co-editor, Persistence of Polygamy: A Mormon Anthology. JEFFERY O. JOHNSON, retired archivist, Salt Lake City; served as State Archivist for 14 years; worked at the LDS Church Archives for 21 years, including five years on the Joseph Smith Papers Project; published articles about women’s history and social history and a history about single Mormon men. PATRICIA SCOTT, MA, history of the American West, University of Utah; executive director, Mormon History Association; retired from the...
Utah State Archives in 2005, where she had been an archivist/records manager for 21 years.

CHRISTOPHER BLYTHE, MA candidate, history, at Utah State University; earned BAs from Texas A&M in anthropology and Utah State in religious studies; editor-in-chief of the Intermountain West Journal of Religious Studies.

TODD COMPTON, author of *In Sacred Loneliness: the Plural Wives of Joseph Smith* and *Victim of the Muses: Poet as Scapegoat, Warrior, and Hero*.

Room ARCHES

**Panel 274.** EXIT, VOICE, AND LOYALTY IN THE MORMON COMMUNITY

**Abstract** The work of political economist Albert Hirschman suggests a nuanced approach to public dissatisfaction with an organization. Dissatisfied members of an organization, business, or nation have a variety of choices available, including both exit (simply leaving) and voice (discussing their dissatisfaction). As Hirschman notes, greater loyalty to the organization can correspond to greater use of voice. Contradicting traditional Mormon views, dissent may actually indicate greater loyalty to the organization than does silent acquiescence. Panelists will discuss loyalty, voice, exit, and dissent from a variety of angles, ultimately suggesting that the LDS understanding of public disagreement may be underdeveloped, and sketching ways in which legitimate dissent could take on a broader role in the LDS community.

**Moderator** KAIMIPONO WENGER, JD, assistant professor, Thomas Jefferson Law School, San Diego.


BRIDGET JACK JEFFRIES, MA candidate, history of Christianity in America, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

JOHN DEHLIN, PhD student, clinical/counseling psychology, Utah State University, founder, Mormon Stories podcast, STAYLDS.COM.

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

**Panel 275.** DEVELOPMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST 2010 WORLD CONFERENCE

**Paper 1** FINALLY, DECENTRALIZATION . . . I THINK: THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST WORLD CONFERENCE OF 2010

**Presenter** WILLIAM D. RUSSELL, retired professor of American history and government, Graceland University; writing a book about the schism in the RLDS Church after the 1984 ordination of women.

**Abstract** The revelations of Joseph Smith established a hierarchical church organization (i.e. revelations come only through the prophet, and a hierarchical priesthood structure). Members of Latter-Day Saint church organizations in democratic countries often feel frustrated at the lack of democracy in their church, with legislative, executive, and judicial powers concentrated at the top. In the RLDS Church (since 2001 the Community of Christ) in time of tension, there has been a natural tendency to centralize power. In 1966, the Council of Twelve announced five objectives for the church, one of which was to decentralize. But the church is more centralized today than it was at that time. At the April World Conference 2010, the vexing issue of homosexuality (same-sex marriage, priesthood availability) led President Veazey to decentralize decision-making (*Doctrine and Covenants* 164, 2010). Time will tell whether decentralization will actually occur.

**Paper 2** TRANSFORMING HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS IN A DIVIDED WORLD: A HISTORIAN’S VIEW OF COMMUNITY OF CHRIST’S SECTION 164

**Presenter** MARK A. SCHERER is World Church Historian for the Community of Christ.

**Abstract** President Stephen M. Veazey’s inspired document was approved by delegates at the Community of Christ’s 2010 World Conference and became Section 164 in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants. Future historians may see the impact of this prophetic message on today’s church as similar to the way Sections 17 (LDS 20) and 104 (LDS 107) shaped the Restoration. Lacking the poetic language in previous Words of Counsel, Section 164 establishes administrative guidelines that will frame church polity and dis-
course for generations to come. In the future, the Conference of 2010 may well be seen as the Community of Christ’s Vatican II moment. This paper discusses the impact of Section 164, past, present, and future.

Chair  STEVE SHIELDS

Room  BRIGHTON

DINNER BREAK, 6:15 PM–8:00 PM

281. Reception  The Community of Christ is hosting a reception for SUNSTONE attendees. Please join Community of Christ friends, leaders, scholars, and members for an informal mixer and light refreshments during the dinner break.

The reception will begin at 6:15 pm.

Room  BRYCE

PLENARY SESSION, 8:00 PM

291. PILLARS OF MY FAITH

Chair  STEPHEN CARTER, editor, SUNSTONE magazine.

Opening song  “Morning Has Broken”

Invocation  To be announced.

Abstract  This is SUNSTONE’s perennally best-attended session. Hear speakers share the events and concepts that animate their religious lives: a little soul-baring, a little spiritual journey, a little intellectual testimony-bearing. This self-reflective night is about the things that matter most, plus spirited congregational hymn-singing.

Introduction  TAMARA TAYSOM

Speaker  ERIC SAMUELS is a playwright, a theatre director and historian, and a teacher. He joined the BYU faculty in 1992 after earning a PhD at Indiana University. Several of his plays have been published in SUNSTONE including Gadianton, Accommodations, Family, Peculiarities, and The Plan.

Eric is a former president of the Association for Mormon Letters and has published in SUNSTONE, BYU Studies, and Dialogue. His play Amerigo was recently performed at Plan B Theatre Company in Salt Lake City, and his play Borderlands will be produced there next season. He’s also adjunct religion faculty at BYU, teaching the Doctrine and Covenants. He is married and has four children.

Musical number  “If You Could Hie to Kolob,” performed by JANEANNE PETERSON and accompanied by ALAN EASTMAN.

Introduction  MARK BROWN

Speaker  TRACY MCKAY is raising her three children as a single mama in Washington state, but she misses her native California coast with a palpable ache. Tracy is currently finishing her BAE in education and starting an MA in special education; in another life, she had a career as a professional artist, world traveller, and Germanophile. Tracy loves thrift stores, old books, wooden toys, crisp linen, grapefruit, and her Macbook. She writes for ByCOMMON CONSENT.COM. Her personal blog is DANDELION-MAMA.WORDPRESS.COM.

Closing song  “Come Thou Fount”

Benediction  To be announced.

Room  CANYONS BALLROOM

SOCIAL 10:30 PM

Gathering  Following Pillars of My Faith, meet your favorite Bloggernacle personalities for real time fun. Conversation, loud laughter, and possibly dancing will carry into the wee hours. It wouldn’t hurt to look sharp, as photos from last year’s gathering ended up on Facebook.

Room  SUNDANCE

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REGISTRATION, 8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Registration information: Admission to sessions is by symposium name badge or ticket only. This policy will be strictly enforced. Badges and tickets are available at the conference registration table in the Canyons Lobby on the far east side of the hotel.

DEVOTIONAL, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

301. Devotional GRATITUDE: A CONTAGIOUS CHOICE

Presenter FRANCES LEE MENLOVE, MDiv, PhD, psychology; one of the founders and first manuscript editor of Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought

Abstract "It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."—Albus Dumbledore, Headmaster Hogwarts School for Wizards

Gratitude is deeply rooted in the monotheistic religions as well as in eastern forms of spirituality. Cicero said, "Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others." Through story and a smidgin of contemporary social science research, we will explore the notion that gratitude is not only a choice but may also be contagious. Gratitude should have a place at the table when "Reflecting on Maturing Faith."

Chair CAROL B. QUIST

Room ARCHES

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:45 AM–9:45 AM

311. Film TROUBLE IN ZION, A DOCUMENTARY

NOTE This session will begin at 8:45 am and continue into the next concurrent session beginning at 10:00 am.

Abstract Trouble in Zion is an hour-long documentary offering a unique look at the 1838 Mormon/Missouri War. The film retells a tragic piece of American history through spoken word, folk music, and even the vibrant pages of a comic book. It features intriguing interviews with notable scholars from history, religion, and sociology (such as Richard Bushman, Alexander Baugh, Richard Turley, and Armand Mauss) as well as fascinating encounters with contemporary Missourians who still carry strong feelings about what happened 170 years ago.

Following the screening, the documentary’s director will discuss the film and answer questions from the audience.

Presenter KENNY BALLENTINE has worked in the film industry for five years as an editor, writer, and director. In 2008, he raised enough money to start his own production company and produced two feature-length documentaries that are currently showing in film festivals across the country.

Chair DAVEY MORRISON DILLARD

Room CANYONS

312. Panel THE DESCENT OF DISSENT: OR ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIOUSNESS

Paper 1 IN THE OLDEN DAYS BEFORE BLOGS: A MESSAGE TO MAGGIE

Presenter PAUL TOSCANO, bankruptcy lawyer, long-time SUNSTONE participant, author of many books including Sanctity of Dissent, Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology with Margaret Toscano; and Music and the Broken Word with Calvin Grondahl.

Abstract This paper will explore some of the developments in dissent over the past two decades, including what constituted dissent then and now. Is dissent praying privately to Mother in Heaven? Is it not putting up a lawn sign supporting Prop B? Is it splitting your Boy Scout donation so that the Young Women get half? What role has dissent played in the Church in the last 20 years? Has it been good for the Church? Good for dissenters? Two bookends for this discussion will be the speculative theology represented by Strangers in Paradox, published 20 years ago, and the Gospel Essentials manual, now curriculum for Relief Societies and Melchizedek Priesthood quorums.

Paper 2 DEFECTING IN PLACE

Presenter VICKIE STEWART EASTMAN, BA, English, Stanford University; frequent participant on SUNSTONE panels dealing with Mormon culture; ward music chair; freelance executive recruiter.

Abstract I remain active in my ward while defining my beliefs differently from most orthodox LDS Church members. I have adopted the stance of “defecting in place,” or dissenting while staying. Based on my most recent temple recommend interview, I examine some of the areas of tension, shared expectations, and teaching/learning moments that move the experience from hostile interrogation, ritual compliance, or personal soul-searching into community-building between leader and member. In a setting where the handbook assumes that one person has all the questions and the other person has all the answers, what happens to areas of dissent? I
share some approaches I have taken over a lifetime of Church activity.

Chair MATT THURSTON

Room BRYCE

313. Paper CHURCH, PRIESTHOOD, AND THE GAY/LESBIAN JOURNEY TOWARD SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Presenter JOHN D. GUSTAV-WRATHALL, PhD, American history, University of Minnesota; adjunct professor of American religious history at United Theological Seminary; author, *Take the Young Stranger by the Hand: Same-Sex Relations and the YMCA* (University of Chicago Press 1998).

Abstract The gay Mormon population is bifurcated between a majority who have left the Church via inactivity, excommunication, or suicide, and a minority who have subordinated their need for satisfying relational intimacy to Church law. This bifurcation persists because of the intensity of the tension gay and lesbian Mormons experience between Church authority and personal experience seemingly at odds with that authority. Though difficult, the path to spiritual maturity lies in learning to embrace this and related tensions.

Chair LAURA COMPTON

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

314. Paper DATING FANNY ALGER: THE NATURE, TIMING, AND CONSEQUENCES OF AN EARLY POLYGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP

Presenter DON BRADLEY, MA candidate, history, Utah State University; writer and researcher specializing in Mormon origins.

Abstract Fanny Alger left Joseph and Emma Smith’s home pregnant and under Emma’s wrath in the middle of the night. The incident set Kirtland on fire with rumors of the prophet’s adultery—or was it polygamy? Some scholars argue that the relationship was an 1835 affair, too early for polygamy, others that it was an 1833 marriage. Which of these theories is right? Or are they all wrong? We’ll piece together what happened the night Fanny was evicted, what consequences followed, and when all this occurred, illuminating Joseph and Fanny’s relationship and other long-standing enigmas.

Chair NEWELL G. BRINGHURST

Room BRIGHTON

315. Paper TOWARD A MORMON THEOLOGICAL JUSTIFICATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM

This session is sponsored by the Mormon Transhumanist Association.

Presenter ROGER D. HANSEN, PhD, civil and environmental engineering; chief, planning group, federal resource management agency, Provo, Utah.

Abstract The creation of the earth was not a static event but is very much a dynamic process. According to LDS doctrine at least through the 1960s, we are not only stewards of the earth but co-creators with God. Brigham Young taught that the roles God gives human beings are designed to test them, enabling them to show to themselves, to their fellow human beings, and to God just how they would act if entrusted with God’s power. We are here to work in conjunction with God on the continuing creation of a living earth.

Respondent DAN WOTHERSPOON has a doctorate in religion from Claremont Graduate University where he wrote his dissertation on theological resources within Mormonism that could contribute to the changes our society needs to make for our planet to have a sustainable future.

Chair JASON BROWN

Room ARCHES

316. Paper THE FUTURE OF CATHOLIC-MORMON DIALOGUE: BRIDGES BETWEEN ROME AND SALT LAKE CITY

Presenter DONALD WESTBROOK, PhD student, Claremont Graduate University, focusing on American religious history and Mormon Studies; MA, theology, Fuller Theological Seminary; BA in philosophy from UC Berkeley.

Abstract Dialogue between the LDS and Roman Catholic churches might improve by evaluating the extent to which both depend on extra-Biblical sources for doctrine. One fruitful entry point might be to jointly consider the dynamic between scripture and tradition. How comparable is the Catholic dynamic between scripture and tradition to the Mormon dynamic between scripture and “continuing revelation” through prophetic guidance?

Respondents DEACON SCOTT DODGE serves as director of religious education and formation at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City. He is a graduate of the University of Utah and currently completing graduate studies at St. Mary’s University in Winona, Minnesota. Deacon Dodge was ordained in 2004 by then-Bishop George H. Niederauer. He has published articles in *America, Emmanuel,* national Catholic magazines, and is a regular contributor to *Il Sussidiario*, an Italian daily on-line news and opinion publication.

MAXINE HANKS, interfaith chaplain, sacramental Gnostic clergy, serving at Holy Cross Chapel since 1999, sharing sacred space with Catholic and Mormon clergy.

Chair CHRISTOPHER C. SMITH

Room SUNDANCE
CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 10:00 AM–11:00 AM

321. **Film**
**Trouble in Zion, a Documentary**

(Continued)

**NOTE** This session is a continuation of the film screening that started in session #311 and will conclude at 11:00 am.

**Room** CANYONS

322. **Paper**
**Gender Differences in the Early Patriarchal Blessings of the LDS Church, 1834–1845**

**Presenters**
GORDON SHEPHERD, PhD, State University of New York at Stony Brook; professor of sociology at the University of Central Arkansas.

GARY SHEPHERD, PhD, Michigan State University; professor of sociology and former chair of the department of sociology and anthropology at Oakland University.


**Abstract** Based on a random sample of 90 patriarchal blessings from Michael Marquardt’s compilation, Early Patriarchal Blessings of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, this study uses content analysis to determine the most frequent blessing themes pronounced by the first three LDS patriarchs, Joseph Smith Sr., Hyrum Smith, and William Smith. In particular, the sample was divided between male and female blessings to determine to what extent there were gender differences in the length and content of these early blessings. Analysis of the sample results leads to a discussion of gender distinctions in the early LDS Church.

**Respondent** D. MICHAEL QUINN, independent researcher and historian.

**Chair** JOSEPH WEST, JR.

**Room** SUNDANCE

323. **Paper**
**Getting It Right: Changes in the Gospel Principles Manual from 1979 to 2009**


**Abstract** This paper examines teachings in the 1979 Gospel Principles manual that have been eliminated, revised, or downplayed in the manual currently used in Sunday classes. Included are teachings about abortion, fasting, following the prophet, the responsibility of women to keep a "clean" house, the Word of Wisdom, rape, the roles of men and women, and even the need to bathe often in “fresh water.”

**Respondent** LAURA COMPTON has a degree in journalism from Humboldt State University and is on the SUNSTONE board of directors.

**Chair** TAMARA TAYSOM

**Room** BRYCE

324. **Paper**
**From “System of Beliefs” to “Way of Life”: Fifty Years of Transformation in Community of Christ**

**Presenter** STEVE SHIELDS, author, Divergent Paths of the Restoration; high priest in the Community of Christ; served the church full-time in California and Asia since 1987; convert to Community of Christ from the LDS Church.

**Abstract** The Community of Christ struggled with issues of identity from the earliest years of the Reorganization. Although claiming succession from Joseph Smith, Jr. as the “only legitimate” priesthood and church organization, the early Reorganization based its mission on reclaiming “lost” members of the Church who had followed Brigham Young to the West. The identity of the denomination was based on “right belief;” this approach changed very little over the first century of the Reorganization (1850s to 1950s). I show...
why the Community of Christ no longer concerns itself with concepts of “only,” “legitimate,” or “true.” Seeing God’s power active in all places, with all people, at all times, the denomination now identifies with discipleship as a way of life modeled on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

Chair MATT THURSTON
Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

325. Paper MORMON WOMEN HAD THE PRIESTHOOD IN 1843: EXAMINING THE CLAIMS
Presenter JOSHUA GILLON, PhD candidate, philosophy, Princeton University; BA, philosophy and classical studies, BYU, with minors in logic and psychology.
Abstract What does it mean to say that Mormon women “have had the priesthood since 1843,” as D. Michael Quinn has claimed? In this paper, I argue that there is no coherent notion of priesthood widely accepted among the LDS. Consequently, it is less than clear what the question of whether Mormon women hold priesthood (in the contemporary sense) even amounts to.
Respondent MAXINE HANKS, anthology editor, Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism; theologian, clergy; scholar, women's studies in religion; fellow, Harvard Divinity School.
Chair BRIAN HALES
Room ARCHES

326. Paper JOSEPH SMITH’S MEDITATION ON POWER—CLEAR EVIDENCE OF A MATURING FAITH
Presenter DENNIS CLARK is a retired librarian and aspiring poet living in Orem, Utah.
Abstract Brigham Young said “Joseph Smith was a poet, and poets are not like other men….. they catch the swift thought of God and reveal it to us.” Joseph’s place as a nineteenth-century writer is just beginning to be appreciated. This session will look at one aspect of one of the dictations in which he generates texts remarkably like poems, especially poems on the model of Biblical verse, and in the rhythms of Whitman’s American speech. This paper examines Joseph Smith caught in the act of committing poetry.
Chair REED RUSSELL
Room BRIGHTON

331. Panel GLENN BECK: LIKELY MORMON OR UNLIKELY MORMON?
Abstract Glenn Beck is presently the most famous—and possibly the most infamous—Mormon in America. He is better known than President Monson or Steve Young and is more popular than Harry Reid or Mitt Romney. Some see Beck as a populist prophet of the coming apocalypse while others consider him the most dangerous man in America. This session looks at Beck’s identification with Cleon Skousen, the John Birch Society, and the Tea Party; his meteoric rise as a right-wing media maven; his role in American media and politics; and his representation of Mormon principles and values. It considers Beck’s impact on the Church and on Mitt Romney’s potential bid for the presidency of the United States.
Panelist ROBERT A. REES lives, writes, and works in the Santa Cruz Mountains. He is the editor of Why I Stay: The Challenges of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons (forthcoming from Signature Books).
Panelists ERIC SAMUELSSEN is head of the playwriting program at BYU and author of many plays including the politically-themed Amerigo recently produced by Plan-B Theatre Company.
Panelists JOANNA BROOKS chairs the department of English and comparative literature at San Diego State University and blogs about Mormonism at RELIGIONDISPATCHES.ORG.
Panelists DAVID KING LANDRITH lives in Boston with his wife and five children. He’s a technology entrepreneur with an academic background in philosophy. He blogs as DKL on Mormonism, politics, and culture at MORMONMENTALITY.ORG.
Panelists KATHRYN BOYCE HEMINGWAY lives with her husband in Sunriver, Oregon, is mother of three and grandmother of three. A retired educator, an occasional political activist, and an involved world traveler, she confesses she is not an LDS scholar but is happy for the opportunity to contribute what she considers Latter-day common sense.
Chair REED RUSSELL
Room BRIGHTON

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 11:15 AM–12:45 PM
Abstract
This paper compares the themes and reception of two very different gay Mormon novels published in 2009: No Going Back by Jonathan Langford and Ockham’s Razor by Alan Michael Williams.

Paper 3 THE FAMILY IN LATTER DAYS
Presenter
GERALD S. ARGETSINGER, founder of the Gay Mormon Literature Project; associate professor, department of cultural and creative studies, NTID, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Abstract
The film Latter Days, written and directed by C. Jay Cox, is one of the most popular gay-themed movies of the past decade, consistently ranking in the top five of LOGO Channel’s “Fifty Most Popular Gay/Lesbian Movies.” It tells the story of a Mormon missionary who is sent home in disgrace when he is discovered to be gay. The impact of his excommunication on his family is compared to the impact on those he left behind in the mission field.

Room BRYCE

Panel
THE ROLE OF FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG IN THE MATURING OF MORMON FEMINISM

Abstract
The Salt Lake Tribune religion reporter Peggy Fletcher Stack asked, “Where have the Mormon feminists gone?” The answer came back: to the Internet. But does online feminism translate into change in the real world? What strides have we made, and how far do we still have to go? Is discussing gender concerns in a public forum causing more harm than good? What does Mormon feminism look like today? A panel of women from the Feminist Mormon Housewives blog share their stories and take your questions.

Panelists
LISA BUTTERWORTH, founder of FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG; blogs between wiping butts, refereeing fights, and cooking potatoes for her family of five in Boise, Idaho.

JANET GARRARD-WILLIS holds a MA from Saint Louis University. She has blogged for fMh, a gig to which she is just returning. She lives with her husband and toddler son in a log cabin in Washington state. So far the bears make good neighbors.

SHELAH MINER, BA, English teaching and French; MA, American cultural studies, Washington University in St. Louis; stays at home with her four children, blogs on fMh, and edits the feature section of Segullah.

TRESA EDMUNDS blogs about mothering and creative projects at FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG and REESEDIXON.COM.

DEREK STAFFANSON works as a librarian and blogs sporadically on fMh and ALIBERALMORMON.WORDPRESS.COM.

Room BRIGHTON

"What Kind of Idea Are You?” —Salman Rushdie

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Panel
THE PROS AND CONS OF WRITING CONFESSIONAL MEMOIR IN THE MORMON MILIEU

Abstract
This panel will focus on the pros and cons of writing and publishing a tell-all, “confessional” memoir in the Mormon milieu—this culture of “truth-telling.” What are the ramifications of making private thoughts and actions into a public record? How does this follow D&C 42:88: “And if thy brother or sister offend thee, thou shalt take him or her between him or her and thee alone”? Beginning with the premise that the memoirist/personal essayist is an artist attempting to find the essential “core within the core” of his or her own humanness, the panel will explore the subject of “truth-telling” in its various incarnations—both public and private—and the individual experience of its panelists.

Panelist
PHYLLIS BARBER is the author of seven books, most recently Raw Edges: A Memoir, a no-holds-barred, frankly told story of the dissolution of her 33-year LDS temple marriage, her personal falling apart, and her putting the pieces of her own puzzle back together again.

Panelists
HOLLY WELKER has a PhD in English literature from the University of Iowa. Her poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and scholarship have appeared in publications ranging from The New Era, the New York Times, Best American Essays to Bitch.

KEVIN HOLDSWORTH, author, Big Wonderful: Notes from Wyoming.

STEPHEN CARTER, PhD, narrative studies, University of Alaska–Fairbanks; author, What of the Night; editor of SUNSTONE.

BRUCE JORGENSEN teaches literature and writing at BYU; has published poems, short fiction, literary criticism, and literary interviews; recently published “Spring Equinox,” a haiku sequence in the online magazine, The Provo Orem Word, March 2010.

MODERATOR/Panelist
PHYLLIS BARBER is the author of seven books, most recently Raw Edges: A Memoir, a no-holds-barred, frankly told story of the dissolution of her 33-year LDS temple marriage, her personal falling apart, and her putting the pieces of her own puzzle back together again.

Room
POWDER MOUNTAIN

Panel
MORMONISM AND RADICAL POLITICS

This session is sponsored by the Mormon Worker’s Collective.

Moderator
JASON BROWN, master of forestry, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; master of art and religion, 2011 Yale Divinity School.

Paper 1
THE RELEVANCE OF TOLSTOYANS FOR CONTEMPORARY LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Presenter
CORY BUSHMAN, BA, history, University of Utah with an emphasis on Eastern Europe; one of the founders of the Mormon Worker Collective.

Abstract
Tolstoyans adhered to Russian literary genius Leo Tolstoy’s philosophy of truth and brotherly love based on complete non-violence, vegetarianism, communal living, and a code of ethics that included abstaining from alcohol, tobacco, and foul language. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Tolstoyans are similar in that both groups have histories of oppression, resilience, and a love for peace, music, and community.

Paper 2
THE MORMON MOTHER AND SUBSISTENCE ECO-FEMINISM

Presenter
KATY SAVAGE is a recent graduate of the University of Utah’s environmental humanities MA program.

Abstract
For many women, the tension between Mormonism and feminism feels like a battle between a paycheck and a family: feminists tell us to take our place as equals with men while Mormon leaders instruct us to be wives and mothers, contending that ‘career women’ lead unfulfilling lives, repress their ability to nurture and overlook meaningful relationships. I believe Mormonism’s emphasis on traditional women’s roles is useful in a radical critique of patriarchy. A true focus on maternal nurturing demands rejection of exploitative capitalism, warfare, environmental destruction, and obedience to male, high-status leaders.

Paper 3
KINSHIP STRUCTURES

Presenter
TRISTAN CALL is a cultural anthropologist trying to plant a foot in biological anthropology (agroe-
Panel SUNSTONE SYMPOSIUM PAGE 39

Presenter RICK PHILLIPS specializes in the sociology of Mormonism. His book *Conservative Christian Identity and Same-Sex Orientation: The Case of Gay Mormons* explores the nexus of sexuality and religiosity among Latter-day Saints. His work on Mormonism has been published in *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Sociology of Religion,* and *Nova Religio.*

Abstract The tradition of universal kinship in Mormonism thought constitutes a powerful and relatively untapped form of transnational Alternative Civil Society that can resist state efforts to separate us by ethnicity, class, or nationality. This is not automatic: it requires a re-shaping and an elaboration (a “magnification”) of Mormon doctrines of genealogy, universal divine descent, and fundamental human equality. Though genealogy might suggest an exclusivity of family ties, understanding it in the context of Mormon doctrines of universal siblinghood provides a useful and flexible toolbox of concepts for egalitarian revolution.

Paper 1 DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE IN UTAH: CONSEQUENCES FOR LDS RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOR AND MEMBER RETENTION IN THE MORMON CULTURE REGION

Presenter RICK PHILLIPS specializes in the sociology of Mormonism. His book *Conservative Christian Identity and Same-Sex Orientation: The Case of Gay Mormons* explores the nexus of sexuality and religiosity among Latter-day Saints. His work on Mormonism has been published in *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Sociology of Religion,* and *Nova Religio.*

Abstract This paper looks at demographic data from Utah and various national censuses throughout the world to analyze the trends and consequences of Mormon growth and dispersion. Rick Phillips’ paper combines several data sources to show how recent shifts in Utah’s demography may have important implications for the activity and retention of Latter-day Saints in their Great Basin stronghold.

Paper 2 COMPARING THE GLOBAL GROWTH AND DISTRIBUTIONS OF MORMONS, ADVENTISTS, AND WITNESSES, AND TESTING THE RELIABILITY OF THE MEMBERSHIP DATA

Presenter RONALD LAWSON, PhD, professor emeritus of historical sociology, department of urban studies, Queens College, City University of New York.

Abstract Mormons, Adventists, and Witnesses are all American religious groups whose beginnings date from the nineteenth century; they have all experienced strong growth and become global in scope. Much can be learned from comparing them. This presentation will begin by using the detailed membership data of the three groups to compare their growth and geographic distribution over time. It will then turn to census and other data to test to what extent their official statistics can be relied on and to make new estimates of their total active membership. Along the way, it will also consider the socioeconomic status of their members.

Chair GARY SHEPHERD

Room SUNDANCE

LUNCH BREAK, 12:45 PM–2:15 PM

Where to eat THE SHERATON HAS a very nice on-site restaurant, The Olio. We encourage symposium attendees to dine at the hotel. Stop by the symposium registration table for 20% discount coupons to use at the Olio.

Singles Event Join SUNSTONE singles for lunch at the Olio. We’ve reserved VIP 2 during the lunch break so single folks can gather for a meal together.

341. Book Signings AUTHOR SIGNINGS

Please Note The signings will begin at 1:30 pm in Deer Valley.

Author PHYLLIS BARBER, author, *Raw Edges: A Memoir, Parting the Veil: Stories from a Mormon Imagination, How I Got Cultured: A Nevada Memoir,* and *And the Desert Shall Blossom*

Author STEPHEN CARTER, author, *What of the Night?*, Zarahemla Books

Author ANN CHAMBERLIN, *A History of Women’s Seclusion in the Middle East,* *Sofia, The Sultan’s Daughter, The Reign of the Favored Women, Snakesleeper,* and *Leaving Eden*
Author JOHNNY TOWNSEND, author, The Abominable Gayman, Mormon Underwear, and God’s Gargoyles

Room DEER VALLEY

342. Lunchtime comedy Clips of coverage of Mormons & Mormonism from Comedy Central’s The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. Clips assembled by MICHAEL J. STEVENS.

Room ARCHES

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:15 PM–3:15 PM

351. Panel MOBILIZING THE SAINTS: BEHIND-THE-SCENES STRATEGIES ON SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Paper 1 TOEING THE LINE: IS THE LDS CHURCH A MORAL AGENT OR A POLITICAL MACHINE?

Presenter LAURA COMPTON has a degree in journalism from Humboldt State University and is on the SUNSTONE board of directors. The Associated Press and KUED have interviewed her for stories on same-sex marriage.

Abstract The LDS Church identifies its involvement in same-sex marriage issues as a moral cooperative with other religions. Yet participation by both members and general leaders appears to have outweighed participation by other religious adherents. Has the Church crossed the line from moral organizer to political action committee? Is there a difference between the two? Let’s examine the evidence from 50 years of trials, proclamations, memos, experiences, and hearings—and figure out which side of the line we’re on.

Paper 2 MOBILIZING FOR MARRIAGE: CONGREGATIONS AND ARIZONA’S PROPOSITION 102

Presenter JOSEPH WEST, Jr., MA, sociology, University of Arizona; PhD candidate, sociology, University of Arizona.

Abstract On 4 November 2008, Arizona citizens passed Proposition 102. This proposition—known by its supporters as the Marriage Protection Amendment—amended the Arizona state constitution to define marriage as a relationship only between one man and one woman. Drawing on the Southern Arizona Congregations Study (a representative survey of 297 congregations in southern Arizona collected in 2009), I present findings related to congregation-based support of and opposition to Proposition 102 and discuss the peculiarity of Mormon participation in relation to that of other faiths. Mormon congregations were by far the most likely to get involved and participate at high levels of political mobilization in support of the proposition. I conclude with a discussion of social implications of these findings.

Chair CLAY WHIPKEY

Room CANYONS

Presenter  PAUL TOSCANO, bankruptcy lawyer, long-time SUNSTONE participant, author of many books including Sanctity of Dissent; co-author, Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology; and Music and the Broken Word, with Calvin Grondahl.

Abstract  Christians often use a single passage from Paul’s epistle to the Romans to scripturally justify their condemnation of same-sex orientation, attraction, and marriage. I critique a recent speech by Elder Bruce Hafen to Evergreen International, an organization that allegedly reclaims Church members from their same-sex orientation, and argue that Paul’s epistle can be read to support instead of oppose homosexuality.

Respondent  MICHAEL J. STEVENS, PhD, organizational psychology, Purdue; management professor, Weber State University.

Chair  JOHN D. GUSTAV-WRATHALL
Room  BRYCE

353.  Paper  FAITH IN THE MIDST OF THE DIFFICULTIES OF LIFE

Presenter  SUSAN SKOOR, member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles in Community of Christ, called and ordained in 2005.

Abstract  We extol childlike faith, but for most people, faith continually seeks deeper understanding, wisdom, and application. Mature faith comes through both loss and gain, often at a high cost that can either build or destroy. From desert places of doubt to mountaintop experiences with the Divine, this testimony of maturing faith and deepening relationship with God explores the nature of faith, trust, and “peace in the midst of the difficult questions and struggles of life.”

Chair  ALAN EASTMAN
Room  BRIGHTON

354.  Paper  JOSEPH SMITH’S PERSONAL POLYGAMY

Presenter  BRIAN HALES, author, Joseph Smith’s Polygamy: History and Theology forthcoming from Greg Kofford Books.

Abstract  How did Joseph Smith practice plural marriage? This presentation will review how Joseph Smith recognized the difficulties associated with plural marriage, especially for women; how he did not marry every woman he could have wedded; how he exercised great patience when teaching the principle; how, when spurned, he quietly moved on but vigorously defended himself against charges he considered false; how, on one occasion, he allowed a plural wife to divorce him; how motives other than libido directed his plural marrying; and how, when Emma, his legal wife, demanded that he stop marrying new plural wives, he complied.

Respondent  GEORGE D. SMITH, author, Nauvoo Polygamy…but we called it celestial marriage.

Chair  DENNIS CLARK
Room  SUNDANCE

355.  Papers  THE MORMON BIBLES

Presenters  WILLIAM D. RUSSELL, retired professor, American history and government, Graceland University; working on a book about the schism in the RLDS Church that surfaced after the ordination of women in 1984.

Kim McCall, member of the SUNSTONE board of directors; long-time gospel doctrine teacher.

Abstract  The King James Version of the Bible (1611) is the official Bible for the LDS Church while the RLDS Church has adopted the Joseph Smith Translation, published by the Reorganization in 1867, as its official Bible. Kim McCall will present a paper on the KJV, and William D. Russell will present a paper evaluating the JST, which came to be called “The Inspired Version” by the RLDS Church (now called the Community of Christ). Both papers will consider whether these Bibles are adequate for scripture study in the twenty-first century.

Chair  ROBIN LINKHART
Room  POWDER MOUNTAIN

356.  Paper  ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MORMONISM

Presenter  CHRIS HENRICHSEN teaches political science at Casper College in Wyoming. He has also taught political science, American Heritage, and philosophy at BYU, BYU-Idaho, and Utah Valley University. He blogs as Chris H. at WWW.FAITH-PROMOTINGRUMOR.COM.

Abstract  From the perspective of philosopher John Rawls, themes of social justice can be found in Mormon thought and culture. Yet, many tensions remain and likely will not be resolved. This presentation will look at these common themes and tensions from the perspective of an LDS scholar who is also an advocate of liberal social justice.

Chair  JOHN SILLITO
Room  ARCHES

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 3:30 PM–4:30 PM

361.  Paper  HINDERING THE SAINTS: TAKING AWAY THE KEY OF KNOWLEDGE

Presenter  PHILIP G. MCLEMORE, former LDS Institute director; retired Air Force Chaplain; hospice chaplain; meditation instructor.
Abstract

In Matthew 23 and Luke 11, Jesus lambasted the religious leaders of his day for blatant hypocrisy and a style of spiritual leadership that took away "the key of knowledge" and "shut up the kingdom of heaven against men." According to Jesus, not only did this prevent the leaders themselves from entering the kingdom but it also "hindered" those who were close to entering!

Although I don’t believe the modern LDS Church is guilty of the egregious hypocrisy detailed by Jesus, I am concerned it has established a similar system of status and worthiness along with external religious practices that can impede Latter-day Saints from the spiritual understandings and disciplines that lead to spiritual rebirth and open the kingdom of heaven. This presentation explores whether modern LDS culture and religious practices reflect the spiritual leadership that Jesus embodied or the leadership of those he criticized for hindering.

Chair DENNIS CLARK
Room BRYCE

362. Panel THE MORMON FEMINIST COMMUNITY OF EXPONENT II: ITS HISTORY, ITS LEGACY, ITS FUTURE

Abstract

This session will explore what Exponent II has meant to Mormon women over the years, what it has achieved, and how it has evolved since it published its first issue in the early 1970s. Panelists will also discuss their vision of the organization’s future as it works to reach out to a new generation of Mormon feminists.

Panelists
BARBARA TAYLOR, BA, business management, president of Exponent II.
AIMEE EVANS HICKMAN, BA English, University of Utah; president Exponent II 2004-2007; co-editor Exponent II 2009-present.
CAROLINE KLINE, MA, classics, University of California, Santa Barbara; co-founder of The Exponent II blog.

Chair JOANNA BROOKS
Room CANYONS

363. Film TWO LOVES: DOCUMENTING GAY MORMONS' STORIES

Presenter MICHELLE RIPPLINGER studies English literature and film/video production at Princeton.

Abstract Two Loves is a 25-minute documentary exploring the personal stories of gay Mormons, including an openly gay born-and-raised Mormon who has left the Church; an openly gay practicing Mormon; a same-gender attracted celibate, practicing Mormon; Carol Lynn Pearson, LGBT activist and ex-wife of a gay Mormon man; and a gay LDS teenager currently in the throes of decision-making. Two Loves screened at the 2009 Queens International Film Festival and the Youth Channel’s Open Transmission showcase. It was nominated as “Best Utah Short Film of the Year” at the 2008 Utah Arts Fear No Film Festival.

Chair JOHN D. GUSTAV-WRATHALL
Room ARCHES

364. Paper OLIVER COWDERY’S ROD OF NATURE

Presenter CLAIR BARRUS, systems engineer; manages several blogs including TODAY-IN-CHURCH-HISTORY.BLOGSPOT.COM and MORMON-CHURCH-HISTORY.BLOGSPOT.COM; writes news articles about Mormon history for EXAMINER.COM.

Abstract Masonic, magic, and religious lore regarding the rod of Aaron simmered in the burned-over district during the Second Great Awakening. Oliver Cowdery had already received revelations through a rod before meeting Joseph Smith, who revealed that Oliver would translate ancient texts just as Joseph had with seer stones. When the Joseph Smith Papers Project published A Book of Commandments and Revelations, an earlier version of the rod of nature revelation became available for analysis. Adding to two extant versions, the new copy included handwritten modifications, providing essentially four versions of this revelation for analysis. A look at the historical backgrounds of the Smith and Cowdery families, coupled with the revelatory context of D&C 8, tells a compelling story.

Respondent D. MICHAEL QUINN, independent researcher and historian.
365. Paper REASONS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL INTERPRETATIONS OF MORMONISM

This session is sponsored by the Mormon Transhumanist Association.

Presenter LINCOLN CANNON, MBA, BYU; BA, philosophy, BYU; fourteen years of professional experience in general management, software engineering, and information technology; president, Mormon Transhumanist Association.

Abstract When it comes to technology and spirituality, who decided that hope, faith, and heaven must be supernatural? How were so many of us persuaded that we can experience the spiritual but not measure it, or that we can promote such experience but not manage it with greater precision? When did we convince ourselves that machines must be cold metal and hollow plastic, forever in contrast to the warmth and beauty of the human soul? Can technology and spirit be brought together?

Respondent J. MARK OLSEN, PhD, University of Utah, specializes in ethics of psychiatry and therapeutic practice; instructor, Westminster College.

Chair DAWN THURSTON
Room BRIGHTON

366. Paper BASH: MORMONIZING EURIPIDES

Presenter DAI NEWMAN has degrees in linguistics and library science and has worked as a librarian. Currently, he studies religion and culture at the University of Utah; presents and writes about intellectual freedom applied to religion and intersections between popular culture and religion.

Abstract Neil LaBute is known for writing plays and films tracing the questionable actions of ethically dubious characters in shocking narratives. However, for his trilogy bash, he relied on stories written centuries earlier by the dramatist Euripides. LaBute updated the stories, placing them in roughly contemporary time and a Mormon setting. This paper explores the ways in which the Mormon context deepens the impact of these plays and helps keep the tone of the ancient Greek works applicable to the modern world.

Chair BOYD J. PETERSEN
Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

371. Panel GAY AND MORMON ON THE STAGE AND SCREEN

Moderator RON SCHOW, co-editor/contributor of Peculiar People: Mormons and Same-Sex Orientation.

Paper 1 MORMON MOTHERS AS DEVICES (KEY CHANGE-AGENTS) USED TO REDUCE THE TOXICITY OF LDS LGBT INERTIA

Presenter CHARLES LYNN FROST’s alter ego Sister Dottie S. Dixon was recently named BEST UTAHN 2010 by Salt Lake City Weekly’s reader/voters, and was Grand Marshal of the UTAH PRIDE 2010 celebration.

Abstract Frost presents insights he gained while creating his popular character Sister Dottie S. Dixon, exploring the role of “mother” as an agent for positive change within the Mormon family.

Paper 2 COMING OUT MORMON STYLE: THREE RECENT PLAYS, ONE BY ME

Presenter ERIC SAMUELSSEN, head of the playwriting program at BYU, has published several plays and articles with SUNSTONE.

Abstract The “coming out” play is a staple of contemporary gay theatre. Three recent coming out plays, however, put a uniquely Mormon twist on a familiar subject.

Paper 3 HOW THE LDS CHURCH IS DEPICTED IN PLAYS AND MOVIES CREATED BY NON-MORMONS

Presenter GERALD S. ARGERTSINGER most recently directed a multi-media African-American version of Carol Lynn Pearson’s play Facing East.
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Abstract  Non-Mormon playwrights and screenwriters have progressed from depicting “Mormons-in-name-only” to well-researched examples of Mormon culture, doctrine, and characters. There are also descriptions of puzzling encounters with gay Mormons whom the broader gay community finds difficult to understand. The presenter will discuss six popular plays and films that portray gay Mormon characters and/or themes.

Room  CANYONS
Panel  SEEING AS BELIEVING

Moderator/Panelist  PAUL SWENSON, journalist who morphed into a poet under the influence of a genius sister and a long-running, polymorphous writing group, now takes pleasure in playing the performance game with people of similar bent.

Panelists  ALEX CALDIERO, poet, sonosopher, and scholar of humanities, makes things that at times resemble song or language or pictures, and then again as the shape of your own mind. He is artist-in-residence at Utah Valley University.

Abstract  The eclectic visions of three diverse and discerning poets emerge as concrete images, scenes, shapes, and shadow—screened in a sensuous slide show and read and performed live. Poetry in voice, in paint, in photos, and in ink, all of which remains on the retina and stretches the imagination.

Moderator/Panelist  CHERYL L. BRUNO, This woman's a mother of eight/ Whose poems are fabulously great/ A blogger renowned/ She moves all around/ And has feminist, pacifist traits. /From Vernal, to Vegas, to Saudi/ (where women cannot drive an Audi)/ She swims, sews, sings tunes/ Quote her scripture, she swoons!/ But sometimes, she's just a bit naughty!

Room  ARCHES
Panel  MEN AND THE PRIESTHOOD: TAKING ON THE FEMININE

Abstract  Some feminists insist that they want equality in the priesthood while others just want to have a say in their culture. Before we brand an all-male priesthood as inherently bad, let's step back and take a second look at some possible positive aspects of an all-male priesthood—as well as some of the drawbacks of such a system.

Moderator/Panelist  TOM KIMBALL, marketing director, Signature Books, outgoing book review editor, Journal of Mormon History.

Panelists  HOLLY WELKER has a PhD in English literature from the University of Iowa. Her poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and scholarship have appeared in publications such as The New Era, the New York Times, Best American Essays, and Bitch.
Panel 374.

WHERE IS YOUR FAULKNER? MORMON FICTION AND AMERICA

Moderator
ELBERT EUGENE PECK, former editor of JANE BARNES

Panelists
As a non-Mormon writer for the PBS film, The Mormons, Jane Barnes found no novels about the Saints' place in America. Her paper “Notes Toward a New Mormon Fiction,” asks questions about this absence, starting with the whereabouts of a Mormon Sound and Fury or My Antonia. How can Mormon writers look at their experience with the same broad perspective as do William Faulkner, Willa Cather, or even Harriet Beecher Stowe? Should they try? Does the Church inhibit them? What are some of the major themes connected to the Mormon story as it comments on the larger American narrative?

Moderator Elbert Peck offers his own brief speculations on why an earlier period of Mormon-American authors “seemed really on the verge of being part of the national conversation, but then that blossoming died.” Other writers on the panel will respond to Barnes’ paper by describing how they deal with—or see no reason for dealing with—the national context in their own work.

Panelists
JANE BARNES, co-writer with Helen Whitney of the 2007 PBS documentary The Mormons.

KAREN ROSENBAUM, retired college instructor in creative writing, author of many short stories with Mormon themes.

ELLEN FAGG WEIST, arts and entertainment editor, The Salt Lake Tribune.

STEVE WILLIAMS, Utah filmmaker, instructor at Salt Lake Community College and University of Utah.

Room SUNDANCE

375. Panel

FAITH AND NARRATIVE

Moderator
SHEILA TAYLOR, PhD candidate, systematic theology, Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.

Panelists
SARA BURLINGAME, feminist, blogger, atheist, advocate for greater understanding of Mormons and Mormon feminists in particular in the broader secular world.
JOANNA BROOKS chairs the department of English and comparative literature at San Diego State University and blogs about Mormonism at RELIGIONDISPATCHES.ORG.

KIMBERLY LEWIS is an LDS convert of 16 years from a multi-faith background and an fMh blogging enthusiast. A critical care nurse, she lives in Connecticut with her four children.

Room POWDER MOUNTAIN

BANQUET 7:30 PM

The banquet session requires a separate registration fee of $46 (the on-site ticket price) to cover the cost of the dinner.

This year’s banquet buffet will include a green garden salad, sliced fresh fruit and berries, imported and domestic cheese display with dried fruit, nuts, and crackers. Enjoy two entrees: Stuffed Chicken Tuscany with sundried tomatoes, olives, ricotta, parmesan and fresh basil with a mushroom risotto and Marsala reduction sauce and sliced New York strip steak with a roasted shallot and Port reduction sauce. The buffet also includes garlic mashed potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetables, rolls and butter, raspberry lemonade, Starbucks coffee, Tazo teas, and chocolate mousse cake or gourmet turtle cheesecake for dessert.

As SUNSTONE must guarantee the hotel a specific number of banquet attendees before the symposium begins, banquet tickets are available primarily through pre-registration. However, a few dinners may be available for purchase on site. Ask about ticket availability at the symposium registration desk.

There is no “lecture only” admission to the banquet session. Please bring your banquet ticket with you to present at the door.

391. Banquet LDS WOMEN IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: WITNESSES TO A CHANGING CHURCH

Abstract This session features excerpts from Claremont Oral History Program interviews begun in 2009 to record and preserve the voices of Mormon women. Sponsored by the Singer Foundation, the project aims to collect 100 extensive transcribed interviews that deal with personal biography, attitudes toward LDS women’s issues, and Church experience. The interviews are conducted by Mormon Studies students and by women of the community. Interviewees have been chosen by group and individual nominations.

Tonight’s lively reader’s theater-style presentations are the result of analyzing information on specific subjects from different women’s inter-
views, from women’s attitudes about fertility to education in Mormon culture, to defining relationships during dating, marriage, and singlehood, and how women navigate in a patriarchal church.

Introduction CLAUDIA L. BUSHMAN

Claudia is project director and adjunct professor of Mormon Studies at Claremont Graduate University with degrees in literature and American studies from Wellesley College, Brigham Young University, and Boston University. Her twelfth book, *Pansy’s Family History*, will be published this summer.

Panelists LISA T. CLAYTON, *Sisters and the Egg: Fertility Attitudes in Transition*

A resident of Newport Beach, California, Lisa has a BA in English from the University of Utah and is an MA candidate in religion at CGU. She manages the Newport Beach Oral History Collaborative.

BETHANY SAUNDERS, *Roots of Virtue: Education in Mormon Culture*

Of Carson, California, Bethany has an MA in education from Pepperdine University. She is an MA candidate at CGU. She currently works part-time with economically disadvantaged children in the San Fernando Valley.

LAUREN KENNARD, *Defining the Relationship: DTRs in Dating, Marriage, and Singlehood*

From Midvale, Utah, Lauren is a graduate of Southern Virginia University and is currently an MA candidate at CGU. She plans to begin chaplaincy training upon completion of her degree.

CAROLINE KLINE, *LDS Women Navigating a Patriarchal Church*

A resident of Irvine, California, Caroline is a graduate of Scripps College with an MA in classics from UC Santa Barbara. She is the co-founder of *The Exponent* blog and plans to begin the PhD program in women’s studies in religion at CGU in fall 2010.

Chair MARY ELLEN ROBERTSON

Room WASATCH ROOM (upstairs)

SUNDAY 8 AUGUST

The Community of Christ will have a communion service at the Salt Lake Congregation on 8 August, the Sunday morning following the symposium. All are invited to attend.

Services will be held at 2747 East 3640 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84109.

10:00 AM—SUNDAY SCHOOL

Lachlan Mackay, director of historic sites for Community of Christ will teach a class on the early history of the reorganization.

11:00 AM—COMMUNION SERVICE

Elder Susan Skoor of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles will speak at the sacrament service. Sacrament of the Bread & Wine, Open Communion (all may partake).

12:00 PM—LUNCH

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I’m so happy, it’s like I’m listening to my
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“I want to be freakishly happy, too!” they
exclaim. “Where can I donate?”

“At the symposium’s Giving Tree,” I tell
them. “You can’t miss it!”

“One more thing, Bob,” they
call as they run down the hall
to donate. “Does it have to
be Steely Dan?”

It’s not Botox!