2012 SALT LAKE
SUNSTONE
SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOPS

Mormons and Mormonism as a Political Force

25–28 JULY 2012
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
OLPIN STUDENT UNION
200 S. CENTRAL CAMPUS DR,
SALT LAKE CITY, 84112
801.581.5888

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.
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2012 Salt Lake
SUNSTONE
Symposium and Workshops

Theme: Mormons and Mormonism as a Political Force

WORKSHOPS
We have a great selection of SUNSTONE WORKSHOPS this year! See pages 5-8 for details about this year’s workshop offerings, instructors, and registration information.

2012 PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

This 2012 preliminary program is published annually for the Salt Lake Sunstone Symposium by the SUNSTONE EDUCATION FOUNDATION, 343 N. Third West, Salt Lake City, UT 84103. Issued: June 2012, Issue number: SL12.

THIS IS A PRELIMINARY PROGRAM. Every effort will be made to keep to this schedule of sessions, but topics, speakers, and times may change between now and the event. A final program with room assignments and a complete list of participants will be provided to each registrant at the conference. This preliminary program will be continually updated online as speakers are added and other changes are made. Visit WWW.SUNSTONEMAGAZINE.COM to see updated versions.

SESSION PROCEEDINGS AND RECORDINGS

SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS are not published, nor does Sunstone make papers available. Electronic recordings of most sessions (excluding workshops) will be available and may even be ordered in advance. Audio pre-order forms will be available online soon at WWW.SUNSTONEMAGAZINE.COM and at the conference.

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

ADMISSION TO ALL SESSIONS is by purchased ticket or symposium name badge only, available at the registration table. Advance registrations may be purchased by mail, via email, on the Sunstone website, or by telephone by calling 801.355.5926.

AN ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM WITH ALL THE DETAILS IS INCLUDED ON THE BACK COVER OF THIS PROGRAM.

PARKING

Sunstone has reserved Lot 24 for Symposium attendees; parking here is FREE to Sunstone attendees on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of the symposium. Lot 24 is southeast of the Tanner Humanities Building (CTIHB) and opens onto Wasatch Drive. Take North Campus Drive or Mario Capecchi Drive to Wasatch Drive. Lot 24 has two entrances—one before you get to the McCarthy Track & Field Complex (you’ll drive through Lot 25 to get to Lot 24) and a second entrance at Ballif Road just past the McCarthy Track & Field Complex. See map on page 47.

Attendees may also pay to park in the Visitors Lot directly east of the Union building. This lot charges by the hour with a maximum of $10 per day. It is the closest lot to the Union and has designated handicapped parking spaces.

On Saturday ONLY, parking in other nearby lots is free (except for the visitors lot).

Attendees who are staying at the University Guest House hotel can park free in the hotel’s parking lot. Non-guests can pay $5 per day for a parking permit and walk to the Union or ride the campus shuttle. A schedule for the shuttle can be found at http://www.commuterservices.utah.edu/transportation/shuttles/index.html. Look for the summer shuttle schedule.

LODGING

Sunstone has reserved blocks of rooms for Symposium attendees at the University Guest House and at the SLC Marriott University Park.

The University Guest House and Conference Center is located on the University of Utah campus (110 South Fort Douglas Blvd).

Rates are $95 a night plus 12.6% tax for double queen beds. Amenities include free parking, free hot breakfast, refrigerator, microwave, satellite TV, free wireless Internet, fitness room, hairdryer, coffeemaker, iron & ironing board. Ground transportation between the Guest House and the Salt Lake International Airport can be provided by Express Shuttle for $12 each way.

The Guest House is about a 10-minute walk from the Student Union. The RED campus shuttle runs every 15-20 minutes between the University Guest House/Ft. Douglas Blvd and the Student Union between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm, with service every 30 minutes between 6:00-11:00 pm.

Guest House reservations must be booked before Monday 25 June 2012. To make reservations, call 801.587.1000 or 888.416.4075 or visit http://www.universityguesthouse.com/. Mention that you are part of the Sunstone group when making your reservation.
A block of rooms is also available at the SLC Marriott University Park (480 Wakara Way). Rates are $99 a night plus tax for all rooms. Guests must book before Wednesday 11 July 2012 to receive the preferred rate in the Sunstone block.

To make reservations, call the Marriott University Park directly at 801.581.1000 or 800.228.9290 or visit http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/slcup-salt-lake-city-marrriott-university-park/. The Marriott University Park provides free parking, free transportation to the UofU, and free use of their business center to all guests.

Other local hotels may also have rooms available during our event.

We regret being unable to provide Sunstone attendees with dorm housing on UofU campus. The logistics were too much for our small staff to manage. Below are some lower cost hostels and hotels in the Salt Lake area:

- Avenues Hostel 801.539.8888
  107 F Street, 84103 Salt Lake City
  http://www.saltlakehostel.com/

- Camelot Inn Hostel 801.688.6196
  165 West 800 South

- Utah International Hostel 801.359.4525
  50 S 800 West
  http://www.utahinternationalhostel.com/

TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM SLC AIRPORT

Taxi and shuttle services are available at the Ground Transportation desk at either terminal.

- Express Shuttle: 800.397.0773 http://www.expressshuttleutah.com/
  City Cab: 801.363.5550 or 801.363.8400
  Ute Cab: 801.359.7788 http://www.utecabco.com/
  Yellow Cab: 801.521.2100 http://www.yellowcabutah.com/

The UofU is also accessible by TRAX. The Stadium TRAX stop is the closer stop to the University Guest House but still requires a short walk to the Student Union and University Guest House.

DINING ON AND OFF CAMPUS

The Student Union food court is open 7:30 am—2:30 pm Wednesday through Friday and is closed Saturday. The food court is located on the first floor of the Olpin Student Union building, downstairs from where most sessions will be held. Options include Chilitos, Burger Box, Sandwich Central, Papa John’s, Chop’d (salads), Au Bon Pain soups, and Jamba Juice.

The University Guest House does not have an onsite restaurant; however there is a small convenience store in the lobby. The Heritage Center Dining Room is a five-minute walk from the Guest House and offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours and more information.

There are many restaurants near campus along 1300 E, including
- The Pie Pizzeria, B&D Burger, Market Street Broiler, Indochine Vietnamese Bistro, and Aristo’s Greek Restaurant and Cafe.

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

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Advance registrations may be purchased by mail, via email, on the SUNSTONE website, or by telephone by calling 801.355.5926.

AN ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM WITH ALL THE DETAILS IS INCLUDED ON THE BACK COVER OF THIS PROGRAM.

SYMPOSIUM PURPOSE

THE SALT LAKE SUNSTONE SYMPOSIUM is an annual gathering of Latter-day Saints, scholars, and others interested in the diversity and richness of Mormon thought and experience and who enjoy pondering the past, present, and future of the unfolding Restoration. The symposium is a public conference based on the principles of an “open forum.” This is a space where we invite rigorous inquiry and thoughtful, respectful participation, trusting that both the cause of truth and the society of the Saints are best served by free and open exploration and discussion.

FAITH. Hear words that inspire Christian living by exploring gospel truths, sharing spiritual journeys, and untying knotty challenges.

COMMUNITY. Meet old friends and make new ones—fellow seekers whose thoughts and experiences parallel yours.

KNOWLEDGE. Gain insights that can come only from rigorous examination of Mormon doctrine and culture from insider and outsider perspectives.

FUN. Wrestle with new, stimulating, and lively viewpoints. Savor well-crafted sermons. Match famous scholars’ names with faces. Laugh in the humor sessions. Indulge in late-night discussions you rarely have chances for elsewhere. Browse and purchase interesting books. Wonder at the amazing diversity among God’s children.

POINTS TO NOTE

PROGRAM. SUNSTONE offers a diverse selection of topics, formats, and perspectives. Be excited to hear views that coincide with yours, but also prepare to hear presentations that may offer a different perspective. As Elder Hugh B. Brown told BYU students in 1958, “I have mentioned freedom to express your thoughts, but I caution you that your thoughts must meet competition in the marketplace of thought, and in that competition truth will emerge triumphant. Only error needs fear freedom of expression.”

VOLUNTEERS. Sunstone symposiums rely heavily on the efforts of many volunteers. Please consider helping at this year’s symposium at the registration desk, taking tickets, or chairing sessions. Or consider presenting a paper or organizing a panel for next year.

2013 SYMPOSIUM THEME

MORMON BODIES: LITERAL, METAPHORICAL, DOCTRINAL

One of Mormonism’s most distinctive attributes is the emphasis on embodiment, including the belief that “everybody ought to have a body,” and that embodiment is not merely a condition of mortality but a crucial step in the journey to becoming like God, who “has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s” (D&C 130:22).

Bodies are a primary way we learn about the world, a source of pleasure and temptation, something to be both enjoyed and tamed. How do LDS ideas about sex, sin, illness, food, pleasure, procreation, parenthood, obligation, gender, and godhood affect their experiences of their bodies? How do LDS doctrines of embodiment affect the way Latter-day Saints think, feel, and talk about their bodies?
Jesus had a mortal body, but we don’t like to talk about its suffering, preferring to dwell on his resurrected form. Heavenly Mother has a body, but we are officially discouraged from talking about it. The Holy Ghost, bodiless, is nevertheless constantly making our bosoms burn, or calling tears to our eyes, or standing us up and walking us to the podium during testimony meeting.

What metaphors are hidden in our obsession with bodies? How does our bodily approach to the world both expand and constrain our view of the divine? What is the relationship between spirit and body (is it only the body that must be tamed)? What paradoxes does our view of bodies force us to live in?

Furthermore, the “body of Christ” is a metaphor for the church, but Mormons avoid emphasizing the literal body of Christ, eschewing not just crucifixes but crosses. Why are some literal bodies more important than others? What bodies matter most?

Mormonism also encompasses many different collective bodies: different traditions tracing their roots back to Joseph Smith, different governing bodies overseeing different communities or texts or enterprises. Finally, in its relatively short history, Mormonism has produced a remarkably rich and diverse body of thought and scripture. How do all these Mormon bodies collide against, control, nurture, or support one another?

### WEDNESDAY 25 JULY

2012 Salt Lake SUNSTONE Symposium and Workshops

**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION, 9:00 AM–6:00 PM**

**Registration Information**

Workshop registration requires a separate fee and is available primarily via online pre-registration. Advance registration allows workshop instructors to anticipate the number of students and prepare the appropriate number of handouts and other materials for the class.

If you pre-register for workshops, you will be able to pick up your pre-printed name badge at the Symposium registration desk starting at 9:00 am Wednesday 25 July 2012.

Typically, workshops can accommodate additional people who register onsite. However, we strongly recommend signing up in advance to secure a place in the workshop(s) of your choice.

Admission to all other symposium sessions is by purchased name badge or ticket only. This policy will be strictly enforced. Registration forms, badges, and tickets are available at the registration table by the ballrooms on the second floor of Olpin Student Union Building.

### FULL DAY WORKSHOP, 9:30 AM–6:00 PM

**W1. Title** WHEN ONE SPOUSE LOSES FAITH: STRENGTHENING YOUR MARRIAGE THROUGH SHARED VULNERABILITY

with ADAM FISHER

**Description** The aftermath of one partner’s change in beliefs might threaten a marriage or eventually result in divorce. Contempt, negativity, and blame make this situation seemingly insurmountable for some. A key to navigating this crisis is the couple’s commitment to repairing damaged or broken bonds and finding each other across the divide. Doing so requires the couple to reach a place of shared vulnerability in which mutual feelings of fear, loss, and deep sadness can be experienced together. This workshop will address how spouses can work together to find a new emotional safe-haven without compromising core beliefs or values.

**Instructor** ADAM FISHER is a doctoral student in counseling psychology at Indiana University where he is also minorining in human sexuality through the Kinsey Institute. His dissertation research (in progress) focuses on predictors of divorce for religious couples where one spouse experiences a change in beliefs. He is also interested in relationship and parent education, evidence-based treatments for couples and families, and sport psychology. He has a master’s degree in counseling from Gonzaga University and has completed clinical training in a variety of secular as well as religious settings, such as LDS Family Services and Catholic Charities.

**NOTE:** There is a 90-minute break for lunch between 1:00-2:30 pm

### MORNING WORKSHOPS, 9:30 AM–1:00 PM

**W2. Title** THE BOTTOM LINE ON INTEGRITY—OR, IS LYING SOMETIMES THE RIGHT THING FOR AN HONEST PERSON TO DO?

with QUINN G. MCKAY

**Description** Renowned motivational speaker and corporate consultant Quinn G. McKay has distilled his lifetime of gathered wisdom on business ethics into The Bottom Line on Integrity: 12 Principles for Higher Returns. Although geared toward business people, these insights into ethics and integrity in the workplace have broad applicability outside the office or boardroom.

This workshop will explore concepts critical to a better understanding of personal integrity, starting with the idea that we tend to regard ourselves as more honest that we really are. This exaggeration of our ethical sensibilities can have implications in how we respond to complicated ethical questions and situations. Quinn’s lifelong study of ethics “rises above the prattle of prissy, preachy platitudes” and encourages listeners to thoughtfully explore both their own ethical strengths and areas for improvement. The humor, honesty, and liveliness of this presentation make learning
about ethics and integrity not just thought-provoking but fun.

Instructor QUINN G. MCKAY has been a university professor, management consultant, and business executive for over 30 years, teaching and presenting seminars and workshops on business ethics around the world. With a master’s and doctorate in business administration from Harvard, he has consulted and conducted leadership coaching with many major corporations world-wide and with several federal agencies. He is the author of two books on business ethics, most recently The Bottom Line on Integrity, published by Gibbs Smith in 2004. Quinn lives with his wife in Kaysville.

W3. Title THE MORMON MYSTERY YOU OWN: A CLASS IN PERSONAL ESSAY/MEMOIR with PHYLLIS BARBER

NOTE This workshop is limited to 18 participants.

Description For those who have grown up in Mormon culture, the experience of being Mormon and trying to be a good Mormon/good Christian leaves an indelible stamp no matter how active or inactive you become. With the recent exposure to Mormonism in the press/media/on Broadway, there has been an increased interest in the Mormon experience: just what are these Mormons all about? How do you use the art of writing memoir or personal essay to explore the mystery of who you are and what you’ve become because of your religious immersion? How does your sense of place within the culture translate for those unfamiliar with its inner workings? How can you access the Mormon mystery that has been nurtured in your psyche in new, refreshing, enlightening ways? And how can you cross the bridge to a wider audience? Join the class and get started with your story.

Instructor PHYLLIS BARBER is the author of seven books (the latest being Raw Edges: A Memoir, a coming of age in middle-age story) and recently retired from the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA in Writing program where she taught for nineteen years. How I Got Cultured: A Nevada Memoir won the Associated Writing Programs (AWP) Prize in Creative Nonfiction in 1991 and the Association of Mormon Letters Prize for Best Autobiography in 1993. Her essays have recently been cited as notable in Best American Essays 2010 and 2011, and in Best American Travel Writing.

W4. Title CREATION AND SACRED GROVES IN MYSTICAL EXPERIENCE: A PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOP with JASON MINTON BROWN

Description Forests, deserts, oceans, rivers, mountaintops, and gardens are woven into the fabric of our sacred stories. But despite nature’s central place in religious history, Christianity is still struggling to articulate a strong commitment to transforming our destructive economic system and curbing anthropogenic climate change. How have our sacred stories somehow failed to communicate a deep moral commitment to the earth? Within Mormon mystical experience, one cannot read very far without encountering the small hardwood forest in Palmyra, NY, where Joseph Smith’s career as a visionary, mystic, and self-proclaimed prophet began. The Sacred Grove is a place of pilgrimage for thousands of people of faith each year.

This workshop will attempt to forge a new perception and appreciation of the earth as an intrinsic part of human spirituality and an essential component of our obligations as moral agents. Participants will carpool to an outdoor location and return in time for the afternoon workshop sessions.

Instructor JASON MINTON BROWN has a BA in anthropology from BYU. He graduated from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and the Yale Divinity School in 2011, earning master’s degrees in forestry and theology (MF, MAR). He is currently an adjunct professor at Salt Lake Community College and Utah Valley University where he teaches courses in ethics and values and world religion. This summer he is working for the US Forest Service as a forester. Other projects include orcharding, traditional woodworking, farmland protection, interfaith work, sustainable forestry, and writing about sacred groves. He is a contributor to The Mormon Worker, Our Mother’s Keeper, and Mormon Matters podcasts.

W5. Title AN AWARENESS PRACTICE ALIGNED WITH THE RESTORED GOSPEL, REVEALING THAT THE RESTORED GOSPEL CONTAINS THE WISDOM OF THE EAST AND THE SEEDS OF A NEW SOCIAL AND POLITICAL MOVEMENT with JOHN T. KESLER

Description John will facilitate aspects of Integral Polarity Practice (IPP), an awareness practice which he has developed over the past decade to be aligned with the principles and patterns of the Restored Gospel; he will point out these correlations throughout the workshop and explain how the Restored Gospel includes the wisdom of Eastern meditative traditions. This will provide an experiential demonstration of what John will discuss in his Saturday Sunstone presentation on meditation (Session 316).

At higher levels of personal development, an individual’s inner life and actions become more deeply integrated; the individual will also sense a oneness with all humanity. IPP provides a practice and a framework for achieving this realization, and the workshop will conclude with practices illuminating this. This focus will provide an experiential demonstration of what John will talk about in his Thursday Sunstone presentation discussing a new social and political movement grounded in Mormon sensibilities (Session 115).
Instructor JOHN T. KESLER is a practicing attorney and active Mormon who, in addition, engages in community work and internal work. He founded the Salt Lake Center for Engaging Community in order to model best practices of community flourishing in a global environment. One current project of the Center is the state-wide Utah Civility and Community initiative. After being one of the first people to be certified in the revolutionary Zen “Big Mind Process,” John developed and teaches an awareness practice called Integral Polarity Practice, which he has attempted to correlate in every way with principles and patterns of the Restored Gospel. For John, this community work and internal work are deeply interrelated.

LUNCH BREAK, 1:00 PM–2:30 PM

Where to eat THE STUDENT UNION’S food court offers a variety of dining options. The food court is open from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm Wednesday through Friday and is located on the first floor of the Union building (downstairs from most session rooms).

The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus is a five-minute walk from the University Guest House and offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours. See page 4 for more info about dining options.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS, 2:30 PM–6:00 PM

W6. Title ADDICTION: A GOSPEL PERSPECTIVE with CHARLES FRANCIS “FRANK” KING

Description Because human beings are created in the image of God, they have all the tools (foremost of which is the ability to feel physical, mental, and spiritual pain) necessary to survive in this world. With the help of loving parents, a child can learn to handle pain (starting school, doing chores, etc.), developing either good or bad habits, leading to the development of talents or addictions while learning to bridle his/her passions, including sexual passions.

This workshop will explore issues surrounding addiction, including: why we have addictions and what triggers them; why some people are more prone to addiction than others; the role of pain and our reaction to it in forming addictions and determining their nature; methods for overcoming addiction; and explanations, answers, and solutions found in the scriptures and Church teachings.

Instructor CHARLES FRANCIS "FRANK" KING was born in New Jersey in 1928, raised in Brazil and Argentina, and attended college in the US where he received a BA. Following military service, he was employed by Citibank in Santiago, Chile, where he met his wife Marion Nielsen. In 1963, they moved to France where they joined the “Communauté de l’Arche” for two years. Deciding to settle in France, Frank went to carpentry school, after which he opened a shop in Antibes.

In 1973, Frank and Marion and their two small children met the missionaries and joined the LDS Church. Frank became the first branch president of the Antibes Branch. In 1979, Frank accepted a post with the newly organized physical facilities department of the Church near Grenoble, and later in Paris. Retired in 1992, Frank and Marion accepted a call to serve in the Frankfurt Temple. They served a second mission in the Vienna South mission office. Frank is the author of three books on chiasmus in the Book of Mormon and the Doctrine and Covenants. His latest work concerns how the scriptures increase our understanding of addiction.

Instructor RENEE SHAW’s shaman name is “Ryxi” which means “warrior scribe” or “courageous communicator.” She has spoken to Gaia, the elements, and other earth and God-serving messengers since 2005. She is training other shamans to assist in connecting to the earth, focusing especially on the Mesa Verde area.

W7. Title TALKS WITH HEAVENLY MOTHER with RENEE SHAW

Description Listen to cutting-edge author Renee Shaw share her story of getting to know her Heavenly Mother. In the fall of 2010, as Renee walked through the trees in a local park, Heavenly Mother started speaking directly to her, launching a series of meetings in the park. Renee is recording these meetings in the trees in her forthcoming book, Talks with Heavenly Mother. She will share sneak peeks from this work, including “Romance in Heaven,” “Heavenly Mother’s Role in the New Millennium,” and “A Day in the Life of Heavenly Mother.” She will teach participants how to make their own connection with Heavenly Mother by meditating in nature and allowing Her to become a part of their daily lives. Join Renee with song, dance, and Heavenly Connection!

Instructor RENEE SHAW’s shaman name is “Ryxi” which means “warrior scribe” or “courageous communicator.” She has spoken to Gaia, the elements, and other earth and God-serving messengers since 2005. She is training other shamans to assist in connecting to the earth, focusing especially on the Mesa Verde area.

W8. Title YES, IT HAS HAPPENED! LDS + ACLU LAWSUITS AND HOW THEY’VE EXPANDED CIVIL LIBERTIES FOR ALL AMERICANS with LEAH FARRELL

Description This workshop will present a straightforward look at several key religious liberty cases in which the ACLU and LDS members actually collaborated to protect First Amendment rights. ACLU staff will describe the cases and explain the constitutional issues at play in each case, as well as broader impacts the cases have had on First Amendment law.
Instructor

LEAH FARRELL joined the ACLU of Utah in August 2011 from the University of Texas School of Law in Austin. During her time here, she has assisted the legal team in litigation, negotiation, and advocacy work. At the University of Texas, Leah was a staff editor for the Texas International Law Journal; participated in the Human Rights Clinic, Domestic Violence Clinic, and Community Development Clinic; and was on the board of several successful public interest student groups. Leah’s dedication to public interest law earned her the Chris Marshall Endowed Presidential Scholarship, a Public Interest Scholar award, and a Texas Law Summer Fellowship. Leah received a JD in May 2011 and was officially sworn into her hometown of Salt Lake City and working for civil liberties and civil rights in Utah.

Title

BRINGERS, DRINKERS, CLINGERS, OR THINKERS? (A BEGINNER’S DRAFT TOOLKIT)

with RUSS OSMOND

Description

D. Jeff Burton’s “Borderlanders” typology has long been a useful, easily remembered method of classifying how folks “feel” about their LDS connectivities—particularly those that are “weakening.”

But what about a typology that tells more of the story? A typology that more precisely suggests a common vocabulary for the “why” of how the active LDS “do” their activity? After all, there are a lot of people still in this category and trying to make sense of it. “Liahonas” and “Iron-Rodders” are fun tongue-in-cheek starters, but these categories can also stop a discussion in its tracks. This paper proposes a common vocabulary to categorize varying levels of LDS belief.

The Greeks talked of four humors (sanguine, bilious, melancholy, and choleric), and since then nearly all typologies of human behavior have clustered into 4-factor models of one kind or another. It’s worth asking about the degree to which a simple 4-factor model might show why and how each of us (students, critics, apologists, believers, borderlanders, etc.) might be “seeing” the TBM (True-Believing Mormons) we prefer and ignoring any other descriptions no matter who offers them. Perhaps by looking at those who remain loyal to the Church through the four common denominator lenses of behavioral theory, we can find some common ground for the study of why people take different approaches to LDS Church activity instead of the many random iterative attempts floating around.

Instructor

RUSS OSMOND has a PhD from Syracuse University. Having completed five careers (college teaching, banking, political organizing, counseling, consulting), Russ now devotes his time to developing practical “ez to remember” models of effective communication, conflict resolution, and persuasive presentation for individuals, small groups, and hierarchically cantankerous conundra.

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION, 6:00 PM–8:00 PM

Registration Information

The Smith-Pettit Lecture is FREE and open to the public.

Admission to all other symposium sessions is by name badge or ticket only. This policy will be strictly enforced. Registration forms, badges, and single-session tickets are available at the registration table by the ballrooms on the second floor of Olpin Student Union Building.

SMITH-PETTIT LECTURE, 8:00 PM

091. Lecture

MORMONISM IN AND OUT OF THE POLITICAL MAINSTREAM

Speaker

MARK R. SILK graduated from Harvard College in 1972 and earned a PhD in medieval history from Harvard University in 1982. He taught for three years in Harvard’s department of history and literature, after which he became editor of the Boston Review. In 1987, he joined the staff of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution where he worked variously as a reporter, editorial writer, and columnist. In 1996, he became the founding director of the Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life at Trinity College in Hartford. In 1998, he established Religion in the News, a magazine published by the Center that examines how the news media handle religious subject matter. In 2005, he was named director of the Trinity College Program on Public Values, comprising both the Greenberg Center and a new Institute for the Study of Secularism in Society and Culture. In 2007, he became Professor of Religion in Public Life at the College.

Abstract  Mormonism is often considered a tradition set apart from the rest of American society, but over the past half-century, it has become an integral part of the country’s political life. From the Equal Rights Amendment through California’s Proposition 8, the LDS Church has played a crucial if episodic role in the country’s culture wars. Ideologically, Mormon conceptions of the United States and its founding have contributed to the creation of a Republican political religion. And as a voting bloc, Mormons have become an anchor of the GOP—the most Republican of any religious grouping. With Mitt Romney as the first Mormon to secure the presidential nomination of a major political party, this lecture will examine the Mormon community in the context of national politics in order to show how it has made its way into the American political mainstream.

This lecture is free and open to the public. Mark R. Silk’s lecture has been made possible by the generous sponsorship of the Smith-Pettit Foundation.

THURSDAY 26 JULY

2012 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 single-session tickets are available at the registration table by the ballrooms on the second floor of Olpin Student Union Building.

DEVOTIONAL, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

101. Devotional  TO BE ANNOUNCED

Presenters  JANE M. GARDNER and LAUREN HALL, Community of Christ.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:30 AM–9:30 AM

111. Paper  TORQUEMADA, GUANTANAMO BAY, AND THE MORMON INQUISITION

Presenter  MARK THOMAS has published widely on the Book of Mormon and early Mormonism. His book *Digging in Cumorrah* is a landmark in Book of Mormon interpretation. He is a former faculty member at BYU and Utah State University.

Abstract  In Nephi’s vision in the Book of Mormon, we find an allusion to a European Church “which slayeth the saints of God, yea, and tortureth them and bindeth them down. . .” (1 Nephi 13:40) This seems a clear condemnation of the Inquisition. New scholarship suggests that the Inquisition was not some prescientific anomaly that vanished with the Enlightenment. Rather, elements that make for the Inquisition are stronger and broader today than ever: secret surveillance, the imposition of belief, censorship, interrogations intended to intimidate, and stringent punishment of those whose beliefs or statements challenge the dictates of those in power. Scholars of the Inquisition have drawn parallels to Stalin’s Russia, Nazi Germany, and post 9/11 America. This paper will summarize the key role that Mormons played in sanctioning torture under the Bush Administration and the institutional structures within the LDS Church used to gather information and address the problem of Mormon intellectuals. It will also explore how we as Mormons...
can sustain our country and support our Church leaders while still supporting and implementing the Book of Mormon’s anti-inquisition theology.

112. Paper CONGREGATIONAL SONG: EXPRESSING A VISION OF THE COMMUNITY’S FAITH AND SHAPING ITS DISCIPLESHIP

Presenters JANE M. GARDNER is president of the Community of Christ Quorum of High Priests, director of Integrated Ministries Formation, and chair of the Hymnal Project.

LAUREN HALL is team leader and manager for Community of Christ’s Hymnal Project.

Abstract Sharing and singing hymns foundational to the Restoration by W.W. Phelps and William Fowler, we experience how the dynamics of congregational song unify, build solidarity, and express who we are as faith communities. Hymnody is also a powerful tool that shapes us. Through this lens, we present a few selections from the new Community of Christ hymnal (forthcoming in 2013) exploring the denomination’s vision of mission and discipleship with an emphasis on peace and justice.

NOTE: Due to copyright issues, this session will not be recorded.

113. Paper J. GOLDEN KIMBALL: MISSIONARY FATHER

Presenter LAVINA FIELDING ANDERSON is president of Editing, Inc. and lives in Salt Lake City with her husband, Paul Lawrence Anderson, a museum designer. She is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Signature Books, a trustee of the Mormon Alliance, and an honorary life member of the Association for Mormon Letters and the Mormon History Association. She is currently researching Lucy’s Life: A Biography of Lucy Mack Smith and editing J. Golden Kimball’s letters to his missionary son.

Abstract Almost weekly between 1926 and 1928, J. Golden Kimball of the First Council of the Seventy would sit down at the office typewriter and tap out a letter to his missionary son, Max, then serving in France. These letters have never been published and only occasionally quoted. In contrast to J. Golden’s fame as a “cowboy” General Authority with a vocabulary to match, these letters show a little-known side to his personality. He was affectionate and encouraging to his son, harassed by persistent poverty, baffled by some of the choices that Max’s siblings, all older, were making, but clinging doggedly and devotedly to his Mormon faith.
**Presenter** RANDALL SMITH was employed in 1975 by the Church Graphic Design Department where he designed and implemented the Church’s first corporate identity program. A former art director of SUNSTONE magazine, he is currently creative director and brand strategist at modern8, a brand design agency in Salt Lake City.

**Abstract** The current “Mormon Moment” didn’t merely happen. The Church has used the tools of modern corporatism to brand itself since the mid-1970s. The presentation will trace the development of branding the Church, beginning with the first corporate identity program in 1975, to the sophisticated use of social media in 2012. The far-reaching program of managing the perception of the Church with branding has had a significant effect on how the Church is viewed today and set the path for acceptance in political and cultural arenas.

115. **Paper** A NEW SOCIAL AND POLITICAL MOVEMENT GROUNDED IN MORMON SENSIBILITIES  
**Presenter** JOHN T. KESLER is a practicing attorney and active Mormon. He founded the Salt Lake Center for Engaging Community in order to model best practices of community flourishing in a global environment. John developed and teaches an awareness practice that correlates with the restored gospel. For John, his community work and internal spiritual work are deeply interrelated.

**Abstract** Mormon doctrine decrees that opposition exist in all things, even to the extent that everything that manifests is a compound in one (2 Nephi 2:11). We are also invited to grow and develop in capacity toward the fullness of our divine potential. These two fundamentally Mormon concepts provide ground for a new social and political movement. In the past few decades, developmental psychology has clarified that a person’s grasp of polarities with regard to conceptual (including political) understandings moves in an invariable progression based on one’s rising developmental center of gravity. This presentation will lay the groundwork for the announcement of a more mature approach to civic engagement, politics, governance, and policy which transcends and includes both conservatism and liberalism—suggesting the related importance of personal internal growth.

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 9:45 AM–10:45 AM

121. **Paper** THE LIONESS OF THE LORD: THE LETTERS OF AUGUSTA ADAMS COBB TO HER HUSBAND BRIGHAM YOUNG  
**Presenter** CONNELL O’DONOVAN is a genealogist and a freelance historian of mormonism. In 2006, he published the biography of early black Mormon elder Walker Lewis in the *John Whitmer Historical Association Journal*. He is currently working on a book about Augusta Adams Cobb as well as one about William Smith and the ecclesiastical crises he ignited in New England in the mid-1840s, tentatively titled *Strange Fire*.

**Abstract** Three U.S. archives contain some 200 letters written by Augusta Adams Cobb to her husband Brigham Young from 1844 to the 1860s. Augusta was Brigham’s second plural wife of some 55 total. A Boston Brahmin, herbalist, and cultural feminist, Augusta abandoned her wealthy first husband and six of her children to marry Brigham Young in 1843. Her letters are a treasure trove, replete with the details of broader Mormon history as well as a failing and acrimonious marriage. Separating Brigham the prophet from Brigham the man, Augusta claimed he refused to reciprocate her love for him, often unfairly chastised her, played his favorite wives against her, and on occasion even whipped her. Although she complained bitterly, like singer Patsy Cline, the more he abused her, the more she vowed to win back his heart. While they never divorced, Augusta repeatedly requested to be sealed for eternity to scores of different men, including Jesus Christ. Brigham did finally cancel their eternal sealing and had her sealed to Joseph Smith in 1848.

122. **Paper** THE HEALTH CARE CRISIS: A GOSPEL PERSPECTIVE  
**Presenter** CHARLES FRANCIS “FRANK” KING has lived all over the world, including Santiago, Chile, where he met his wife, Marion Nielsen. They and their children joined the Church in Antibes, France, in 1973, and helped start a branch there. Frank is the author of three books on chiasmus in the Book of Mormon and the Doctrine & Covenants; his latest work explores how the scriptures increase our understanding about addiction.

**Abstract** According to President Obama’s deficit panel, “Federal health care spending represents our single largest fiscal challenge,” revealing the “awful truth … that Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid now eat up all federal reserves.” However, during the October 2005 General Conference, we were taught that the gospel of Jesus Christ can provide “solutions to the ills of every living soul.” Believing that this is so, a structural (chiastic) analysis of the scriptures should demonstrate that it is not our nation’s fiscal health but our approach to physical health that is at the root of the present crisis.

123. **Paper** JOSEPH SMITH AND THE RELIGION OF EXPERIENCE  
**Presenter** WILLIAM CALL is a resident of Afton, WY. His education includes BA and MA degrees from BYU and a doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Illinois. His musical compositions include seven symphonies, four operas, and works for piano and orchestra. His published books include, most recently, *Experience: The Thing Itself* (2012).
124. **Abstract**

In select passages of Joseph Smith's writings are the makings of a new, extraordinary religion. Unlike traditional monotheistic belief systems, with their complex layers of doctrines, rituals, and practices, the religion of experience makes no claims and affirms no premises. Its basis is the autonomy of the individual as manifested in the fundamentals of human experience. It refers only to the irresolvability of bipolar relationships such as true/false and good/evil and the fundamental independence of the individual person.

**Presenter**

CARL YOUNGBLOOD is a founding member of the Mormon Transhumanist Association and serves as its chief information officer. He works for Cisco Systems, Inc. in Oslo, Norway. He has a BA in Portuguese from BYU and an MS in computer science from the University of Washington. He is married to Kamil Allred and is the father of four children.

**Abstract**

Increasingly alarmed at the pace of technological change, workers and policy-makers struggle with persistent unemployment after a "jobless recovery" and as a wide range of jobs are automated and outsourced. Even (or perhaps especially) those at the forefront of technological innovation find it hard to keep up. Despite its challenges, this era also presents unprecedented opportunities as various barriers to entry are lowered in education and other economic sectors. How do we successfully navigate these challenges and opportunities? This presentation will review historical trends that can shed light on our present and future. It will also discuss surprising expert predictions about the near future and how they might radically affect our everyday lives.

**Panel**

**IMAGES OF THE DIVINE FEMININE**

**Abstract**

This session will begin with Margaret Toscano's slide lecture of images of goddesses and women represented by pre-historic statues, contemporary paintings, and sculptures. Taken primarily from Western art, they show how our reality is shaped by the images we make and how our limited discourse about the female God has also limited our access to her. It will explore the importance of the body as a symbol of the divine connecting humans with God.

Galen Dara and Holly Welker will discuss their collaboration on the cover of the recent SUNSTONE Motherhood issue, which depicts Heavenly Mother animating Eve with a touch of her divine finger, as well as illustrations inside the magazine of four possible manifestations of the Mother God. A purpose in this presentation is to help women see themselves and their bodies as a reflection of the Mother God; another is to expand our pictures of what she is like, so that we can see her not only as mother, but as daughter, lover, friend, priestess, queen, and so much more.

**Moderator/Panelist**

HOLLY WELKER, PhD, edited the SUNSTONE Motherhood issue.

**Panelists**

MARGARET TOSCANO is an assistant professor of classics and comparative literature at the University of Utah. She has published extensively on Mormon feminism since 1985, including the article "Heavenly Motherhood" in the most recent SUNSTONE. A co-founder of the Mormon Women's Forum, she is the mother of four grown daughters and has one granddaughter.

GALEN DARA executed the painting of Heavenly Mother and Eve on the cover of a recent SUNSTONE. She also frequently illustrates for the speculative fiction community.

125. **Paper**

**MY AGNOSTIC TESTIMONY: WHY LEAVING THE CHURCH WAS RIGHT FOR ME**

**Presenter**

HILARY C. BROWN grew up in a faithful Mormon home in Sugar City, ID. She attended BYU-Idaho for several years and has recently relocated to Salt Lake City with plans to finish a bachelor's degree at the University of Utah.

**Abstract**

In spring 2008, I made a decision that would change my life forever, alienate my family, cause me to lose a number of friends, and break my heart. In spite of all this, I am absolutely certain I made the right decision when I finally decided to give up my belief in the LDS Church and its teachings.

The first question I’m typically asked by Mormons who discover I used to believe and no longer do is, “Why did you leave?” I’ve never found an answer that satisfied most true-believing Mormons. The second question is, “Did someone offend you?” Well, yes. Human beings do offensive things, and humans are sometimes offended. But that is not remotely why I left.
Panelists

CRAIG JANIS has a BA in political science and a law degree from BYU. He is founder and CEO of Fubeca Labs, a web and mobile development firm, and the LDS Outreach Director for the Utah Democratic Party.

CRYSTAL YOUNG-OTTERSTROM is an experienced marketer and partner in the cause marketing firm Foursight Partners, the administrative director for Utah Cultural Alliance, a consultant for Utah Symphony | Utah Opera, and the official event planner for the Utah Democratic Party.

Panelists

133. Panel

READINGS FROM AND DISCUSSION OF FIRE IN THE PASTURE

Abstract

The publication of Fire in the Pasture, an anthology of poetry by LDS poets, calls for a celebration, a reading, and a discussion of where Mormon poetics might be headed in the twenty-first century. We'll hear from several poets featured in the anthology and consider its significance in LDS literary history.

Moderator/
Panelist

R. A. CHRISTMAS is the author of The Kingdom of God—or Nothing and other books of LDS-related poetry. His degrees include a BA from Stanford, an MA from UC Berkeley, and a PhD from USC. He and his wife, Carol, have served three fulltime missions for the LDS Church.

Panelists

TYLER CHADWICK is a PhD candidate in English at Idaho State University, a poet, and editor of Fire in the Pasture. He and his wife, Jessica, live in Pocatello, ID, with their four little girls. He sometimes blogs at MOTLEYVISION.ORG.
DENNIS CLARK recently published “Rough Stone, Rolling Waters,” a multi-part poem, in the online magazine ProvoOremWord.

SIMON PETER EGGERSTEN has degrees in literature, language, and law. His pedigree in poetry is recent. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in Nimrod, Vallum (Canada), Atlanta Review, Irreantum, Dialogue, Weber: The Contemporary West, New Millennium Writings, and elsewhere.

SUSAN ELIZABETH HOWE is an associate professor of English at BYU and holds a PhD from the University of Denver and an MA from the University of Utah. Her first collection of poetry, Stone Spirits, won the publication award of the Redd Center for Western Studies. She and her husband, Cless Young, live in Ephraim, UT.

SUNNI BROWN WILKINSON has an MFA in poetry from Eastern Washington University. Her work has been published in Southern Indiana Review, Weber Studies, Willow Review, Red Rock Review, and other journals and anthologies. She currently teaches writing at Weber State University in Ogden and lives and gardens there with her husband and two sons.


Paper 1 HOW WOULD HUME READ THE BOOK OF MORMON?

Presenter RACHEL MABEY WHIPPLE is an eco-Mormon housewife, mother, student yoga teacher, and occasional artist. Rachel has a BS in geology and is currently taking philosophy and other humanities classes at BYU just for the fun of it.

Abstract I always thought of fairy tales as entertaining stories for children. But having recently read many different fairy tales, I discovered that they speak profoundly to me (which may confirm that I have entered second childhood). Furthermore, I think they reveal truths that, by right of doctrine, and by public assertion, all Latter-day Saints confess they seek. In this presentation, I will suggest that there is something of the fairy tale in every religious denomination’s preferred story, with a particular focus on the LDS Church. I hope to show that fairy tales have more to say about life’s journey, spiritual and secular, than many of the cherished stories heard at church.

Panelist JANICE ALLRED is a writer on theological topics, author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays, and president of the Mormon Women’s Forum.

Panelists ALAN EASTMAN is a chemist by day and musician by night. Raised in Salt Lake City, with a PhD in chemistry from the University of Utah, he worked as a research chemist for Phillips 66, then retired and now is the chief technical officer of a startup geothermal energy company, GreenFire Energy.

Abstract I always thought of fairy tales as entertaining stories for children. But having recently read many different fairy tales, I discovered that they speak profoundly to me (which may confirm that I have entered second childhood). Furthermore, I think they reveal truths that, by right of doctrine, and by public assertion, all Latter-day Saints confess they seek. In this presentation, I will suggest that there is something of the fairy tale in every religious denomination’s preferred story, with a particular focus on the LDS Church. I hope to show that fairy tales have more to say about life’s journey, spiritual and secular, than many of the cherished stories heard at church.

LUNCH BREAK, 12:30 PM–2:00 PM

Where to eat THE STUDENT UNION’S food court offers a variety of dining options. The food court is open from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm Wednesday through Friday and is located on the first floor of the Union building (downstairs from most session rooms).

The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus is a five-minute walk from the University Guest House and offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours. See page 4 for on and off campus dining options.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:00 PM–3:30 PM

151. Panel EXERCISING DOMINION: SECTION 121 AND THE ABUSE OF POWER

Abstract The feminist slogan “The personal is political” calls attention to the profound relationship between power structures and personal life. Personal problems are often rooted in political, economic, cultural, and religious systems. Section 121 of the Doctrine and Covenants warns us that even divinely ordained power can be abused. This panel will look at power structures and relationships in the LDS Church. How does the structure of power influence the ways in which women and men use and experience power in the Church? By focusing on the abuse of power, we hope to shed light on both the structure and righteous use of power.

Moderator/Panelist JANICE ALLRED is a writer on theological topics, author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays, and president of the Mormon Women’s Forum.

Panelists ALAN EASTMAN is a chemist by day and musician by night. Raised in Salt Lake City, with a PhD in chemistry from the University of Utah, he worked as a research chemist for Phillips 66, then retired and now is the chief technical officer of a startup geothermal energy company, GreenFire Energy.
MICHAEL J. STEVENS is professor of management and business administration department chair at Weber State University. He has conducted award-winning research in global leadership, self-managing work teams, and interpersonal competencies. He currently serves as co-chair of the SUNSTONE Board of Trustees.

This session is sponsored by Mormon Women’s Forum.

152. Panel OCCUPY ZARAHEMLA

Abstract The Occupy movements began at Wall Street and have spread throughout the US and the world. This panel will discuss the theory behind Occupy movements and the strong parallels between Mormon scripture and Occupy movements in terms of critiques/solutions. We argue that as Samuel occupied the center of political and economic power in Zarahemla to decry the evils of his day, the Occupy movement is a modern voice of dissent akin to Samuel crying out at Wall Street against many of the same evils. Whether we repent and create a more equitable and just society or grasp after treasures that become even more slippery remains to be seen.

Moderator/Panelist JOSHUA MADSON received a BA in history and a JD from BYU. He is an attorney practicing in Alpine, UT, and editor and contributor for The Mormon Worker, a quarterly paper covering non-violence, social justice, and radical politics.

TRISTAN CALL has a degree in Latin American studies and anthropology from BYU, and is currently a cultural anthropologist studying farm-worker and peasant movements at Vanderbilt University.

RON MADSON is a lawyer in private practice in Alpine, UT. With a BA in English and a J.D. from BYU, he posts regularly on The Mormon Worker blog and has published four articles in The Mormon Worker Paper. He has also published in Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought, and presented at the Claremont Peace/War Conference.

Other panelists to be announced.

153. Paper THE CONSOLIDATION OF CHURCH AND STATE: BRIGHAM YOUNG’S TELESTIAL KINGDOM

Presenter DENVER C. SNUFFER, JR. has written eight books on Mormonism, including Nephí’s Isaiah, Beloved Enos, and Passing the Heavenly Gift. A 1980 graduate of BYU Law School, Denver is a senior partner in the Sandy, UT, firm of Nelson, Snuffer, Dahle & Poulsen. He blogs at DENVERSNUFFER.BLOGSPOT.COM.

Abstract Brigham Young’s brief tenure (1851-58) as territorial governor and Church president allowed him to wield power of both church and state. How he used this authority reveals much about the man. His sermons during his brief reign as both God’s representative and United States’ regent reveal how tempting the use of church and state power becomes once consolidated. His “Telestial Kingdom” reflected excesses not only of rhetoric, but also of conduct. This paper will explore this period as a challenge to conceptualizing how a “king’s rule” is unsuited to the American republic and will include cautions from the Book of Mormon against attempting this very thing.

154. Paper FINDING YOUR MORMON SHAMAN: CONNECTING WITH THE EARTH AND NATURE TO RECEIVE PERSONAL REVELATION

Presenters RENEE SHAW heard a voice calling herself “Heavenly Mother” while walking through a grove of trees in a local park in September 2010. This encounter sparked a succession of meetings and generated a close relationship that inspired her upcoming book, Talks with My Heavenly Mother.

JAMES TORGERSEN has been a shaman for the vast majority of his life, helping people of all walks learn to walk consciously with reverence for mother Gaia and all the life walking with us.
Abstract  A shaman is a healer who works in the unseen world of angels and spirit and uses ceremony in nature to gain a greater connection with God, the earth, and the elements. These are practices and talents inherent in ancient and modern prophets. Early members of the Church practiced these skills openly for personal revelation and personal stewardships. Are you a closeted or awakening shaman? Would you like to develop your shaman within to receive more powerful personal revelation? Learn from Mormon shamans Renee Shaw “Ryxi” and James Torgersen how being a Mormon and a shaman can be one and the same.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 3:45 PM–4:45 PM

161.  Paper  CONSTRUCTING ZION: DOCTRINE IN DOMESTIC SPACE AND LAND USE IN THE FLDS SECT

Presenter  TALENA SANDERS is an interdisciplinary artist whose internationally collected and exhibited work explores how we express individual and collective identities and how we communicate our identities and desires to others through visual cues. Originally from Lexington, KY, she is pursuing an MFA in experimental and documentary arts at Duke University.

Abstract  Land-use decisions reflect doctrine in the Colorado City/Hildale FLDS community. The


Presenter  J. TAYLOR HOLLIST is a retired mathematics professor who has published about the Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher. Since retirement, he has spent his time researching Mormon history and has published an essay titled “Walking-on-Water Stories and other Susquehanna River Folk Tales of Joseph Smith” in Mormon Historical Studies (2005).

Abstract  Wilford C. Wood was a visionary in many ways: first, he purchased property in Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania that later became official LDS historic sites. Second, he collected historical artifacts such as the death masks of Joseph and
Hyrum. Third, he claimed visions the LDS community considered appropriate only for apostles. An example of one of his visions is the reenactment of the restoration of the Melchizedek Priesthood. This paper will provide details of some of Wood’s visions and examples of his purchases of property and artifacts.

163. Paper “ALWAYS ON STAGE”: REFLECTING ON THE MORMON PERFORMATIVE

Presenter TYLER CHADWICK is a PhD candidate in English at Idaho State University, a poet, and editor of Fire in the Pasture. He and his wife, Jessica, live in Pocatello, ID, with their four little girls. He sometimes blogs at MOTLEYVISION.ORG.

Abstract When Dialogue editor Kristine Haglund discussed Mormonism on a March 2012 installment of C-SPAN’s “Religion and American Politics,” she suggested that Mormons “learn very early on that Mormonism is something to be constantly performed.” She continued by saying that many Mormons have “this sense that [they’re] always on stage, . . . always showing people how good Mormonism is by [their] actions.” By weaving together personal and academic reflections on the processes of performativity, this paper will explore the sense of Mormon performativity that Haglund described and discuss the various acts (including rituals, cultural norms, etc.) people might use to “put on” Mormonism, both in theatrical terms of staging the religion for others and in discursive terms of constructing a Mormon identity.

164. Paper MITT, MORMONISM, AND THE JEWISH OBJECTION (AMONG OTHERS)

Presenter CLIFTON HOLT JOLLEY is a Mormon convert to Judaism who considers himself faithful to both. He taught in the LDS Church Education System in various positions, was a columnist for the Deseret News and writer for Music and the Spoken Word, is the author and director of two PBS documentaries, and has published poems and essays. A father and grandfather, he is married to Avigail Weinflash.

Abstract Bible Christians say Mitt Romney is a cultist. Because he transported the family dog on top of the family car, various animal rights groups question whether he should be permitted to own a dog, much less become president. The Tea Party says he’s insufficiently conservative while the poor say he’s too rich. And now B’nai B’rith says that unless he gets the Mormon Church to discontinue its practice of baptizing dead Jews, they won’t vote for him either. Clifton Jolley will summarize the criticism of Romney by these and others and detail a strategy by which he may yet be permitted...to own a dog.

165. Paper JOSEPH SMITH, MORMON TESTAMENT, AND THE BIBLE: ADDITIONS TO THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

Presenter S. EUGENE NEEDHAM’s great-grandfather joined the Church in England in 1838. Needham’s family owns the Book Table in Logan and the oldest jewelry store in Utah, S.E. Needham Jewelers. Eugene is currently writing a book about Joseph Smith’s additions to Biblical texts. He and his wife, Christie, have eleven children.

Abstract Joseph Smith has been called a “Prophet Puzzle” by historians who find him enigmatic. A large part of the answer to the Prophet Puzzle lies in Joseph’s adherence to the themes and teachings of the Bible. It is this preoccupation with the Bible and its precepts, scope, and ancient, non-Western settings that make Smith’s teachings seem strange. This session will present evidence for the argument that Joseph Smith’s teachings—including covenants, election, gathering, the preexistence, three degrees of glory, the anthropomorphic nature of God, polygamy, and the plurality of gods—find precedent in and add to the Bible.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM

171. Panel HEAVENLY MOTHER AND THE LETTER OF THE LAW

Abstract President Hinckley has told us that Jesus Christ forbids our praying to Heavenly Mother. But heavenly parents who refuse communication with their children are unworthy of their status as gods, and a mother who will not hear or acknowledge her children is not a valid role model for Latter-day Saints. Therefore, there must be some method available in Mormon belief and practice for communicating with God the Mother; perhaps writing letters, as children sometimes do to Santa Claus, is an acceptable means? In this session, participants will read short prepared letters (three to four minutes) to God the Mother as a way of talking to and about her. The session will be presided over by an LDS feminist theologian who will offer an invocation at its beginning and bless it at its conclusion. Rather than Q&A, there will be open mic time for audience members to read short letters they’ve written as well.

Moderator/Panelist HOLLY WELKER is a writer, editor, and cultural commentator based in Salt Lake City.

Panelists JANICE ALLRED is author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays and president of the Mormon Women’s Forum.

CHELSI ARCHIBALD holds a BA in English and creative writing from Weber State University and is currently finishing her MA in English literature.

CHERYL BRUNO is a poet and blogger.
DOE DAUGHTREY has a PhD in religious studies and teaches courses on women and religion, religion in America, religion and popular culture, and Mormonism.

ELLEN DECOO is a student of sociology.

JENNIFER DUQUE is majoring in English at BYU and writes for the Student Review.

MELANNY EVA HENSON is a graduate of the MFA creative writing and environment program at Iowa State University.


MARY ELLEN ROBERTSON is the executive director of SUNSTONE.

RENEE SHAW describes her encounters with Heavenly Mother in a forthcoming book, Talks with My Heavenly Mother.

TIFFANY M. SINGER has a BA in the humanities from BYU and is currently a stay-at-home mother of four.

MARGARET TOSCANO is an assistant professor of classics and comparative literature at the University of Utah and a co-founder of the Mormon Women’s Forum.

KAIMIPONO (KAIMI) WENGER, JD, is an assistant professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego.

RACHEL MABEY WHIPPLE is a fatalistic skeptic who hopes to believe and works as though she does.

172. **Panel**  
**ANTI-MORMONISM IN THE 2012 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN**

**Abstract**

Anti-Mormonism has been called one of the last acceptable prejudices in American culture. The popularity of HBO’s Big Love, the success of The Book of Mormon musical, LDS involvement in Proposition 8, and Mitt Romney’s quest for the US presidency have placed The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints front and center in American culture, leading to what some have called the “Mormon Moment” but also to a resurgence of anti-Mormonism. This panel explores the history of anti-Mormonism in American culture, examines various kinds of anti-Mormonism unleashed in the current presidential campaign, and considers reactions to it from Mormons and others.

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**Recent Titles on Mormon Theology**

**“This Is My Doctrine”: The Development of Mormon Theology**

Charles R. Harrell  597 pages, $34.95  
This first-of-its-kind treatment of Mormon theology traces the history of LDS doctrines from the times of the Old Testament to the present. Harrell describes how Mormonism has carried on the tradition of the biblical authors, early Christians, and later Protestants in interpreting scripture to accommodate new theological ideas. In doing so, Harrell systematically peels back the doctrinal accretions of time to provide a fresh new look at Mormon theology.

**Rube Goldberg Machines: Essays in Mormon Theology**

Adam S. Miller, 2011 Essayist of the Year, Association for Mormon Letter  148 pages, $18.95  
These essays offer explicit reflections on what it means to practice theology as a modern Mormon scholar and stake out substantial and original positions on the nature of the atonement, the soul, testimony, eternal marriage, humanism, and the historicity of the Book of Mormon.

“Adam Miller is the most original and provocative Latter-day Saint theologian practicing today.” — Richard Bushman

**Parallels and Convergences: Mormon Thought and Engineering Vision**

Edited by Scott Howe and Richard Bushman  210 pages, $24.95  
If there is “no such thing as immaterial matter,” and “all spirit is matter,” then what are the implications for such standard theological principles as creation, human progression, free will, transfiguration, resurrection, and immortality? In eleven stimulating essays, Mormon engineers probe gospel possibilities and future vistas dealing with human nature, divine progression, and the earth’s future.

**Mormonism at the Crossroads of Philosophy and Theology**

Edited by Jacob T. Baker  400 pages, $31.95  
This collection of essays explores Mormon theology through the lenses of philosophy and various Christian theologies. Authors include Robert Millet, Blake Ostler, James McLachlan, James Faulconer, Dennis Potter, Brian Birch, Craig Blomberg, Stephen Davis, John Sanders, Francis Beckwith, and Douglas Davies.

www.koffordbooks.com  facebook.com/gkbooks  twitter.com/gkbooks
Moderator/Panelist  ROBERT A. REES teaches Mormon Studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. He is currently working on a project on the American Renaissance and editing a collection of essays on the Book of Mormon.


Panelists  STEVEN L. MAYFIELD was a former FBI clerk in San Francisco, CA, from 1973-1977. He currently works with the Salt Lake City crime lab.

Panelists  ADAM JACOBSEN is a construction project manager with an off-hours interest in Mormon Studies and history. He was raised in the Church in Southern California, was educated at both BYU and the University of Utah (and thus is deeply conflicted), and enjoys service in the Church. He has been attending the Salt Lake SUNSTONE Symposium for the last five years.

173.  Panel  MORMONS AND THE FBI

Abstract  This session will include a screening of the BYU documentary Agents of Justice, detailing the lives of three LDS FBI agents who were killed in the line of duty. Samuel Cowley, Douglas Price, and Robert Porter each personified the motto of the FBI: fidelity ... bravery ... integrity.

The remainder of the discussion will focus on famous (and infamous) Mormons who have worked at the FBI, performed heroic acts in the line of duty, or whose names have appeared on the Bureau’s Top Ten most wanted fugitives list.

Panelists  STEVEN L. MAYFIELD was a former FBI clerk in San Francisco, CA, from 1973-1977. He currently works with the Salt Lake City crime lab.

Additional panelists to be announced.

174.  Panel  AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS: THE MORMON PEOPLE: THE MAKING OF AN AMERICAN FAITH

Abstract  This panel discussion brings together readers, scholars, and thinkers familiar with Matthew Bowman’s recent book, The Mormon People: The Making of an American Faith. Please join the book’s author and a panel of careful readers in a vigorous exchange about this book and the overview of Mormonism it provides.

Panelists  ADAM JACOBSEN is a construction project manager with an off-hours interest in Mormon Studies and history. He was raised in the Church in Southern California, was educated at both BYU and the University of Utah (and thus is deeply conflicted), and enjoys service in the Church. He has been attending the Salt Lake SUNSTONE Symposium for the last five years.

Additional panelists to be announced.

Moderator/Panelist  MATTHEW BOWMAN teaches the history of American religion at Hampden Sydney College. He received an MA in US history from the University of Utah, holds a PhD in American history from Georgetown University, and wrote a dissertation on American evangelicalism. He is the associate editor of Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought.

DINNER BREAK, 6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Where to eat  THE STUDENT UNION’S food court is NOT open for dinner; however the Heritage Center Dining Room serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9 and is within walking distance of the Student Union and the University Guest House. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours and more information.

There are additional restaurants off campus along 1300 East and on 400 South; the latter is accessible from campus via TRAX.

PLENARY SESSION, 8:00 PM

191.  Panel  IS RELIGION REALLY UNDER SIEGE IN THE US?

Abstract  What should we make of recent claims that religion is somehow being driven out of the “public square”? What is the public square and what are the legal rules and—equally important—the ethical considerations governing public expression on religious issues? When should individuals, organizations, and businesses have a right to claim an exemption from neutral laws and regulations on religious grounds?

Within the structure of the First Amendment, the Free Exercise Clause and the Establishment Clause are two sides of the same coin. They work together to ensure that many faith traditions and moral codes can be observed, simultaneously and respectfully, by those living in the US. But you wouldn’t know it from the sensational coverage of reproductive health issues, the misrepresentation of Islam in the popular media, and the persistent insistence that our nation be recognized as an essentially Christian one. How can we better understand the many legal issues at play in these typically over-simplified civil liberties clashes?

Panelists  DR. OMAR KADER is the founder and CEO of Paltech, an award-winning government contracting firm specializing in training, instructional systems, and program management. He is active in international affairs and previously served as the executive director of two non-governmental organizations in Washington DC: United Palestinian Appeal (humanitarian) and the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.
(civil rights). He served as a member of the US delegation observing and monitoring democratic elections in Morocco, Yemen, Indonesia, Palestine, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. He has provided expert commentary to news organizations (BBC, Washington Post, CNN) and teaches an annual foreign policy seminar on unfolding political and international development issues.

KAREN MCCREARY has served as executive director of the ACLU of Utah since 2006. Her professional legal experience includes over a dozen years as associate and senior associate general counsel for the University of Utah. She has also worked as general counsel for the Western Governors University, an associate attorney at a private law firm, and a judicial law clerk for Federal Court Judge David Winder. Karen has also been involved in a variety of service activities, including international relief work in Africa and India, migrant worker education and advocacy in Alabama, and instruction and counseling for at-risk youth. Among other volunteer positions she has held, she is a past-president and current board member of the Salt Lake City chapter of Amigos de las Americas, an elder and deacon at the Wasatch Presbyterian Church, and a trustee of Prescott College in Arizona. Karen, who grew up in Colorado, received an undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado, an MA from the University of Denver Graduate School of International Studies, and a law degree from the University of Utah. She has called Utah home for over twenty-five years.

DAVID SCOTT is department chair of communications at Utah Valley University. He has an MA in Communications from BYU and a PhD in mass communication from the University of Georgia, Athens. His interest in media law focuses primarily on advertising law and coverage of First Amendment issues in the media.

Additional panelists to be announced.

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### FRIDAY 27 JULY

**2012 Salt Lake**

**SUNSTONE Symposium and Workshops**

**REGISTRATION, 8:00 AM–7:30 PM**

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 by the ballrooms on the second floor of the Olpin Student Union Building.

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### DEVOTIONAL, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

201. Devotional **THE CRISIS OF MORMON INTELLECTUALS: WOMEN AND THE POLITICS OF SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER**

**Presenter** MICHAEL VINSON is a master’s graduate of the Divinity School of the University of Cambridge and has written SUNSTONE’s Scripture Notes column for the past five years. He spoke most recently at the Kirtland Temple SUNSTONE Symposium where he was one of the instigators of a spontaneous worship moment known as the “women’s ascension.”

**Abstract** This devotional draws on myth and scripture, from Antigone to Eve, to explore the hazardous role and vital contribution of women as speakers to power and authority.

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### CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:30 AM–9:30 AM

211. **Paper** **THE SWORD OF CHRIST: THE HUNGER GAMES AND THE PARABLES OF JUDGMENT**

**Presenter** JANICE ALLRED is a writer and speaker on theological topics, author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays and "The One Who Never Left Us."

**Abstract** The parable is to human life what the mathematical equation is to the physical world. It abstracts certain features and enables us to see hidden realities. In her popular trilogy, The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins gives us a parable that reveals the hidden face of evil. This paper will compare The Hunger Games to Jesus’ parables of judgment and explore the questions: What is the nature of evil? How do we deal with evil without ourselves becoming evil? What is God’s response to evil? And how will Christ bring about his peaceable kingdom?

212. **Paper** **PLURAL LIVES: MITT ROMNEY’S POLYGAMOUS HERITAGE**

**Presenter** TODD COMPTON is co-author with Leland Gentry of Fire and Sword: A History of the Latter-day Saints in Northern Missouri, 1836-1839, and is currently researching a biography of Indian missionary Jacob Hamblin.

**Abstract** Though Mormons such as Mitt Romney are now viewed as thoroughly entrenched in the conservative mainstream of America, his ancestors only a few generations back were counter-cultural crusaders, upholding a non-standard marriage system they believed was commanded by God—polygamy. It was also illegal, often secret, and publicly denied by Church leaders, frequently forcing people in polygamous marriages into exile in Mexico and elsewhere. Many of Romney’s ancestors, including Parley P. and Mary Wood Pratt, Archibald Newell Hill, Charles Henry and Eliza Christine Wilcken, Miles Park and Hannah...
Hood Hill Romney, and Helaman and Dora Wilcken Pratt, practiced polygamy. Their stories offer a revealing cross section of the principle, showing what it meant to live in plurality in nineteenth-century Nauvoo, Utah, Arizona, and Mexico.

213. **Paper** HOW IMPORTANT ARE A POLITICAL CANDIDATE’S RELIGIOUS BELIEFS?

**Presenter** WILLIAM D. RUSSELL is a retired professor of American history, religion, and politics at Graceland University. He is widely published in Mormon Studies and is a former president of the Mormon History Association and the John Whitmer Historical Association. His most recent book is *Homosexual Saints: The Community of Christ Experience*.

**Abstract** The candidacy of Mitt Romney in 2008 and 2012, as well as that of other candidates such as Rick Santorum and Michelle Bachmann, has raised the question as to whether a political candidate’s religious beliefs should be a campaign issue. Do constitutional provisions regarding “no religious test” and “no establishment of religion” mean religion should be irrelevant when citizens decide how to vote? Particular focus will be on Mormon and Religious Right candidates.


**Presenter** JOSEPH WEST and his wife, Jessica, have two children, A.J. and Claire. Joseph is a graduate student in the department of sociology at the University of Arizona where he studies culture, social movements, and social network analysis.

**Abstract** On 27 June 1844, Joseph Smith, founder and leader of Mormonism, was assassinated, leaving behind several claimants to leadership with no clear process for selecting a successor. Using archival data, we reconstruct the complex network of relations that existed among 76 members of the early LDS Church hierarchy. This includes a mapping of formal ties within and between priesthood quorums as well as family and marriage ties. Drawing on Burt’s theory of structural holes and other formal methods of social network
analysis, we examine the underlying structural factors that contributed to the resolution of the succession crisis. While Brigham Young was only one of several potential successors, our analysis uses formal models to evaluate his ability to gain control of the structure, eliminate contenders by restructuring the formal and informal network of relations to his advantage, and eventually to emerge as the new prophet and president of the Church.

215. Paper IF YOU WERE RELIGION EDITOR OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, WOULD YOU STILL BELIEVE?

Presenter CLIFTON HOLT JOLLEY is a Mormon convert to Judaism who considers himself faithful to both. He taught in the LDS Church Education System in various positions, was a columnist for The Deseret News and writer for The Spoken Word, is the author and director of two PBS documentaries, and has published poems and essays. A father and grandfather, he is married to Avigail Weinflash.

Abstract In 2006, Clifton Jolley was invited to respond to a SUNSTONE presentation by Los Angeles Times religion editor William Lobdell. In Lobdell’s subsequent book, Losing My Religion (2009, HarperCollins), a significant part of the concluding chapter is devoted to describing the effect of Jolley’s remarks on Lobdell, and to the confusion those remarks still cause the one-time believer. Jolley will discuss the failure of Lobdell’s faith and respond to the questions—both stated and implied—that the book asks not only of Dr. Jolley, but of all Mormons.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 9:45 AM–10:45 AM

221. Paper PRIESTHOOD MATTERS: SHOULD MORMON WOMEN FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF THE CATHOLIC WOMENPRIEST MOVEMENT?

Presenters MARGARET TOSCANO is an assistant professor of classics and comparative literature at the University of Utah, where she also received a PhD. In her academic life, she works on topics relating to myth, religion, and gender. She is a long-time contributor to the SUNSTONE symposium and magazine. She is also a co-founder of the Mormon Women’s Forum.

Abstract Mormon feminists sense that the current “Mormon Moment” offers a good time for activism that draws attention to LDS women’s issues on a large scale. But what kind of act could match the significance of this “Mormon Moment”? Many feminists, myself included, have long argued that priesthood is the central issue for women in the Church because no significant changes can happen for women as long as an all-male priesthood controls all resources, discourses, and institutional power. Is it time to follow the example of Catholic “womenpriests” who claim to have been ordained privately by a bishop in good standing, beginning in 2002, even though the Vatican subsequently excommunicated the priests and womenpriests involved? This paper will explore the practical challenges if such a movement were to emerge among LDS women, as well as the theological and spiritual underpinnings for the idea in Mormon practice and doctrine.

222. Paper MITT ROMNEY AND THE CARTOONISTS: A 2012 UPDATE

Presenter ROBERT A. REES teaches Mormon Studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. He is on the board of the Liahona Children’s Foundation, which provides nutrition and education for undernourished children living in Central and South America.

Abstract The 2008 SUNSTONE Symposium session on this subject examined the range of political cartoons featuring Mitt Romney during the 2008 Republican primary race for the US presidency. Romney, now the party’s 2012 candidate, has been the subject of hundreds of political cartoons since 2008, but especially in 2011-12. This session looks at a selection of these cartoons and considers their role in presenting Romney as a candidate, with special emphasis on his identification with Mormonism. It will also consider the effect of such political graphics on the image of the Church itself.

Respondent GREG ROBINSON is a nephew of Mitt Romney, the co-chair for Utah of the National Finance Committee for Romney for President, Inc., and an elected delegate to the Republican Convention. He is also a vice president and wealth advisor with Wells Fargo Private Bank in Salt Lake City.
Abstract
On 11 May 1970, Ernest L. Wilkinson stated, “There is certainly a spirit of unrest throughout the country and while it is manifest only slightly at the BYU it is nevertheless manifested here.” Student political activism at BYU during the late 1960s to early 1970s was, like student activism elsewhere, as much a function of the school’s prevailing culture as of activist trends nationally. BYU students across the political spectrum responded to local and national events in ways both informed by and in reaction to political and intellectual currents on the Utah Valley campus. Thus any discussion of BYU student activism must also examine the political climate at this LDS school. Such an examination locates BYU activism as occurring at an institution already politicized by an outspoken president, a mostly—but not entirely—sympathetic Board of Trustees, and a faculty and student body espousing what broader political interests.

224. Paper
MONOGAMY UNDERGROUND: THE BURIAL OF PLURAL MARRIAGE IN THE GRAVES OF JOSEPH AND EMMA SMITH

Presenter LEE WILES is a PhD student in the department of comparative studies at The Ohio State University.

Abstract This paper examines the history of the gravesite memorials dedicated to Emma and Joseph Smith, exploring their meaning as RLDS/CofC monuments to monogamy, and situating them within the broader context of restored Nauvoo where the idealization and practice of plural marriage in the LDS past is largely elided. The history of the burials and memorializations of Emma and her second husband, Lewis Bidamon, are central to the paper’s analysis. Utilizing archival sources and ethnographic fieldwork, the paper investigates the ways by which the memorials to Joseph and Emma mediate Mormons' attention to and knowledge of the history of plural marriage.

225. Paper
REEXPLORING THE GEOCULTURAL POLITICS OF THE DEEP WEST

Presenter CRAIG DECKER has a PhD in political science from MIT, is part of the fifth generation of a pioneering Utah family, and is currently working on a guidebook to the history, art, and culture of the Deep West and its corners.

Abstract This session invites participants to reenvision clashes between Mormonism and other western forces within a new geocultural framework—that of the Deep West. The Deep West is conceived of as the adjacent heartlands of the Colorado Rockies and Plateau in Eastern Utah, Western Colorado, Northern Arizona, and New Mexico, along with the area’s deeper native and cultural bedrock. We’ll begin by mapping its five urban/geologic edges and fifteen inner “corners,” then explore the nine cultural archetypes/forces that characterize Deep Western conflicts/geopolitics, including the native, colonizer, operator, trader, agent, and stockman. Finally, we’ll use this framework to illuminate exemplary archetypal clashes in four Deep West corners.

226. Paper
THINKING ERRORS, MORMON STYLE

Presenter GLEN R. LAMBERT, LCSW, is a licensed mental health therapist in private practice. The former executive director of Odyssey House, he has lectured extensively around the world, and now teaches at the University of Utah and consults. He is a former member of SUNSTONE’s board of directors.

Abstract People often behave, think, and respond emotionally according to patterns dictated by deeply entrenched beliefs, assumptions, perceived obligations, fears, and distortions taken from their religious, cultural, and family teachings and role modeling. All cultures and families create this dynamic, which is not necessarily good or bad, but is still decidedly real. When the resulting behaviors and reactions are problematic, contradictory, or self-destructive, it is often because they are based on “thinking errors.” Cognitive behavioral therapy helps identify “thinking errors” as well as some of the forces that helped produce them. This session will explore some of the “thinking errors” common in Mormon culture.
orientation. John is the founder of the Mormon Stories podcast and currently serves as executive director of the Open Stories Foundation, which was established to provide support for Mormons in difficult transitions. The proud father of four children, John is married to Margi Weber Dehlin.

ANNE ARNOLD is a licensed marriage family therapist and educator who has a fascination with stories, both those told and those untold. She has a private practice in Irvine, CA, and is also co-founder and director of The Narrative Project of Orange County, a non-profit community counseling center. Anne attended the University of Utah, Chapman University, and Pepperdine University and is faculty in the Couple and Family Therapy Program at Alliant International University where she lectures on Social Justice, Spirituality, and Narrative Therapy. Her favorite pastime is in the pursuit of finding a better question to help organize all the thoughts that collide in her mind.

PHILIP BARLOW is the Leonard J. Arrington Professor of Mormon History & Culture and director of religious studies at Utah State University. He is the editor of A Thoughtful Faith: Essays on Belief by Mormon Scholars. A new edition of his Mormons and the Bible is soon to be released by Oxford University Press.

CAROL LYNN PEARSON is well known for her autobiographical book Goodbye, I Love You, for the more recent book No More Goodbyes: Circling the Wagons Around Our Gay Loved Ones, and for her one-woman play, Mother Wove the Morning, as well as much-loved pieces such as Beginnings and Beyond, The Lesson, A Stranger for Christmas, and the Primary song “I’ll Walk With You.” Carol Lynn lives, works, and attends church in Walnut Creek, CA, and is the mother of four children. She holds an MA in theatre from BYU. Visit her at CLPEARSON.COM.

LUNCH BREAK, 12:30 PM–2:00 PM

Where to eat

THE STUDENT UNION’S food court offers a variety of dining options. The food court is open from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm Wednesday through Friday and is located on the first floor of the Union building (downstairs from most session rooms).

The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus is a five-minute walk from the University Guest House and offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours. See page 4 for dining options on and off campus.

241. Book Signings

Please Note: The signings will begin at 1:00 pm.

Author DONNA BANTA, The Girls from Fourth Ward
Author C.L. HANSON, ExMormon
Author JOANN MORTENSEN, The Man Behind The Discourse: The Biography of King Follett
Author JOHN K. WILLIAMS, Heaven Up Here

242. Lunchtime Comedy

Clips from coverage of Mormonism and politics from Comedy Central’s The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. Clips assembled by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:00 PM–3:30 PM

251. Paper

HAVE WE COME A LONG WAY? REVIEWING WOMEN AND AUTHORITY ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Abstract

Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism made a splash when published in 1992. On its 20th anniversary, panelists will discuss how they first encountered the book, their thoughts upon reading it, how it influenced their thinking about women’s issues in the Church, and how it has continued to be a useful volume in their personal or academic pursuits.

Moderator/Panelist LORIE WINDE R has an MA in humanities from BYU, was a former managing editor of The Journal of Modern History, a former associate editor for SUNSTONE, former editor of Mormon Women’s Forum Quarterly, and recently founded Girls Gone Wiki, WWW.GIRLSGONEWIKI.ORG.

Panelists DOE DAUGHTREY earned a PhD in religious studies at Arizona State University. Her speciality is religion in the Americas with an emphasis on new spirituality, religion, and popular culture, and the gendered experience of religion.

GENEVIEVE ZORC is currently studying anthropology and sustainability at Arizona State University. She is married and has one child, whose birth was a catalyst for her feminist testimony. Her career aspirations include work that involves speaking up for women everywhere and saving the planet.

Respondent MAXINE HANKS is a lecturer and feminist theologian researching women’s studies in religion, Mormon Studies, and Gnosticism. She was a visiting fellow at Harvard Divinity School in 2006 and is author or editor of several books, including Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism.
Panel FORCES IN AMERICAN MORMONISM

Paper 1 CHOSEN LAND, CHOSEN PEOPLE: RELIGIOUS AND AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM AMONG THE MORMONS

Presenter PHILIP BARLOW is the Leonard J. Arrington Professor of Mormon History & Culture and director of religious studies at Utah State University. He is the editor of A Thoughtful Faith: Essays on Belief by Mormon Scholars. A new edition of his book Mormons and the Bible is soon to be released by Oxford University Press.

Abstract Widespread Mormon understanding holds that America—the United States in particular—is populated by a chosen people, governed by an inspired constitution, for a singular destiny. This belief has drawn attention outside Mormon ranks in light of Mitt Romney’s candidacy for the presidency: Would Mormon notions color a President Romney’s foreign policy? The role the US plays in Mormon thought and culture, however, is more complex than it first appears. Understanding this evolving role requires pairing “American exceptionalism” with “religious exceptionalism” as they function in the Mormon mind. In each of these spheres, there inheres an originally dominant exceptionalist gene and a contrasting recessive gene that challenges exceptionalist assurance. For instance, as Hebrew prophets reminded ancient Israel, “chosenness” may imply “selected for a role” rather than “superior.” Moreover, the proportional influence of these genes has shifted over time; the influence of the recessive genes is stronger than formerly. All this means that exceptionalism, while common in Mormon culture, manifests in ways that are strong, mild, absent, or even inverted in individual Latter-day Saints.

Paper 2 ETERNAL PROGRESSION: MORMONISM AND AMERICAN PROGRESSIVISM

Presenter MATTHEW BOWMAN teaches history of American religion at Hampden Sydney College. He received an MA in US history from the University of Utah, holds a PhD in American history from Georgetown University, and wrote a dissertation on American evangelicalism. He is the associate editor of Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought.

Abstract How did Mormons enter the twentieth century? How did the frontier church of Brigham Young become the polished, all-American faith of contemporary America? This presentation will

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The Obert C. & Grace A. Tanner Humanities Center Graduate Fellowship in Mormon Studies

Founded in 2010, the Tanner Humanities Center’s Graduate Fellowship in Mormon Studies is the first of its kind. This unique fellowship provides a doctoral student with funds to spend a year researching the history, beliefs, and culture of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) and its members.

The Tanner Humanities Center welcomes Rosemary Avance, a doctoral candidate at The University of Pennsylvania, as the Mormon Studies Fellow for 2012-2013. Her research project is titled “Voices and silences: On the dialogic construction of Mormon identities.” Applications for the 2013-14 Graduate Fellowship in Mormon Studies will be accepted starting in the spring of 2013.

“Come, help the good work move along”

The Tanner Center is currently working to establish a $400,000 endowment to permanently support the Graduate Fellowship in Mormon Studies. With your support, the Center can ensure future funding for excellent Mormon Studies doctoral students from across the country.

Contributions are welcome.

For more information or to contribute, visit www.thc.utah.edu
explore the transformation of Mormonism in the early twentieth century, arguing that the Mormons found a place for themselves in American life by recognizing in itself the ideals of the classic American progressive movement: optimism about humanity’s future, confidence in human potential, and faith in the power of organization to accomplish the fullest possibilities of what human society might become.

253. **Panel FAMILY VALUES: COPING AS OR WITH A BORDERLAND FAMILY MEMBER**

**Abstract** When someone in an active Mormon family enters the Borderlands, resulting stresses can weaken and overwhelm the family. Many react in ways that reduce family love and cohesiveness, sometimes even destroying the family through divorce or estrangement. This session will first provide stories of family-related tensions and difficulties some Borderlanders have encountered. Panel and audience members will then consider important questions: How should parents react when a doubting teenager announces he cannot go on a mission? How can a family support an emerging Borderlander through the trauma and heartbreak of the experience? What should we do with a family member we suspect is in the Borderlands but pretends otherwise? If you are in the Borderlands, closeted or not, what can you do to protect and preserve family unity?

**Moderator/Panelist** D. JEFF BURTON, husband, father and grandfather, is a professional engineer living in Bountiful, UT. He is the author of technical books and distance learning courses, an adjunct instructor at the University of Utah, and a consultant. He is the author of the book *For Those Who Wonder*, the satire *Eternal Borderlands: Detours along the Road to Celestial Glory*, the SUNSTONE column “Braving the Borderlands,” and he created the website FORTHOSEWHOWONDER.COM. Jeff has served two Church missions and in many ward and stake church callings and is currently serving as the NEP coordinator for his ward. He has also served as a board member of the SUNSTONE Education Foundation.

**Panelists** JOHN DEHLIN graduated from BYU in 1993 and worked for 15 years in the software industry. He is currently pursuing a PhD in psychology, focusing on the nexus of religion and mental health. He is the founder of the *Mormon Stories* podcast and currently serves as Executive Director of the Open Stories Foundation, which was established to provide support for Mormons in difficult transitions.

Other panelists to be announced.
254. Panel  TO WHAT AUDIENCE DO I CHOOSE TO WRITE? (AND HOW DOES BEING BORN MORMON AFFECT YOUR CHOICE?)

Abstract As a writer born into the Mormon culture, how do you define the audience to whom you’ve chosen to write? How has your Mormon background affected your creativity and the sense of your place in the world of writing? What are the political ramifications of being a “Mormon” writer? Do you feel an obligation to preach to the choir and add your observations to that conversation? Do you want to reach out to a wider audience, yet still feel the pull of the roots whence you came? Do you believe that a good purpose is served if Mormon writers can essay the rough spots in their faith and their lives? Join seven hip, cool, sometimes brilliant, widely-diverse professional writers in this discussion.


WILLIAM R. HANDLEY is an associate professor of English at USC. He is the author of Marriage, Violence, and the Nation in the American Literary West, co-editor of True West: Authenticity and the American West, and the editor of The Brokeback Book.

RYAN MCILVAINE is a PhD student in literature and creative writing at USC. A graduate of BYU and a former Stegner Fellow at Stanford, he has published work in the Paris Review, Dialogue, Irreantum, and other journals. His first novel, Elders, is due out in 2013 from Hogarth Press.

STEVEN PECK is a Renaissance man/biology professor at BYU and the author of three novels: A Short Stay in Hell, The Riff of Rime, and The Scholar of Moab, recipient of the 2011 AML Prize for Best Novel. He has published poetry and short stories in numerous venues and was nominated for the Rhysling award for speculative poetry by the Science Fiction Poetry Association in 2010.

DARRELL SPENCER is the author of five books of fiction including Caution: Men in Trees (which won the Flannery O’Connor Award in 2000) and Bring Your Legs with You (which won the Drue Heinz Literature Prize in 2004). He taught writing for ten years at BYU and 17 years at Ohio University, and currently teaches at Southern Utah University.

255. Panel  WHAT IS THE ROLE OF PERSONAL FAITH IN POLITICS AND POLICYMAKING?

Abstract This panel considers the role of personal faith and belief in politics and policymaking. What is the appropriate/constitutonal way for individual conscience to contribute to the formation of our laws and policy?

Moderator/Panelist JOHN MEJIA is the legal director of the ACLU of Utah and a Utah native. He has a BA from Brown University, where he served as president of the Latin American Student Organization, and he graduated with honors from the University of Chicago Law School. He and his wife, Diana, are the proud parents of one son and one daughter.

Other panelists to be announced.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 3:45 PM–4:45 PM

261. Panel  THE VAGINA TESTIMONIES

Abstract In 1996, Eve Ensler wrote a feminist play called The Vagina Monologues consisting of short monologues exploring the role of female genitalia in female empowerment, individuality, and sense of self. Ensler’s work has evolved to address women’s body images and violence against women. A 2001 Sunstone session entitled “Sacred Spaces: Mormon Women’s Faith and Sexuality” and nicknamed “the mormon Vagina Monologues” featured LDS women talking about their sexuality in ways inspired by Ensler’s groundbreaking play. This session picks up where the 2001 session left off and continues the discussion of Mormon women’s sexuality from a variety of perspectives.

NOTE: There will be a 15-minute break at 4:45 pm, after which this session will continue into the 5:00 - 6:30 pm time slot.

Moderator/Panelist CHERYL BRUNO is an LDS convert of 33 years who is a returned missionary, lover of early-morning Seminary, Primary, and Isaiah. She has eight children and is a master of Mormon guilt.

Panelists KATHERINE ALLRED is a stay-at-home amateur trombonist, knitter, motorcyclist, and unemployed librarian.

DONNA BANTA is the author of the Brodie-award winning blogs Ward Gossip and White and Delightsome. She is publishing her first novel, a murder mystery called The Girls from the Fourth Ward.

MARIE DAVIS BRIAN has an alternate persona known as The Cotton Floozy—a mildly-intoxicated alterna-crafter of subversive embroideries.
HILARY C. BROWN grew up in Sugar City, ID. She has recently relocated to Salt Lake City with plans to finish a bachelor’s degree at the University of Utah.

M. DAVIS lives in Utah.

CAROL HAMER, author of the novel ExMormon, is a mild-mannered mom who blogs at Main Street Plaza (LATTERDAYMAINSTREET.COM) and Letters from a Broad (LFAB-UVM.BLOGSPOT.COM) from her home in Switzerland.

MELANNY EVA HENSON is a graduate of the MFA creative writing and environment program at Iowa State University. Her work has appeared in Scribendi, Brown Paper, and SUNSTONE. She is a poet, award-winning screenwriter, and English lecturer at Iowa State University. Her creative work often grapples with spirituality and gender.

JILL PETERFESO is a recent graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill’s doctoral program in religious studies. She has written on SUNSTONE’s 2001 “Mormon Vagina Monologues” and the Roman Catholic Womenpriests movement.

REVA BETH RUSSELL is a mother of three and grandmother of six. She spent 30 years teaching biology at Lehi High School. She considers herself a voice for those who need it and a pain in the rear for those who deserve it.

DOMINIQUE STORNI was reared in a devout Mormon family. She was a Boy Scout, Aaronic priesthood leader, served an honorable mission, and was nursery leader and Gospel Doctrine teacher. She was married to her best friend and fathered six children. She transitioned from male to female and has lived as a single mother with her three sons in Utah since 1996.

KILEY SULLIVAN is the author of the Brodie Award-winning blog We Were Going to Be Queens.

HOLLY WELKER is a writer, editor, and cultural commentator based in Salt Lake City.

262. Paper

**INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE AND THE BEGINNING OF THE PRIESTHOOD AND TEMPLE BAN ON BLACK AFRICANS**

**Presenters**

RICK BENNETT has an MS in statistics from the University of Utah. An adjunct instructor of mathematics and statistics at Utah Valley University and Salt Lake Community College, he works as a freelance statistician for various local and national television networks. He is a member of the Mormon History Association and the John Whitmer Historical Society.

**Abstract**

The ban denying priesthood and temple blessings to black members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints existed for more than a century before being repealed via revelation in 1978. Many Latter-day Saints have tried to justify the ban, as when BYU Professor Randy Bott offered an explanation in a recent Washington Post interview; his justification was condemned by an official Church statement the next day. This essay will examine the historical record for clues that can help us determine more “precisely why, how, or when this restriction began” and will look at a group of interracial marriages in the 1840s that appear to have influenced early Church leaders’ thoughts on the propriety of such relationships.

263. Paper

**WHAT KEEPS MORMONS AND EVANGELICALS FROM COOPERATING POLITICALLY?**

**Abstract**

Although Mormons and evangelicals in the US share conservative social values, evangelicals’ theological opposition to Mormonism periodically generates friction between Mormons and the evangelical right. Recent examples include Mitt Romney’s 2008 and 2012 presidential campaigns, Focus on the Family’s 2008 decision to pull a Glenn Beck interview from its website, and a 2004 effort to restrict Mormons’ participation in an interfaith service organized by the National Day of Prayer Task Force. Nevertheless, Mormons have successfully cooperated with conservative evangelicals around a number of initiatives since the late 1970s, from the anti-Era campaign to Proposition 8. What makes the difference?

**Presenter**

JOHN-CHARLES DUFFY is a visiting assistant professor in comparative religion at Miami University in Oxford, OH, where he teaches courses on religion in American history and culture. This presentation is based on material from his dissertation, a study of recent Mormon-Evangelical dialogues.

264. Paper

**JOSEPH SMITH AND SEXUAL POLYANDRY**

**Presenter**

BRIAN C. HALES is an anesthesiologist in Layton, UT, and the author of Modern Polygamy and Mormon Fundamentalism: The Generations after the Manifesto, which won the Best Book of 2007 prize from the John Whitmer Historical Association. He is also webmaster of MORMONFUNDAMENTALISM.COM and JOSEPHSMITHSPOLYGAMY.COM.

**Abstract**

Of Joseph Smith’s 34 plural wives, 13 had legal husbands at the time they were sealed to him. Since Fawn Brodie’s 1945 No Man Knows My History, virtually every author who has written about Nauvoo plural marriages has concluded that the prophet practiced sexual polyandry (or at least may have) with some or all of these women. However, since the beginning of the Church, polyandrous sexuality has been consistently condemned by Church leaders—after all, women today cannot be sealed to more than one man at a time. So what was going on? Did Joseph Smith practice sexual polyandry? If so, was it in accordance with his teachings or contradictory to them? This session will examine the evidence.
Dimensions of Faith is available for Kindle. Visit us at signaturebooks.com

Movers and Shakers in Mormon Studies

A compelling collection of the most significant recent essays in Mormon studies, compiled by Stephen C. Taysom, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Cleveland State University, and author of Shakers, Mormons, and Religious Worlds: Conflicting Visions, Contested Boundaries.

“This anthology is beautifully produced, thoroughly documented, and diverse and interesting in its subject matter. The essays are grouped into five categories: biography, theory, experience, memory, and media/literature, and include such wide-ranging topics as the images of Mormons in early twentieth-century film (and the way the Church handled these images); Joseph Smith’s use of William W. Phelps as a ghostwriter; Mormon studies in late twentieth-century Europe; and Wilford Woodruff’s vision of the Founding Fathers. I recommend it without hesitation: the essays, by well-known and not-so-well-known scholars throughout the Mormon studies world, are all gems, thoroughly researched, convincingly written, and fascinating in their conclusions. Each one deserves to be in the reader of Mormon studies.”

—Julie J. Nichols, Associate Professor of English and Literature, Utah Valley University

Dimensions of Faith is available for Kindle. Visit us at signaturebooks.com
**265. Paper** HOW THE BOMB CORRUPTED THE WORLD 
AND MORMONS AND NATIVE AMERICAN SHAMANS CAN HELP SAVE IT

**Presenter** EUGENE N. KOVALENKO has worked in the 
aerospace and defense industry in many capaci-
ties and is currently president and CEO of Los 
Alamos Deep Democracy Open Forum, Inc. A 
writer, poet, singer, father, grandfather, and great-
grandfather, he lives in Los Alamos with his wife, 
Birgitta Stavenow.

**Abstract** The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), cre-
atated by the Manhattan Project during WWII, is 
the birthplace of the atomic bomb and notably 
Mormon-friendly. Many consider it the original 
source of the corruption of science, while other 
laboratory and community leaders of good intent 
in Los Alamo ignore or deny charges of corrup-
tion. This paper describes the purported corrup-
tion, LDS and Native American influences at the 
Laboratory, and suggests a way that Mormons 
can set an example of “deep democracy” aware-
ness and community transformation.

**266. Panel** SUNSTONE TOWN HALL MEETING

**Abstract** Bring your compliments and complaints to this 
session and let SUNSTONE leadership know

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what we’re doing well—and where we can improve!

Moderators LAURA COMPTON and MICHAEL J. STEVENS are co-chairs of the SUNSTONE board.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM

271. Panel THE VAGINA TESTIMONIES (cont.)

THIS SESSION IS A CONTINUATION OF SESSION 261.

272. Panel WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH OUR MOMENT?

Abstract The so-called “Mormon Moment” of 2011 and 2012 has involved sojourns into the doctrines, theology, history, everyday practices, sociology, and scandals of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, with guides both ignorant and well-informed about Mormonism, both sympathetic and hostile to its people. Like it or not, such a response to phenomena such as The Book of Mormon musical and Mitt Romney’s presidential candidacy was probably predictable and may well prove beneficial to the development of Mormonism as a religious “player” in the United States. But how are members of the LDS Church themselves responding to this moment in the spotlight? What do they make of it? What can they make of it? This panel attempts to answer those questions.

Moderator/Panelist RUSSELL ARBEN FOX is an associate professor of political science at Friends University in Wichita, KS.

Panelists MCKAY COPPINS is a journalist specializing in the Romney campaign who has worked for Newsweek and currently for Buzzfeed.

D CHRISTIAN HARRISON is a communications consultant in Salt Lake City.

JEREMIAH JOHN is an assistant professor of political science at Southern Virginia University in Buena Vista, VA.

273. Panel DIAGNOSING THE SEER: AN ASSESSMENT OF THE FIRST VISION

Abstract Mormons consider Joseph Smith’s first vision one of the most significant events in religious history; it is by far the most controversial of his visions. Many Mormons maintain that the accounts of the vision are historically accurate, while critics of Mormonism assert that different accounts are inconsistent and historically inaccurate. This session will summarize the various accounts and give an overview of the evidence for and against the historicity of various parts of the vision, including a summary of eight criteria for assessing historical authenticity. After hearing this sum-

mary of evidence, the session audience will vote on the historicity of each major section of the vision. The session will conclude with a tabulation of the voting results by the audience.

Presenters MARK THOMAS has published widely on the Book of Mormon and early Mormonism and is a former faculty member at BYU and USU. His book Digging in Cummorah is a landmark in Book of Mormon interpretation.

TODD COMPTON is a celebrated and widely published Mormon historian whose works include In Sacred Loneliness: The Plural Wives of Joseph Smith, which received the Best Book Award from both the John Whitmer Historical Association and the Mormon History Association.

JOHN-CHARLES DUFFY currently lives in Ohio, where he teaches American religious history. He surveyed debates about Book of Mormon historicity for SUNSTONE magazine’s “Mapping Mormon Issues” project.

274. Panel AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS: IN HEAVEN AS IT IS ON EARTH: JOSEPH SMITH AND THE EARLY MORMON CONQUEST OF DEATH

Abstract This panel discussion brings together scholars and thinkers familiar with Samuel Morris Brown’s recent book, In Heaven as It Is on Earth: Joseph Smith and the Early Mormon Conquest of Death. Please join the book’s author and a panel of careful readers in a vigorous exchange about this book and the overview of Mormonism it provides.

Panelists To be announced.

Respondent SAMUEL MORRIS BROWN graduated summa cum laude from Harvard College in linguistics with a minor in Russian then received an MD from Harvard Medical School. He is now assistant professor of pulmonary and critical care medicine and associate in the division of medical ethics and humanities at the University of Utah, based at the shock trauma ICU at Intermountain Medical Center.

DINNER BREAK, 6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Where to eat THE STUDENT UNION’S food court is NOT open for dinner; however the Heritage Center Dining Room serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9 and is within walking distance of the Student Union and the University Guest House. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours. See page 4 for more information about dining options.

There are additional restaurants off campus along 1300 East and on 400 South; the latter is accessible from campus via TRAX.
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 6:30 pm. The reception room will be announced in the final program.

PLENARY SESSION, 8:00 PM

291. PILLARS OF MY FAITH

Abstract  This is SUNSTONE’S perennially 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.

Speaker  DON BRADLEY is a writer, editor, and researcher specializing in Mormon origins and an MA candidate in history at Utah State University. He is also the author of The Lost 116 Pages: Rediscovering the Book of Lehi, forthcoming from Greg Kofford Books.

Don did his first research in the LDS Archives as a devout seventeen-year-old seeking a deeper understanding of Church doctrine. But the signposts marked “strait and narrow path” somehow placed his pilgrimage on the long and winding road. After several years of struggling with the most difficult problems of Mormon history and philosophical theology, trying—and failing—to make things fit, he gave up on Mormonism, his childhood hero Joseph Smith, and God. In 2005, Don, then an atheist, formally left the LDS Church, initiating several years of wandering a postmodern spiritual wilderness. His path of discovery, winding through humanistic spirituality, the Baha’i faith, traditional Christianity, and the relentless pursuit of Mormon origins, led him to the one place he had been certain he could never return. Approaching the Restoration now with a widened sense of its vision and a hard-gained knowledge of its strength, Don was rebaptized on 11 July 2010. Don continues trying to plumb the Restoration’s historical and spiritual depths, both in his personal spiritual quest and in his present project of reconstructing its earliest scripture, the lost 116 pages of the Book of Mormon.

MAXINE HANKS is a feminist theologian and lecturer, researching gender in religion, particularly Christian and Mormon theology. Her call to ministry has taken her from serving an LDS mission to serving as clergy or chaplain at Holy Cross Chapel for 13 years, where she launched the Chapel preservation project and wrote its history. She was a fellow with the Utah Humanities Council and at Harvard Divinity School, has lectured in gender studies at the University of Utah, and guest lectured at UVU, BYU, Weber State, Harvard Divinity, Salt Lake Theological Seminary, and SLC Community College besides presenting at many religious studies conferences.

She has authored or co-authored The Mormon Women’s Studies Resource, Women & Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism, Mormon Faith in America, A History of Sanpete County, and Getting Together With Yesterday; and was a contributor to Secrets of Mary Magdalene, Religion in America, and Latter-day Dissent. She has contributed research to, edited, or been cited in dozens of books on Mormonism and religion.

She has served on the HRC Clergy Call, Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable, Orrin Hatch’s Women’s Council, Utah Attorney General’s Safety Net Committee, SLOC Interfaith Roundtable, Network, Utah Issues, and Utah Pro-Choice Coalition. She has chaired Interfaith Week in Utah and sponsored many events on religion or women in religion.

In the 1990s, she appeared in media such as ABC Nightline, Time, Vogue, Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Publisher’s Weekly, Hard Copy, Boston Globe, Chicago Times, Associated Press, CNN, PBS, A&E, BBC, Reuters, and Utah media. In the twenty first century, she took refuge from public commentary on Mormonism, only recently returning to all things Mormon.

four ways to enjoy . . .
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 by the ballrooms on the second floor of Olpin Student Union Building.

Devotional, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

301. Devotional A MODERN CONCEIT: THE SEPARATION OF RELIGION AND POLITICS

Presenter: FRANCES LEE MENLOVE holds a PhD in psychology from the University of Michigan and a master of divinity from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA. She is an active Red Cross disaster response volunteer and a relief chaplain at the local hospital.

Abstract: How should we think about politics and religion? What did the intersection of politics and religion look like in first-century Palestine during the time of Jesus and his earliest followers? How about now, in contemporary America? We will contemplate these tricky issues, especially as they relate to President J. Reuben Clark’s searing question, “What has the apostasy from peace cost us?”

Chair: DAN WOTHERSPOON

Concurrent Sessions, 8:30 AM–9:30 AM

311. Paper VOTER TURNOUT AND VOTING TRENDS AMONG LDS GENERAL AUTHORITIES, STAKE PRESIDENTS, AND BISHOPS IN UTAH

Presenter: AARON CAMPBELL is a marketing and campaign consultant with 15 years’ experience in database marketing, political messaging, and campaign strategy. He has worked on campaigns as large as the US presidential race and as small as local city council contests, in locations ranging from Ohio to Argentina. Aaron now resides in Orem with his wife and five children.

Abstract: The high profile of politicians such as Mitt Romney, Republican nominee for the 2012 US presidential election, and Harry Reid (D-NV), Senate Minority Leader, combined with the LDS Church’s involvement in California’s 2008 Proposition 8, the Church’s influence on Utah’s new immigration laws, followed by a still more recent declaration of political neutrality and subsequent encouragement to Utah Latter-day Saints that they attend their state caucuses, have all highlighted a core LDS principle: Mormons should be good citizens and participate in the political process as much as possible.

The most fundamental way to participate in the political process is to register to vote and go to the polls. In the LDS church, leaders are expected to set an example and practice what they preach. This presentation will examine the level of ‘political involvement’ and general voting habits of LDS general authorities, stake presidents, and bishops in central Utah.

312. Paper MORMON NEO-LIBERALISM: DEFINING FAITH FOR THOSE WHO DOUBT

Presenter: SETH PAYNE’s degrees include a BS in management from BYU, an MBA from New York University, and an MA in religion from Yale.

Abstract: There has always been both theological and political tension between Mormon cultural orthodoxy and liberalism. Too often, Mormon conservatives view their liberal sisters and brothers as apostates or wolves in sheep’s clothing who seek to weaken or damage the Church. Such a view is not unwarranted as Mormon liberals have often defined themselves not by their own values but instead by what they reject within cultural orthodoxy. This presentation proposes a constructive form of Mormon liberalism which seeks to be part of Mormonism on its own terms as well as a force for good within the wider community.

313. Paper WILLARD RICHARDS AND NAUVOO POLYGAMY, 1841-42

Presenter: DEVERY S. ANDERSON is editor or co-editor of several works, including Development of LDS Temple Worship, 1846-2000: A Documentary History. He is finishing the first comprehensive work on the racially motivated murder of Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955 and also writing a biography of Willard Richards. A graduate in history at the University of Utah, he is currently eBook editor at Signature Books.

Abstract: Shortly after Willard Richards returned from England and arrived in Nauvoo in August 1841, he became Joseph Smith’s closest confidant, assuming a role once enjoyed by John C. Bennett. Bennett’s departure from Nauvoo and Mormonism was not quiet, and as he toured the country exposing and sensationalizing Mormon secrets, including polygamy, Richards followed doing damage control. Yet Richards was a polygamy insider introduced to the practice by Joseph Smith. He had performed one of Smith’s plural marriages and may have even begun practicing it himself, all while his first wife, Jennetta, endured a lonely year in Massachusetts where
he’d left her with his siblings while he settled in Nauvoo. This paper examines Richards’s role as a polygamy insider, confidant, and public relations man during the tumultuous period of 1841-1842.

314. **Paper** THE ONCE AND FUTURE BEE PRIESTESS

**Presenter** ELIZABETH RUSSELL QUICK has an MA in women’s spirituality from the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology in Palo Alto, CA. Her previous SUNSTONE sessions include presentations on female shamanism in Judeo-Christian and Mormon Traditions and on Emma Smith as shaman. She blogs at BETHANYMAGDALENE.BLOGSPOT.COM and PRIESTESS-SACADEMY.BLOGSPOT.COM.

**Abstract** This session will examine the emblem and symbol of bee/hive, noting how bees and their hives as symbolic of the feminine divine and a matriarchal society, the ancient bee priestess as shaman, and the idea of contemporary Mormon woman as bee priestess. It also examines the connections between the nineteenth-century restoration movement and its restored symbol of bee and hive, and the parallel emergence of the women’s movement and feminist spirituality from the nineteenth century into the twenty-first century.

315. **Paper** SINS OF OMISSION: SPINNING THE MISSIONARY EXPERIENCE

**Presenter** JOHN K. WILLIAMS is a professional writer and editor, former LDS Church employee, and author of the mission memoir Heaven Up Here.

**Abstract** An LDS mission is commonly called “the best two years” of one’s life. Most missionaries understand the difficulties, pressure to perform, mission politics, boredom, depression, emotional demands, and physical hardships of a mission. However, there is an unwritten rule to never speak negatively about one’s mission. Consequently, homecomings are typically uplifting pep talks, and candid discussion of one’s mission often provokes hostility. This session will explore the explicit and implicit pressure to spin missions positively and how this affects people, as well as offer ideas about how to acknowledge unpleasant reality in a culture that frowns on bluntness.

316. **Paper** A MORMON APPROACH TO MEDITATION IN THE CONTEXT OF OTHER TRADITIONS AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM

**Presenter** JOHN T. KESLER is a practicing attorney and active Mormon who engages in community and internal work. After being one of the first people to be certified in the revolutionary Zen “Big Mind Process,” John developed and teaches an awareness practice which he has attempted to correlate in every way with principles and patterns of the Restored Gospel.

**Abstract** This session will detail John’s development of an Integral Polarity Practice (IPP), an approach to meditation, awareness, and action that aligns with patterns of the Restored Gospel. IPP is not offered as an improved way to practice the Mormon faith, but as a series of practices which help anyone deepen in awareness, become more integrated, grow to higher levels of human development, and embrace the world virtuously. It will also explain how correlations between IPP and the mystical practices of many traditions demonstrate that more than any other Western tradition, the Restored Gospel includes the wisdom of the East.
323. **Paper**  
**THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP: DIMENSIONS OF A MATURE MORMON FAITH, PART II**

**Presenter**  
ROBERT A. REES teaches Mormon Studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. He is a former editor of *Dialogue* and former chair of the SUNSTONE board. His *Why I Stay: The Challenges of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons* was published in 2011.

**Abstract**  
This is a continuation of the 2010 Symposium session exploring the dimensions of Christian/Mormon discipleship. Building on ideas about faith and doubt, courage and honesty, and imagination and love discussed in the 2010 session, this session considers such additional dimensions of discipleship as empathy, compassion, kindness, holiness, peacemaking, a commitment to counter suffering and injustice, and an openness to all truth, including that from other faith traditions. As with the previous session, it examines the challenges, complexities and conundra of what it means to follow Christ both in the Church and in the world.

324. **Panel**  
**IN MEMORIAM: PAUL SWENSON**

**Moderator**  
STEPHEN CARTER is editor of SUNSTONE magazine and Swenson’s grand-nephew.

**Abstract**  
The death of writer and poet Paul Swenson in February 2012 left a hole in the heart of SUNSTONE. Join us for remembrances from family, friends, and fans of his work.

325. **Paper**  
**FELLOW CITIZENS, FELLOW CHRISTIANS?: CATHOLICS, MORMONS, AND BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE BODY POLITIC AND BODY OF CHRIST**

**Presenter**  
DONALD WESTBROOK is in the PhD program at Claremont Graduate University’s School of Religion. He holds an MA in theology from Fuller Seminary and BA in philosophy from UC Berkeley and serves as executive director of Practice What You Preach Foundation, a faith-based non-profit in downtown Los Angeles (PWYPFOUNDATION.ORG).

**Abstract**  
Support of Proposition 8 fostered positive relations between many Catholics and Mormons (as well as Evangelicals and others) in a cause of shared moral concern. This presentation argues that social and political collaboration has also caused a unique warming of interfaith relations between the Catholic Church and Mormon Church that has the potential to lead to sustained and productive theological dialogue. One case study will be examined: Cardinal Francis George’s 2010 address to BYU on “Catholics and Latter-day Saints: Partners in the Defense of Religious Freedom.”

326. **Paper**  
**JESUS’ SERMON ON THE MOUNT: A MAP FOR CREATING STRESS RESILIENCE**

**Presenter**  
N. LEE SMITH, MD is director of stress medicine at Omega Pain Clinic. An internist with a subspecialty interest in behavioral medicine, he has been a clinical associate professor of medicine at the University of Utah and is a board member of The Institute for Spirituality & Healing in Medicine.

**Abstract**  
Jesus summarized key elements of his teachings in his introductory Sermon on the Mount. At the end, in the parable of the house built on a rock, he suggests that these principles offer advice about successfully dealing with life’s stress. His counsel fits well with four scientifically proven principles of resilience and with eastern “two selves” approaches to easing suffering. This paper will offer practical steps for conquering some of the challenges listed in the Sermon on the Mount such as embracing paradox, creating oneness, solving anger with compassion, overcoming worry, cultivating mindfulness, and visualizing desired transformation. It supports the process by which Jesus’s most difficult teachings become the most profound methods for human spiritual transformation.
CONCURRENT SESSIONS 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

331. Panel WHO GETS TO SAY WHAT FORMER MORMONS ARE LIKE?

Abstract
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints likes to believe that the only ones qualified to talk about Mormonism are its most faithful members, or—ideally—the Church itself, through its appointed spokesmen. And, being a multi-billion-dollar operation, it has the resources to convince people through organizations such as the More Good Foundation, Mormon Voices (a.k.a. the Mormon Defense League), and the Washington Post column of Church PR-guy Michael Otterson.

The irony is that the Church has no hesitation about making up all sorts of inaccurate (and often insulting) claims about what ex-Mormons—"apostates"—are like. We may not have as much money or political clout as the LDS Church, but using tools such as the Internet, we can take ownership of our own narratives and claim our place in the public discourse on Mormonism.

Moderator/Panelist CAROL HAMER is a mild-mannered mom who writes for the blogs Main Street Plaza (LATTERDAYMAINSTREET.COM) and Letters from a broad... (LFAB-UM.COM) from her home in Switzerland. She also wrote the novel ExMormon and gathers exmo blogs into a community called Outer Blogness (OUTERBLOGNESS.ORG).

Panelists JON ADAMS recently graduated from Utah State University where he studied sociology and political science. At USU, he co-founded and headed SHAFT (Secular Humanists, Atheists, and Free Thinkers), Utah’s first secular student club. He lives in Draper, writes for the SHAFT blog (USU-SHAFT.COM), and works for eBay, with tentative plans to attend grad school in philosophy.

DONNA BANTA is the author of the Brodie-award winning blogs Ward Gossip and White and Delightsome. She is currently publishing her first novel, a murder mystery called The Girls from the Fourth Ward.

GALEN DARA calls herself a ‘spiritual atheist’ but stays connected to the LDS community by illustrating for SUNSTONE. Currently, the fence she finds herself straddling is between the LDS community and the speculative fiction community: illustrating Lovecraftian horrors one day and re-imagining Heavenly Mother the next.

JASON ECHOLS served a mission in Brazil and studied at BYU and NYU before moving to Taiwan, where he spent 18 years blissfully unaware of Mormon goings-on. After Prop 8, he spent a few years learning about the LDS role in anti-gay politics. Known throughout the Internet as Chino Blanco, he now lives with his family in Denver, CO.

JEFF RICKS was raised in Rexburg, ID. After officially resigning from the LDS Church, he founded POSTMORMON.ORG. He has been interviewed for documentaries, television, radio, and podcast programs and been quoted in dozens of newspapers across the country, including the New York Times.

KILEY SULLIVAN is the author of the Brodie Award-winning blog We Were Going to Be Queens.

JOHN K. WILLIAMS earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from BYU and has worked as a professional writer and editor, including three years as a curriculum editor for the BYU. He has blogged since 2005 and recently published Heaven Up Here, a memoir of his mission in Bolivia. He lives in Provo with his wife and six children.

332. Panel COMING OUT AS AN ALLY: THE IMPACT OF STRAIGHT MORMONS IN ADVANCING LGBT ISSUES IN THE CHURCH AND IN THE WORLD

Abstract
From the launching of Mormon “It Gets Better” videos to the formation of Mormons for Marriage Facebook groups, from the organizing of “Circling the Wagons” conferences to the participation of straight Mormons in Pride parades, 2012 will be remembered as the year when straight, progressive Latter-day Saints came out massively in support of LGBT Mormons. Panelists will discuss their experiences reaching across the gay/straight divide and working inside and outside the Church in a process that not only helps change the perceptions the LGBT community has about Mormons but also can help bring about change within the Church.

Moderator HUGO OLAIZ is the news editor for SUNSTONE.

Panelists JOHN DEHLIN is the founder of Mormon Stories and has helped organize “Circling the Wagons” conferences across the country.

SCOTT HOLLEY is a leader with Mormons for Marriage Equality and has helped coordinate Mormon participation in Pride parades across the country.

ERIKA MUNSON is the founder of Mormons Building Bridges and marched at the Utah Pride parade in June 2012.

KENDALL WILCOX is a filmmaker and the producer of the BYU “It Gets Better” clips which have been viewed almost half a million times.

333. Paper HOLY SHIFT!

Abstract
This presentation concerns the LDS Church Public Relations Department’s attempt to shift the blame for the Church’s past racism onto the Lord. Toscano critiques Elder Todd Christofferson’s recent attempt to shift onto Church members the responsibility of distinguishing Church leaders’
Mormon Alumni Association

BOOKS

The Girls from Fourth Ward
by Donna Banta
What if you get stuck with a petty tyrant for a bishop who leaves nothing
so much as securing the control he has over everyone (even you)? You can’t
just switch wards—that’s not allowed. So, well...nobody has
loved him. But who...?

The Circumcision of God
by Johnny Townsend
A young girl has to fight the Klan in a small town in Mississippi. A burglary
involves facing divorce demands the return of the
kidney he donated to his wife. A young
boy is forced out of the door by his
dying mother.

ExMormon
Growing up Mormon in eight-and-a-half novels
by C.L. Hanson
If you’re raised Mormon, you have a plan
all laid out for you, from birth to
baptism, and all the way to excommunication.
But not everybody sticks to the script.

ExMormon
The Abridging Works
by Daymon M. Smith
The book translated and published in
Hungary in 1933 by the Church of Mormons,
incorporated by Mormon and other authors
in some sequence. Here at last we can read
it in its original form. The result is an
utterly original reading of the Book of Mormon.

The Valley of Fire
by Brett Ostertag
When a rogue angel known as "Samael"
escapes and starts a plantation cell in
Central Utah, all Hell breaks loose.
Tendeaux murder tribes, bandits
severed their heads, heads leave their bodies,
and a forest fire man an its reversed
prophet with a fire axe—and this is just
the beginning.

Mormon Fairy Tales
by Johnny Townsend
A divorced woman plots to break
out of Samaria Prison. A pregnancy in
1885 Utah is offered to take a
mother’s place, when all he really
wants is to be with another man.
Aren’t you glad that God actually does live on
Kolob.

Harvest
by Jacob Young
A 90s farm boy sets off from Idaho to
deliver the gospel to the people of
Samara, Russia. There he learns how to
approach strangers in thick fur coats and
deliver a thirty-minute message about
God’s intentions through a
preaching companion in the
foreign language. Setting off to teach, he learns
from the Russian people how much
there is out there to learn.

Zombies for Jesus
by Johnny Townsend
A teenager Mormon girl finds that
her house is haunted by Joseph
Smith’s wife. A successful woman
spends a weekend in a
hurricane shelter. A plastic surgeon
accidentally discovers a new life
form.

These books and more are available in
the book sales area of the
Sunstone Symposium!!
or look for books on
Main Street Plaza!

Secular or former Mormon?

Join the conversation on Main Street Plaza!!
http://latterdaymainstreet.com
opinions from binding doctrine; Toscano claims that he was excommunicated almost 19 years ago for holding then the same views Elder Christofferson expresses now. Toscano’s voice then shifts from critic to apologist as he explains why he still believes in many Mormon teachings while rejecting certain elements of corporate Mormonism. In doing so, he explores the roles of proof, preference, facts, faith, history, myth, reason, intuition, imagination, and spiritual encounters in human existence, and discloses some surprising close encounters from his own life.

Presenter PAUL TOSCANO is a longtime Sunstone presenter and the author of Sanctity of Dissent and The Sacrament of Doubt, as well as a novel available online as an ebook entitled Christ on Trial: An Easter Hymn; he co-authored Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology with his wife, Margaret; and he currently works as a consumer bankruptcy lawyer in Salt Lake City.

334. Panel THE “MORMON MOMENT” AND THE LDS CHURCH’S PROBLEMATIC RACIAL PAST: TWO PERSPECTIVES

Paper 1 MORMONISM, THE MEDIA, AND THE RANDY BOTT IMBROGLIO

Presenter MATTHEW L. HARRIS is associate professor of history at Colorado State University-Pueblo. He received a BA and MA from BYU and an MPhil and PhD from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. His published works include The Founding Fathers and the Debate over Religion in Revolutionary America and Zebulon Pike, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West.

Abstract This presentation will examine the recent imbroglio sparked by BYU religion professor Randy Bott’s interview with the Washington Post. It will focus on the LDS Church’s response, the unresolved questions and issues surrounding LDS racial teachings, and the ways in which Church leaders declare doctrine. It will deconstruct Bott’s controversial statements with the purpose of juxtaposing them with statements LDS leaders have made in order to justify and/or rationalize the now-defunct practice of black exclusion from the LDS priesthood.

Paper 2 MORMONISM’S PROBLEMATIC RACIAL PAST AS AN ISSUE IN THE 2012 ELECTION

Presenter NEWELL G. BRINGHURST is an emeritus professor of history and political science at the College of the Sequoias.

Abstract This presentation will examine Mormonism’s problematic racial past as an issue during the 2012 campaign season. Among the questions considered are the ramifications of this issue given the fact that Mitt Romney, as the first Mormon to receive a major party nomination, is...
running against Barack Obama, America’s first black president. Also considered is the handling of this issue both in the media and by LDS Church spokespersons.

335. Panel LDS LATINOS AS A POLITICAL FORCE

Abstract "Latino" is an umbrella term covering a diverse group of national, ethnic, and racial backgrounds that collectively accounts for more than one in six Americans. Spread across the political spectrum and operating at every level of government, Latinos cannot be counted on to vote as a bloc, but their collective support can make or break a political campaign. In the Intermountain West, Latino-Mormon politics can often seem focused almost exclusively on matters regarding immigration, but these are not the only political issues of concern to LDS Latinos. How do LDS Latinos organize to affect local, state, and federal politics, and how do LDS missionary efforts among Latino communities affect various political issues as well?

Panelists MICHAEL CLARA is a member of the Salt Lake County and Utah State GOP executive committee and the immediate past chair of the Utah Republican Hispanic Assembly. He currently serves as first counselor in his local LDS ward bishopric.

Other panelists to be announced.

336. Play SUFFRAGE: A PLAY

Abstract The fight for women’s rights was nowhere hotter or more fraught than in territorial Utah in the late 1800s. Having granted women suffrage in 1870—second among would-be states only to neighboring Wyoming—Utah saw its women stripped of their voting rights by a Congress eager to use the issue to stamp out what it considered a burgeoning problem. SUFFRAGE explores the impact of this confluence of battles through the eyes of two women—sister wives torn between the law and their God.

A play in progress by Utah playwright Jenifer Nii featuring April Fossen and Sarah Young, directed by Cheryl Ann Cluff, SUFFRAGE will receive its world premiere April 4-14, 2013 at Plan-B Theatre Company with this cast and director.

Participants JENIFER NI (Playwright) has previously premiered The Scarlet Letter and Wallace with Plan-B Theatre Company. A native of Idaho, she has called Utah home for the past twenty years. A graduate of the University of Utah, she spent nine years as a newspaper reporter before taking a position in corporate communications for a major healthcare provider.

APRIL FOSSEN (Frances) has appeared in Plan-B’s Lady Macbeth, Mesa Verde, She Was My Brother, Miasma, and 7 Slams. Other local credits include Living Out (Pygmalion Productions); Romeo and Juliet, Three Days of Rain, and An Ideal Husband (Pinnacle Acting Company). April holds a BA in theatre arts from UC Berkeley.

SARAH YOUNG (Ruth) will appear later this summer in Plan-B’s Script-In-Hand Series reading of 8 and as Juliet in Romeo and Juliet for Davis Arts Council. She was last seen in Blue, a fundraiser for Theatre Arts Conservatory. Sarah also works as a stage manager in her spare time and is a senior at the University of Utah.

CHERYL CLUFF (Director) co-founded Plan-B in 1991 and is the company’s managing director. She has directed Jenifer Nii's The Scarlet Letter, Mesa Verde and all five Radio Hours. She has designed sound for nearly every Plan-B production since 2000.

LUNCH BREAK, 12:30 PM–2:00 PM

Where to eat THE STUDENT UNION’S food court is CLOSED on Saturday. A list of nearby restaurants is available at the symposium registration desk.

The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus is a five-minute walk from the University Guest House and offers breakfast, lunch, and dinner for $7–9. Call 801.587.2000 for meal hours. See page 4 for more dining options off campus.

341. Lunchtime comedy Clips from coverage of Mormonism and politics from Comedy Central's The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. Clips assembled by MICHAEL J. STEVENS

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:00 PM–3:30 PM

351. Panel DO GOOD ONLINE FENCES MAKE GOOD LDS NEIGHBORS?

Abstract LDS-interest blogspace is divided into many different communities: Mormon feminists, Mormon mormoms, Borderlanders (or New Order Mormons), interfaith discussion blogs, Nothing Wavering, Outer Blogness, the core of the Bloggernacle, and probably others. All of these communities overlap and communicate with one another, but they also do various types of boundary-maintenance to decide who’s in and who’s out. Some of the division is simply a question of people wanting to spend their limited Internet time with people they can relate to, but some of it is a genuine power struggle over who gets to represent Mormonism. Should different LDS-interest groups strive for better communication and cooperation, or are we happier staying out of each other’s hair? Representatives of various communities discuss!

NOTE: There will be a 15-minute break at 3:30 pm, after which this session will continue into the 3:45-4:45 pm time slot.
CAROL HAMER is a mild-mannered mom who writes for the blogs Main Street Plaza (LATTERDAYMAINSTREET.COM) and Letters from a broad... (LFAB-UVM.BLOGSPOT.COM) from her home in Switzerland. She also wrote the novel ExMormon and gathers exmo blogs into a community called Outer Blogness (OUTERBLOGNESS.ORG).

AARON TAYLOR is a statistics enthusiast who blogs at ZELOPHEHADSDAUGHTERS.COM and in his spare time is an assistant professor in the psychology department at Texas A&M University.

ANDREW SPRIGGS lacks the geographical ties that many take for granted, but one constancy has been the correlated LDS chapels he has attended all over the world. Now, instead of attending church, he ponders Mormonism and its role in people’s lives at his personal blog, Irresistible (Dis)Grace and on the group blogs WHEATANDTARES.ORG and Main Street Plaza.

BRIDGET JACK JEFFRIES is an Evangelical Christian married to a Mormon. Often writing as Ms. Jack, she fosters interfaith discussion on ClobberBlog.com and LDS & Evangelical Discussions (LDSTALK.WORDPRESS.COM).

CHERYL BRUNO blogs as Bored in Vernal. Her posts have appeared on Hieing to Kolob, BYCOMMONCONSENT.COM, WHEATANDTARES.ORG, JUVENILEINSTRUCTOR.ORG, MORMONMATTERS.ORG, VARIOUSTAGESOFMORMOND.BLOGSPOT.COM, and FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG. And a few others you don’t know about!

JASON ECHOLS served a mission in Brazil and studied at BYU and NYU before moving to Taiwan, where he spent 18 years blissfully unaware of Mormon goings-on. After Prop 8, he spent a few years learning about the LDS role in anti-gay politics. Known throughout the Internet as Chino Blanco, he now lives with his family in Denver, CO.

KAIMIPONO (KAIMI) WENGER, JD, is an assistant professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego.

RACHEL MABEY WHIPPLE cares for her husband, three kids, house, and garden and blogs about her perspective on faith and stewardship as a stay-at-home mom.

Moderator/Panelist

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

Panelists

MICHAEL J. STEVENS is professor of management and business administration department chair at Weber State University. He has conducted award-winning research in global leadership, self-managing work teams, and interpersonal competencies. He serves as co-chair of the SUNSTONE Board of Trustees.

TROY WILLIAMS is the public affairs director of KRCL 90.9 FM in Salt Lake City and the executive producer of RadioActive. His work has been featured in The Nation, Interview Magazine, Huffington Post, The Gay Times and OUT Magazine. He also co-wrote the one-woman show The Passion of Sister Dottie S. Dixon.

353. Panel

EMPATHY, SYMPATHY AND COMPASSION: CHALLENGING VIRTUES FOR LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Abstract

Empathy is the ability to understand and, on a deeply caring level, respond to the needs of other creatures. Alma speaks of followers of Christ as those who are “willing to bear one another’s burdens, ... mourn with those that mourn, ... and comfort those that stand in need of comfort.” And yet there seems to be a paucity of empathy in modern society, including among Christians (and, therefore, Mormons). This panel explores the nature and various dimensions of empathy, its biological and spiritual roots, its strengths and insufficiencies in a hierarchical contest with love for a global universal value, and the degree to which it is manifest or lacking in Mormon religious practice.

Moderator/Panelist


Panelists

CHARLES RANDALL PAUL is the founder and president of the Foundation for Religious Diplomacy. He has degrees from BYU, Harvard, and the University of Chicago.

KENDALL WILCOX is an independent filmmaker and community organizer. His video of the BYU USGA group has been watched by hundreds of thousands of people.

352. Panel

MORMONS AND MORMONISM AS POLITICAL FARCE

Abstract

“Mormon humor” is a concept that would startle many non-Mormons, but despite the warning in D&C 59:15 that “much laughter... is sin,” Mormons have long appreciated a good laugh. Simultaneously willing to laugh at themselves and sensitive to criticism, Mormons must answer the question: If you can’t laugh at a man claiming to translate ancient scripture by burying his face in a hat, what can you laugh at? What about Mormonism is funny to Mormons and to non-Mormons? Does Mormon political and social life support Karl Marx’s famous dictum that “history repeats itself: first as tragedy, then as farce”? If not, why not? If so, how?
354. Panel EIGHTEEN MONTHS ON THE PERIPHERY: THE EXPERIENCE OF SISTER MISSIONARIES

Abstract LDS missions have long been recognized as a rite of passage for young Mormon men, yet young women can and often do serve as fulltime missionaries. Some sister missionaries report that their mission experiences were positive and stimulating, while others find that missions marginalize women and can carry a lifelong stigma. General Conference talks, the structure of mission hierarchy, and snide remarks by Mormon men to sister missionaries all reinforce the idea that women are not wanted in the mission field. This panel will discuss the experiences of sister missionaries, talk about how the mission experience can be both empowering and alienating for women, and explore why LDS men are often so proprietary about this unique Mormon experience.

Presenters TAMARA TAYSON is a returned missionary with an MS in education from Indiana University. A public school teacher, she serves as a gospel doctrine teacher in her Salt Lake ward and is president of SUNSTONE's student chapter at the University of Utah.

KRISTA MECHAM is a returned missionary with an MS in education from the University of Utah and a public school teacher who serves as young women's president in her West Jordan ward.

355. Panel TWO PAPER SESSION ON B.H. ROBERTS

Paper 1 B.H. ROBERTS' 1909 GENERAL CONFERENCE ADDRESS ON POST-SECOND MANIFESTO POLYGAMY

Abstract In 1908 and 1909, B.H. Roberts learned that some high-level LDS leaders continued to sanction secret polygamous marriages despite two Manifestos forbidding the practice. Roberts compared this situation to President Smith's "whisper campaign" supporting the Republican Party in violation of the Church's policy of political neutrality. At the October 1909 General Conference, Roberts denounced such double-dealing as a stain on the Church's honor and pleaded for integrity and consistency in Church marriage policy. But what Roberts, a polygamist and Democrat, seems to have really wanted was for the Church to drop the pretense of monogamy and political neutrality altogether and to openly endorse polygamy and the Democrats. Roberts' conference talk doubles as a critique of both the secret violation of the polygamy ban and of the ban itself. Both represented a breach of faithfulness to the laws of God and the Church.

Presenter CHRISTOPHER SMITH has an MA in Christian history from Wheaton College and is enrolled in a PhD program in North American religions at Claremont Graduate University. Originally from California, Chris currently lives in Utah to do research for his dissertation on contacts between Mormons and American Indians.

Paper 2 B.H. ROBERTS AS A DNA MORMON AND HIS CONTINUING INFLUENCE

Abstract This paper will explore the life and legacy of B.H. Roberts and his Mormon faith. The publication of B.H. Roberts' Studies in the Book of Mormon in 1985 created a controversy in that it led many to conclude that Roberts had lost his faith in the Book of Mormon as an ancient record at the end of his life. One must therefore ask, "Why did Roberts not leave Mormonism?" This paper will demonstrate that even after this crisis of faith, Roberts remained Mormon through and through.

Presenter JOE GEISNER lives in northern California with his wife of 29 years. Together they provide residential services for people with developmental disabilities. He has been a collector and reader of Mormon books for most of his adult life, reading far more than is good for him.
366. **Panel**  MULTIPLY AND REPLENISH: POPULATION CONTROL AND YOUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

**Abstract**  D&C 104:17 states, “For the earth is full, and there is enough and to spare.” What did that mean in 1834, when this revelation was given and world population was just over a billion? What does it mean today, when seven billion people live on the earth? Global population is expected to reach between 7.5 and 10.5 billion by 2050; will there be “enough and to spare” then? Does the revelation still apply? This panel will explore a variety of interrelated topics including: consumerism, resource management, population control, stewardship, green energy, and recycling. Instead of being a verse used to justify American consumerism and over-consumption, perhaps we will come to use it as a verse to actually eliminate poverty and establish Zion.

**Moderator/Panelist**  CHUCK SCHOFIELD has an MA in religion from Claremont School of Theology, where he studied comparative religious ethics. His academic interests include religion and the environment and religion and politics.

**Panelists**  RACHEL MABEY WHIPPLE is an eco-Mormon housewife, mother, yoga teacher, and occasional artist. She cares for her husband, three kids, house, and garden, and blogs about her perspective on faith and stewardship as a stay-at-home mom.

MARK THOMAS is the author of a pamphlet on population and Mormon Doctrine distributed nationally by Zero Population Growth. He is a principal in a consulting firm focusing on large renewable energy projects.

Other panelists to be announced.

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**CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 3:45 PM–4:45 PM**

361. **Panel**  DO GOOD ONLINE FENCES MAKE GOOD LDS NEIGHBORS? (CONT.)

THIS SESSION IS A CONTINUATION OF SESSION 351.

362. **Paper**  SLIPPERY TREASURES: AFFINITY FRAUD IN MORMON UTAH

**Presenter**  KENNETH LOUGEE has a BA in history from BYU, a JD from the University of Oregon School of Law, and an MA in history from the University of Utah. An adjunct professor in history at Salt Lake Community College, he has also practiced law at Siegfried & Jensen in Salt Lake City and is the author of *Pie in the Sky: How Joe Hill’s Lawyers Lost His Case, Got Him Shot and Were Disbarred* (2011).

**Abstract**  Affinity fraud is broadly defined as fraudulent financial, political, or education schemes in which the defrauders gain the trust of the victims through shared identity or community. This presentation will cover the history of Ponzi schemes in Utah, including the Valdo case, the largest fraud in Utah, and will also consider smaller schemes and multi-level marketing enterprises. It will address other types of affinity fraud, beginning with Cleon Skousen and ending with Fawn Brodie.

363. **Paper**  EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL

**Presenter**  BRYAN HORN was raised a devout Roman Catholic and entered into the Catholic seminary to be a priest but joined the LDS Church in 2000. He holds an MA in international relations and a JD from the University of Utah. He is founder and president of Utah County Affirmation, a chapter of Affirmation for Gay and Lesbian Mormons.

**Abstract**  A new and fundamental question of our doctrine has been brought to the forefront in the last decade: “Can one be gay and Mormon?” Despite claims that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is officially politically neutral, it has supported and funded legislation aimed at denying full rights and equality to God’s gay and lesbian children. California’s Proposition 8 was a defining piece of legislation that has brought this question to the forefront not only of LDS Church policy and doctrine, but also national and international political dialogue.

364. **Paper**  TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE FOR A MODERN AGE: A 40TH ANNIVERSARY PERSPECTIVE ON THE OgDEN AND PROvO TEMPLES

**Presenter**  ALAN BARNETT has a BA in history from BYU and an MS in architectural history from the University of Utah. He is the author of *Seeing Salt Lake City: the Legacy of the Shipler Photographers* (Signature, 2001). He currently works as an archivist at the Utah State Archives.

**Abstract**  When the Ogden and Provo Temples were dedicated in 1972, they were unlike any previous temples. Popular reaction to their unconventional designs was mixed at best. While many people accepted the buildings without question, others found them unattractive. An evaluation 40 years after their dedication will explore the origin of the Ogden/Provo temple designs. The designs reflect an attempt to create a modern, efficient temple in the stylistic vocabulary of the time and represent the apex of Modernism in temple design. The two temples set a benchmark for efficiency and reflect an era of optimism about what Mormonism could achieve. Forty years later, the status of the two temples indicates a further shift in the Mormon concept of temples.
365. Paper **DIVINE DISENCHANTMENT: TRANSITIONS AND ASSISTING THOSE IN RELIGIOUS MIGRATION**

**Presenter** JOHN W. MOREHEAD (MA, Salt Lake Theological Seminary) is the director of the Western Institute for Intercultural Studies and of the Evangelical Chapter of the Foundation for Religious Diplomacy. He is co-editor and contributing author for *Encountering New Religious Movements: A Holistic Evangelical Approach* (Kregel Academic, 2004) and editor of *Beyond the Burning Times: A Pagan and Christian in Dialogue* (Lion, 2008).

**Abstract** Reliable social science statistical data indicates that thousands of Latter-day Saints leave the Mormon Church each year. Over time, these individuals adopt a variety of irreligious and religious pathways as a result of their prior Mormon experience. Although the social scientific literature includes material that sheds light on religious affiliation, disaffiliation, and reaffiliation, this material is rarely consulted as an aid to assisting others in their spiritual migration. This seminar will discuss the background behind *Transitions*, a new video and workbook resource designed for immigrants shifting from Mormonism to more traditional forms of Christianity. It will consider the perspective and needs of the transitioner, the multidisciplinary perspectives and resources that inform *Transitions*, and how religious institutions might better assist those making the journey from one religious tradition to another.

**Respondent** DAN WITHERSPOON, PhD, served as editor of *SUNSTONE* and executive director of the Sunstone Education Foundation from 2001 to 2008. The host of the *Mormon Matters* podcast, he also conducts interviews for episodes of the *Mormon Stories* podcast.

366. Paper **CHANGING REVELATORY MESSAGES: A MORMON EXAMPLE**

**Presenter** H. MICHAEL MARQUARDT, an independent historian, is author, co-author, and editor of several works, including *Inventing Mormonism: Tradition and the Historical Record*, *The Strange Marriages of Sarah Ann Whitney*, *The Book of Abraham Revisited*, and *The Joseph Smith Revelations: Text and Commentary*.

**Abstract** Like other individuals, Joseph Smith developed in his ideas, as evidenced by expansion of themes in his revelations and by his recollections of his early life assuming a theological nature. He seemed unconcerned that some of his ideas changed or contradicted previous positions. Joseph was able to express his interpretation of events as he presented new ideas in a revelatory manner. Critical studies usually do not play a part in what a believer has experienced. What is important is how the story is told within the context of faith.

**Moderator** CLAIR BARRUS has a BS in computer science from BYU and is a Senior Systems Engineer. He manages several websites, including Today-in-Church-History, Mormon-Church-History, & LDS-Church-History (blogspot.com)

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM**

371. Panel **TEACHING MORMON STUDIES COURSES**

**Moderator** ROBERT A. REES teaches Mormon Studies at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley.

**Panelists** CLAUDIA L. BUSHMAN, an American/women’s/Mormon Studies person, is officially retired. She still finds plenty to do, mostly recording the present for the future.

RICHARD LYMAN BUSHMAN is Gouverneur Morris Professor of History Emeritus at Columbia University in New York City, and recently visiting Howard W. Hunter Chair of Mormon Studies at Claremont Graduate University. He and his wife, Claudia, taught a course on Contemporary Mormonism at Columbia University in spring 2012.

DOE DAUGHTREY earned a PhD in religious studies at Arizona State University. Her specialty is religion in the Americas with an emphasis on new spirituality, religion, and popular culture, and the gendered experience of religion.

PATRICK MASON is the Howard W. Hunter Chair of Mormon Studies at Claremont Graduate University and author of *The Mormon Menace: Violence and Anti-Mormonism in the Postbellum South* (Oxford 2011).

372. Panel **HEALTHY YOUTH SEXUALITY: A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF FOR THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH**

**Abstract** Utilizing *For the Strength of Youth* as a framework to discuss the Church’s approach to youth and sexuality, this presentation will propose healthier ways of approaching youth sexuality education, starting with the twin issues of dress and modesty. The presenters draw upon two important models for sexuality education within a religious community, “Circles of Sexuality” (Dailey, 1981) and the “Religious Sexual Value System” (Stayton, 1992; Stayton, 2007).

**Moderator**/Panelist KIMBERLY MCKAY, LSW, has worked as a counselor with juvenile sex offenders, focusing on healthier sexual practices. She is working on a PhD in social work and an MEd in human sexuality from Widener University in Chester, PA. She is an adjunct professor at Widener University and teaches social work generalist practice.
Panelists  

**JEFF RICH V** is working toward an MSW and an MED in human sexuality from Widener University in Chester, PA. He is co-chair for the 2012 Careers in Sexuality Professional Skills Conference at Widener University. His areas of interests include the intersection of religion, gender, and sexuality.

**JOSHUA WILLIAMS** helped prepare this presentation. He is founder and managing director of Fashion Consort, a creative agency with a focus on fashion branding, advertising, e-commerce, and social media. He is currently writing a book titled *Undressing the Myth of Modesty*.

**373. Panel**  

**Evolving Media Perceptions of Four 2012 Mormon Presidential Contenders: Mitt Romney, Jon Huntsman, Rocky Anderson, and Roseanne Barr**

**Paper 1**  

**Mitt Romney, GOP President Nominee: The Mormon Question Hits the Big Time**

**Abstract** This paper will focus on the media's evolving perceptions relative to Mitt Romney's Mormonism, specifically as it involved the so-called “Mormon Question.” How have perceptions changed and shifted from the time that the former Massachusetts governor announced his candidacy in early 2011 and as we approach the general election, as Romney seeks the nation’s highest office?

**Presenter** To be announced.

**Paper 2**  

**Three Other 2012 Presidential Candidates with LDS Connections**

**Abstract** This paper will focus on how the media has responded to the respective candidacies of 1) former Utah governor and ambassador to China Jon Huntsman during his unsuccessful campaign for the GOP nomination; 2) the “third party” challenge of former Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson as he pursues the presidency as the candidate of his own self-styled Justice Party; and 3) Roseanne Barr, a television personality and one-time Latter-day Saint, in her bid for the 2012 Green Party presidential nomination.

**Presenter** NEWELL G. BRINGHURST is an emeritus professor of history and political science at the College of the Sequoias.

**374. Panel**  

**Look to the West: Mormonism and the Masonic World View**

**Abstract** During sweeping social change of the 1820s, Americans became increasingly disenchanted with Freemasonry as a kind of secular priesthood. The William Morgan affair (1826) led to an anti-Masonic movement fueled by fears that a free society could not thrive in the presence of secret organizations. Anti-Masons argued that Masons formed a secret combination bound by secret rituals which contained immoral oaths; Masons secretly colluded outside the established boundaries of the political process, yet acted politically as a group; and that individual members were above the law. Most troubling, Freemasonry seemed to blur the line between the religious and the secular. Mormonism is one of the last great flowerings inspired by pre-Morgan style American Freemasonry, and it is significant that similar concerns came to be expressed regarding presidential candidate Joseph Smith and the incipient Mormon Kingdom. Following Masonic models in organizations such as the Danite Band, the Relief Society, the Council of Fifty, this theocratic kingdom struck fear in the hearts of many, both inside and outside the Church.

**Panelists**  

**CHERYL BRUNO** is a poet and blogger with research interests in nineteenth-century Mormonism. In this session, she will explore the political tensions in Joseph Smith’s and William Morgan’s New York and Illinois Masonry, using poems and quotations from literary works of the day.

JOE SWICK was raised to Master Mason in 1995. He is twice Past Master of his local lodge, and twice Past High Priest of his Royal Arch Chapter, receiving the Order of High Priesthood in 2004.

**375. Panel**  

**Confronting Romney in the Streets: Grassroots Resistance to Capitalism and the Mormon 1%**

**Abstract** As US progressives, anarchists, pacifists, queers, feminists, immigrants, and other agitators challenge US empire alongside a revitalized global justice movement, radical Mormons face the challenges and opportunities of pioneering a distinctively Mormon resistance. In this session, we’ll discuss the many kinds of direct action that challenge empire: artwork, riots, dance, strikes, fast-
ing, sabotage, and prayer. We’ll discuss the history and theory of mass mobilizations, the theology of collective redemption that inspires Mormons to challenge imperialism through shared faith, and upcoming plans to defy Romney’s war/austerity agenda.

**Moderator/Panelist**
TRISTAN CALL is a cultural anthropologist studying farmworker and peasant movements at Vanderbilt University. He graduated in Latin American studies and anthropology from BYU in 2008, doing ethnographic fieldwork in the highlands of Guatemala and political work in Utah.

**Panelists**
ASHLEY SANDERS first got involved in activism organizing an alternative graduation when BYU invited Dick Cheney to speak at its official ceremony. Ashley is engaged in democratic community revitalization, feminist empowerment, and political street theater. She is currently working on a play and book.

JOSHUA MADSON received a BA in history and a JD from BYU. He is an attorney practicing in Alpine, UT and editor and contributor for The Mormon Worker, a quarterly paper covering non-violence, social justice, and radical politics.

Other panelists to be announced.

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**BANQUET 7:15 PM**

Join us for the closing banquet and enjoy a delicious feast for both body and mind!

The banquet buffet includes tossed green salad with ranch and Italian dressings, Dijon chicken, pan-seared salmon, oven roasted potatoes, seasonal vegetables, small baguettes with butter, and chocolate silk tarts, lemon bars, and diced seasonal fresh fruit for dessert. Refreshing cranberry spritzer, ice water, and coffee service included.

The banquet session requires a separate registration fee of $36.00 to cover the cost of the meal.

As SUNSTONE must guarantee the catering department a specific number of plates even before the Symposium begins, banquet tickets are available primarily through pre-registration online. However, a few dinners will be available for purchase at the Symposium. If you didn’t purchase a ticket in advance, ask about banquet ticket availability at the Symposium registration desk.

**Sorry, there is no “lecture only” admission to the banquet session.**

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**391. Banquet**

**MINORITY REPORT: HOW MORMONS AND OTHER MINORITY RELIGIONS HAVE SHAPED RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE US**

**Abstract**
Controversies over unpopular religious practices and intolerance toward minority religions are older than the document that protects them. What is and is not protected under the First Amendment? The question has been asked often throughout our nation’s history, each time with the blinding spotlight of public scrutiny shining on a different minority religious group—including, of course, members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Though the role of scrutinized/persecuted minority religious group has not been an easy or particularly pleasant one for Mormons to play, their struggles have contributed to a valuable service for all Americans, religious and nonreligious alike. The Mormon experience of pushing for political, cultural, and social acceptance has helped to shape our understanding—and expand our appreciation—of both the “free exercise” and “establishment” clauses of the First Amendment.

From polygamy to the 2012 Presidential race, the experience of LDS Americans—politicians, prisoners, and proselytizers alike—has mirrored that of other minority religious groups pushing to both live out their faith and live fully as part of the patchwork of our nation: Native Americans using peyote as part of religious ceremonies; Jehovah’s Witnesses abstaining from saying the Pledge of Allegiance; Muslim students wearing headscarves to public school; and Catholics rejecting Evangelical Christian drug rehabilitation programs that contradict their own faith—just to name a few!

Join us to hear EUNICE RHO of the American Civil Liberties Union explore how Mormons and other religious minority groups have helped to strengthen religious liberty in the United States by demanding that the government fully “enforce” the religion clauses of the First Amendment. Ms. Rho will also discuss how ongoing religious discrimination against different groups in different parts of the country continues to keep the ACLU very busy in defense of religious liberty.

**Speaker**

EUNICE HYON MIN RHO is an advocacy and policy counsel with the ACLU. She provides legislative counsel to state affiliates on issues relating to voter suppression and religious freedom, with a special focus on stopping efforts to use religion to discriminate and the unconstitutional promotion of religion in public schools.

Previously, she was with the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, where she led litigation, policy, and advocacy campaigns concerning voter suppression and economic justice.

She has worked as an assistant to the General Counsel of The Legal Aid Society in New York City and as an associate at the law firm of White & Case. She holds a JD from the University of Michigan Law School and a BA in American history from Columbia University.
The Community of Christ announces a post-Symposium Sunday service on 29 July at its Salt Lake City chapel: 2747 Craig Dr. (2747 E. 3640 S.) SLC, UT 84109.

10:00 am: Sunday school
11:00 am: Sacrament
12:00 pm: Community Lunch

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