New Publications

To purchase any of the following publications, please visit www.byubookstore.com and search by book title or ISBN number, or call the BYU Bookstore toll-free at 1-800-253-2578.

Called to Teach: The Legacy of Karl G. Maeser
A. LeGrand Richards

Karl G. Maeser has rightfully been called the spiritual architect not only of Brigham Young University but also of the Church Educational System. As the first superintendent of Church Schools, he helped found and maintain over fifty academies and schools from Canada to Mexico. He helped develop the public education system in Utah and helped establish the Utah Teachers’ Association. The students he taught personally included future United States senators and members of the House of Representatives, a United States Supreme Court justice, university presidents, and many General Authorities.


Zion’s Trumpet: 1853 Welsh Mormon Periodical
Edited by Ronald D. Dennis

It was two days after Christmas in 1852 that Dan Jones arrived back in Wales to serve his second mission, and in a year’s time he would be called as leader of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Wales in place of William S. Phillips and as editor of Zion’s Trumpet in place of John S. Davis. Something even more impactful in 1853 was the issue of polygamy. This practice among Latter-day Saints was publicly acknowledged on August 28, 1852, in Salt Lake City. The acknowledgment in Britain, however, came three and a half months later in the January 1, 1853, issues of Zion’s Trumpet and the Millennial Star. Because of the anticipated impact the announcement of polygamy would likely have on Mormons in Wales, John Davis used the translated writings of Orson Pratt in its defense—these would occupy over 20 percent of the pages of the two Zion’s Trumpet 1853 volumes.

ISBN: 978-0-8425-2852-8, Retail: $34.99

By Divine Design: Best Practices for Family Success and Happiness
Edited by Brent L. Top and Michael A. Goodman

The prophets of God continually raise their warning voices and lovingly give counsel to strengthen our families and heighten the spirituality of our children. This is a gospel-centered “best practices” book for husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, that is founded on prophetic teachings and substantiated by good science. This book will help readers gain new and important insights about our most important responsibilities in time and eternity—our families.

Joseph F. Smith: Reflections on the Man and His Times
Edited by Craig K. Manscill, Brian D. Reeves, Guy L. Dorius, and J. B. Haws

This book is a compilation of presentations from a BYU Church History Symposium. It features more than twenty messages about the life of Joseph F. Smith, including chapters by Elder M. Russell Ballard and Joseph Fielding McConkie. Elder Ballard, great-grandson of Joseph F. Smith, describes how the Lord prepared President Smith to lead the Church. Several scholars, historians, educators, and researchers highlight aspects of President Smith’s life, including his boyhood and adolescence, his family and personal relationships, his doctrinal contributions, Church government, and initiatives taken during his presidency in education, building construction, building the Laie Hawaii Temple, creating the seminary program, and public outreach.


By Our Rites of Worship: Latter-day Saint Views on Ritual in History, Scripture, and Practice
Edited by Daniel L. Belnap

While negative meanings are often attached to the words rite and ritual, these terms simply mean “with correct religious procedure; in the manner required, properly, duly, correctly, rightly, fittingly.” Thus the term perfectly describes an array of practices within our church, including baptism, the laying on of hands, and temple ordinances. This book explores the relationship between the performance of priesthood ordinances (or rituals) and the power of godliness that is mentioned in Doctrine and Covenants 84. Just as in biblical and Book of Mormon times, rites are an essential part of God’s plan for his children. The messages in this book help us understand ritual and its profound role within the Church so that we are able to recognize the transforming power of our rites of worship.


Light and Truth: A Latter-day Saint Guide to World Religions
Roger R. Keller

Do we as Latter-day Saint Christians really need to know about other faiths? Do we not know all we need to know? Sometimes we create our own skewed version of other faiths. If we are to be a world church, it is helpful to understand and appreciate all the good that God has given to persons beyond the Latter-day Saint pale and to represent it accurately. President George Albert Smith said to persons of other faiths: “We have come here as your brethren . . . and to say to you: ‘Keep all the good that you have, and let us bring to you more good, in order that you may be happier and in order that you may be prepared to enter into the presence of our Heavenly Father.’”


Civil War Saints
Edited by Kenneth L. Alford

This book was written for the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, especially the 150th anniversary of the active federal service of Captain Lot Smith’s Utah cavalry company, an active-duty military unit that served for ninety days of federal service guarding a portion of the Overland Trail. Although Utah Territory was physically removed from the Civil War battlefields and the resulting devastation, the war had a deep impact on the territory and its inhabitants.

Upcoming Events

**Sidney B. Sperry Symposium**

*Friday and Saturday, October 24–25, 2014*

The title of this year’s symposium is “The Ministry of Peter, the Chief Apostle.” The symposium will shed important light on the mission of the man whom Jesus himself referred to as “the rock.” Presentations will explore Peter’s cultural background, his role in the apostolic church, many of his noted teachings, and his important legacy in early Christianity and the Restoration. Peter is one who overcame his own weaknesses to become one of the most powerful witnesses of the divinity, mission, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The keynote speaker will be Elder Bruce C. Hafen. For updated information, please visit rsc.byu.edu/symposia/sperry.

**BYU Church History Symposium**

*Thursday and Friday, March 5 and 6, 2015 (tentatively)*

Throughout the history of this symposium, presenters have included notable General Authorities of the Church, historians, scholars, educators, and authors. This symposium was established to annually explore a topic of special interest in the history of the Church. Historians and scholars meet to share the fruits of their research with each other and a general audience of interested Latter-day Saints and friends. Selected papers from previous symposia have been printed in books copublished by the Religious Studies Center and Deseret Book. For details and updated information about this symposium, visit rsc.byu.edu/conferences.

*These events are free of charge, and registration is not required. Some event details are subject to change. For more details, please visit us online at rsc.byu.edu/conferences or contact Brent Nordgren at 801-422-3293.*

Staff Spotlight

**Director**

Dean Brent L. Top received his degrees from BYU—a BA in history, a master’s degree in instructional media, and a PhD in instructional science and technology. He held the Moral Education Professorship for two years prior to his call as president of the Illinois Peoria Mission (2004–7). He was appointed chair of the Department of Church History and Doctrine in June 2009. He married Wendy Cope, and they are the parents of four children and reside in Pleasant Grove, Utah, where he currently serves as the president of the Pleasant Grove Utah East Stake.

**Student Editing Intern**

Rebecca Hamson is a senior from Kennewick, Washington, studying English language with a minor in editing. She has been working at the Religious Studies Center since January of 2014 and has loved the time she has spent editing there. Following graduation, Rebecca plans to pursue a career in editing. When she is not at school or work, Rebecca spends her free time involved with various programs on campus: she is an executive director with the Brigham Young University Student Association, a peer buddy with the Best Buddies program, and a managing editor for the magazine *Stance for the Family*.

**Student Design Intern**

Alex Masterson is a senior at BYU from Dallas, Texas. He is majoring in communications and minoring in editing, and he is passionate about design, technical writing, and children’s literature. Right now he is interning with The Dream Press, a start-up children’s publisher, and Coding Campus, a local developer school. In his spare time, Alex enjoys playing piano and writing short stories.
Submission Guidelines

The Religious Educator serves the needs and interests of those who study and teach the restored gospel of Jesus Christ on a regular basis. The distinct focuses are on teaching the gospel; publishing studies on scripture, doctrine, and Church history; and sharing outstanding devotional essays. The beliefs of the respective authors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Complete author guidelines are provided at rsc.byu.edu/RSCStyleGuide.pdf. All manuscripts should be submitted electronically to rsc@byu.edu. Hard-copy submissions are accepted only if an electronic copy is included.

Manuscripts should be double-spaced, including quotations. Authors should follow style conventions of The Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition, and the Style Guide for Publications of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3rd edition, as reflected in a recent issue of the Religious Educator.

Manuscripts will be evaluated by the following questions:

1. Does the manuscript address a clear thesis? Does the argument proceed cautiously and logically? Is the writing clear? Is it engaging and interesting? If not, why?

2. To what degree is the author knowledgeable on the topic as a whole, as shown, for example, by content, phrasing, contextualizing, thorough use of the best sources, and bibliography? Does the author adequately acknowledge and deal with opposing views? If not, why?

3. Does the manuscript present significant new data or new perspectives? What is its main contribution? Will people want to read this ten years from now? Does it make a contribution without resorting to sensationalism or controversy?

4. Does the author follow the canons of responsible scholarship (uses sound and fair methodology; documents arguable facts)? If not, why?

5. Is the manuscript faith-promoting? Is the piece in harmony with the established doctrine of the Church?

If a manuscript is accepted, authors will be notified and asked to provide photocopies of all source materials cited, arranged in order, numbered to match the endnotes, and highlighted to show the quotations or paraphrases. Photocopies of source material must include title page and source page with the highlighted quotations.

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