MORMON BODIES
LITERAL METAPHORICAL DOCTRINAL
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

31 JULY–3 AUGUST 2013
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
OLPIN STUDENT UNION
200 S. CENTRAL CAMPUS DR,
SALT LAKE CITY, 84112
801.581.5888
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAMS, SHARON</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALLRED, DAVID</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALLRED, JANICE</td>
<td>321, 371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDERSON, JARED</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDERSON, KATRINA</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCHIBALD, CHELSEI</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARGETSINGER, GAIL</td>
<td>322, 355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARGETSINGER, GERALD</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAKER, JACOB</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARBER, PHYLLIS</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARRUS, CLAIR</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASQUAT, JENNIFER</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENCH, CURT</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BERGERA, GARY JAMES</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK, KRISTEEN</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLANCHARD, MARIE</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLOUNT, PARKER</td>
<td>123, 231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOHN, JEFFERY R.</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOKOVOY, DOUG</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRADFORD, CHRISTOPHER</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRADLEY, DON</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRINGHURST, NEWELL G.</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROWN, JASON MINTON</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRUNO, CHERYL</td>
<td>134, 272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURLINGAME, SARA</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURTON, D. JEFF</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSHMAN, CLAUDIA L.</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUTTERWORTH, LISA</td>
<td>112, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARLSON, STEPHEN</td>
<td>241, 364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLETT, SARAH</td>
<td>331, 373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPIER, DON</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPTON, GEORGE R.</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURTIS, EMILY CLYDE</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAUGHTREY, DOE</td>
<td>224, 353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVIES, THOMAS L.</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECKER, MARK T.</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWYER, DANIEL P.</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDELMAN, ALAN</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDMUNDS, MARIAN</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLAND, JONATHAN G.</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINLAYSON-FIFE, JENNIFER</td>
<td>334, 374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISHER, ADAM</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISHER, GEORGE</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORD, ADAM</td>
<td>353, 364, 373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLDBERG, JAMES</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUSTAV-WRATHALL, JOHN</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAGLUND, KRISTINE</td>
<td>153, 231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALE, BRIAN C.</td>
<td>272, 335, 354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAMER, JOHN</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HANCOCK, HOLLIE</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HANKS, MAXINE</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HANSEN, NADINE</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARMAN, BENJAMIN</td>
<td>316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARRELL, CHARLES</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARRIS, MATT</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAUG, JORDAN</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HILL, JED</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HINCKLEY, RONALD</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HODGES, BLAIR DEE</td>
<td>312, 374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HODSON, KRISTIN W2</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HORN, BRYAN</td>
<td>091, 164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUNTER, CAMERON</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUNTER, NICHOLE</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JARED</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JARVIS, BRAD</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHNSON, MELVIN C.</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOLLEY, JORDAN</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JONES III, EDWARD</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNG, HANNAH</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNG, KATIE</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KELLY, KATE</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KENNEY, SCOTT</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIMBALL, TOM</td>
<td>133, 315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAMBERT, GLEN</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAURITZEN, STEPHANIE</td>
<td>172, 271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAVER, JEFF</td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEAHY, ANNE</td>
<td>281, 324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINKHART, ROBIN</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUFFMAN, DALE</td>
<td>133, 151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALONE, BRANDT</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARLYNE</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTINEZ, RICO</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYHEW, MELISSA</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAYNE, MITCH</td>
<td>091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McBAIN, NEYLAN</td>
<td>336, 371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCCALL, KIM</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCGEE, BILL</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCINTYRE, ELISHA</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCKAY, KIMBERLY</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMULLIN, KARI LIN</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMULLIN, PAUL</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MECHAM, KRISTA</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILLER, CRAIG</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTGOMERY, TOM</td>
<td>091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONTGOMERY, WENDY</td>
<td>091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORAIN, WILLIAM</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORALES, MELANIE</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORRIS, RACHEL</td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTT, ELIZABETH J.</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNSON, ERIKA</td>
<td>091, 252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWLEY, MELODY</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEWTON, STEPHANIE</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOBLEY, MATT</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’DONOVAN, CONNELL</td>
<td>335, 354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLAIZ, HUGO</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLSEN, MARK</td>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONE VOICE CHOIR</td>
<td>091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSMOND, RUSSELL</td>
<td>240, 253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARK, LINDSAY HANSEN</td>
<td>271, 331, 352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARKER, NATASHA HELPER</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYNE, SETH</td>
<td>134, 362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PETERSEN, BOYD</td>
<td>151, 274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINGREE, J. FREDERICK</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLLY</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POTTER, DENNIS</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRICE, AMBER</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCE, GREGORY A.</td>
<td>255, 281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUINN, D. MICHAEL</td>
<td>255, 263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REES, ROBERT A.</td>
<td>091, 132, 252, 301, 336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESS, JANA</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERTS, ALICE FISHER</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERTSON, MARY ELLEN</td>
<td>091, 172, 353, 364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROCKWELL, GREG</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROSS, NANCY</td>
<td>254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSELL, WILLIAM D.</td>
<td>124, 151, 222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RYAN, CAITLIN</td>
<td>091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAI, BEN</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SANDERS, ASHLEY</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHERER, MARK A.</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIELDS, STEVEN L.</td>
<td>151, 212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMITH, CHRISTOPHER C.</td>
<td>134, 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMITH, DARRON T.</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMITHSON, JAMES</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMYTH, KAREN</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPEER, WILLIAM D.</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAFFANSON, DEREK</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEED, JESSICA OBERAN</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEENBLIK, RACHEL</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEINECKERT, RACHEL</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEVENS, MICHAEL J. W.1, 141, 173, 341, 364</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRATFORD, TRAVIS</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cover Photos by David Carter**
2013 Theme: *Mormon Bodies: Literal, Metaphorical, Doctrinal*

WORKSHOPS

We have a great selection of Sunstone Workshops this year! See pages 6–8 for details about this year’s workshop offerings, instructors, and registration information.

2013 PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

This 2013 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 2013, Issue number: SL13.

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 SUNSTONE.ORG to see updated versions of the program.

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. Audio order forms will be available online at SUNSTONE.ORG 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 there is FREE to Sunstone attendees on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. 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. On **Saturday ONLY**, parking in other campus parking lots is free (except the visitors lot).

Attendees may 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 (handicapped parking is free with placard).

Attendees 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 at the Guest House and walk to the Union (it’s a long walk) or ride the campus shuttle. A schedule for the shuttle can be found at [http://www.commuterservices.utah.edu/transportation/shuttles/index.html](http://www.commuterservices.utah.edu/transportation/shuttles/index.html). Look for the summer shuttle schedule.

LODGING

This year’s Salt Lake Symposium dates are up against the large Outdoor Retailers Convention in Salt Lake City. We encourage Symposium attendees to book lodging ASAP, as rooms are priced significantly higher and Salt Lake hotels book up when the Outdoor Retailers convention is in town.

A block of rooms has been reserved for Sunstone attendees at the Country Inn & Suites located at 999 North 500 West in Bountiful, UT. This URL will connect you directly with our room block: [WWW.COUNTRYINNS.COM/SUNSTONEEDU](http://WWW.COUNTRYINNS.COM/SUNSTONEEDU).
The rooms in the Sunstone block are $119/night (plus 11.85% tax per room per night). The block has double queen rooms and king suites with a sofa bed. Room amenities include a refrigerator, microwave, complimentary wireless Internet, hair dryer, coffee maker, iron, and ironing board. Hotel amenities include continental breakfast, indoor pool, fitness center, and a free shuttle to and from the Salt Lake International Airport.

To book a room in the Sunstone block, call 1-801-292-8100 or 1-800-456-4000 and mention the Sunstone rate. The $119/night + tax rate is available 31 July–4 August 2013. You can also book your room online: www.countryinns.com/sunstoneedu or www.countryinns.com/bountiful-hotel-ut-84010/utwestb.

The cut-off date to reserve rooms in the Sunstone block is 8 July 2013 at 5:00 pm. Reservations made after the cut-off date will be based on room availability. Given the hotel’s proximity to Salt Lake, rooms are likely to sell out; please plan ahead regarding lodging!

Other Salt-Lake-area hotels may have availability during the Symposium.

The University Guest House and the SLC Marriott University Park are the closest hotels to the Student Union. Sunstone is unable to provide blocks of rooms at these hotels, but contact information is being provided as a courtesy.

Contact the University Guest house at 801-587-1000 or 888-416-4075 or visit www.universityguesthouse.com/.

Contact the SLC Marriott University Park at 801-581-1000 or 800-228-9290 or visit www.marriott.com/hotels/slcup-salt-lake-city-marriott-university-park/.

Again, we encourage out-of-town attendees to book lodging in Salt Lake ASAP!

TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM SLC AIRPORT

Taxi and shuttle services are available at the ground transportation desk at either terminal.

Express Shuttle: 801-596-1600 or 877-2SHUTTLE http://www.expressshuttleutah.com/

City Cab: 801-363-5550 http://www.citycab.coffeecup.com
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 closest stop to the Student Union, but still requires a few minutes’ walk. The newly-opened TRAX Green line runs from the Salt Lake International Airport to downtown Salt Lake. From there, you can take the Red TRAX line to the University of Utah campus. See www.rideuta.com and select TRAX in the upper right corner for more information and TRAX schedules.

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. Dining options include Panda Express, Chilits, Chef’s Table, The Grill, The Deli, Papa John’s, Chop’d (salads), Jamba Juice, and a convenience store. There are also several food trucks that serve lunch on the library quad on weekdays.

* Since the campus food court is closed on Saturday, we have arranged to have box lunches on Saturday ONLY. Attendees can purchase a box lunch through online pre-registration and pick up their order Saturday August 3 at noon at the registration desk.

The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus offers breakfast (6:30–9:00 am), lunch (11:00 am–2:00 pm), and dinner (4:30–7:30 pm) for $7–9, Monday through Friday, and is within moderate walking distance of the Student Union. Saturday breakfast hours are 7:30–9:00 am. Call 801-581-6347 for more information.

There are many restaurants near campus including the Corner Bakery Cafe, Pie Pizzeria, B&D Burger, Market Street Broiler, Indochine Vietnamese Bistro, and Aristo’s Greek Restaurant and Cafe. A list of nearby restaurants will be available at the registration desk.

BYO WATER BOTTLE

In keeping with the University of Utah’s sustainability practices, we encourage Sunstone attendees to bring reusable water bottles to the Symposium and use the Student Union’s water bottle filling stations and drinking fountains for refills.

While we will still provide drinking water stations, we encourage you to bring a reusable water bottle or to reuse disposable cups throughout the day. We also ask that you dispose of plastic containers, soda cans, paper, and your used Sunstone program in the recycling containers located throughout the Union.

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,” meaning that 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 or complement yours.

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


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 where 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.

POIN Ts To NO T E

PROGRAM. Sunstone offers a diverse selection of topics, formats, and perspectives. Be excited to hear views that coincide with your own, but also prepare to hear presentations that 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 Symposia rely heavily on the efforts of many volunteers. Please consider helping at this year’s symposium by working at the registration desk, taking tickets, or chairing sessions. Or consider presenting a paper or organizing a panel for next year!

2014 SYMPOSIUM DATES

30 July–2 August, 2014
University of Utah Student Union
Salt Lake City, Utah

2014 SYMPOSIUM THEME

Bridges and Byways: Traversing the Mormon Landscape

Bridges are structures that span barriers and allow us to move between physical locations. Byways are secondary roads—the scenic routes that emphasize exploration and the journey. How can thinking about bridges and byways help us understand Mormon history, theology, and culture?

The need for bridges is often obvious: there’s a chasm, road, or waterway to cross. Metaphorically speaking, we can construct bridges of understanding that connect people and ideas. Where does it make sense to build new bridges? How much of our resources should we use to maintain aging bridges? When do we need to demolish outdated bridges? When do we reinforce or rebuild bridges that have become unsound? Is our intent to build permanent, lasting structures—or quick, temporary crossings?

Metaphorical byways suggest the pursuit of knowledge off the beaten (or correlated) path—the fascinating historical tidbits and obscure figures that enrich and deepen our understanding. Brigham Young once said “Mormonism includes all truth.” Byways can help us find new and divergent ways to create an interconnected system.

As the LDS Church evolved over nearly two centuries, which of its bridges and byways became mainstream thoroughfares? Which bridges deteriorated or fell into disuse? What new bridges and byways are being built as the LDS Church expands nationally and globally? What has changed about our thoroughfares since the early days of the Church? Which bridges have been built by Church headquarters and which have sprung up through grassroots efforts?

Early Saints watched bridges being burned behind them as they were driven from settlements in the Midwest. What effect did this persecution have on Mormons’ willingness to build or rebuild bridges later on with the outside world?

How has modern Mormonism bridged the divide between itself and other New Religious Movements; between the larger religious landscape in the US and the rest of the globe? Where has two-way traffic flowed smoothly on Mormonism’s bridges to the outside world and where have there been bottlenecks and collisions? When has tension arisen between those Saints who prefer well-traveled bridges and those who prefer the byways?

Finally, how has the information superhighway rerouted traffic? Certainly, Mormons are more connected than ever before; what are the benefits to these additional means of connectivity? And what costs are being exacted? Along our byways, where are the rest stops, the historic markers, the toll booths, the road closures, and the perpetual construction zones?

We invite proposals that amplify and develop ideas about Mormonism’s various bridges and byways for next year’s Salt Lake Symposium.
Registration Information
Workshop registration requires a separate fee and is available primarily via online preregistration. Advance registration allows the instructors to anticipate the number of students and prepare handouts and other materials for the class.

Workshop registration costs are $25 for one AM or PM workshop, or $40 for one full-day workshop or the combination of one AM and one PM session or workshop. Check our website for more details about workshops: WWW.SUNSTONEMAGAZINE.COM/SYMPHOSIM-REGISTRATION/

If you preregister for workshops, you will be able to pick up your preprinted name badge at the Symposium registration desk starting at 9:00 am Wednesday 31 July 2013.

Typically, workshops can accommodate additional people who register on-site. 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 the Olpin Student Union Building.

FULL DAY WORKSHOP, 9:30 AM–6:00 PM

W1. Title BEYOND PASSIVE-AGGRESSION: RESOLVING CONFLICT AND ACHIEVING HEALTHY COLLABORATION with MICHAEL J. STEVENS

Description When trying to resolve conflict or influence others, many people view their options as either being directly confrontational and imposing, or being indirectly passive while hoping for the best. Recent research suggests that many well-intentioned Latter-day Saints are especially prone to using the indirect and passive-aggressive responses to conflict. In either case, however, both the confrontational and passive approaches run contrary to Christian ideals and must give way to approaches that emphasize collaboration, mutual respect, and healthy interdependence, if we are to be successful in our relationships with others.

The objective of this full-day seminar is to introduce participants to both a conceptual framework and a set of specific and actionable skills for influencing others in an assertive yet mutually respectful and collaborative manner consistent with gospel precepts. We will also explore the intricacies and challenges of mastering and applying the framework and skill sets from a position of upward relationships (e.g., subordinates influencing leaders), downward relationships (e.g., leaders influencing subordinates, or parents influencing children), or horizontal relationships (e.g., peers or siblings influencing other peers or siblings).

This workshop is appropriate for individuals wishing to improve and refine their conflict resolution and interpersonal influence skills so as to work with others in a more positive, healthy, and mutually respectful way, leaving behind both passive-aggression and unrighteous dominion. (Please note that participants wishing to sign up will need to attend both the morning and afternoon sessions since the material is presented sequentially).

Instructor MICHAEL J. STEVENS is a management professor and department chair at Weber State University where he teaches and conducts research in organizational behavior and leadership. He also consults widely and regularly gives workshops in the business and nonprofit sectors, specializing in executive coaching and leadership development, improving organizational performance through empowerment and teamwork, and interpersonal effectiveness in the workplace. He also serves as the co-chair of the Sunstone board of directors.

NOTE: There is a 90-minute break for lunch from 1:00–2:30 pm.

MORNING WORKSHOPS, 9:30 AM–1:00 PM

W2. Title THE GODLY DESIGN OF INTIMACY—LDS STYLE with ALISHA WORTHINGTON and KRISTIN HODSON

Description When God designed our bodies, our genitals were not an afterthought. Yet our culture has
decided that learning about our own body, knowing how it functions, and the myriad of sensations it can experience is to be kept secret—instead of pleasurably sacred. By attempting to “throw off the natural man,” we’ve discarded one of the most intense and satisfying bodily experiences we can have. God designed sex and intimacy and we must deliberately seek to understand that concept to enjoy genuine, healthy sexuality.

**Instructors**

ALISHA B. WORTHINGTON is the co-author of *Real Intimacy: A Couple’s Guide to Healthy, Genuine Sexuality* published in August 2012 by Cedar Fort Publishing Co. She regularly appears on X96’s Radio from Hell program along with Kristin answering callers’ sex and intimacy questions. Alisha is a sex and intimacy coach at The Healing Group, a therapeutic clinic for women. She graduated from BYU in social work, has been married for 17 years, and is the mother of seven children.

KRISTIN B. HODSON is the co-author of *Real Intimacy: A Couple’s Guide to Healthy, Genuine Sexuality*. Kristin is an LCSW gaining degrees from BYU and the University of Utah. She is the founder and owner of The Healing Group, a therapeutic clinic for women in Midvale, UT. She is working toward her ASSECT certification and also enjoys being on the radio with Alisha. Kristin has been married for six years and has two children.

**W3. Title**

WHEN EXPECTATIONS DON’T ALIGN WITH REALITY: A DISCUSSION OF SHAME AND SHAME RESILIENCE

**Description**

In Primary, we learn that if we keep our bodies “clean and habit free” we can return to live with God. But what happens when it seems our bodies fail us? How do we “hold to the rod” when our addiction is actually a disease? Or when infertility prevents us from fulfilling our divine mandate? What of the man who is attracted to another man? Many Mormons carry intense shame about their bodies, and they may feel this shame intensely in their bodies. This presentation will discuss ways that members of the Church can release feelings of shame and develop shame resilience as adults.

**Instructor**

KARI LIN JOHNSON McMULLIN is many things: a returned missionary, mother to three children, wife, Kindermusik educator, former middle school teacher, guitar player, Primary pianist, runner, and non-traditional student working to obtain an MSW degree. She is also an adult child of an alcoholic. Her recovery from the effects of alcoholism in her life drives her passion to share her story about the pain of shame (which includes relevant research and technical material) and to hold a discussion with others about effective and healthy ways to move through shame.

**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 offers breakfast (6:30–9:00 am), lunch (11:00 am–2:00 pm), and dinner (4:30–7:30 pm) for $7–9, Monday–Friday and is within moderate walking distance of the Student Union. Call 801-581-6347 for more information. See page 4 for more information about nearby dining options.

**AFTERNOON WORKSHOP, 2:30–6:00 PM**

**W4. Title**

CHARisma 101: EXPLORing JOSEPH SMith’S LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION STYLE

**Instructor**

RUSSELL OSMOND

**Description**

Have you ever wondered what constitutes charisma and how those who are charismatic are able to successfully lead others and maintain social relationships? Joseph Smith is known to have been a charismatic man who appealed to many disparate personalities while maintaining a loyal and near-blind-faithful following. Exactly how did he achieve such a feat? This workshop will describe the how of what it was that Joseph Smith accomplished and communicated as well as why so many of his recorded words seem contradictory when in actuality they are not. These insights will be presented in the context of the most commonly repeated Joseph Smith “memories” (actual and anecdotal) in the writing of those who walked and talked with him. Using a behavioral model, workshop participants will assess Joseph Smith’s approaches to leadership and communication.

At the end of the session, each attendee will be able to assess the charismatic elements of their personal approach to communication in the same way we’re examining Joseph Smith.
Also, each attendee will leave the workshop with a nifty template on how to maximize their Sunstone attendance using the aforementioned techniques of charisma.

For a preview of the tools that will be used in this workshop and additional readings, email Russ@ChangeStrategiesGroup.com.

Instructor
RUSSELL OSMOND has a PhD from Syracuse University where he researched terrorist behaviors and their motivations. He has taught extensively about the implications of behavioral theory for belief and ritual with a particular emphasis on understanding the communication needs and styles of the “true believer” in various cultural traditions.

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 the Olpin Student Union Building.

SMITH-PETTIT LECTURE, 8:00 PM

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

091. Chair
MARY ELLEN ROBERTSON, director of outreach and symposia, Sunstone Education Foundation.

Lecture
FAMILIES ARE FOREVER ... AND FOR NOW

Speaker
CAITLIN RYAN PhD, ACSW is a clinical social worker who has worked to address the health and mental health needs of LGBT youth and adults for nearly 40 years. She is the director of the Family Acceptance Project affiliated with San Francisco State University. Her work has been recognized by major mental health professional associations, including the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association’s Division 44 which awarded her the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award, and many other professional organizations and groups.

Dr. Ryan has been developing a series of research-based family education materials to help families understand the critical role of family support in decreasing risk and promoting the well-being of LGBT children and adolescents. She is collaborating with agencies, faith communities, organizations, and providers to develop an international movement of family acceptance to promote wellness and healthy futures for LGBT children, youth, and young adults.

Abstract
This session includes a description of the empirical foundations of Dr. Ryan’s family acceptance research, a screening of Families are Forever, and a panel discussion on strengthening families, congregations, and communities.

Families are Forever, a documentary film produced by the Family Acceptance Project at San Francisco State University, chronicles the experience of one faithful Latter-day Saint family as they come to terms with their extended family and congregation when they discover that their adolescent son is gay. The film explores the real-life struggle of parents faced with the conflict between faith and family.

The theme of the 2013 Sunstone Symposium is illustrated in Families are Forever since it deals with the various bodies within Mormonism. In reality, we belong to bodies of other bodies—individuals to whom we are related or connected—biologically, socially, or spiritually. Families are Forever is based on one such body, a faithful Mormon family, and its relationship to other bodies (their extended family, congregation, community, and church). All of these bodies are interrelated and codependent. The health of each as well as the whole is dependent on the health of each member.

Families are Forever illustrates that the healthy functioning of each of these bodies is dependent on love. When individual members of these bodies fail to love other members, to nourish and sustain any member within it, the individuals and the body as a whole suffer.

Moderator/Panelist
ROBERT A. REES is a visiting professor of Mormon Studies at the Graduate Theological Union and UC Berkeley.

Panelists
CAITLIN RYAN, PhD, ACSW, is a clinical social worker whose work has addressed the health and mental health needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth and adults for nearly 40 years. She is the director of the Family Acceptance Project affiliated with San Francisco State University.

ERIKA MUNSON was raised in Cambridge, MA. She attended Harvard College and
earned a BA in fine arts. In 2009, after 25 years of raising her five children in the Northeast and Europe, she and her husband moved to Utah. In May 2012, she founded Mormons Building Bridges with Kendall Wilcox and Bianca Morrison-Dillard. She currently teaches English at the Waterford School in Sandy and is choir director in the Willow Creek 3rd Ward.

MITCH MAYNE is an openly gay, active Latter-day Saint serving as the executive secretary in the bishopric of the Bay Ward in San Francisco. In addition to the formal duties of his calling, Mitch works to build bridges between the LGBT and Mormon communities, and speaks and writes about his experiences as an openly gay Mormon. He works in corporate communication for a Fortune 100 firm.

REV. MARIAN EDMUNDS is the executive director of the OUTreach Resource Center, which works with 350 LGBTQ youth in Utah and is the model for 22 other youth centers in the US. Marian has used Family Acceptance Project materials for years in her ministry as well as in OUTreach programs for families, youth, and communities.

TOM MONTGOMERY is an active member of the LDS church. During the Proposition 8 campaign in California, he went door-to-door in support of it. He has since developed a great love for the LGBT Mormon community and blogs at No More Strangers: LGBT Mormon Forum. His single qualification to be in this esteemed company is being the father of a wonderful gay son.

WENDY MONTGOMERY is a life-long member of the LDS Church and a mother of five, including a gay son. She blogs at No More Strangers: LGBT Mormon Forum.

The One Voice Choir will perform several musical numbers during the opening lecture. Musical director BRYAN HORN launched The One Voice Choir in August 2012, a radically inclusive choir dedicated to bringing the LGBT and straight Mormon communities together through singing sacred music. New members are always welcome!

This lecture is FREE and open to the public. Caitlin Ryan’s lecture has been made possible by the generous support of the Smith-Pettit Foundation.
and articles, including Mark Scherer’s multi-volume history of the Community of Christ.

Abstract Utah Mormons often believe that their cousins in Community of Christ (the former RLDS Church) have abandoned the ideals of the Restoration and become “just another Protestant church,” but Community of Christ remains distinct from Protestantism in its approach to the role and concept of scripture.

Understandings of scripture in Community of Christ have evolved along a unique trajectory. The canon remains wide open as new scripture is regularly added to the church’s book of Doctrine and Covenants. The experience of continually creating new scripture has given the church a special perspective on the entire canon as an indispensable witness—authoritative not as a master, but as a servant.

112. Paper REDEFINING CHASTITY: A PATH TOWARD HEALTHY, EMPOWERED, AND MORALLY EXCELLENT CHOICES

Presenter LISA BUTTERWORTH is the founder of Feminist Mormon Housewives and a graduate student in counseling. She teaches Sunday School, plays lots of Munchkin with her munchkins, is equally yoked for time and eternity with a totally righteous provider, and has worn out at least four vacuums.

Abstract The way Mormons currently (mis)use words such as chastity, virtue, purity, and modesty leads to a lot of harmful and confusing rhetoric directed at young people. But as Mormons we also have powerful teachings about sacred embodiment that preclude the notion that purity must mean innocence (or ignorance), that chastity must mean virginity, or that modesty can be reduced to a line on our knees and shoulders. Instead of largely ignoring these powerful embodied doctrines, we must put them to use. We can uphold traditional Mormon morals while stepping away from the fear-based, body-shaming, victim-blaming, innocence-revering, grace-deficient, traditional Mormon approach to sexuality.

113. Panel THE BODY UNVEILED

Paper 1 BARING ALL: STRIPPING MODESTY NORMS THROUGH NUDE PHOTOGRAPHY

Presenter KATRINA ANDERSON is a photographer, mother, and fierce feminist. She is passionate about women’s issues, especially birth and breastfeeding. Her latest photography project is called Mormon Women Bare, an exploration of body image within a patriarchal tradition. Katrina has a BA in communications from BYU.

Abstract Mormon women bear a heavy burden: while being warned against becoming “walking pornography,” they also face immense pressure to be attractive and fit. They must both attract and protect against male desire. From toddlerhood, girls are conditioned to cover their bodies. This hyper-focus on modesty leaves many girls and women feeling disconnected and ambivalent about their bodies. The Mormon Women Bare project seeks to empower women to reclaim their bodies. Through tasteful nude photography and personal narratives, women are shown as beautiful and flawed, real and exposed. Women of different shapes, sizes, and ages demonstrate that bodies need not bring shame but can be owned, celebrated, and honored.

Paper 2 MY JOURNEY INTO NUDE ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Presenter PAUL McMULLIN is a husband and a father who enjoys hiking and camping with his family. He is a structural engineer who works on heavy industrial projects and teaches as an adjunct professor. Working in film, he is passionate about the human form; seeing it as a direct window to the soul and the ultimate expression of human vulnerability.

Abstract This presentation will discuss a Mormon man’s discovery of the nude in art, his participation in its creation, and the process, joys, fears, and images along the path to discovering and loving the uncovered human form.

114. Paper GENDER AND FASHION IN EARLY MORMON UTAH

Presenter TAMARA TAYSOM holds a MA in education and history. She has taught elementary school for 17 years in Texas and Utah. She is an avid Sunstoner and is interested in gender issues and Mormonism.

Abstract Clothing is intimately related to the issues of the body. It is used to protect the body from the physical elements and to cover sexualized parts of the body. It is also used to draw attention to private areas and tempt potential partners. Moreover, clothing, or fashion, is critical to our social construction of gender and gender roles. Fashion is also how we differentiate ourselves from people of other social classes. Using pictures of clothing from late nineteenth-
century Utah, Tamara Taysom will explore how early Mormon settlers thought about fashion and its relationship to the body, to gender roles, and to the social world.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 9:45–10:45 AM

121. **Paper**  AN EXPANDED VIEW OF THE BODY OF THE CHURCH: WHAT PEW RESEARCH CENTER DATA SHOWS ABOUT THE LDS “BODY OF CHRIST”

**Presenter** RONALD HINCKLEY is the retired president of Research/Strategy/Management, Inc. His PhD is in political science from USC. He has lectured on public opinion research, information use in decision making, and crisis management at universities throughout the country.

**Abstract** This paper proposes a unique examination of the members and body of the Church using data from the PEW Research Center’s Forum on Religion and Public Life project. The presenter will describe and compare Church members demographically, spiritually, and politically based on relevant questions in the survey. Previous analyses of these data usually take descriptive and comparative approaches to Mormons: who are the Mormons demographically? What are their beliefs and religiosity, and how do they differ or not differ from believers in other religions? This presentation extends the inquiry in new directions to provide a more complete picture of the “body of Christ,” including two of its strongest dimensions: religious activity and existential spiritual experiences.

122. **Paper**  DRUGS, SEX, AND THE ROCK: AN EXERCISE IN SOCIAL/RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION

**Presenter** JAMES SMITHSON has an MA in cultural anthropology from Arizona, and a doctorate in development sociology from Cornell. He spent 20 years doing professional research in more than two dozen countries.

**Abstract** Under the influence of Western culture and American individualism, we seem to have a hard time seeing our lives, including our religious lives, in social and relational terms. This exercise in social and religious imagination will focus on three examples: the Word of Wisdom (“drugs”), the Law of Chastity (“sex”), and the Atonement (“the Rock”) and examine some social, relational aspects of the gospel, alongside—or perhaps instead of—the more obvious personal aspects.

123. **Paper**  THE LAST OF THE NEPHITES

**Presenter** PARKER BLOUNT is a retired university professor who lives in Georgia on the Ohooppee River where he reads, writes, fishes, and sometimes gardens. He has been working with a therapist in an effort to overcome an academically instilled addiction to the passive voice.

**Abstract** A friend once told Parker that she believed Moroni to be a real person. (What else would you expect a faithful Latter-day Saint to say?) Parker said impulsively, “Of course he is real. Would a fictional account have a man—the last remaining white man, running for his life—suddenly deciding he needs to clear up questions on the inappropriateness of infant baptism?” As he thought about his off-the-cuff comment, Parker was increasingly intrigued with the idea of whether the record of those final days of the Nephite tribe, including the three primary characters—God, Mormon, and Moroni—sounds like fiction or nonfiction. As he studied those closing pages of the Book of Mormon from this perspective, Parker was surprised at what he found.

124. **Paper**  HELL AND SATAN: FAITH-PROMOTING RUMORS

**Presenter** WILLIAM D. RUSSELL is a professor emeritus at Graceland University in Lamoni, IA, where he taught religion, history, and political science for 41 years. He has a master of divinity from Saint Paul School of Theology, a law degree from the University of Iowa, and has published widely in Mormon Studies.

**Abstract** In Biblical literature, the concepts of hell and Satan arrived fairly late on the scene. In most of the Hebrew Bible (which we Christians provincially call “The Old Testament”), there is no Satan as Christians think of him, nor is there hellfire for us sinners to experience if we sin too much or don’t praise the Lord enthusiastically enough. This paper will argue that Mormons of various factions and all Christians should abandon these two un-Christian ideas.

**Creative** WILLIAM D. MORAIN, MD, is a retired professor of plastic surgery at Dartmouth Medical School and the author of *The Sword of Laban: Joseph Smith, Jr., and the Dissociated Mind*. He is the editor of the *John Whitmer Historical Association Journal*.

**Pianist** To be announced.
CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

131. Panel ORDAIN WOMEN

Abstract This panel will discuss the rise of the Ordain Women movement within the context of Mormon feminism. Topics will include the theological foundation for women’s ordination, the role of ordination and ordination activism within the Mormon feminist community, the recent actions taken through the Ordain Women website to highlight these issues, and the future of women’s ordination activism within the LDS community.

Moderator ASHLEY SANDERS planned an alternative BYU commencement and works on democratic community revitalization, feminist empowerment, and political street theater.

Panelists KATE KELLY is the founder of the Ordain Women movement. She has a BA in political science from BYU and graduated from the American University Washington College of Law. She believes the ordination of women will put them on equal spiritual footing with men, and that nothing less will suffice.

LORIE WINDER has a MA in humanities from BYU. She is former managing editor of Journal of Modern History and Mormon Women’s Forum Quarterly, a co-founder of Sunstone West, and a former advisory committee member of both SUNSTONE and Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought. She is communications chair of ORDAINWOMEN.ORG. For nearly 40 years, she has written and spoken about Mormon feminist issues, including women’s ordination.

KAIMIPONO (KAMI) WENGAR, JD, is an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego, a blogger at Times and Seasons, a regular contributor to the Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast, and a Sunstone board member.

HANNAH WHEELWRIGHT is a political science major and women’s studies minor at BYU. She started the Young Mormon Femi-

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Panel 132.  **JUST WHAT IS SPIRITUALITY?**

**Abstract**

Often, people say that they are spiritual but not religious. But what does it mean to be spiritual? Can you have spirituality in your life without religion? Or religion without spirituality? What is the distinction between the two? Furthermore, what does it mean to ask the Spirit to be with you and guide you each day? Is the term Spirit synonymous with God or is it something else? Where can Spirit be found?

**Panelists**

DAN WOTHERSPOON is host of the *Mormon Matters* podcast, and for his continual concern about creating harmony between diverse ways of thinking and worshiping.

PHYLLIS BARBER is the author of the forthcoming book *Gentle Fire: A Spiritual Odyssey* (Quest Books 2014). Her presentation will stem from her journey to discover Spirit during a 20-year hiatus from Mormonism and to participate in many different spiritual practices.

ROBERT A. REES is a visiting professor of Mormon studies at the Graduate Theological Union and UC Berkeley. He is a member of the Dialogue board, and editor of *Why I Stay: The Challenges of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons* (Signature Books 2011).

SHARON ADAMS teaches women’s studies, gender studies, philosophy, and religion at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She holds a PhD from Iliff School of Theology and the University of Denver. Her interests include exploring the relationship between religious experience and religious authority/doctrine, as it relates to interfaith communications.

**Moderator/Panelist**

TOM KIMBALL is the marketing director for Signature Books and the new book review editor for SUNSTONE magazine.

**Panelists**

DALE E. LUFFMAN is a former Community of Christ apostle. His book on how 19th century Americans understood the message of the Book of Mormon was published in 2013.

RACHEL MABEY WHIPPLE is a stay-at-home-mom, a permablogger for TIMESANDSEASONS.ORG, and is serving as secretary for both LDS Earth Stewardship and the Provo Peak 11th Ward Relief Society.

**Respondent**

EARL M. WUNDERLI is a native Salt Laker who grew up in the Avenues and attended East High. He graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in philosophy and went on to law school. He practiced with Fabian & Clendenin for three years before moving east to practice antitrust and environmental law with IBM before retiring in 1993.

Panel 134.  **WORLDS WITHOUT END**

**Abstract**

In mid-2012, *Worlds Without End* was launched by two non-LDS scholars to further discussion of Mormon Studies as an academic discipline. Contributors are experts in fields ranging from management to history to the Hebrew Bible. *WWE* is a demonstration of how disparate and varied concepts can shed light on Mormonism, its culture, and its people. This panel will discuss the blog’s origins, non-LDS interest in Mormon Studies, and highlight several of the most interesting and compelling posts from the past year.

**Moderator/Panelist**

SETH PAYNE has an MBA in finance and strategy from New York University, an MA in religion from Yale University, and a BS in management from BYU.
Panelists

CHRISTOPHER C. SMITH is a PhD candidate in religions in North America at Claremont Graduate University. He has an MA in Christian history from Wheaton College and a BA in Biblical Studies from Fresno Pacific University. CHERYL BRUNO has an MA in education from BYU and a BS in physical education and recreation from Greensboro College. Other panelists to be announced.

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 offers breakfast (6:30–9:00 am), lunch (11:00 am–2:00 pm), and dinner (4:30–7:30 pm) for $7–9, Monday–Friday and is within moderate walking distance of the Student Union. Call 801-581-6347 for more information. See page 4 for more dining options.

141. Lunchtime Comedy

Video clips from coverage of Mormons, Mormonism, and Utah-related topics from Comedy Central’s The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. Clips assembled by MICHAEL J. STEVENS.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:00–3:30 PM

151. Panel

DOES A 19TH CENTURY READING OF THE BOOK OF MORMON CONTRIBUTE TO A LIFE OF FAITH?

Abstract

Regardless of one’s view of the Book of Mormon (an authentic ancient text or a product of the nineteenth century), the book spoke meaningfully to the first audience it was presented to in 1830. Thousands found valuable faith perspectives and heard a message that resonated deep within their souls.

This panel will discuss ways in which that first audience heard and understood the message of the Book of Mormon, and how those in the twenty-first century can continue to find a witness of Christ through the stories and teachings in the book that are independent of the book’s historicity.

Moderator/
Panelist

STEVEN L. SHIELDS works full-time for Community of Christ at its international headquarters in Independence, MO.

Panelists

DALE E. LUFFMAN is a former Community of Christ apostle. His book on how 19th century Americans understood the message of the Book of Mormon was published in spring 2013. DON H. COMPIER is the dean of Community of Christ Seminary, a life-long Community of Christ member, and is an ecumenically trained theologian. BOYD PETERSON, Utah Valley University, is a life-long LDS member and a scholar of Mormon literature. WILLIAM D. RUSSELL is a professor emeritus at Graceland University in Lamoni, IA, where he taught religion, history, and political science for 41 years. He has a master of divinity from Saint Paul School of Theology, a law degree from the University of Iowa, and has published widely in Mormon Studies.

152. Panel

TWO PAPER SESSION: TURBULENT EPISODES IN LDS RACIAL HISTORY

Paper 1

BLACK STUDENT REVOLTS AND POLITICAL UPRISINGS AGAINST BYU IN THE LATE 1960S AND EARLY 1970S

Presenter

DARRON T. SMITH is an assistant professor of physician assistant studies at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center.

Abstract

This paper explores the explosive socio-political changes in the US during the late 1960s and early 1970s, with a focus on civil rights activism through the emerging Black Power campaign. This paper examines how the events that defined a generation with wars, free love, and civil rights also set in motion a groundswell of robust activities to desegregate predominately white institutions of higher education through the introduction of black athletes into the forbidden territory of white intercollegiate athletics. Many colleges and universities were sites for student-led and student-athlete-led protests against the persistence of white racism on predominately white campuses, including Church-owned Brigham Young University.
“PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT SHOULD NOT BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DEEDS OF OTHERS”: DAVID JACKSON, THE MORMON CHURCH, AND THE QUEST TO CAST OFF THE ‘CURSE OF CAIN’

Presenter  MATT HARRIS is a professor of history at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

Abstract  David Jackson, an African American convert to the LDS Church, spearheaded a movement in the 1990s that drew national media attention to the Church’s problematic racial past. This presentation will examine Jackson’s efforts to get the Church to repudiate its racial legacy and cleanse its bookshelves of racially-offensive literature that associates skin color with spiritual worthiness. It will focus on Jackson’s letters to President Gordon B. Hinckley, Hinckley’s response, the landmark LA Times story, and LDS general authority Marlin Jensen’s role in the affair. It concludes by assessing Jackson’s legacy in this crucial, ongoing episode in LDS racial history.

OH SAY WHAT IS TRUTH?

Abstract  This panel will discuss the nature of truth claims in conversion narratives and community loyalty narratives in Mormonism. Drawing on the work of Seth Payne and others, panelists will examine the way that both Mormon and ex-Mormon conversion narratives claim to be about privileging some form of capital-T Truth, but in fact really reflect each community’s social norms, identity performance scripts, and community loyalty-oaths.

Moderator/Panelist  KAIMIPONO (KAIMI) WENGER, JD, is an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego, a blogger at Times and Seasons, a regular contributor to the Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast, and a Sunstone board member.

Panelists  GREG ROCKWELL specializes in enthusiastic dabbling with a special emphasis on food, music, and the sociological implications of Mormonism. He serves on the Sunstone board and is a channel partner manager at Accelerated Payment Technologies during his non-spare time.

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To be honest with others and to be honest with one’s self are different things. At the heart of the problem of personal honesty is the ability to confront one’s own inner reality, one’s convictions and feelings, openly. Personal honesty involves courageously recognizing the discrepancy between what one ought to be and what one actually is, between what one is supposed to believe and what one actually believes. The individual who does not accept this challenge, who turns away and does not face the discrepancy, consigns himself to a life of half-awareness, inauthenticity, and bad faith. He will not know what he thinks but only what he ought to think.”

—Frances Lee Menlove

www.signaturebooks.com  Visit our booth at the symposium bookroom.
KRISTINE HAGLUND is editor of *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*. She holds degrees in German studies and German literature from Harvard and the University of Michigan.

MATT NOKLEBY attended BYU, served a mission in Perth, Australia, and resigned his LDS membership in 2010. He blogs occasionally on Mormon-adjacent topics at *Doves and Serpents*. He holds a PhD from Rice University in electrical engineering and is a research scientist at Duke.

**154. Panel**  
"WE ARE DAUGHTERS OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER WHO LOVES US": EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN IN THE LDS COMMUNITY

**Moderator** To be announced.

**Abstract** So often, young women in the LDS community receive a variety of destructive messages. Even with the best of intentions, it can be difficult to combat problematic social and community norms and assumptions. This panel will examine ways that leaders, family, and community members can empower young women within the LDS community. Panelists will discuss messages about modesty and bodies, messages to young women about careers, life choices, and marriage, the challenges facing young women in the LDS community, and specific outreach ideas and resources.

**Panelists** JESSICA OBERAN STEED has a BA in political science from BYU. She blogs at *Exponent II* and is a board member of LDS WAVE (Women Advocating for Voice and Equality).

Additional panelists to be announced.

**161. Paper** A STUDY OF LDS BELIEVERS’ ORTHODOXY VS. KNOWLEDGE OF UNCORRELATED LDS CHURCH HISTORY

**Presenter** AMBER PRICE is an undergraduate student in communications at Weber State University. She finds how the discussion of religion has evolved almost as interesting as the evolution of religion itself.

**Abstract** The findings of the "Why Mormons Leave" survey found that most Mormons who were leaving the LDS Church were doing so for three reasons: "I lost faith in Joseph Smith," "I studied Church history and lost my belief," and "I ceased to believe in the Church’s doctrine/theology." The presented research measures knowledge of the uncorrelated history of Joseph Smith, uncorrelated Church history, and lesser known Mormon doctrines and theologies of those who remain orthodox believers within the LDS Church in an attempt to find a correlation between Church members’ knowledge and level of orthodoxy.

**162. Paper** FETISHIZING THE FAMILY: THE EFFECT OF THE SYMBOLIC SYSTEM OF FAMILY WITHIN LDS WARDS

**Presenter** KRISTEE BLACK is a PhD candidate in sociology of religion at Drew University. Her dissertation is on "Mormon Kinship: The Symbolic System of Family within Mormon Religious Communities." She teaches philosophy at Utah Valley University.

**Abstract** Much of the scholarship on the family within Mormonism focuses on the family unit. While such studies are useful in understanding religion’s influence on the formation of family units, they tell us nothing about the way religious families influence the formation of community and fail to examine the family’s possible influence on religion. This paper examines the relationship between communal identity and ward cohesion, the assumption that family is the cornerstone of church and society, and how gender roles are idealized. It also explores ward cohesion and how the LDS gerontocracy and symbol of family plays a part in holding LDS communities together.

**163. Paper** I’VE GOT A PERFECT BODY

**Presenter** STEPHANIE NEWTON has a BS in psychology from the University of Utah and is applying to graduate school to become a LMFT. She was raised LDS in Southern California and is now what she considers LD-"Esque."

**Abstract** After she found herself singing along to a Regina Spector song about bodies, Newton realized that the current generation of Saints is more obsessed with body image and how the world sees them than any other. How we look, dress, act, talk—which emotions and feelings we can convey—are all connected with the idea of maintaining a perfect image despite our true self. Our bodies are the medium through which we experience pleasure, pain, and creation. This paper discusses ways we can embrace our divine bodies with all of the sexual, messy, imperfect human selves included and highlights the importance of separating cultural misconceptions and doctrinal beliefs as they pertain to our bodies.
HOW MANY DROPS OF BLOOD WERE SHED FOR ME? AN ANALYSIS OF THE MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND EMOTIONAL ASPECTS OF ROMAN CRUCIFIXION

Presenter BRYAN HORN has a BA in criminal law from the University of Utah and is pursuing an MA in international relations from Norwich University. He was raised a devout Roman Catholic but converted to the LDS Church and served a mission to Las Vegas.

Abstract The crucifixion of Jesus Christ is the most important event in the history of the world. Other worldwide churches, specifically Catholicism, focus on this event as the primary point of worship. Latter-day Saints have taken a different approach, choosing to focus on the resurrection. While both events are important, Latter-Day Saints tend to downplay the events of Gethsemane and Calvary. Our Church media productions present a very scaled-back approach to this terrible day in the Savior’s life. This presentation seeks to help us more fully understand what Jesus experienced, physically, medically, psychologically, and spiritually.

Panel MY LOVED ONE IS APOSTATIZING… WHAT DO I DO?

Abstract Many people have misconceptions about why people leave the LDS Church and often don’t know how to respond to their “apostate” family members or friends. Panelists will discuss topics such as respect, anger, disowning, the values of post-Mormons, and how family and friends react to those who leave the Church. The presentation will focus on relationships and how to improve them; it is not a debate on doctrine.

Moderator/Panelist MELANIE MORALES is a post-Mormon. She grew up in Minnesota, attended BYU and went to the University of Utah for her graduate degree. Melanie left the Church in 2010 and was disowned by her parents in July 2012.

Panelists JORDAN JOLLEY is an active Mormon. He grew up in Richfield, UT and went on a mission to San Bernardino, CA. He went to the University of Utah where he met his wife and was married in the temple in December 2010.

WOMEN IN THE MORMON CHURCH: THE LIMITS OF AGENCY

Abstract This panel is a response to the conference “Women and the LDS Church: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives,” held at the University of Utah in August 2012. The conference theme was women’s agency, with an emphasis on the way women have used their agency and talents in a positive way to work within the structure of the LDS Church. The unspoken subtext was that a woman who criticizes the Church is not using her agency in a productive way. But shouldn’t we use our agency to change what we see as an oppressive system? Is there a point where doing good within a flawed structure without addressing its problems perpetuates them? And is oppression merely a matter of choice and response? Doesn’t this belief lead to blaming the victim or claiming there are no victims? This panel will discuss the complexity of agency, its benefits, and limits.

Moderator/Panelist MARGARET TOSCANO is an associate professor of classics and comparative studies at the University of Utah where she earned her PhD. She is the co-editor of Hell and Its Afterlife: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives. She has published widely on Mormon feminism for 28 years.

Panelists STEPHANIE LAURITZEN has an MA in arts and teaching from Westminster College. She is a high school English teacher in Salt Lake and blogs about TV and Mormonism at Mormon Child Bride. She is known for instigating the “Wear Pants to Church Day.”

MARY ELLEN ROBERTSON has an MA in women’s studies in religion from Claremont Graduate University. She is symposium and outreach director for Sunstone Education Foundation.

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

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY—A PRIMER FOR THE NON-SCIENTIFIC

Abstract Some of the most important issues in contemporary society—climate change, alternative energy, and fracking—revolve around scien-
tific issues. But most citizens don’t have the scientific background to know what is real and what is hype. This panel draws upon the expertise of some of Sunstone’s scientists to explain the issues in non-technical language, and adds experts in behavior and theology. The goal of the session is to equip attendees with the basics of the scientific, sociological, and theological background needed to discuss these issues with some degree of confidence.

Moderator/Panelist
ALAN EASTMAN is a chemist by day and musician by night. He has a PhD in chemistry and spent 28 years in the research department of a major oil company. As penance, he is now the chief technical officer of GreenFire Energy, a startup geothermal energy company, and a consultant in statistical treatment of chemical data.

Panelists
DAVID ALLRED is a professor of physics and astronomy at BYU-Provo. He earned a PhD in physics and physical chemistry from Princeton University in 1977. He is the author of 100 scientific publications.

MICHAEL J. STEVENS is a professor of management and is chair of the business administration department at Weber State University. He has conducted award-winning research in global leadership, work teams, and interpersonal competencies. He is co-chair of the Sunstone board of directors.

RACHEL MABEY WHipple is a stay-at-home mom, a permablogger for TIMES AND SEASONS.ORG, and secretary for both LDS Earth Stewardship and the Provo Peak 11th Ward Relief Society.

174. Panel MYSTICISM, REVELATION AND LEADERSHIP IN MORMON HISTORY: TWO CASE STUDIES

Paper 1 J. DUNHAM LAMANITE: EARLY MORMON LEADER, MYSTIC, AND INDIAN AMBASSADOR

Presenter CHRISTOPHER C. SMITH is a PhD student in religions in North America at Claremont Graduate University. He’s writing a dissertation on Mormons and American Indians in the “Age of Removal,” which roughly coincided with the lifetime of Joseph Smith. Chris has published on Mormon-related subjects in journals such as Dialogue and SUNSTONE.

Abstract Although Jonathan Dunham was a prominent Mormon leader who left a wealth of journals and papers, he’s largely ignored by modern Mormon historians. When he’s remembered at all, it’s for his role in early Mormon violence (as a Danite, Nauvoo police captain, and Major General of the Nauvoo Legion). Yet violence was only one part of Dunham’s life and legacy. His papers reveal him as a mystic, entrepreneur, highly successful evangelist, and great champion of the Indian mission. Dunham’s self-identification as “Lamanite,” though he had no Native American heritage, also provides insight into early Mormon racial theology.

Paper 2 THE LAWLESS WOMEN REVELATION

Presenter CLAIR BARRUS manages several Church history sites including TODAY-IN-MORMON-HISTORY.BLOGSPOT.COM. He blogs at Worlds Without End and has presented papers at Sunstone, the Mormon History Association, and the BYU Mormon Media Studies Symposium.

Abstract The day after Brigham Young publicly announced the ban on blacks receiving the priesthood, his first counselor Heber C. Kimball received a revelation stating that Kimball had fulfilled “the law of lawless women” and that he was now “free from such Spirrits” [sic].

This paper will take a close look at Kimball’s cryptic revelation, how it was modified, who the lawless women were, what that law was, and the parallels between the “lawless women revelation” and Brigham Young’s views on blacks, reproduction, and priesthood authority.

DINNER BREAK, 6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Where to eat THE STUDENT UNION’S food court is NOT open for dinner. The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus offers dinner (4:30–7:30 pm) for $7–9, Monday–Friday and is within moderate walking distance of the Student Union. Call 801-581-6347 for more information. See page 4 for more dining options.

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

181. **Chair**
KIM MCCALL holds a BA in philosophy and an MS in computer science from Stanford University and is on the Sunstone board of directors.

**Presentation**
SCANDALOUS YET TREASURED: SOCIAL DANCE IN THE MORMON WEST

**Abstract**
Utah's social dance heritage dates back to its pioneer days when immigrants danced between covered wagons by the light of campfires. Early Utahns' love for music, dance, and the spectacular beauty of their new homeland grew over the decades and blossomed in the early twentieth century with the construction of open-air dance halls which were built in astonishing numbers across the entire region. Dance Hall Rock, the Shady Dell, and the fabled Saltair are names of just a few dance locations where generations of Utahns met and fell in love to the accompaniment of music and starlight. This presentation reveals the dances, the music, the settings, and the people who kept that heritage alive.

**Presenter**
CRAIG R. MILLER is a graduate of Florida State University. He moved west in 1980 and completed a MFA at the University of Utah. As a folklorist, he specializes in studies of cultural diversity in the American West and has served on arts council advisory panels across the US. His work identifying old-time Utah dance culminated in a booklet with historic photographs, a CD of field recordings, and a binder of sheet music and dance instructions. Now retired from his position as folk arts coordinator for the state of Utah, he continues researching and documenting traditional culture in Utah through contracted work and festival production.

DANCE!
Following Craig Miller’s presentation, we will adjourn to the Center Ballroom for Contra dancing with a live band and a caller. Contra dancing is lively and easy to learn and is very similar to early pioneer dancing. All ages are welcome to participate as we put our Mormon bodies in motion dancing much the way Utah pioneer settlers did.

Wear or bring comfortable clothing and shoes—and be warned that things could get a bit warm with dozens of dancers kicking up their heels!

**Room**
SALTAIR and CENTER BALLROOM

FRIDAY 2 AUGUST

201. **Devotional**
FAITH-CHALLENGED MARRIAGES: THE DYNAMICS OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE BELIEVER AND NONBELIEVER

**Presenter**
MICHAEL VINSON is a columnist for SUNSTONE magazine and has presented devotions at many Sunstone conferences. He has MAs from BYU and the University of Chicago and an MA from the Divinity School of the University of Cambridge.

**Abstract**
This session on faith-challenged marriages will be discussion-based with comments, personal stories, and experiences solicited from the audience. Come prepared to share and listen.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:30 AM–9:30 AM

211. **Paper**
THE RISE OF MORMON COMPLEMENTARISM

**Presenter**
KAIMIPONO (KAIMI) WENGER, JD, is an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego, a blogger at Times and Seasons, a regular contributor to the Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast, and a Sunstone board member.

**Abstract**
This presentation will briefly define and place Mormon complementarianism in the context of difference feminist/new feminist movements in Catholicism and Protestant denominations. Then it will discuss the increased use of com-
plementarian language in LDS discourse, specifically in recent talks by Neylan McBaine and Valerie Hudson and general conference talks. It will highlight uniquely Mormon aspects of complementarianism, why it seems to be on the rise, and the agency framing that is used. Finally, it will propose how Mormon feminists can address these ideas.

212. Paper COMMUNITY OF CHRIST PERSPECTIVE ON THE BODY OF CHRIST

Presenter STEVEN L. SHIELDS is past president of the John Whitmer Historical Association and an independent historian whose best-known work is *Divergent Paths of the Restoration*. He has lived and worked in several countries in Asia where he was a missionary, pastor, and president of Community of Christ East Asia Mission Center.

Abstract The imagery of the Church and its collective disciples as the body of Christ has been part of the Christian tradition since the first century. The idea of “community” has been part of the Smith-Rigdon movement since its earliest years. In the first years of the reorganization, Prophet-President Joseph Smith III encouraged members not to “gather to Zion” but to build up communities in their own towns and cities. After the Community of Christ moved its headquarters to Independence, Missouri in the 1920s, however, the “gathering” became a prominent theme. Community of Christ recently announced “mission initiatives” give expression to how each disciple and each congregation should literally become the hands and feet of Jesus—in other words, the “body of Christ.”

This paper explores how Community of Christ expresses the body of Christ by looking at revelatory documents, Community of Christ hymn texts, and current literature that expresses how Community of Christ understands its mission.

214. Paper CONSECRATING ONE’S FINAL PASSAGE: SECURING A SPIRITUALLY FULFILLING AND ECONOMICALLY RATIONAL DEATH

Presenter GEORGE RICHARD COMPTON has a BS in mathematics and psychology with a minor in philosophy, an MS in statistics from BYU, and a PhD in economics from UCLA. He was employed for 11 years in aerospace in Southern California. He is semi-retired in Salem, OR, where he is an avid cyclist and semi-compulsive letter-to-the-editor writer.

Abstract This paper makes a moral case for employing self-imposed, fatal dehydration as a means for achieving a timely, dignified, and compassionate departure from one’s aged, failing body rather than, as is too often the case, burning through hundreds of thousands of Medicare dollars beyond what the person, with their employers, have paid via Medicare taxes.

215. Paper BODY AND SOUL: MORMON THEOLOGY AND THE PLAN OF SALVATION IN STEPHENIE MEYER’S *THE HOST*

Presenter KAREN SMYTH is a PhD candidate in American Studies at Saint Louis University. She has an MA in American Studies from Saint Louis University and from the College of William and Mary. Her work has always involved Mormons, gender, and popular culture.

Abstract In Stephenie Meyer’s book *The Host* beautiful but bodiless aliens come to Earth and forcibly inhabit humans. Meyer’s book uses Mormon concepts of pre-mortal and mortal life to guide her characters and infuse her plot with LDS themes. In the end, each character is paired with a heterosexual partner as the human resistance successfully removes Souls from humans to undo the damage the Souls have caused with their wrongful domination of Earth. The paper argues that Mormon theology, culture, gender roles, and the plan of salvation drive the story, much as they did in the *Twilight* Saga.
Paper SHEKHINAH AND TIF’ERET LITANY: TOWARD A MYSTICAL INTERPRETATION OF MORMON SCRIPTURE

Presenter JED HILL is a lifelong resident of Nauvoo, IL and member of the LDS Church, serving a mission in San Jose, CA. He returned to school after being a furniture builder for ten years and is working on a degree in religious studies. His areas of interest include Mormon theology, scriptural exegesis, and Jewish studies, specifically in the area of Talmudic and Kabbalistic literature.

Abstract Since Joseph Smith’s time, methods of exegesis have been consistently literal. However, to grasp the scope of Smith’s vision, we need a new methodology that sees past the literal interpretations. This paper proposes a multi-layered approach found in the Zohar and other Jewish Kabbalistic texts as key to accomplishing this task and can re-cast Mormon scripture into a comprehensive thesis on human ascent.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 9:45 AM–10:45 AM

Paper THE TRANSFORMATION OF MORMON PRIESTHOOD: THEOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE ORDAIN WOMEN MOVEMENT

Presenter MARGARET TOSCANO is an associate professor of classics and comparative studies at the University of Utah, where she earned her PhD. She is the co-editor of the book Hell and Its Afterlife: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives. She has published widely on Mormon feminism for the past 28 years.

Abstract The “Ordain Women” movement, launched on 17 March 2013, has created a nationwide media stir and revived Mormon feminist debates about women’s relationship to the priesthood. The issues are broader than the mere question of whether women should be ordained to priesthood offices. Feminists are also asking whether they should look back to Joseph Smith’s promises to the Relief Society and introduction of the endowment as the institutional justification for ordination. In addition, women are wondering how they should function within the present structure, whether the structure itself needs changing, and what the connection is between priesthood power and priesthood authority. This paper will explore the importance of these larger questions in the move toward women’s ordination.

Paper FAITHFUL DISAGREEMENT: A MODEL FOR THE SAINTS

 Presenter WILLIAM D. RUSSELL is a retired professor of American history, religion, and politics at Graceland University. He is widely published in Mormon Studies.

Abstract Probably because religion is important in the lives of many people, faith communities are sometimes torn by serious divisions over theology or Church policies. When serious disagreements occur within the Church, skilled leadership is needed to avoid or at least reduce the amount of schism. The USA National Conference of the Community of Christ was convened April 19–21 to discuss what policy the US Church should have on the issue of same-sex marriage and priesthood. For almost three days, the conference dealt with these issues, arranging it so delegates from all perspectives had a chance to speak—from those firmly opposed to proposed new policies to those firmly in favor. A model of “faithful disagreement” was used to encourage respect between those holding opposing views. The conference proposed equality in marriage and priesthood availability. It appears that this more democratic means of policy decision-making worked well.

Paper THE ‘WORD’ MADE FLESH, AN INCARNATIONAL VIEW OF SCRIPTURE

Presenter CHARLES HARRELL has a PhD in manufacturing engineering from the University of Denmark. He is a manufacturing and systems engineer who consults and teaches college courses in manufacturing and information systems. He is founder and director of ProModel Corporation, a company specializing in production modeling and simulation. He has authored or co-authored several books on the use of simulation in manufacturing and service industries.

Abstract Liberal Protestants have long dealt with the problem of finite and fallible biblical scripture by positing an incarnational view of scripture. In this view, God reveals his word through finite and fallible humans just as he manifested himself through the finite and fallen body of Christ. Mormonism, which has traditionally embraced a more fundamentalist view of scripture, has only recently begun embracing a more incarnational view of its own scriptures. How well does an incarnational view of Mormon scripture work? Is such a view tenable in light of the traditional LDS understanding of latter-day scripture as the inerrant word of God?
224. **Paper**  
“I’M A HALF-DRUID ELF GOING TO THE STEAMPUNK BALL!” COMIC CONS, COSPLAY, ROLEPLAYING GAMES, AND MORMONS

**Presenter**  
DOE DAUGHTREY has a PhD in religious studies and teaches classes in religion and popular culture, women and religion, and witchcraft and heresy in Europe. She is a video game, ComicCon, and roleplaying game fanatic. Her latest academic interest is in how the gendered experience of those activities relate to religion and inform personal identity.

**Abstract**  
Like many Americans, Mormons play video and tabletop roleplaying games, attend and contribute to comic and sci-fi-fantasy conventions, and even engage in cosplay (adult dress-up). This presentation explores the ways Mormon concepts of embodiment inform Church members’ participation in game play and Con-culture, focusing on religion-related concerns about gender, body image, morality, time management, addiction and obsessive-compulsive behavior, and personal health and hygiene.

225. **Paper**  
THE CHURCH AS A BODY

**Presenter**  
WILLIAM D. SPEER earned a BS and MS in biology from Virginia Tech, after which he did further graduate studies at USU. He has published research on fern systematics, and is in a first-year New Testament Greek course. William works at Salt Lake Community College as a biology lab coordinator and is an adjunct biology instructor.

**Abstract**  
To describe individual human bodies and human life, New Testament apostles used “tabernacle” or “tent” (σκήνους, skenous, and related terms). Interestingly, Jesus Christ was the only human whose body was specifically called a temple (ναός, naos). The Apostle Paul described the Church as the Body of Christ in his epistles and the bodies of individuals as “the members of Christ.” This Body (not individual bodies) is the “Temple [ναός] of the Holy Spirit” and is the other body specifically called a temple in the New Testament. I examine how these concepts are consistent with LDS theology.

226. **Paper**  
“THE TEXAS EPIDEMIC” COMES TO UTAH’S PINE VALLEY, 1857 TO 1870

**Presenters**  
MELVIN C. JOHNSON is a tenured history instructor at Angelina College and has taught at Stephen F. Austin State University, Los Angeles Metropolitan College, USU, and the University of Alaska. His book *Polygamy on the Pedernales: Lyman Wight and the Mormon Polygamous Villages of the Antebellum Texas Hill Country* won the best book award from the John Whitmer Historical Association (2006).

**Abstract**  
In a letter to Brigham Young, George A. Smith told the LDS president that Lyman Wight’s missionaries from the Lone Star State were “the Texas Epidemic” against which they were struggling in the Mormon encampments along the Missouri River. Smith and other LDS authorities in Iowa “shuddered at the thought of any Mormons leaving with ‘Gone To Texas’ written in charcoal on the doors of their huts.” A number of individuals who made up the “Texas Epidemic” reconverted to the LDS Church in Indian Territory, came to Utah in 1856, and were sent to Washington County in Utah’s Dixie and then on to Pine Valley. Many of the “infected” participated in important events in southern Utah for the next two decades.
PLENARY SESSION, 11:00 AM–12:30 PM

231. Panel WHY WE STAY

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

Moderator J. FREDERICK (TOBY) PINGREE originated “Why We Stay.” He has been a mission president, a three-time bishop, and Sunstone’s former board chair. He serves with the LDS Church’s Perpetual Education Fund.

Panelists PARKER BLOUNT is a retired university professor who lives in Reidsville, GA. His undergraduate work was at BYU and he received a PhD from Purdue University. He served a mission in what was then the Northwestern States Mission, and served in a variety of Church callings over the years. Presently, he serves, to use General Mormon’s self-label, as an “idle witness.” His notable accomplishments include, or are maybe limited to, receiving a perfect attendance record in the third grade, being the ward young men’s secretary all through high school, and dropping a pass while standing in the end zone his senior year of high school. He is chairman of the County Library Board.

JANA RIESS has been an acquisitions editor in the publishing industry, primarily in the areas of religion, history, popular culture, ethics, and biblical studies. She is former religion book review editor for Publishers Weekly, and writes articles and reviews for other publications. She has degrees in religion from Wellesley College and Princeton Theological Seminary, and a PhD in American religious history from Columbia University. She is the author, co-author, or editor of nine books, including Flunking Sainthood: A Year of Breaking the Sabbath, Forgetting to Pray, and Still Loving My Neighbor; What Would Buffy Do? The Vampire Slayer as a Spiritual Guide; and Mormonism for Dummies.

MICHAEL VINSON has owned his own business for 22 years. He earned masters degrees from BYU, the University of Chicago, and the University of Cambridge. He served a mission to Bolivia, married in the temple, and until last year was a high priest and gospel doctrine teacher. He has known of historical and doctrinal problems of the LDS Church since graduate school at the Y in the 1980s. More recently, he has been a columnist and devotional presenter for Sunstone. Only when he learned he was “blackballed” from being called as a bishop several years ago did he begin to question where he belonged and what it meant to stay.

KRISTINE HAGLUND is the editor of Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought. She is the oldest child of a physics professor and an English teacher—family scripture study of Genesis was likely to be supplemented by enforced readings of Stephen Hawking and John Milton. Needless to say, she had no friends in elementary school and thus had time to begin reading the Collected Works of Hugh Nibley, finish all of the Nancy Drew mysteries, and develop a dangerous poetry-reading habit. She learned to play the violin, but converted to choral music geekery in college. She lives in Massachusetts with her three children, and is ward music chair and visiting teaching coordinator in the Belmont First Ward.

CURT BENCH has a BA in communications from BYU and owns Benchmark Books, which celebrated its 25th anniversary last year. He has published several books, including Lengthen Your Stride: The Presidency of Spencer W. Kimball, Working Draft (2009). He has written numerous articles including “More Faith than I’d Thought” (SUNSTONE #145) and writes the “Adventures of a Mormon Bookseller” column in SUNSTONE. He is a member of the LDS Booksellers Association, the Mormon History Association, and a former member of the Dialogue editorial board.

Room SALTAIR

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 offers lunch (11:00 am–2:00 pm) and dinner (4:30–7:30 pm) for $7–9, Monday–Friday and is within walking distance of the Student Union. Call 801-581-6347 for more information. See page 4 for more dining options.
241. Book AUTHOR SIGNINGS

Signings

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


Author JAMES GOLDBERG, The Five Books of Jesus

Author JOHNNY TOWNSEND, The Mormon Victorian Society, Marginal Mormons, Zombies for Jesus

Additional authors to be announced.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:00 PM–3:30 PM

251. Panel WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL WITH PORNOGRAPHY: A SEX POSITIVE PERSPECTIVE

Please Note Due to the adult nature of the presentation, attendees should be age 18 or older.

Abstract The LDS Church clearly denounces pornography and liberally classifies all usage as addictive. However, the lack of a clear definition of pornography can leave bishops, leaders, parents, and teenagers with a potentially fearful and misinformed perspective of sexually explicit material (SEM).

Through an interactive presentation, participants will collaboratively construct a working definition of pornography. Other topics covered will include what academic research says regarding the pros and cons of SEM, as well as the polarizing topic of sex addiction. Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of what they individually define as pornography and the potential positive use of SEM.

Panelists JEREMY IRVIN is interested in the impact that religion has on the development of Church members’ sexual and gender scripts. He has worked in community mental health providing individual and group therapy focusing on topics relating to human sexuality. He is earning a MSW and a MEd in human sexuality from Widener University in Chester, PA. Jeremy was raised in the LDS Church.

KIMBERLY MCKAY, LSW, is working on her PhD in social work and MEd in human sexuality education from Widener University in Chester, PA. She is an adjunct professor at Widener University teaching social work generalist practice. She is trained in the Our Whole Lives sex education curriculum. Kimberly was raised in the LDS Church.

252. Panel NO MORE STRANGERS: LGBT MORMON FORUM

Abstract A number of websites have been created to provide helpful information, encouragement, and, hopefully, enlightenment on LGBT issues as they relate to Mormonism. One of the latest is No More Strangers: LGBT Mormon Forum. This panel includes forum contributors who explore the myriad challenges facing Latter-day Saint families, leaders, and members as they attempt to integrate the latest scientific, therapeutic, and spiritual principles in relating and ministering to LGBT Latter-day Saints.
Moderator/Panelist


Panelists

JOHN GUSTAV-WRATHALL is a believing (though excommunicated) member of the LDS Church, and has been active in his south Minneapolis ward since October 2005. In 2013, he and his husband Göran, who have foster parented three sons, will celebrate their 21st anniversary. They were legally married in California in 2008, and their home state of Minnesota recognized their marriage as valid on 1 August 2013. John is senior vice president of Affirmation: Gay and Lesbian Mormons, and continues to work for greater understanding among the Latter-day Saints he loves and with whom he yearns to build Zion.

ERIKA MUNSON was raised in Cambridge, MA. She attended Harvard College where she received her BA in fine arts. After 25 years of raising her five children in the American northeast and Europe, she and her husband moved to Utah. In May 2012, she founded Mormons Building Bridges with Kendall Wilcox and Bianca Morrison-Dillard. She teaches English at the Waterford School in Sandy.

HOLLIE HANCOCK is a psychotherapist working with LDS clients along the Wasatch Front, many of whom are LGBT. She has volunteered in the LGBT community as an HIV/AIDS outreach educator and as an HIV test site counselor at the Utah AIDS Foundation. Active in her ward, Hollie advocates for her LGBT brothers and sisters.

253. Panel

TWO-PAPER SESSION: SPIRITS, BODIES, AND THE WORLD BEYOND

Paper 1

ILLUSIONS, CONFUSIONS, AND VISIONS: THE SCIENCE OF THE "SEEING OF BODIES" IN RESTORATIONIST RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

Presenter

RUSSELL OSMOND has a PhD from Syracuse University where his research focused on terrorist behaviors and understanding the motivations of terrorists. He has taught extensively about the implications of behavioral theory for belief and ritual with a particular emphasis on understanding the communication needs and styles of the “true believer” in various cultural traditions.

Abstract

Joseph Smith informed the world with great certainty that there are “resurrected personages, having bodies of flesh and bones” (D&C 129:1). The entire Restorationist movement held this idea in a variety of forms. During the Jacksonian era of US history, there are many reports of people seeing visions of angels and others with bodies of real flesh and real bones—almost as if talking to people in mortal life. This emphasis on the “seeing of visions” lost momentum in American Christianity during the twentieth century—except in Utah.

This session examines the wide range of “seeing” experiences that have been reported by LDS Utahns during the first half of the twentieth century, the “science” of the paranormal, and how one’s learned behavior consciously and unconsciously influences one’s tendency to “see” or “not see” the embodied elements of those who are not among the living.

Paper 2

WHERE DID WE COME FROM? WHERE ARE WE GOING? MOVING BEYOND THE MORMON CONCEPT OF THE SPIRIT WORLD

Presenter

THOMAS L. DAVIES has been an occasional presenter at the Sunstone Symposium and a long-time student of near-death experiences and spirit communication involving mediums and instrumental transcommunication.

Abstract

Mormonism was once at the forefront of Christianity in its description of the spirit world, both pre-mortal and post-mortal, based primarily upon modern-day scripture and statements by early Church leaders. However there are also scriptures, both modern and ancient, that have hamstrung progress in our understanding of the spirit world. As a result, non-Mormon sources, not having these limitations, have moved beyond Mormon descriptions, providing us with a more comprehensive view of the spirit world. This presentation will introduce some of these resources that can extend our concept of the spirit world beyond Mormonism.

254. Panel

TWO-PAPER SESSION: MOTHER IN HEAVEN, EMBODIED

Paper 1

HEAVENLY MOTHER: DIVINE BODY

Presenter

NANCY ROSS teaches art history at Dixie State University and received her PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2007. She is blogging The Book of Mormon chapter by chapter from a feminist and personal response perspective at NICKELONTHENACLE.BLOGSPOT.COM.
Abstract Heavenly Mother is a taboo subject in contemporary Mormon discussions, with many repeating the idea that she is too sacred to discuss, often without taking any effort to define or assess her sacredness. This paper pushes back against this silence and attempts to define the divine body of Heavenly Mother. It argues that her divinity stems from her authority and that the authority she holds is the priesthood. It attempts to ascertain her relationship with the priesthood using statements made by Church leaders.

Paper 2 THE MYSTICAL BODY OF GOD THE MOTHER

Presenter EDWARD JONES III is an attorney and amateur musician living in Washington, DC. He served a mission in Paraguay, left the Church 12 years ago because he is gay, but recently felt called by Heavenly Mother to return to Church activity. He attends the Washington DC Third Ward where he serves as Primary music leader. Edward studied classics with Margaret Toscano and blogs at GAILYMORMON.COM.

Abstract Mormons believe that Jesus Christ has not only a physical body and a spirit body, but—as proposed by the apostle Paul—a metaphorical body that has been identified with the Church. This presentation considers whether God the Mother has a metaphorical body and asks how we can come to know it, what it consists of, and how we can access it. The presenter uses his personal experiences with Heavenly Mother, passages of scripture, and the poetry of Walt Whitman to propose that the Mother reveals herself in different ways than the Father.

255. Panel EVOLUTION OF EARLY MORMON PRIESTHOOD NARRATIVES

Abstract When Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery announced in the mid-1830s that they had been ordained by John the Baptist in May 1829 and subsequently by ancient apostles Peter, James, and John, it was a surprising disclosure—even for those who had been followers from the beginning. Our purpose is to discuss Joseph Smith’s original authority claims, to reconstruct key changes, and to suggest why the stories of angelic ordination were introduced.

Presenters DAN VOGEL is an award-winning author who has been publishing in the field of early Mormon history for more than 30 years. He has authored 10 books and 14 articles.

GREGORY A. PRINCE attended Dixie College and UCLA, earning degrees in dentistry and pathology. He has developed an avocation as a historian of Mormonism, publishing many articles and two books, Power From on High: The Development of Mormon Priesthood (1995) and David O. McKay and the Rise of Modern Mormonism (2005).

Respondent D. MICHAEL QUINN has a PhD in history from Yale University and served on BYU’s faculty for 12 years. An independent scholar, he held an appointment as a Beinecke Fellow and post-doctoral associate in Yale’s department of history from 2002–03. He is the author of more than 80 articles and several award-winning books about Mormon history.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 3:45 PM–4:45 PM

261. Paper HOW MANY MORMONS DOES IT TAKE TO CLEAN A JOKE? CLEAN LDS HUMOR IN LDS COMEDY

Presenter ELISHA MCINTYRE is finishing a PhD in studies in religion at the University of Sydney, Australia. Her research includes religion and humor as expressed in popular religious entertainment and material culture. She has thus far managed to inspire interest in Mormon comedy film, publishing a chapter on LDS comedy film in The Handbook of New Religions and Cultural Production (2012).

Abstract This paper considers what is meant by the term “clean humor” and why Mormons deem clean humor to be appropriate and dirty humor to be inappropriate. Clean humor has no swearing, sexual or extreme bodily humor, and usually very little violence. This paper argues that clean humor acts as a popular marker of LDS identity and reflects an anxiety over the body as well as a preoccupation with family, modesty, childhood innocence, and safety. McIntyre will focus on the Mormon practice of “substitute swearing” as depicted in examples of popular LDS comedy to demonstrate that clean humor is directly related to religious and cultural interpretations of the body.

262. Paper WHY WE GET STUCK AND HOW TO GET UNSTUCK

Presenter GLEN LAMBERT is a licensed clinical social worker. He recently retired as executive director of Odyssey House and now has a private practice, teaching on the side at the University of Utah. He has presented workshops and lectures throughout the US and around the world. His specialties include addictions of all types,
trauma, child abuse, couples, religious and personal conflict, and grief work. He is a past member of the Sunstone board of directors.

Abstract  Do you find yourself stuck emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually? Do the same behavioral patterns and thought processes keep repeating? Do the same old conflicts, blocks, rigid definitions and feelings keep you from changing and growing? Many get stuck psychologically and spiritually and have a hard time moving on. This paper will identify many of the reasons we get stuck in a Mormon cultural context. Some suggestions for overcoming these roadblocks, finding alternatives between extremes, and getting unstuck and moving on to more mature, healthier and productive emotional and spiritual lives will be given. Lifting oneself up and continuing on can happen.

263. Paper  "RIGHT ARM TO THE SQUARE": ISRAEL A. SMITH SUSTAINS DAVID O. MCKAY

Presenter  MARK ALBERT SCHERER, PhD, became the Community of Christ world Church historian in May 1995. He advises the councils, quorums, and orders of the Community of Christ in matters of historical understanding. He also teaches in the Graceland University seminary, curates the world Church museum, gathers oral histories, and administers the world Church jurisdical history program. Scherer is writing a three-volume history of the religious movement entitled Journey of a People. The first two volumes were released in April 2013.

Abstract  The events surrounding the death of George Albert Smith and installation of David O. McKay in the Salt Lake City Tabernacle on 9 April 1951 took on a Shakespearean spectrum of emotions—kindness, humor, dismay, bewilderment, frustration, even anger—for RLDS leaders and members. In modern day parlance, RLDS President Israel A. Smith's innocent participation in the Tabernacle that day went viral, both nationally and internationally. The two prophets had to work together to solve the public relations problem—Israel A. Smith responding to the frustration of his church members and McKay intervening with his LDS missionaries who were proselytizing and scoring points. What was intended as a gesture of genuine friendship and support resulted in more than a yearlong distraction for all concerned.

Respondent  D. MICHAEL QUINN was a professor of history at BYU for 12 years, after which he has been an independent scholar. He has authored more than 80 articles and six books about Mormon history.

264. Paper  BODIES: A PREREQUISITE FOR THE LAW OF PROGRESSION

Presenter  CAMERON HUNTER received a BA in philosophy in May 2013 from USU with a minor in psychology. His interests include Mormon philosophy, social ethics, theology, the philosophy of law, and engaging the full implications of the restored Gospel.

Abstract  Modern day revelation informs us of laws that are co-eternal with God: justice and mercy. Hunter posits that there is at least one other eternal law: progression. Specifically, there are certain things necessary for progression (opposition, bodies, etc.). The "why" of bodies is complicated, but an answer may lie in the existence of the material and spiritual planes. If a being is perfect, then that being is perfect in all planes of existence. So any being aspiring to absolute perfection requires both a spiritual and a physical body in order to achieve perfection in both planes of existence.

265. Paper  HEARTHROB: THE NEED FOR HEAVENLY MOTHER IN LATTER-DAY SAINT THEOLOGY

Presenter  RACHEL HUNT STEENBLIK is a PhD student in philosophy of religion and theology at Claremont Graduate University. She has an MA in library science from Simmons College in Boston and a BA in philosophy from BYU. She was a primary researcher on the BYU Studies article, "A Mother There: A Survey of Historical Teachings about Mother in Heaven."

Abstract  In 1845, Eliza R. Snow published a poem invoking both the Eternal Father and Mother. Latter-day Saint theologian B.H. Roberts would later describe it as "that splendid hymn of ours on heavenly motherhood, the great throbbing of hunger of woman's soul." More than 101 years later, many women's (and men's) souls continue to throb with hunger. While this need for a female deity is widespread, it becomes particularly pressing in the LDS Church, which views God as an embodied male and gender as an eternal characteris-tic. This paper postulates the need for such a being in both feminist and Latter-day Saint theologies, and briefly examines whether or not Latter-day Saints are being nourished by this doctrine and suggests they are, in part, via the bloggernacle.
The Girls from Fourth Ward
by Donna Banta
What if you get stuck with a petty person for bishop who leaves nothing so much as saving the control he has over others? How? You can't just switch words — that's not allowed. So, well... somebody has to off him. But who...?

The Circumcision of God
by Johnny Townsend
A young girl has to fight the Klan in 1960’s Mississippi. A betrayed husband, facing divorce, demands the return of the kidney he donated to his wife. A young gay man is forced out of the closet by his dying mother.

The Valley of Fire
by Brett Cotrell
When a rogue angel known as “Resistant” escapes and starts a political cult in Central Utah, all hell breaks loose. Friends turn against friends, brotherhoods abandon wives, heads leave their bodies, and a frightened man builds his revered prophet with a lesson — and this is just the beginning.

Hippie Boy: A Girl’s Story
by Ingrid Ricks
What would you do if your Mormon stepfather picked you down and tried to use Satan out of evil? For 13-year-old, Dion, the answer is simple: RUN. Hippie Boy is a memoir about a teenage girl who escapes her abusive Mormon stepfather by giving her dad the road on a teetering vagabond — until his arrest forces her to take charge of her life.

Sex Among the Saints
by Johnny Townsend
Clean-cut Mormons may preach purity and wholesomeness, but sometimes their desire for social status forces them to feelings to exist in unexpected ways. These tales are not for those who deny the reality of sexuality, but the rest of us will enjoy getting a glimpse into the Mormon bedrooms.

Mormon Fairy Tales
by Johnny Townsend
A decade’s worth plots to break out of Spirit Prison. A polygamist in 1885 Utah is ordered to take a fourth wife, whom he really wants to be with another man. Alone on the U.N. a revelation that God actually does live on Earth.

Ockham’s Razor
by Alan Michael Williams
Micheal doesn’t like how his Mormon faith pigeonholes his sexuality: that being ‘gay’ is like drug addiction. He used to be addicted at night and imagine God giving out awards to all those gay people who saw past the ignorance of the Church, losing their lives on Earth. Micheal figured he would just walk away from all things Mormon and never look back. That is, until friendship came along.

The Book of Thompson
by David J. Larkin, Jr.
A 19-year-old Mormon escapes from Idaho to share the gospel with the people of Sarum, Russia. These tales are about how to entice strangers to thick fur coats and deliver a thirty-minute message about God — in a more understandable companion to the bus and metro. Bidding farewell to Earth, he learns from the Russian people how much there is out there to learn.

Torn by God
by Zoe Murdock
Zoe Murdock is a writer, a teacher of writing, and a raconteur. Her novel, Torn by God, is based on events that occurred when she was a child. It is the story of her father’s obsession with the old Mormon doctrine of polygamy and the devastating effect her experiences had on her mother.

Secular or former Mormon?
Find out about these books and more at mormonalumniassociation.org

To get involved or list your book, contact C.L. Hanson:
chanson.exmormon@gmail.com

Join the conversation on Main Street Plaza!!!
http://mainstreetplaza.com
Panel A PATCHWORK OF MORMON FEMINISM: DIVERSITY STITCHED TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY

Abstract Celebrating the causes and effects of “Wear Pants to Church Day,” representatives from diverse movements in Mormon feminism will present the “Pants Quilt” and talk about how all of the individual pieces, each representing a unique participant, came together to make the big picture of Mormon feminism the whole. Every quilt needs each piece to be what it is, and Mormon feminism is no different. We come from different backgrounds, diverse experiences, pains, hopes, and dreams that drive us to be a part of the movement, and that inform our actions within it. Different people with different approaches and different end goals each add to the conversation. The Pants event gave us an opportunity to stand—and stand out—together.

Moderator LISA BUTTERWORTH is the founder of Feminist Mormon Housewives and a graduate student in counseling. She teaches Sunday School, has three munchkins, is equally yoked for time and eternity with a totally righteous provider, and has worn out at least four vacuums.

Panelists LINDSAY HANSEN PARK is a blogger, podcaster, artist, mom, and wife. She has blogged at FEMINISTMORNONHOUSEWIVES.ORG since 2010 and founded the Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast. She is Sunstone’s social media director and a member of the board of directors for the Whitefields Educational Foundation. She is actively engaged in women’s rights advocacy and global activism.

HANNAH WHEELWRIGHT is a political science major and women’s studies minor at BYU. She started the Young Mormon Feminists blog in 2012 and has been involved with various Mormon feminist activism projects.

EMILY CLYDE CURTIS lives in Phoenix, AZ with her three children and husband. She works at the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation, volunteers for Exponent II, and occasionally blogs at Exponent II.

MELISSA MAYHEW is trying to do it all as a married mother of two daughters. She’s an artist, gamer geek, avid reader, and programming student, game-design entrepreneur.

272. Panel AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS: BRIAN HALES’ THREE-VOLUME JOSEPH SMITH’S POLYGAMY: HISTORY AND THEOLOGY

Abstract This panel discussion brings together scholars and thinkers familiar with Brian Hales’ three-volume set, Joseph Smith’s Polygamy. Drawing on every known account, Joseph Smith’s Polygamy meticulously reconstructs both the history and the theological underpinnings of the often misunderstood practice. Hales makes ample use of personal accounts and documents, especially the newly available Andrew Jenson Papers. This complex, nuanced history is enhanced by the private writings of Nauvoo participants and other polygamy insiders, including many accounts that have never been published. Joseph Smith’s Polygamy represents the most comprehensive history of early Mormon polygamy to date. Please join the book’s author and a panel of careful readers in a vigorous exchange about this book and its conclusions about this practice and doctrine in early Mormonism.

Moderator JACOB BAKER is a doctoral student in philosophy of religion and theology at Claremont Graduate University. He has taught philosophy at UVU and BYU and is finishing his dissertation on suffering and the problem of evil.
Panelists

CHERYL BRUNO has MA in education from BYU and a BS in physical education and recreation from Greensboro College.

GARY BERGERA is the managing director of the Smith-Pettit Foundation and was director of publishing at Signature Books from 1985 to 2000.

JORDAN HAUG is a graduate student in sociocultural anthropology at UC San Diego. He is doing ethnographic research among charismatic Christians in Papua New Guinea and research on Mormon fundamentalism.

Respondent

BRIAN HALES is a board-certified anesthesiologist who graduated from USU with a BS in biology and from the University of Utah College of Medicine. He is the author of the three-volume *Joseph Smith’s Polygamy: History and Theology* released earlier this year.

Panel 273.

MORMON SEXUALITY ON TRIAL

**Abstract**
The Jody Arias case highlights the public fascination with Mormon sexuality. It also illustrates ways in which community norms can have corrosive effects on people and relationships within the community. At a time of increased public interest in Mormonism, it also mirrors other public examinations of Mormonism and Mormon sexuality, from the 1977 kidnapped missionary case in England to the Smoot hearings. What factors contribute to the intense public interest in the Arias trial? In what ways does the trial show or distort community norms on sexuality? Is the case an outlier or an example of how repressive community norms can lead to deception and possibly even murder? Panelists will discuss the trial, its coverage, and its role as a public window into Mormon norms about sexuality.

**Panelists**

BOYD PETERSEN is the program coordinator for Mormon Studies at UVU and serves as the book review editor of the *Journal of Mormon History*. Boyd served an LDS mission to France where he developed a deep love for cathedrals and respect for a tradition that many of his co-missionaries considered the “great and abominable” church.

**Moderator/Panelist**

KAIMIPONO (KAIMI) WENGERT, JD, is an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego, a blogger at *Times and Seasons*, a regular contributor to the *Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast*, and a Sunstone board member.

**Panelists**

NATASHA HELFER PARKER has been a marriage, family, and sex therapist for 15 years, working primarily with LDS clients. She runs the blog, *The Mormon Therapist*, hosted on the Patheos web site.

Other panelists to be announced.

Panel 274.

BEYOND TOLERANCE: “HOLY ENVY” IN A CATHOLIC/MORMON DIALOGUE

**Abstract**
While both religions have been attacked as alien, perverse, and un-American, Mormon-Catholic relations have a rocky history. Krister Stendahl’s tools for religious understanding offer a positive path for interreligious engagement: When trying to understand another religion, ask for information from its adherents, not its enemies; don’t compare your best to their worst; and finally, leave room for “holy envy.” Holy envy, Stendahl emphasized, is a willingness to recognize elements in the other religious tradition that you admire and wish could be reflected in your own. In this session, a Catholic and a Mormon will discuss how Stendahl’s rules and the concept of “holy envy” have helped them appreciate the other tradition and better understand their own.

Panelists

FR. DANIEL P. DWYER, OFM is a professor of history at Siena College, an independent Roman Catholic college based in the Franciscan tradition. He is a member of the Order of Friars Minor and an ordained priest. He is also a long-time member of the Mormon History Association and genealogically a cousin of Emma Smith, Eliza Snow, Lorenzo Snow, and Orson and Parley Pratt.

BOYD PETERSEN is the program coordinator for Mormon Studies at UVU and serves as the book review editor of the *Journal of Mormon History*. Boyd served an LDS mission to France where he developed a deep love for cathedrals and respect for a tradition that many of his co-missionaries considered the “great and abominable” church.

Panel 275.

THE PARADOXICAL EMBODIMENT OF THE MORMON DIVINE: A PARTICIPATORY LITURGY

**Abstract**
The Mormon theology of the divine presents God as a council of embodied beings which includes a divine mother. It would seem that an embodied God who is ontologically proximate (as parent to our spirits), yet spatially distant (occupying an unknown realm within the universe), presents a paradox for the Mormon mystic. The Mormon concept of the Mother in Heaven faces additional paradox through her confinement to an invisible body. These embodied Gods as both mother and father are further complicated by the Mormon tendency to project Victorian gender roles upon these seemingly infinite beings. During this panel,
the presenters will explore both the beauty and paradox of a theology of embodiment in liturgical format with full audience participation throughout.

Panelists

RACHAEL ROSE STEINECKERT is a graduate of USU in cultural anthropology and religious studies. She has written about feminism and religion for USU’s student-run magazine and guest-blogged at the Exponent II and Young Mormon Feminists blogs. She presented at BYU’s Mormon Scholars in the Humanities conference in 2013.

JASON MINTON BROWN studied anthropology at BYU and forestry/theology at Yale. He will be starting a PhD program at the University of British Columbia in September. His writing focuses on Mormon Studies and perceptions of ecology.

DINNER BREAK, 6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Where to eat

THE STUDENT UNION’S food court is NOT open for dinner. The Heritage Center Dining Room on campus offers dinner (4:30–7:30 pm) for $7–9, Monday–Friday and is within walking distance of the Student Union. Call 801-581-6347 for more information. See page 4 for more dining options.

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

281. PILLARS OF MY FAITH

Abstract

This is perennially Sunstone’s 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 reflective night is about the things that matter most, plus spirited congregational hymn-singing.

Speaker

GREGORY A. PRINCE was born and reared in Los Angeles, California. He attended Dixie College and UCLA, earning degrees in dentistry and pathology.

The focus of his scientific research, spanning four decades, was respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), the primary cause of infant pneumonia worldwide. Over a period of fifteen years at the National Institutes of Health, he and his co-workers developed the thesis that RSV disease could be prevented by administering antiviral antibodies to high-risk infants. He co-founded Virion Systems, Inc., and worked with Medimmune, Inc. to conduct clinical trials that ultimately resulted in FDA licensure of RespiGam® (1996), and Synagis® (1998) for the prevention of RSV pneumonia in high-risk infants. Synagis® is the first and only monoclonal antibody yet to be licensed for use against any infectious agent. He has published over 150 scientific papers.

In addition to his career in science, he has developed an avocation as a historian of Mormonism, publishing many articles and two books, Power From on High: The Development of Mormon Priesthood (1995), and David O. McKay and the Rise of Modern Mormonism (2005). He and his wife, JaLynn Rasmussen Prince, are the parents of three children.

Speaker

ANNE LEAHY is a private practice sign language interpreter and genealogist who has served in professional and ecclesiastical capacities among Deaf people for 25 years. An unaffiliated scholar, she has a BA in English from Columbia College-Chicago and collaborates with other researchers to trace both Deaf history and the experience of disability within the LDS Church.

Her presentation and publishing credits include firesides to Deaf congregations, the Society for Mormon Philosophy and Theology, Mormon Scholars in the Humanities, Sunstone, the BYU Church History Symposium and Women’s Studies Conferences, the LDS Church History Library Lecture Series, and Mormon History Association.

She hosts an invited salon and colloquium on the topic of Mormonism and disability, and hopes to organize a conference with the aim of finding LDS scholars who themselves are people with disabilities. Such an event must honor the “Nothing about us without us” mantra of the Disability Rights Movement. She dedicates her research to the Mormon Deaf community which demanded that ASL be available to her at BYU, and to the disability rights community that engaged her interpreting work, allowing her to witness history.

Room SALTAIR
The Amazing Colossal Apostle: The Search for the Historical Paul
by Robert M. Price

For centuries scholars assumed that all thirteen epistles bearing the name of the apostle Paul were genuinely his. Where they differed was over what his letters meant. Beginning in the nineteenth century, researchers began raising questions about the authorship of the epistles. Here, Dr. Price makes the case that most of the New Testament writings attributed to Paul are pseudonymous. He identifies various strata in the texts from later authors and redactors, including Marcion of Sinope and Polycarp of Smyrna. Now available.

The Joseph Smith Egyptian Papyri: A Complete Edition
by Robert K. Ritner

Long overdue! Dr. Robert K. Ritner, Professor of Egyptology at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, provides the first complete translation of all surviving papyri and facsimiles that appear as part of the LDS Book of Abraham. He is joined by other scholars who give a history and provenance of the papyri, along with the genealogy of the original owner, Horos, a priest of Thebes from about 150 BCE. The book includes 24 color plates. Available in hardback (now) and paperback (May, 2013).

An Imperfect Book: What the Book of Mormon Tells Us about Itself
by Earl M. Wunderli

In a thorough study of the Book of Mormon, Earl M. Wunderli seeks to determine the book’s worldview and then asks what we think, taking it on its own terms. By examining the nature of the book’s historical, grammatical, and cognitive mistakes, he ponders what we can learn about its construction and authorship. He includes opposing interpretations so readers can know what other Book of Mormon investigators have concluded about the issues. Available May, 2013.

www.signaturebooks.com
SUNSTONE SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY 3 AUGUST

2013 Salt Lake SUNSTONE Symposium and Workshops

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 the Olpin Student Union Building.

DEVOTIONAL, 8:00 AM–8:30 AM

301. Devotional ODE TO JOY!

Presenter ROBERT A. REES teaches Mormon Studies at Graduate Theological Union and UC Berkeley. He is editing a second volume of Why I Stay: The Challenges of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons.

Abstract Joy is a supreme human experience, an emotion shared by both human and divine beings. Teillard de Chardin argues that “Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God.” According to Latter-day Saint scripture, Deity designed the plan of salvation in order that we might experience this elevated emotion—and experience it in abundance. Paraphrasing Neph, Adam and Eve fell that we might be and we are so that we might have joy. This devotional explores joy along with its unique characteristics and dimensions, and its relationship to love, glory, and holiness. It then proposes some ideas about how we might live more joyful lives.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 8:30 AM–9:30 AM

311. Paper “NOTHING SO PLEASES GOD AS A THIN BODY”: HOLY ANOREXIA FROM TERTULLIAN’S CARTHAGE TO ALPINE, UTAH

Presenter JONATHAN G. ENGLAND is an MA student in religious studies at Claremont Graduate University. He has a BA in history from the University of Utah.

Abstract This paper traces the urge toward anorexia as a ritual imperative in Christianity dating from the earliest times, through Medieval self-abnegation—Theresa of Avila and Catherine of Siena—to that “perfect Mormon woman” who jogs the suburban lanes of Utah County. In light of Tertullian’s famous observation that God loves thinness, England will examine the history of eating disorders as an expression of a toxic form of perfectionism that has disturbed the psychology of the Christian life from the beginning.

312. Paper ETERNAL DAUGHTERS AND SONS OF GOD AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

Presenter BLAIR DEE HODGES received a BA in mass communication with a minor in religious studies at the University of Utah and completed an MA in religious studies at Georgetown University. He is the public communications specialist for the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship.

Abstract One of the biggest theological puzzles Joseph Smith left in his wake regards the nature and origin of the human spirit or “intelligence.” According to Smith, intelligences were in some sense self-existent/eternal but also daughters and sons of God. How one responds to this puzzle holds deep implications for considering the place of intellectual disability in Mormon theology. This paper explores different theological options available to Mormons. Considering intellectual disabilities as situated within Mormon theology provides a good opportunity to evaluate ways that cultural and social views influence religious belief.

313. Paper “FOR IF I WILL...I WILL COMMAND”: STATES OF EXCEPTION, POLYGAMY, AND MORMON COOPERATION WITH POLITICAL AUTHORITARIANISM

Presenter MARK T. DECKER is an associate professor of English at Bloomsburg University. He is co-editor of Peculiar Portrayals: Mormons on the Page, Stage, and Screen. He has an MA and PhD in English from Penn State and a BA in English from USU.
Abstract Scholars are beginning to apply critical theory to study the imprint polygamy left on contemporary Mormon culture. Giorgio Agamben argues that democracy is threatened by the state of exception—the extension of antidemocratic governance during times of crisis—because the state of exception often becomes the norm.

Applying Agamben’s framework to the shifting rules regarding polygamy in Jacob 2 and D&C 132 reveals something greatly resembling a state of exception. Polygamy is initially presented as something that happens only in special circumstances and with divine permission, but is later presented as the norm. Conceptualizing Mormon polygamy as a state of exception allows us to use Agamben’s work to ask what it means when a church culture that begins as a suspension of the normative rules of behavior later engages with a broader culture that is experiencing tension between democracy and the state of exception.

314. Paper MORMONISM AND MATERIALISM: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF A PECULIAR METAPHYSIC

Presenter RACHEL MORRIS has an MA from the University of Washington in comparative religion with special focus on American religion. She is now working on an MSc in applied physics. Despite her return to the world of science, Morris maintains a fascination with human experience as expressed through religion.

Abstract Among the elements that make Mormonism unique in the Christian world is the ultimate materialism that underlies it. Much as in scientific materialism, Mormonism posits that discovering the underlying laws by which all matter operates not only illuminates the nature of the world but gives the practitioner power over it. Mormonism introduces its practitioners to the otherwise hidden rules of the physical and spiritual world, both of which are ultimately material, but encourages active engagement and experimentation. This, Morris argues, is ultimate embodiment.

315. Paper WILLIAM LAW: “A SWEET LITTLE MAN”

Presenter TOM KIMBALL is the marketing director for Signature Books and the new book review editor for SUNSTONE.

Abstract This paper attempts to contextualize events between May 1843 and the first week of 1844 that caused William Law to transition from being Joseph Smith’s counselor, loyal friend, and defender to an entrenched critic who was ejected from the first presidency, excommunicated, and went on to co-author the Nauvoo Expositor.

316. Paper MIND, MATTER, AND MORMONISM: EXPLORATIONS IN THE MIND-BODY PROBLEM

Presenter BENJAMIN HARMAN is a senior at Utah State University pursuing a double major in philosophy and religious studies with a minor in political science. His main research interests are philosophy of religion, philosophy of mind, and the history of Christianity. Harman won the 2012 Leonard J. Arrington Writing Award for his essay “What has Athens to Do with Mormonism?”

Abstract What is the relationship between the mind and the body? Traditional Christianity has asserted that the mind (spirit) is immaterial and separate from the body. Materialism holds that the mind is merely a byproduct of the brain. Both views present problems. How can the immaterial interact with the material? How does consciousness emerge from electro-chemical processes in the brain? Mormonism teaches that mind (intelligence) is essentially a purer form of matter, so it avoids some of these problems but it also presents others. This presentation will give a brief overview of the mind-body problem, then explore some ways Mormonism can approach its implications.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 9:45–10:45 AM

321. Paper OPPOSITION IN ALL THINGS: THE APOCALYPTIC BOOK OF MORMON

Presenter JANICE ALLRED is a writer and speaker on theological topics and the author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays and “The One Who Never Left Us” (SUNSTONE 166).

Abstract The Book of Mormon is an apocalyptic text, drawing a sharp distinction between good and evil. The concept of opposition in all things introduced early in the text posits metaphysical duality as the basis of existence. Does this mean that evil is a necessary part of reality? How does this concept of duality affect our understanding of the nature of God and the plan of salvation? This paper attempts to shed light on these questions by exploring the three oppositional pairs that ground the teachings of the Book of Mormon: the way of life and the way of death, the Church of Christ and the Church of the devil, and Christ and Satan.
322. **Paper**  **HOSTING THE CAST OF THE BOOK OF MORMON MUSICAL AT THE HILL CUMORAH: PUBLIC AFFAIRS TRIUMPH OR DISASTER?**

**Presenter**  **GERALD S. ARGTSINGER** is an associate professor of cultural and creative studies at the National Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology. He served in the Hill Cumorah pageant presidency and as artistic director of the Hill Cumorah Pageant. He reviewed the opening of *The Book of Mormon* on Broadway.

**GAIL ARGTSINGER** is an associate professor and costume designer in the department of theatre at the College at Brockport and State University of New York. She has designed costumes for outdoor venues including the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Tuacahn, and the Hill Cumorah Pageant.

**Abstract**  In March 2013, 25 cast and crew members of the national tour of *The Book of Mormon* musical toured the Hill Cumorah, Joseph Smith Home, Sacred Grove, and Grandin Building with the Argtsingers. The Argtsingers will tell the remarkable story of how this controversial event came to be and what its effects were from both the perspective of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the producers of the musical. The presentation will include specific examples of the Hill Cumorah Pageant's influence on the script and design of the Broadway musical.

323. **Paper**  **THE VIRTUE OF EUPHEMISM**

**Presenter**  **ARWEN TAYLOR** is a medievalist PhD student and aspiring lexicographer studying at Indiana University, Bloomington. She is an occasional blogger at *Zelophehad's Daughters*.

**Abstract**  Etymologically, the word “virtue” should mean “manliness” (from Latin vir, “man”), though in English it has never carried this meaning. In recent Mormon usage, it has come instead to refer to some rather vague collection of the moral qualities of women, always including sexual restraint.

This paper examines, via descriptive semantics, the Mormon use of the word “virtue,” the range of meanings (“power” / “morality” / “ chastity” and/or “virginity”) it can have, and the contexts in which it can have them. In particular, it considers the rhetorical purposes a speaker might have for the word “virtue” (such as former general YW president Elaine Dalton who used “virtue” at least 135 times from the general conference pulpit during her tenure), which by its very imprecision allows the speaker to keep sexuality simultaneously inside and at the edge of her discussion of women’s ethical value.

324. **Panel**  **120 YEARS OF DEAF LATTER-DAY SAINT SPACES**

**Presenters**  **DOUG STRINGHAM, MS** is an instructor in the American Sign Language and Deaf Studies Department at UVU. For more than 20 years, he has worked as a private American Sign Language interpreter and community advocate in professional and ecclesiastical settings. Doug has presented on interpreter education, the history and etymology of signed languages, and the history of nineteenth-century signing communities, including the history of early Deaf members and congregations of the LDS Church.

**ANNE LEAHY** is a private practice interpreter who has served in professional and ecclesiastical capacities among Deaf people for more than 20 years. She holds a BA in English from Columbia College-Chicago, and collaborates with other researchers to trace Deaf history and the experience of disability within the LDS Church. She has presented with the Society for Mormon Philosophy and Theology, Mormon Scholars in the Humanities, Sunstone, and the LDS Church History Library Lecture Series.

**Abstract**  Wayne Morris observed that “a relationship with an invisible God” is less unnatural for hearing people, who are accustomed to communicating in such a way. For 120 years, Deaf Latter-day Saints have confronted perceived conventions of worship by adapting, then revising, and finally creating a wholly Deaf LDS space. The physical and symbolic centers of a Deaf-led and visually-based body of Saints are the remarkable customized chapels where the first Deaf congregations met. This presentation will analyze the spaces conceived, built, and celebrated by the Deaf community, which fostered architectural and liturgical diversities of operations (D&C 46:16) that have become today’s standard.

325. **Paper**  **THE INFINITE RANGE OF PI: MUSINGS ON THE FILM DIRECTED BY ANG LEE, BASED ON THE BOOK BY YANN MARTEL**

**Presenter**  **MARIE BLANCHARD** holds a doctorate in mental health from the University of California-San Francisco. She practices as a clinical psy-
chologist in Fremont, CA, and has two adult children and five grandchildren. She serves as a counselor in her ward’s Relief Society.

Abstract This presentation discusses the film Life of Pi on three levels: corporeal, psychological, and spiritual. The mathematical definition of pi is then compared to Hindu understanding of an individual’s connection to the divine (atman-brahman). The protagonist of the film, Pi, is used in the story as a spiritual metaphor to explore the relation of the Infinite to the Individual. Two questions are raised: first, how does one retain spiritual light while living a quotidian life, and second, how does living an active Mormon life facilitate and/or impede spiritual growth?

326. Paper BODIES WITHOUT END

Presenter CHRISTOPHER BRADFORD is a senior director of engineering at ANCESTRY.COM and co-founder and vice president of the Mormon Transhumanist Association.

Abstract This paper draws on the work of James Faulconer and David Paulsen dealing with Mormon conceptions of embodiment—both human and divine—and on the work of Anto-

nio D’amasio and Douglas Hofstadter dealing with identity, embodiment, and emotion to propose a model of embodiment that fits Joseph Smith’s teachings on spirit bodies, physical bodies, resurrected bodies, and God’s body.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 11:00 AM–12:30PM

331. Panel THOSE WITH EARBUDS...LET THEM HEAR

Abstract Podcasting is a vital component of the robust Mormon Internet and Bloggernacle communities, serving audiences both orthodox and heterodox. Four podcasts of note were launched in the past year: Engaging Gospel Doctrine, A Thoughtful Faith, Text & Context, and Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast. All seek critical engagement beyond criticism. Whether modeling the best imaginable Sunday school class, challenging the assumption that disaffection is the inevitable conclusion of faith transition, examining LDS scripture broadly and historically, or providing a vital voice for women’s issues, these podcasts add to the richness and diversity of Mormon thought.

Moderator/Panelist BRANDT MALONE is a second-generation Mormon from Detroit, MI. Both his parents were converts, so Brandt has been “first” to do all things Mormon. He is a graduate of BYU-Idaho and a podcast interviewer for Mormon Expositor.

Panelists JARED ANDERSON, host of Engaging Gospel Doctrine, is finishing his PhD in biblical studies at UNC-Chapel Hill and teaching world religion at Westminster College. His research interests include the history of the Bible and the future of religion.

SARAH COLLETT has co-hosted and contributes to A Thoughtful Faith, and is a graduate from BYU with a BA in English. As a returned missionary who has chosen to remain active in the LDS Church despite experiencing her own faith transition, Sarah has sought meaningful discourse with thoughtful believers.

LINDSAY HANSEN PARK, host of the Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast, gives patriarchy a run for its money but always manages to get home in time to have dinner on the table! Lindsay has blogged at Feminist Mormon Housewives since 2010. She is the social media director at Sunstone and serves on the board of directors for the Whitefields Educational Foundation.
332. **Panel** **FORTY-YEAR-OLD VIRGINS: THE DOUBLE BIND OF BEING UNMARRIED AND CHILDLESS IN THE LDS CHURCH**

**Abstract**

Marriage and children go together in the LDS Church. Occasionally, we talk about married couples who cannot have children or single parents who are divorced, widowed, or who have children out of wedlock. What is almost never discussed, however, is that if you are not married, you are not allowed to have children either (or at least not honorably).

This double bind is problematic for both single men and women in the Church, but for women whose entire worth is wrapped up in their virginity and ability to have children, it can be especially excruciating. This presentation will explore the nature of cultural and structural privilege in the Church and how it works in favor of members who are married with children and against members who are unmarried without children.

**Panelists**

TAMARA TAYSOM holds an MA in education and history. She has taught elementary school for 17 years in Texas and Utah. She is a returned missionary, an avid Sunstoner, and is interested in gender issues and Mormonism.

KRISTA MECHAM holds an MA in education and culture from the University of Utah and teaches in a dual-language program in an elementary school in the Salt Lake Valley. She is a returned missionary, Young Women’s president in her ward, and was once kicked out of a craft club because she did not have enough natural skill.

333. **Panel** **RECALLING THE PURGE OF 1993**

**Abstract**

Many progressive Mormons have heard of the September Six, but a dwindling number are aware of the events of 1992–93 and their culmination in the excommunications that took place within a few weeks of each other. This presentation recalls significant parts of those events and their aftermath.

**Presenter**

PAUL TOSCANO is a bankruptcy lawyer. His books include *The Sacrament of Doubt* (2007); *The Sanctity of Dissent* (1994); *Strangers in Paradox: Explorations in Mormon Theology* (co-authored with Margaret Toscano, 1990); *Music and the Broken Word* (co-authored with Calvin Grondahl, 1992); and *Gospel Letters to a Mormon Missionary* (1981). He has published two online novels, *Christ on Trial: An Easter Hymn* and *The Eyes of Logres—Book I* of his trilogy *The Last Pendragons*.

334. **Panel** **PROPOSITION 8, REVISITED**

**Abstract**

This panel will discuss the Supreme Court case involving the legality of Proposition 8. Panelists will discuss the legal claims made in the case and their impact on the LDS community.

**Moderator/Panelist**

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

**Panelists**

MORRIS A. THURSTON is a graduate of Harvard Law School and a retired litigation partner in the global law firm Latham & Watkins. He serves as chair of the *Dialogue* board of directors and host of the *Dialogue* podcasts. He has written on same-sex marriage legal issues and has presented in conferences at UVU and Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government on the subject.

NADINE HANSEN is a mostly-retired attorney living in Cedar City. To the extent that she is not retired, she represents children as a *guardian ad litem* in custody disputes. In her spare time, she raises vegetables and chickens.

Additional panelists to be announced.

335. **Panel** **PREVIEW OF PERSISTENCE OF POLYGAMY: FROM JOSEPH SMITH’S MARTYRDOM TO THE FIRST MANIFESTO**

**Abstract**

This session discusses a forthcoming anthology of essays dealing with plural marriage edited by Newell G. Bringham and Craig L. Foster. Consisting of 12 original, never-before-published essays and focusing on plural marriage as it evolved in the Utah Mormon Church, this volume also considers differing reactions to the practice by various schismatic Latter-day Saint groups, along with responses to polygamy by the Community of Christ (formerly the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints). Contributing authors will discuss their specific essays.
Moderator

NEWELL G. BRINGHURST is an independent scholar and professor emeritus of history and political science at College of the Sequoias in Visalia, CA, having retired after a 35 year career in the classroom.

Panelists

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

BRIAN HALE is a board-certified anesthesiologist in Layton, UT, having graduated from USU with a BS in biology and from the University of Utah, College of Medicine. He is the author of the three-volume Joseph Smith’s Polygamy: History and Theology, released earlier this year (Greg Kofford Books).

CONNELL O’DONOVAN is a professional genealogist and independent historian of early Mormonism. He is author of a forthcoming biography of Augusta Adams Cobb, a plural wife of Brigham Young, to be published by the University of Utah Press.

Additional panelist to be announced.

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A portion of the proceeds from sales at our Symposium table will go directly to support

The Sunstone Education Foundation.
336. Panel IS THERE A FAITH CRISIS IN CONTEMPORARY MORMONISM?

Abstract There has been considerable buzz in the blogosphere about a growing faith crisis among contemporary Mormons. This crisis of faith can be described as a state of intense emotional and spiritual distress resulting from the discovery of discrepancies between historical and scientific facts and the official LDS narrative. To what extent is the faith crisis real? What are its dimensions? To what extent can it also be described as a crisis of reason? What strategies should be considered to address it? What is the impact of electronic and social media on faith? This presentation is based on a survey of over 3,000 Latter-day Saints who have recently experienced or are currently experiencing a faith crisis.

Moderator/Panelist ROBERT A. REES teaches Mormon Studies at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. His book Why I Stay: The Challenges of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons was published in 2011.

Panelists TRAVIS STRATFORD develops branding solutions for clients such as The Estée Lauder Companies, Pepsi, Johnson & Johnson, and Valentino. He holds a MA in integrated marketing from Northwestern University and a BA in marketing communications from BYU. In his free time he studies the impact of social media on LDS culture and beliefs.

NEYLAN MCBAINE is the founder and editor-in-chief of The Mormon Women Project, a non-profit that publishes interviews with LDS women from around the world at WWW.MORMONWOMEN.COM. She is a brand strategist at Bonneville Communications, the agency responsible for MORMON.ORG and the “I’m a Mormon” campaign.

JENNIFER FINLAYSON-FIFE has a PhD in counseling psychology from Boston College. She is a counselor with a private therapy practice in Chicago, IL.

Other panelists to be announced.

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.

Attendees may pre-order a box lunch for Saturday only. Box lunches are $11.00. They include a sandwich (turkey & provolone, ham & Swiss, roast beef & cheddar, or roasted vegetable & provolone), whole fruit, chips, a cookie, and bottled water/soft drink. We typically order a few extra lunches; ask about availability at the registration desk.

341. Lunchtime Video clips from coverage of Mormons, Mormonism, and Utah-related topics from Comedy Central’s The Daily Show and The Colbert Report. Clips assembled by MICHAEL J. STEVENS.

Room SALTAIR

CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 2:00 PM–3:30 PM

351. Panel AN INSIDE LOOK AT CENTENNIAL PARK: POLYGAMY, USA

Abstract Following in the steps of Big Love and Sister Wives, the new reality television series Polygamy, USA offers an intimate, documentary-style look at this Fundamentalist Mormon community on the Utah-Arizona border which broke away from the FLDS Church in the 1980s. We will show clips from the show, which premiered last May on the National Geographic channel, and hear from some of the people who live in that community. We will ask: How did the show come to be? How do you feel about how the show is portraying fundamentalist Mormons? What do you make of the public’s interest in Mormon polygamy?

Moderator/Panelist HUGO OLAIZ is the news editor for SUNSTONE.

Panelists ANNE WILDE is the author of Voices in Harmony: Contemporary Women Celebrate Plural Marriage.

MARLYNE has been a member of the Centennial Park Action Committee for several years. Her experience in the plural culture has proven invaluable in her work with the media and many local and state agencies. Marlyne feels
strongly that it no longer serves Mormon fundamentalist culture to sit at the back of the bus, and that in order to be recognized, they must move forward. She appeared on the National Geographic TV series *Polygamy, USA*.

POLLY grew up in the plural-marriage culture and appreciates the richness of family and community that is her heritage. She is a member of the Centennial Park Action Committee and has been a powerful voice in educating others about polygamy and the communities around it. She has an MA and is a junior high principal at Masada Charter School.

JARED was born and raised in Centennial Park. He graduated from Colorado City Academy in 2010 and signed up for the missionary program one month later. Jared is 20 years old and is still serving as a missionary. He also appeared on *Polygamy, USA*.

DR. JENNIFER BASQUIAT is a professor of communication and cultural anthropology at the College of Southern Nevada. She has a keen interest in Mormon feminism and in 2000 received the Harvard Divinity School’s prestigious New Scholar award. She does extensive field work in Centennial Park and presents her findings nationally and internationally. She is a consultant on the *Polygamy, USA* series and is writing a book entitled *Underground, but in the Light: The Plural Community of Centennial Park*.

352. Panel MORMON WOMEN HAVE THEIR SAY: ESSAYS ON THE CLAREMONTE ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

**Abstract** Over the past few years, the Claremont Women’s Oral History Project has collected hundreds of interviews with Mormon women of various ages, experiences, and levels of church activity. This panel will discuss the importance of these interviews and the insights they bring in understanding the lives and experiences of Mormon women.

**Moderator** To be announced.

**Panelists** CLAUDIA L. BUSHMAN is a historian of the United States with degrees from Wellesley College, BYU, and Boston University. She has taught courses at several universities on nineteenth-century social and cultural history, American literature, and on American women. Her fifteenth book, *Mormon Women Have Their Say*, is the subject of this session.

MAXINE HANKS is a feminist theologian researching women in religion, Mormonism, and Gnosticism. She has been a visiting fellow at Harvard Divinity School and was editor of *Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism*.

KAIMI WENGER, JD, is an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego, a blogger at *Times and Seasons*, a contributor to the *Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast*, and a Sunstone board member.

LINDSAY HANSEN PARK is a blogger, podcaster, artist, mom, and wife. She has blogged for FEMINISTMORMONHOUSEWIVES.ORG since 2010 and founded the *Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast*. She is the social media director for Sunstone and is actively engaged in women’s rights advocacy.

ELIZABETH J. MOTT is a doctoral student at Claremont Graduate University in the history of Christianity and religions of North America program. She contributed the chapter on “Singlehood” to *Mormon Women Have Their Say*. She interned at the LDS Church History Library, helping Jill Derr with the forthcoming *Documentary History of the Relief Society*.

353. Panel RAMIFICATIONS OF THE SEPTEMBER SIX EXCOMMUNICATIONS

**Abstract** The excommunication of six LDS scholars, feminists, and writers rocked the Mormon intellectual community and had ripple effects on many people for years to come. This panel brings together community members who were deeply affected by the excommunications of September 1993.

**Moderator/Panelist** ADAM FORD was a recently returned missionary going to BYU when the September Six excommunications occurred.

**Panelists** MARY ELLEN ROBERTSON had just discovered Sunstone when the excommunications occurred. The chilling effect they had on Mormon intellectual life followed her into graduate school, driving her to study and write about Mormon patriarchy.

SCOTT KENNEY, one of Sunstone’s founders, was unable to stay silent about the excommunications and this had ripple effects in his life and relationship with the LDS Church.

DOE DAUGHTREY has a PhD in religious studies and teaches classes in religion and popular culture, women and religion, and witchcraft and heresy in Europe.
354. Panel  TWO-PAPER SESSION ON MARRIAGE AND MORMONISM

Paper 1  REDEFINING MARRIAGE: 2,500 YEARS OF SOCIAL HISTORY

Presenter  CONNELL O’DONOVAN is a professional genealogist and independent historian of early Mormonism. His forthcoming biography on Augusta Adams Cobb, a plural wife of Brigham Young, will be published by the University of Utah Press. He is also a longtime LGBT rights activist.

Abstract  The only constant about marriage is that it is always changing and adapting—being redefined—through time and across cultures. Even in the western tradition, virtually every century brings radical redefinitions to marriage. In the national discourse over legalizing homogamy (or same-sex marriage), politicians and religious leaders have constantly invoked “traditional marriage” as the norm and a redefinition of marriage as a warning of imminent social dissolution. Yet from historical and anthropological perspectives, marriage is and always has been clearly expansive, dynamic, adaptable, exquisitely elastic, hardy, vigorous, and vibrant.

Paper 2  LIBIDO, THEOLOGY, OR AN ANGEL’S SWORD? JOSEPH SMITH’S MOTIVATION TO ESTABLISH PLURAL MARRIAGE

Presenter  BRIAN HALES is a board-certified anesthesiologist having graduated from USU with a BS in biology and from the University of Utah, College of Medicine. He is the author of the three-volume *Joseph Smith’s Polygamy: History and Theology*, released earlier this year (Greg Kofford Books).

Abstract  The vast majority of authors addressing Joseph Smith’s plural marriages assume that his libido, consciously or unconsciously, drove the process. If this was the case, it would seem likely that at least some of the 114 Nauvoo polygamists at the time of martyrdom would have suspected such and left Joseph and his religion. The Saints themselves clearly saw polygamy in much different terms, showing that Joseph Smith had convinced them that other important purposes required polygamy’s implementation at that time and place. In fact, Joseph gave three reasons why plural marriage needed to be permitted and at least one why it was also commanded.

355. Panel  LATTER-GAY SAINTS: AN ANTHOLOGY OF GAY MORMON FICTION

Abstract  Latter-Gay Saints: An Anthology of Gay Mormon Fiction (Lethe Publishers, July 2013) brings together 25 short works giving perspectives on what it means to be both Mormon and gay. Some stories portray characters determined to reconcile their sexuality with the Mormon faith. The majority present the realities of gay/lesbian Mormons who have come to terms with their sexuality in a variety of alternative ways. Others are written from outside the Mormon community, commenting on often strange encounters with gay Mormons. Editors Gerald Argetsinger and Jeff Laver, along with some contributors, will discuss the publication, its objectives, and share representative passages.

Panelists  GERALD S. ARGETSGINGER is co-editor, introductionist, and contributor to Latter-Gay Saints. He is an associate professor of cultural and creative studies at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology.

JEFF LAVER, co-editor and contributor to Latter-Gay Saints, grew up in a devout Mormon household in Salt Lake City. He is the author of several short stories and the novel Just Call Me Greg. His latest novella, Elder Petersen’s Mission has just been published.

JOHNNY TOWNSEND is a native of New Orleans who relocated to Seattle after Hurricane Katrina. He is the author of 14 books, including Mormon Underwear, Sex among the Saints, and Zombies for Jesus. His book Marginal Mormons was named to Kirkus Reviews’ Best of 2012.

356. Panel  STRIVING TO USE THE YOUNG WOMEN VALUES: THE BODY AS A SITE FOR SUBVERSION

Abstract  Using creative means gained during many homemaking lessons in Young Women’s (mending, sewing, as well as modest behavior), Hannah and Katie Jung embark on a project to use their skills in a different context. Through the making, wearing, and distributing of the things they create, they hope to open a dialogue about the specificity of Mormon culture and the expectations it places on the body. By presenting Mormon symbols in a different context, they attempt to subvert these expectations. Not only do they plan to wear custom-made outfits, they will also distribute articles of clothing, patches, and buttons that provoke questions about how the body can be a means of spectacle, change, and subversion.
361. **Paper** PATRIARCHY, FEMINISM, AND THE SEARCH FOR THE FEMININE DIVINE

**Presenter** Robin Linkhart is a Community of Christ general officer and serves in the office of Seventy assigned to the Western USA Mission Field and on the International Leaders Council. Prior to holding the office of Seventy, Robin provided ministry in the offices of Elder and High Priest. She holds an MA in Christian ministry from Graceland University and a BA in biological sciences from the University of Northern Colorado.

**Abstract** This presentation will explore patriarchy, the several sides of feminism, and how patriarchy colors our perspectives of and responses to many diverse expressions of feminism as we seek to understand God. How does patriarchy impact culture, church, and the way we see our bodies? What are the many voices of feminism saying about our journey of faith? How do patriarchy and feminism inform our search for Mother God? How do the doctrine of embodiment and the doctrine of trinity shed light or cast shadow on our path of understanding both the feminine and masculine nature of God?

362. **Paper** PASTORAL APOLOGETICS AND THE LATTER-DAY SAINT DOUBTER

**Presenter** Seth Payne has an MAR in ethics from Yale University, where he graduated *magna cum laude*, an MBA from NYU, and BS in management from BYU.

**Abstract** Criticism of the LDS Church has changed significantly over the past 10–15 years. Secular arguments have been made against Mormonism from its beginnings, yet rationalist critiques of Mormonism appear to have eclipsed evangelical counter-cult efforts in terms of both output and effectiveness. One result of this paradigm shift is the emergence and greater visibility of a unique type of Mormon doubter: one who seeks acknowledgement rather than plausibility and reasons to maintain faith in light of newly discovered information. This presentation will explore the role of pastoral apologetics within modern Mormonism and offer proposals as to what a pastoral and less adversarial approach to criticism and doubt may look like.

363. **Paper** PROVING CONTRARIES: AN EXAMINATION OF MORMON “PARADOXISM”

**Presenter** Dennis Potter is an associate professor of philosophy, an associate director of religious studies, former Mormon studies coordinator at UVU, and a founding member of the Society for Mormon Philosophy and Theology.

**Abstract** Joseph Smith famously wrote, “By proving contraries, truth is made manifest.” By explicitly embracing paradox, Smith puts himself in a long line of Abrahamic theists, from Abraham himself to Tertullian and Kierkegaard who see theistic faith as necessarily paradoxical. Many Mormon thinkers, from Eugene England, Margaret and Paul Toscano to Terryl Givens, have joyfully embraced the paradoxical nature of Mormon faith.

This paper examines some of the paradoxes of the Mormon faith from a philosophical perspective in an attempt to assess the plausibility of having paradoxical faith. The problem with a paradoxical faith is not that it is necessarily false (because it is theoretically inconsistent) but that it is semantically problematic. The type of inconsistencies found in Mormonism entails that the content of the faith is indeterminate or ambiguous rather than merely being definitely true or false.
364. **Panel** SUNSTONE TOWN HALL MEETING

**Abstract** Bring your compliments and complaints to this session and let the Sunstone leadership know what we’re doing well—and where we can improve. Sunstone board members and staff will report on the past year and describe new initiatives and projects for the years ahead.

**Panelists** ADAM FORD, president and CEO of the Sunstone Education Foundation.

MICHAEL J. STEVENS, co-chair of the Sunstone board.

MARY ELLEN ROBERTSON, Sunstone’s director of outreach and symposia.

STEPHEN CARTER, editor of SUNSTONE magazine.

KAIMI WENGER, JD, Sunstone board member.

BILL MCGEE, Sunstone’s CIO and member of the Sunstone board.

Additional panelists to be announced.

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365. **Paper** THE SPIRITUAL BODY IN EARLY MORMON THOUGHT

**Presenter** RICO MARTINEZ is an independent scholar. He presented “Adam Fell: An Exegetical History” at the 2012 Annual Conference for the Society of Mormon Theology and Philosophy at USU. He is a participant in the 2013 Mormon Theology Seminar exploring “The Fall” and is researching the historical development of Mormon thought.

**Abstract** This paper explores the history of the “spiritual body” in early Mormon thought by examining key thinkers—Joseph Smith, the Pratt brothers, Brigham Young, and B. H. Roberts—and the theological concerns that drove their ideas. Originally, the spiritual body was understood to be the resurrected body as articulated in New Testament passages. This phrase was transformed as Mormon thinkers began to develop Smith’s teachings as they encountered a hostile external environment and wrestled internally with scripture and revelation. This paper tells the story of how modern understandings of the spiritual body came to be.

366. **Paper** ELEMENTS OF LDS TEMPLE ICONOGRAPHY IN PRE-COLOMBIAN PERU

**Presenter** GEORGE FISHER spent three years of graduate school at the University of Utah in Middle Eastern Studies. He served a mission in Washington, DC and finished a full-time mission in the Lima, Peru Temple Mission with his wife last year.

**Abstract** Joseph Campbell observed, “The great myths, like the myth of the Bible, for example, are the myths of the temple, of the great sacred rituals. They explain the rites by which the people are living in harmony with themselves and each other and with the universe.” Mormons are near unique in being a temple-building and -attending people. Curiously, among ancient cultures around the world, temple rituals and symbols are remarkably similar. LDS temple elements and iconography are found throughout the ruins of pre-Colombian Peru.

The purpose of this presentation is not one of advocacy of enhanced belief in doctrines of Mormonism or the temple experience, nor is it an attempt to make an archaeological connection between the Andean past and our present religious experience. The purpose is to suggest that there are far more questions than answers to our collective cultural and religious experience.
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CONCURRENT SESSIONS, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM

371. Panel COMPLEMENTARITY OR EQUALITY: GENDER AND JUSTICE IN THE BODY OF THE CHURCH

Abstract The scriptures compare the church to the body of Christ. Although a body has many parts with diverse functions, it is a unified whole that needs all of its members. How does this metaphor influence our thinking about the meaning and structure of the LDS Church? Should the roles, gifts, callings, and offices that function in the Church be structured by gender? The concept of complementarity has been used to support the view that men and women have different but equally important roles to fill in the Church. How does this view relate to the demand for equality implicit in the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Moderator/Panelist JANICE ALLRED is a writer and speaker on theological topics, and the author of God the Mother and Other Theological Essays and “The One Who Never Left Us” (SUNSTONE 166).

Panelists KAIMIPONO WENGER, JD, is an associate professor at Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego, a blogger at Times and Seasons, a regular contributor to the Feminist Mormon Housewives Podcast, and a Sunstone board member.

NEYLAN MCBAINE is the founder and editor-in-chief of The Mormon Women Project, a non-profit that publishes interviews with LDS women from around the world at www.MORMONWOMEN.COM. She is a brand strategist at Bonneville Communications, the agency responsible for MORMON.ORG and the “I’m a Mormon” campaign.

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

372. Panel COMING OUT AND STAYING ALIVE: HOW SUCCESSFUL BORDERLANDERS STAY ACTIVE AND INVOLVED

Abstract Most of us who attend the Sunstone Symposium are in the LDS Borderlands to some degree, and a majority of these members eventually distance themselves from church activity. Church statistics suggest that only 22% remain active their entire lives. But some Borderlanders have found ways to overcome the difficulties and challenges of coming out and staying active and involved, doing so in ways that are rewarding, comfortable, and acceptable to family members and others. D. Jeff Burton will first recount some of his own and others’ experiences that have enabled him to cope with typical problems that confront Borderlanders. Other panelists will share their personal experiences about how they came out, stayed active and involved, and how they dealt with the problems they face.

Moderator/Panelist D. JEFF BURTON, husband, father and grandfather, is a professional engineer living in Bountiful, UT. He is the author of the book For Those Who Wonder, the SUNSTONE column “Braving the Borderlands,” and the website FORTHOSEWHO WONDER.COM. He is a past member of the Sunstone board of directors.

Panelists ADAM FISHER is a doctoral student in counseling psychology at Indiana University where he is working on his dissertation on predicting divorce among religious couples after one or both partners experience a change in beliefs. Adam’s professional interests also include media psychology, relationship education, and evidence-based practices for adolescents with “behavior problems.”

BRAD JARVIS is a dentist in Spokane, WA. He recently shared his crisis of faith with his wife, Lori, after silently struggling for seven years with doubts about Mormonism. Brad served a mission in Brazil, married in the temple, served in elders quorum presidencies, and is the Young Men’s president in his ward. He has decided to remain active despite his doubts.

MELODY NEWEY, a registered nurse, is an active, temple-recommend-holding, Sunday School teacher of 12-year-olds. As a single/divorced woman in the Church, she became aware of the “margins” a long time ago. She moved into Borderlands as she began to face the truth of an abusive childhood and made a commitment to be open to all truth, no matter how painful, because it was essential to her healing, health, and wellness.

Additional panelists to be announced.

373. Panel THE INHERENT MADNESS OF MODESTY FROM REXBURG TO RIYADH

Abstract Ideas of modesty vary regionally, culturally, globally, and socially. This presentation will explore modesty and its variations—from fingertip-length shorts and covered shoulders to burkas. We’ll begin with a slideshow of examples of “immodest” clothing that has gotten women turned away from BYU testing cen-
ters, harassed on city streets in the Middle East, and ostracized on church college campuses because their attire “distracted” male students. Join our panel for a lively discussion about the elusive yet incite-ful concept of modesty. Is modesty an attitude or something that is actually quantifiable by one’s hemline?

Moderator SARAH COLLETT has co-hosted and contributes to the podcast A Thoughtful Faith. She has a BA in English from BYU.

Panelists ADAM FORD is president and CEO of Sunstone Education Foundation.

CHELSI ARCHIBALD holds an MA in English and blogs for SOCIALITE.LIFE.COM.

SARA BURLINGAME loves religion in all of its profound and absurd facets. She will discuss modesty rhetoric in the Bahai faith she grew up in and Mormonism.

HANNAH WHEELWRIGHT is a political science major and women’s studies minor at BYU. She started the Young Mormon Feminists blog in 2012 and is involved with various Mormon feminist activism projects.

Additional panelists to be announced.

Panel QUESTIONING “ANSWERS” ABOUT DISABILITY

Abstract Greater awareness of the realities of disabled bodies—physically, mentally developmentally, or emotionally—suggests the wisdom of bringing great humility in what we pronounce about the nature of spirits, God’s plans, human beings, and their potentials. So much that is offered as explanation for disabilities are intended to be comforting. But most don’t end up being so. This panel seeks to unpack some of the less-satisfying messaging about disability and open a space for fresh angles on the subject.

Moderator/Panelist DAN WOTHERSPOON has a PhD in religion from Claremont Graduate University. He is the former editor of SUNSTONE and the host of the Mormon Matters podcast.

Panelists BLAIR DEE HODGES received a BA in mass communication with a minor in religious studies at the University of Utah and recently completed an MA in religious studies at Georgetown University. He is the public communications specialist for the Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship.

MARK OLSEN is an adjunct instructor of philosophy at Utah Valley University and Westminster College. His academic interests include psychiatric ethics, the ethics of clinical psychology, responsibility theory, and the emotions.

JENNIFER FINLAYSON-FIFE has a PhD in counseling psychology from Boston College. She is a counselor with a private therapy practice in Chicago, IL. She is the mother of an autistic son.

375. Panel TWO PAPER SESSION: POLYGAMY IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT

Paper 1 ANCIENT POLYGAMY AS A PROBLEM—MODERN POLYGAMY AS A SOLUTION

Abstract Ancient polygamous marriages and most contemporary polygamous marriages by current Mormon fundamentalists can be said to give women second-tier status. Does the institution itself require this or could it be modernized as a practice which could actually support the dreams and aspirations of twenty-first century women and their children while enhancing the lives of men in plural marriages? The modern LDS Church’s approach to influencing the sexual lives of its members certainly stands in stark contrast to the actual sexual practices of its first two Presidents! Could those nineteenth century practices, however, actually be “added upon” to revolutionize twenty-first century marriage in the United States?

Presenter STEWART P. WILSON has a PhD and MS in psychology and a PhD in educational psychology.

Paper 2 BEEHIVES, CIRCUMCISION, POLYANDRY

Abstract Are there correlations between Jewish circumcision, Mormon beehives, and eternal creation? Drawing from his unpublished book, Judeo-Mormon Polyandry, this paper hypothesizes that the acts of circumcision and beehive reproduction might represent a polyandrous sacred marriage in which degeneration and regeneration combine simultaneously. There are paradoxical accounts showing how life comes from death; these include when Jesus saw his seed while offering his soul (Isaiah 53:10), biblical and legendary unicorns, drones of bee colonies, castrated gods of myth, and a Passover mixture of lamb and circumcision blood. Could Joseph Smith’s polyandry point to Heavenly Mother?
**Presenter**

Ben Sai is a lifelong member of the church, served a mission, and has taught institute for a few years. He and his lovely wife are proud parents.

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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 barbecue chicken, garden-burgers, and grilled flat-iron steak with chimichurri sauce, roasted vegetables, pasta salad, roasted potatoes, peach and apple cobbler, and diced seasonal fresh fruit for dessert. Raspberry lemonade and ice water are included.

The banquet session requires a separate registration fee of **$28.00** to cover the cost of the meal.

If you didn’t purchase a banquet ticket in advance, ask about availability at the Symposium registration desk.

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

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**Roadshow Presenters:**

- Young Mormon Feminists
- Danite Dramatists
- Ex-Mormons
- Feminist Mormon Housewives

Tales and casts to be announced.

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**AFTER-PARTY, 7:00 PM–???”**

Where

Graciously hosted at the home of Michael and Tena Vinson: 77 east Girard Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah 84103. More information to come in the final program. Bring drinks and snacks to share!

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**SUNDAY 4 AUGUST, 9:30 AM**

**Community of Christ**

Sunday Service
The Community of Christ will be holding a post-Symposium Sunday service at its Salt Lake chapel: 2747 Craig Drive (2747 East 3640 South) Salt Lake City, Utah 84109. More information to come in the final program.
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Pre-registration must be received at Sunstone offices by 5:00pm Friday, 26 July 2013

**VALUE PACKAGE:** Full registration, banquet ticket, plus all 2013 Salt Lake Symposium in Mp3 format ($220 value).

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(please indicate Thurs, Fri, or Sat)

**STUDENT ADVANCE REGISTRATION with I.D.**

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- Workshops require separate registration. They are not included as part of a full symposium registration. If this form is used for more than one person, please list the names of all registrants and the workshops they will attend.

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**You can register for the symposium by calling 801.355.5926 or visiting www.sunstonemagazine.com/symposium/"