THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

47 East South Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-1200

October 8, 2012

To: Members of the Church

(To be read in sacrament meeting.)

Dear Brethren and Sisters:

Names for Temple Ordinances

When members of the Church find the names of their ancestors and take those names to the temple for ordinance work, the temple experience can be greatly enriched. Members with limited ability to do their own family history research are encouraged to perform vicarious ordinances with names provided by other members or by the temple.

We especially encourage youth and young single adults to use for temple work their own family names or the names of ancestors of their ward and stake members. Priesthood leaders should assure that young people and their families learn the doctrine of turning their hearts to their fathers and the blessings of temple attendance.

Some Church members have large numbers of family names reserved so they can personally attend to the temple work. We encourage them to release these names in a timely manner so the necessary ordinances can be performed.

We appreciate your efforts to seek out the names of your ancestors and to provide essential temple ordinances. We pray that the spirit of this sacred work will increase in the hearts of all members of the Church.

Sincerely,

The First Presidency