



AREA PRESIDENCY MESSAGE

## RESCUE THE ONE

PHOTO BY NOEL MAGLAQUE

“Rescue the One” is listed as one of the four 2013 Philippines Area Goals. It states:

*Each member rescues at least one member this year and prepares them to attend the temple.*

*Every ward council prepares and maintains 15 names for activation by members for the missionaries to teach.*

**T**his goal has special meaning to me because of my personal background. I would like to share the story of my rescue as an example of how important it is for us to do everything we can to bring back to the fold those that have lost their way.

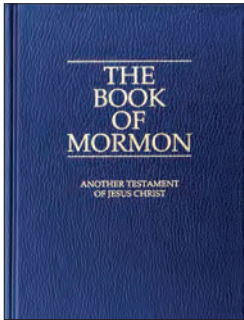
On January 13, 2009, while I was serving as a law professor at Brigham Young University, President-elect Barack

Obama, asked me to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs in the United States Department of the Interior. As Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, I had responsibility for providing a wide variety of vital services to the 566 tribal nations located within the United States.

I was intending to serve through the first term of the President and then return to my job as a professor of law at the J. Reuben Clark Law School. However, life changed on February 3, 2012, when I was called to serve as a General Authority of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I was sustained as a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy in general conference on March 31, 2012.



By Elder  
Larry Echo Hawk  
Area Presidency



*I read the Book of Mormon and gained a testimony that propelled me to achieve things I never thought were possible and brought me great happiness.*

I did not relocate from Washington, D.C. to Salt Lake City, Utah until May of 2012 because the Brethren instructed me to make sure there was a smooth transition upon my departure. As I began my service at Church headquarters in Salt Lake City, I was looking forward to attending a meeting of all General Authorities located in Salt Lake City that occurs in the Salt Lake Temple on the first Thursday of the month.

My first attendance at this sacred meeting happened on June 7, 2012. I was seated on the back row and shortly after the meeting began I was surprised to hear my name called. President Thomas S. Monson called upon me to come forth and bear my testimony. I arose from my chair, walked to the front of the room and stood next to the First Presidency, with the Twelve Apostles seated directly in front of me. I gave a brief heartfelt testimony. Part of what I said was that as a “convert” it was beyond my wildest dreams to think that I would ever stand in a special room in the Salt Lake Temple and bear testimony in the midst of the Lord’s prophets and apostles. I then said that “this moment would not have been possible had it not been for two missionaries and a priest quorum advisor.” The two missionaries, Lee Pearson and Boyd Camphuysen, taught my family the gospel of Jesus Christ and then baptized us. The priest quorum advisor, Richard Boren, was the Lord’s instrument in “rescuing” me three years after I was baptized.

Two and a half months later, on August 25, 2012, I presided at my first stake conference as a General Authority in the St. George Utah North Stake. At the conclusion of the Saturday adult session of the stake conference I recognized a man who came walking up the aisle to speak with me as I stepped

down from the stand. The man was Richard Matthews, my bishop when I was 16 years old. We had a nice reunion and then he told me something I had never known. He said that about two years after my baptism the bishopric had been concerned that my path in life had not changed and they thought they were going to lose me. They prayed about me and were inspired to call a man named Richard Boren as the priest quorum advisor to save me.

I will forever be grateful for Bishop Matthews and other ward leaders who counseled together, and prayed and acted upon inspiration from the Holy Spirit, when they sensed that I had not been truly converted and brought into full activity in the Church. I am especially thankful for Richard Boren, who went the extra mile in an effort to save me. When he could not reach me through the lessons he taught in the priest quorum he befriended me in a special way and found out how to help me succeed in life. Because of him, at the age of 17, I read the Book of Mormon and gained a testimony that propelled me to achieve things I never thought were possible and brought me great happiness. My sweetheart and I went into the Salt Lake Temple on December 20, 1968 and were sealed together for time and all eternity by Spencer W. Kimball. More importantly, the fruit of the labors of these priesthood leaders has multiplied in the next generation. Following our temple marriage we have been blessed with six children and 30 grandchildren.

In the Doctrine and Covenants, chapter 18, verse 10, we read: “The worth of souls is great in the sight of God.” Then in verses 15 and 16 it says: “And if it so be that you should labor all your days in crying repentance unto this



people, and bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father! And now, if your joy will be great with one soul that you have brought unto me into the kingdom of my Father, how great will be your joy if you should bring many souls unto me!"

Lee Pearson, Boyd Camphuysen and Richard Boren have all passed on from this earthly life, but I know that they have experienced great joy in knowing that they were instruments in the Lord's hands in saving not only one soul, but the numerous posterity of that soul. Bishop Matthews has lived to witness on this earth the fruit of his labor to save the soul of a boy that had been baptized, but had lost his way.

In Matthew 13:3-8, Jesus Christ taught the parable of the sower:

"Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

"And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

"Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:

"And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

"And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:

"But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold."

Jesus Christ taught that some receive the gospel and may endure for a while, but when "tribulation or persecution" arise they become "offended" and fall away. Others who at first receive the gospel let the cares of the world

or riches overcome them. Gladly, some receive the gospel and truly understand it and enjoy good "fruit" in their lives.

The parable of the sower has application in the Philippines. The restored gospel has been received by more than 650,000 people in the Philippines. However, not all of them are active in the Church today. There is a particular concern that the "rising generation" might be faltering. What should we be doing to bring them back into the fold? The answer to this question is found in the scriptures.

"For the Son of man is come to save that which is lost" (Matthew 18:11). Our Savior has His heart focused on rescuing His lost sheep. His prophet, President Thomas S. Monson, has his heart focused on the rescue of the less-active and wayward. Where then should our hearts be focused?

"Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, "Master, which is the great commandment in the law?"

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all they mind.

"This is the first and great commandment.

"And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love they neighbour as thyself." (Matthew 22:35-39)

In Moses 1:39 we read: "For behold, this is my work and my glory – to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man." If we truly love our Father in Heaven and His Son, Jesus Christ, it is our responsibility to do Their work. We must go find those who are have fallen away and are lost, and bring them back. We must "Rescue the One." ■



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# Local **LDS** Voices

## Bishop: My Shepherd

By Ma. Teresa C. Pangilinan

**R**etention of new converts is a continuing process of turning their hearts to the Lord. The bishop is at the forefront in this effort together with the members.

President Gordon B. Hinckley (1910–2008) repeatedly taught that both new and straying members need our help. They need a friend, a responsibility, and spiritual nourishing.

Randy Pangilinan, newly-called bishop of Cabiao Ward, Gapan Philippines Stake said that there should be a constant nourishment of the gospel and love for fellow members.

“We have four new converts and by experience from my mission, visiting and home teachers see to it that those members are frequently visited and have friends in the wards they are attending. I provide opportunities for them to serve in the Church—they are under our care,” he added.

I myself was a convert in the Church. The feeling of being welcomed was important to me. When I was converted I accepted that my sins were washed away and that I was born again. As a new member I needed a friend and my branch president was one of them. Bishop

Max Lappay of Fairview Ward, Fairview Philippines Stake expressed that members should shake the hands of new converts so that they feel welcomed.

Franklin Babia, branch president in Guagua Branch, Dinalupihan District said that in their branch they have about five new converts and each of them has a friend. He schedules regular interviews with them. They spend time teaching the gospel so these converts can work for their own salvation.

“I invite you to become a vast army with enthusiasm for this work and a great overarching desire to assist the missionaries in the tremendous responsibility they have to carry the gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.” (Gordon B. Hinckley, “Find the Lambs, Feed the

Sheep,” *Ensign*, May 1999)

We are here to pursue one goal, “For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.” (Moses 1:39)

The bishop cannot do it alone—let us be shepherds as well. ■

## How Do I Retain New Converts?

By Roxanne J. Montojo

**T**he desire of every parent in the Church is to see their children grow in faith and develop a strong relationship with the Savior. The desire of every full-time missionary is to be able to find those people willing to be taught and eventually enter the waters of baptism. The growth of the new convert in spirit is one goal that every Church leader is determined to pursue. This resolve is seen in the determination of unit leaders to carry out the steps needed to retain new converts:

President Gordon B. Hinckley said: “Every convert is a great and serious responsibility.” (“Converts and Young Men,” *Ensign*, May 1997, 48) In our branch we follow the admonition of President Hinckley that new converts need three things: a friend, an assignment and to be nourished by the good word of the Lord. In

Priesthood Executive Committee meetings (PEC) we hold every Sunday we discuss the needs of every new convert and we make sure that they have an assigned home and visiting teachers who are ready to answer their questions and understand their problems. As a branch president, I invite them in my office and talk about their challenges. I consider this as an opportunity to personally support and strengthen their testimonies and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. I usually give them simple tasks such as arranging chairs during Sunday meetings and activities, washing baptismal clothes and the like. On Sundays, we make sure that they are attending the Gospel Principles class. I also encourage youth and young adult new converts to be enrolled in the seminary and institute programs of the Church. We



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also set a date in their homes for their family home evening to strengthen our relationship with them and their families.

**Rodel N. Tabunan**

Branch President  
Gingoog Philippines District

**N**ew converts are like newly planted seeds that need nourishment and care. It usually takes a lot of patience and effort to nurture a seed before a root will sprout or its first leaf to shoot up. For a new convert to grow in the gospel and continue to stay close to the Church, we usually discuss in our branch council meetings the home and visiting teachers' assignments and the importance

of fellowshippers. We also tackle in our meetings and in messages during sacrament meeting the responsibility of every member to be a friend and a confidant and that they are to express love to the new converts through the warmth of their smile and company. Then we can help them feel comfortable in all meetings and activities of the Church. Then we make sure that they attend all meetings and Sunday classes for them to be nurtured in the gospel. I also make a follow-up on their personal prayer and personal scripture study through interviews.

**Leonardo Natad**

Branch President  
Tagum Philippines District

# Trying to **Be Like Jesus**

## How did you feel when you were baptized?

**"W**hen I was baptized, the water in the baptismal font felt cold but I felt good inside. I want to be a missionary when I turn 18 and my baptism is a step to help me prepare for it."

**Joseph Russell L. D.**, 8 years old  
Quezon City Philippines Stake



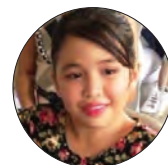
**"I** felt happy when I was baptized because I became a member of the Church. I want to learn more about the gospel of Jesus Christ and because I have been baptized, I know I will learn more."

**Jerry Vic D.**, 9 years old  
Quezon City Philippines Stake



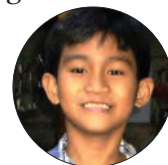
**"I** feel like the door is open for me and I feel that Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost are beside me."

**Jennifer N.**, 9 years old  
Legazpi Philippines Stake



**"W**hen I was baptized, I felt more comfortable and happy. I felt the Savior's love with me. I felt like I would be guided each day."

**Daniel Lorenz B. M.**, 11 years old  
Manila Philippines Stake



**"I** really felt good after I was baptized. I know that it is because of the Spirit telling me that what I did is right and that Jesus Christ is happy because I followed His example. I know that God loves me and He will always help me choose the right."

**Ethan Craig Guerra S.**, 8 years old  
San Pablo Philippines Stake



# New Features in FamilySearch

By Felvir D. Ordinario



PHOTO BY NOEL MAGLAQUE

Over the recent months, FamilySearch has introduced in its website some new features that provide a more inviting user experience. The enhancements provide additional search results and record-keeping improvements.

**Some of the key features are as follows:**



## **New Logo**

Last March, a new FamilySearch logo was unveiled during 2013 RootsTech Conference. The keynote presentation suggests that the logo represents FamilySearch's new emphasis on photos and stories, and the Family Tree feature of the website.

## **Search Records feature on ancestor pages in Family Tree**

In August, the ancestor pages in Family Tree started to feature the "Search Record" link. This is a great new way to find historical records you may not have found in your previous searching. To try this new feature, follow the following steps:

1. Login to FamilySearch.org, and go to Family Tree.
2. Click the name of a deceased person in the tree, and click Person to go to his or her Person page.
3. Click the new Search Records link. FamilySearch searches our historical records using the person's name and first vital date.
4. The search results open in another browser window and show records that match for the person. Click a record to see the details of the record or to see a copy of the original record.
5. The full record will be displayed. To add the record to the person on Family Tree, click Attach to Family Tree. You can also click Add to My Source Box to add the record to your source box.

6. If you click **Attach to Family Tree**, a box will appear with the name of the person to whom you want to attach the record. If the box does not appear, click **History List** to show the list of people you recently viewed in Family Tree, or click **Search Family Tree** to begin a search for the person to whom you want to attach the record.
7. When you click **History List**, you will see a list of people you viewed in Family Tree or people you set as a root. The **History List** remembers the last 50 people you put at the root of the tree or whose personal details page you looked at. When you find the person you want to attach the record to, click **Select**.
8. Verify that this is the correct person. Fill in the reason the record is valid for this person. Then click **Attach**.



PHOTO BY NOEL MAGLAQUE




### Display the person's role in the search results

A search will find a person's name, regardless of whether the name being searched is the primary person in the record. The name you entered in your search might be found as a father, mother, spouse, or child on the record instead of the primary person.

To help users quickly determine the role of the matched person on the record, FamilySearch now shows that role immediately below the name in the first column. If the person is primary on the record, no role is shown. In the case of census record, where everyone is primary, the relationship to the head of household is shown.

**Search Results from Historical Records**  
 1-20 of 349 results for Name: **Christian Schroth**

Number of results to show:

Name	Events	Relationships
Try adding more search terms to improve your search results.		
Crisden Schroth Head  United States Census, 1930	birth: 1866 Germany residence: 1930 Buffalo (Districts 251-352), Erie, New York, United States immigration: 1882	spouse: Eva Schroth children: Michael Schroth, Catherine
Christian Schroth Head  United States Census, 1910	birth: 1837 Germany residence: 1910 St Louis Ward 7, St Louis (Independent City), Missouri, United States immigration: 1864	spouse: Louise G Schroth other: Felix G Grassi
Christian Schroth Head  United States Census, 1910	birth: 1866 Germany residence: 1910 Buffalo Ward 18, Erie, New York, United States immigration: 1883	spouse: Eva Schroth children: Katharine Schroth, Michael Schroth Jr.





## Restrict searches by second-level jurisdictions

During a search, you can now enter a country, and then further clarify your search by selecting that country's second-level jurisdiction, such as the state, province, etc. Search will only return results from records that originate from that location or whose primary event took place in that location.

## More data when you copy a person's details record

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch search interface. At the top, there are input fields for 'First Names' (Howard) and 'Last Names' (Allor). Below these are filters for 'Restrict records by:' including 'Location', 'Type', 'Batch Number', and 'Film Number'. The 'Country' filter is set to 'Germany', and the 'State or Province' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of German states: Anhalt, Baden, Bayern, Berlin, Brandenburg, Braunschweig, Bremen, Elsaß-Lothringen, Hamburg, Hannover, and Hessen. There are also sections for 'Search with a life event:' (Birth, Marriage, Residence, De) and 'Search with a relationship:' (Spouse, Parents). A 'Match all terms exactly' checkbox is present, along with 'Search' and 'Reset' buttons.

When you find a historical record of interest, you can copy the person's details from the index into a file by clicking the Copy symbol. Previously, this gave you the vital data about the person. Now you also get a citation, accessed date, URL, and household/relationship information.



## Photos and Stories features

Photos and Stories features in FamilySearch have undergone some new enhancements. These enhancements include tools for the following:

- Making it easier to find a story or photo with the Google search engine.
- Editing tags.
- Improving the appearance of the portrait that displays on an individual's page.

For more updates on ongoing enhancements to the FamilySearch website, visit: <https://familysearch.org/blog/> ■