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Directors Corner:

-Elder and Sister Erickson

The Day You’ve Been Waiting For!

Seven days after New Year's Day ground will be broken for the new Ogden FamilySearch Center. It is a day we have long been waiting for.

On **January 8, 2018** there will be an official ground breaking for the new two-story building that will house our beloved Ogden FamilySearch Library. The new building will be located at about 321 East 22nd Street, just south of the Ogden Temple. Because it will likely have a discovery center, no microfilms and few books, the name will change to the Ogden FamilySearch Center. It will be an exciting place!

About one week after the ground breaking, heavy equipment will move onto the now vacant lot located across the street from the Ogden Temple and begin excavating. Completion is expected to take about 12 to 18 months.

This is a day we have been looking forward to for a long time. In 1966 the 15 stakes in the Weber County area petitioned the Genealogical Society of Utah for permission to open a branch in Ogden. The petition was granted, and the Pioneer Tabernacle at 22nd and Washington Boulevard became our first home. The Pioneer Tabernacle was taken down when the Ogden Temple was built, and we then moved to the “new” Ogden Tabernacle, and in 1977 to our current location at 539 24th Street, next to what used to be the Weber College Institute building.

It has been a wonderful journey. We are soon heading back where we began—next to the Ogden Temple. It will be a joyful reunion.

On Who Made God?

— Emil Hanson

A Father and his young son were out fishing in a boat, and while doing so the young boy said, "Dad, How do boats float?" The Father thought about it for a while and finally said, "Well son, I don't rightly know." A while later the little boy caught a small Sunfish and asked his father, "Dad, how do fish breath underwater?" The father thought about it for a while and finally answered, "Well son, I don't rightly know." After a little while, the boy says, "Dad, what makes the sky blue?" The father thought about that for some time and finally responded by saying, "Well son, I don't rightly know." The son than apologized for asking so many questions and the dad answered, "Shoot son, that's OK! How do you ever expect to learn anything if you don't ask questions."

Not too long ago I saw a book advertised entitled *Who made God* written by Edgar Andrews. The question is somewhat like the questions that were being asked by the little boy. Any curious person, living on this beautiful earth, might have had that question pass through their minds. They may have gotten the same response as the father. Many believe that there are no prophets and thus, no new revelation, no new answers. Are there actually such things as visions, revelations and new scriptures that are not found in the Old and New Testament? The answer is, "Yes, of course."

I have often wondered why people can accept dead prophets and reject living ones. If God spoke to His prophets of old, why wouldn't he speak to those of modern day? If God is the same today, yesterday and forever, as the scriptures indicate, then maybe His children are the ones who have changed - not God. Isaiah tells us, that the Lord said, "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men, Therefore, behold, I will again do a marvelous work Among this people, A marvelous work and a wonder; For the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, And the understanding of their prudent men shall be hidden" (*Isaiah 29:13-14*).

Fortunately, there are latter-day scriptures and they answer many of the very difficult questions. However, it takes time to study them. In answer to the question, "Who made God?" Latter-day scriptures tell us that God is eternal and has always existed. Man, too, was created from intelligent matter; "matter" that has always existed and always will, in one form or another, continue to exist. Science, too, may tell us that matter is indestructible. It may change its molecular structure, shape, and/or form but it will still be matter or substance.

In our pre-earth life, we were spirit matter and yet, we were beings, as testified to by God speaking to his servant (*Jeremiah; 1:4-5*) "Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee, and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. God is the most intelligent, just and honored being in the universe. Man is His offspring and loved by Him, as evidenced by His constant concern for us as He follows us and our behavior as we sojourn on earth. In the above-mentioned story, the father did not have the answers to his son's questions but we can have our questions answered if we take the time to study, both old and new scriptures.

FamilySearch Free Sign-in

— Family Search

Beginning December 13, 2017, patrons visiting [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) will see a prompt to register for a free FamilySearch account or to sign in to their existing account to continue enjoying all the free expanded benefits FamilySearch has to offer. Since its launch in 1999, FamilySearch has added millions of users, billions of various historical records, and many fun, new features like Family Tree, Memories, mobile apps, digital books, and dynamic help. In order to accommodate continued growth of these and future free services, FamilySearch must assure all its partners that its content is offered in a safe and secure online environment. Patrons creating a free account and signing in fulfills that need.

Patron sign in will also enable FamilySearch to satisfy the ongoing need for user authentication. This authentication can deliver rich, personalized discovery, collaboration, and help experiences. Simply put, signed-in visitors can access more searchable content and enjoy more personalized services.

"A large percentage of our current site visitors are not benefiting from much of what FamilySearch has to offer because they don't realize the need to simply sign in with their free account to do so," said Steve Rockwood, FamilySearch CEO. "They are basically arriving in the parking lot but not coming inside for the main event," he said about website visitors who do not sign in.

FamilySearch is committed to patron privacy and does not share personal account information with any third party without a patron's consent. See [Registering to Use FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) for information about creating a free account.

Quarterly Speaker Series

-- Wayne Decker

The Ogden FamilySearch Library is honored to welcome Lynn Arave as our speaker on January 13, 2018.

Born in Ogden, Lynn Arave attended Roy High School and served an LDS Mission to England-Bristol. Lynn graduated from Weber State University with degrees in Communication-Journalism and Human Performance. While at Weber State, he ran track and cross country for the Wildcats, as well as being the Signpost school newspaper sports editor for 2 ½ years and belonging to Delta Phi Kappa Fraternity.



He worked for the Deseret News for 32 years, first as a sport writer, then as a feature writer and lastly as a City Desk reporter/editor. He covered Utah radio stations for 26 years and reported on General Conference and the LDS Church for 18 years. He also wrote regularly about other religions in Utah, the outdoors and hiking, Lagoon Amusement Park, plus historical features. Another of his assignments was to pre-write obituaries on LDS Church Presidents and General Authorities and other VIPs in Utah.

After retiring from the Deseret News at the end of 2010, he wrote for the Ogden Standard-Examiner for three years, reporting on Syracuse City and having a weekly history column, “Ogden History Bin” on page one of the Standard.

Lynn currently works part-time for Layton City Administration, as a news specialist, doing the City’s newsletter and stories on the City’s webpage. He also has an occasional history column in the Deseret News. He has written 5 books, three are in print and two are on-line only. One book is “Walking Salt Lake City” (co-written with Ray Boren) and another was the Church’s official “Rededication: History of the Ogden, Utah Temple, 2014,” (co-written with Janai Ott).

He also has a number of blogs, including “The Mystery of Utah History,” utilized often by many Utah fourth and seventh grade Utah history classes.

Lynn lives in Layton, with his wife, LeAnn Flygare Arave. The couple has four children and two grandchildren. His presentation will be at 10:00 am on January 13, 2018 in room 12 of The FamilySearch Library Located at 539 24th Street Ogden, Utah. For additional information or questions please call 801-626-1132.

Brand New Collection

— Dick Eastman

*[The following announcement was written
by the folks at Findmypast:]*



- *Vast new collection has been specially curated by Findmypast’s in-house experts*
- *The new **British and Irish Roots** collection allows researchers to search a wide variety of records spanning more than 400 years of migration between the British Isles and North America, all in one place*
- *All 95 million records within this unique resource are now available to search and will be free of charge for a limited period*

Leading family history website, Findmypast, has announced the creation of a brand new resource that has been specifically designed to help U.S. researchers trace their family’s British and Irish heritage.

The **British and Irish Roots Collection** is a unique database consisting of more than **98 million** assorted records that have been hand-picked from existing collections by Findmypast's in-house experts.

This ground-breaking collection gives family historians the chance to trace their ancestors' journeys across the Atlantic like never before by bringing together a wide range of record sets that list origin or place of birth as anywhere in Britain and Ireland. Millions of passenger lists, census records, naturalization applications and draft registrations, as well as birth, marriage, and death records spanning more than 400 years (1573 to 1990) of migration between the British Isles and North America can now be explored in one unified search, enabling North American family historians to trace the migration of ancestors from the Old World to the New through one simple search. This is the first time such an expansive database has been curated in such a way. Now, exclusively with Findmypast, family historians can trace the origins of their transatlantic ancestors all in one place.

The journeys researchers can expect to find include:

- Anyone leaving the UK or Ireland and emigrating to the US, Canada or the Caribbean
- Anyone emigrating from Canada or the Caribbean to the US (this covers the large number of British and Irish immigrants who stopped temporarily in Canada and/or the Caribbean)
- Anyone listed on any US or Canadian record with British or Irish origins, birthplace or parents

For example, if a US Military record mentions that a soldier was born in Wales, or if a US census return states that a household member was born in Athlone, Ireland, those records will be searchable through **British and Irish Roots**.

All records within this expansive collection are free to search and explore for a limited period. Findmypast is proud to be the essential online resource for British and Irish family historians, offering users access to more records from the British Isles than any other site.

About Findmypast -- Findmypast (previously DC Thomson Family History) is a British-owned world leader in online family history. It has an unrivalled record of online innovation in the field and 18 million registered users across its family of online brands, which includes Lives of the First World War, The British Newspaper Archive and Genes Reunited, amongst others.

Its lead brand, also called Findmypast, is a searchable online archive of over eight billion family history records, ranging from parish records and censuses to migration records, military collections, historical newspapers and lots more. For members around the world, the site is a crucial resource for building family trees and conducting detailed historical research.

In April 2003, Findmypast was the first online genealogy site to provide access to the complete birth, marriage, and death indexes for England & Wales, winning the Queen's Award for Innovation. Since that time, the company has digitized records from across the globe, including major collections from Britain, Ireland, Australia, and the United States. Findmypast, in association with The National Archives, recently launched the 1939 Register, a record of 41 million lives on the eve of World War II.

Family History is at the Heart of Pixar's *Coco*

-- Melissa Gee

Pixar and family history? You might not see the connection right away, but check out the new movie, *Coco*, and it'll make perfect sense.

Coco tells the story of Miguel, a young boy whose desire to discover and follow his great-great-grandfather's legacy takes him on a colorful journey through the Land of the Dead. In this vibrant world, he meets many members of his family tree who long to return to the world of the living on Día de los Muertos (or Day of the Dead) to visit the loved ones they left behind. But here's the catch—they can only do that if one of their living

relatives still remembers them.

Just like Miguel's ancestors, our own family members are counting on us to keep their memories alive. Preserving and sharing their pictures and stories can create a real-life bridge between us in the land of the living and our loved ones who have passed on. These memories enrich our family history, building a connection that goes beyond just a basic knowledge of dates and places.

For Rhonna Farrer and her family, that connection all started with a conversation. She had taken her family to see *Coco* over Thanksgiving weekend, and as they left the theater, many family members expressed how touched they were by the story. A few started asking questions about their own ancestors, and soon the whole family was engaged in an enthusiastic conversation about their heritage. Stories that had once seemed small and simple suddenly became exciting and compelling as personal connections were drawn between past and present. "It touched everybody—each of the generations, including the kids," Rhonna said. "It started a whole dialogue about family history and the importance of remembering these people."

Coco's heartwarming story, full of tender family history messages, reminds us to remember our loved ones and tell their stories. Just as Miguel and his family learn, family history can be a powerful source of strength, hope, and healing in our lives as we do. It can help us better understand our own purpose in life, strengthen connections with our living family members, and repair family ties that have been damaged or broken. Most important, as we discover, preserve, and share the photos and stories of our ancestors, their memories can come to life for us and our families—and live on forever.

The Directors and Staff at the Ogden FamilySearch Library wish you and yours the Very Happiest of New Years!