

ALL YOUR MIGHT

ARMENIA YEREVAN MISSION

September 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Elders and Sisters,

It has been a good month. I have enjoyed our visits and I always look forward to your letters each week. It warms my heart to learn of your successes. I marvel at how capable you are to face and to conquer the many challenges that come your way.

In August Sister Dunn and I attended a mission president's seminar in Estonia. Elder Uchtdorf of the Quorum of the Twelve presided at the conference. Other general authorities in attendance included Elder Rasband, Bishop Edgley, Elder Pieper, Elder Paul, and Elder Gibbons. The Spirit was very evident in each of the sessions and I testify that we were instructed in accordance with the Lord's will.

I would like to share a few of the thoughts that Elder Uchtdorf offered to us that specifically relate to what we are doing here as missionaries in Armenia and Georgia.

He quoted John 15:16. "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you." Elder Uchtdorf emphatically stated that this scripture applies to all missionaries and church leaders.

He said that missionaries are to WORK, WORK, WORK, and then miracles will come. He promised that your families will be blessed while you are gone from home and that you will see the hand of the Lord in the lives of your family members.

He said not to worry. If we do our part, the work will move forward. It is, after all, the Lord's work. Have faith in Jesus Christ and don't be discouraged. With His help and our hard work, we will not fail. He will not let us down.

He told us that we are serving at a historic moment in this part of the world. We are bringing the Prince of Peace to a people who have known little peace in their lives.

He quoted from page 13 of Preach My Gospel where President Hinckley says: "Your obligation is as serious in your sphere of responsibility as is my obligation in my sphere." Now that is certainly a sobering thought!

We love you and appreciate your diligence and dedication.

Sincerely,

President Dunn



SISTER DUNN'S MESSAGE



It was a wonderful, spiritual experience to attend the Mission President's Seminar! It also felt very good to come back "home!" We have been uplifted and instructed in how to help all of us be successful. One of the speakers to the Mission President's wives was the wife of Bishop Edgley of the Presiding Bishopric. She was counseled at one time by President Faust to teach the missionaries to smile. I was given some research notes about smiling. The one point that caught my attention under the headline of The Power of a Smile is "YOU WON'T GET SICK." "We know that people who are under stress have lower T-cell counts and that smiling would improve your outlook."

"It makes sense that smiling would improve your overall health." So smile, missionaries! Be happy in your service! Take good care of yourselves! We love and appreciate you.

Sincerely,
Sister Dunn





Spotlights



Sister Blair

Sister Blair was born in Salt Lake City, Utah. About a month before she was two years old, her family moved to Germany where her father worked as a child psychologist for the U.S. Army. Sister Blair's only sibling, her brother Christopher, was born in Heidelberg.

Sister Blair attended German kindergarten and elementary school. They moved to Crete, Greece from Germany. She was baptized in the sea of Crete several months after her eighth birthday. From Crete, they moved back to Germany to a little town about an hour from the Czech border. She attended 3rd through 6th grades there before they moved to a town near Frankfurt. They lived there for five years before returning to the states for her senior year of high school in Elko, Nevada.

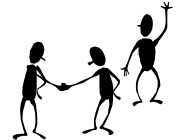
Sister Blair was involved in lots of high school activities, including drama, tennis, and art. She was an excellent student and earned many academic honors. During the fifteen plus years her family lived in Europe they traveled extensively, and Sister Blair holds a love for traveling to this day.

After graduation from high school she worked for the Forest Service doing surveys of elk habitat and spraying noxious weeds. She enjoyed working outdoors, and between her junior and senior years she spent seven weeks in Jordan on an archeology dig. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from BYU with a major in Anthropology/ Archaeology and a minor in German.

Sister Blair loves art, reading, ethnic food, chocolate, and travel. She plays the piano, crochets, is a fantastic cook, and folds origami like a pro.



Welcome to Elder and Sister Smith and to Elder Arslanian, Meacham, Shipp and Winchester as well as Sisters Brough and Sabey.



Farewell to Elder Fleischel.



Happy Birthday
 02 Sep Elder Haake
 09 Sep Elder Dzierzon
 22 Sep Elder Covinger
 22 Sep Elder T. Smith

Message from the Assistants

Elder Moss and Elder Leavitt



"Yea, and how is that ye have forgotten that *the Lord is able to do all things according to his will, for the children of men, if it so be that they exercise faith in him?* Wherefore, let us be faithful to him." (1 Nephi 7:12)

The thing that the missionaries of this mission need most right now is faith; faith that the Lord has power to do all things; faith that the Lord will give us people who have been prepared for us to teach; faith to acquire the highest of all blessings; even faith to move mountains.

Fear fills the void of faith. Where there is a lack of faith there is an increase of fear. The Lord can't work with missionaries who are full of anxiety. There is no place for doubt amongst men and women called of God.

Fear can easily beset any missionary at any stage of his/her mission. For example: missionaries, upon dropping investigators, tend to fear the many workless weeks to come. On the other hand, a missionary who finds several new people may convince himself that none of them will progress to baptism. Finally, the missionary who recently baptized many investigators may quickly fear that the work is beginning to dry up and wait for a transfer. This mindset is commonplace amongst faithless missionaries.

For this reason we are always striving to increase our faith because we know if our faith is not increasing, it is by default decreasing. How shall we continually increase our faith? Preach My Gospel gives the answer: Your faith will increase through 1) Diligent study [with a purpose], 2) Prayer [with faith], 3) Dedicated service [working with a plan], and 4) Obedience [to mission rules strictly] (PMG pg. 116). These four suggestions may sound very familiar. That is because these are the exact suggestions that President Dunn gave us in mission conference. If we want our faith to increase then we must continually improve upon these four principles.

We promise you that as you strive to improve upon these four principles, your faith will increase. We promise you that exercising that faith will allow the Lord to do all things according to his will for your benefit. May the Lord bless you in your pursuit for a stronger faith in Christ.

Elder C. Smith

Elder Smith was born in Provo, Utah, and lived in Ogden, Utah until he was 14 years old when his family moved to Johnstown, New York.

Elder Smith has loved soccer since he was a little boy. He has played in junior high, high school, college, recreational, indoor, and outdoor soccer. As he got older, he was a referee and coached the junior high school team the fall before he left for his mission. When Elder Smith received his Eagle Scout award, his project was to move and reinstall the soccer goals at a local field.



Elder Smith studied two years of German, five years of French, and one semester of Spanish. He loves art and video games. When Elder Smith was a junior in high school, his family hosted an exchange student from the Republic of Georgia. His family is currently hosting an exchange student from Chile.

Elder Smith's family is small but close. He has a 16 year old brother, Daniel. Elder Smith is blessed to have known all eight of his great grandparents. Currently four of them are still living, along with his four grandparents, all of whom live in Utah.



Replace Water Filter Number 1 this month!