

# ALL YOUR MIGHT

ARMENIA YEREVAN MISSION NEWSLETTER

November 2008



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Elders and Sisters,

October was filled with wonderful visitors. President Pieper, the Europe East Area President, accompanied by Bishop and Sister Edgley, were here to meet with us and visit several humanitarian project sites. They spoke in a marvelous fireside to our young single adults and returned missionaries. President Gibbons, of the Area Presidency, joined us for a historic area conference which was broadcast via satellite to five locations in Armenia. We were also blessed by the visit of Elder and Sister Senkans. Elder Senkans, of the Seventy, toured the mission teaching and training at every stop. We are so grateful for the care, concern, and guidance of our visitors and leaders.

This year the Brigham Young University football team adopted the theme "quest for perfection" for the 2008 football season. Coach Mendenhall explained that "quest for perfection" does not relate to winning every football game but rather that every member of the team will do their personal best in practices, while playing football games, and in their personal lives.

A "quest for perfection" is actually what this life is all about. Elder Bruce R. McConkie taught there are two kinds of perfection. The "mortal" or "finite" kind of perfection can be gained by the righteous in this life. The "infinite" variety of perfection is reserved for those who overcome all things and inherit the fullness of the Father. Even though the "infinite" perfection is not fully achievable in this life, both "perfections" are eventually absolutely possible for the sons and daughters of God.

An example of the "mortal" kind of perfection can be found in Matthew 19:16-22. In that passage Jesus told the rich young man (who had kept most of the commandments throughout his life) "...If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come and follow me."

Speaking of the "infinite" kind of perfection, the Savior declared to those whom he visited on the American Continent, "Therefore those things which were of old time, which were under the law, in me are all fulfilled. Old things are done away, and all things have become new. "Therefore I would that ye should be perfect even as I, or your Father who is in heaven is perfect" (3 Nephi 12:46-48). Even though we will not obtain this kind of perfection during this life, we are to earnestly begin the process during our mortal sojourn. That process is to begin without delay. Time is short and we must "press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men" (2 Nephi 31:20).

Each of us should have already embarked upon our own personal "quest for perfection." If any one of us has not yet seriously begun the journey, we must ask ourselves why not? And of course the follow up question is, if not yet, when? Now is the time. We must not delay. We must leave Babylon behind and not look back. "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:62). Things procrastinated never become easier. It will never be easier than it is right now to embark on the journey from Babylon toward perfection. It doesn't matter if you have two days, two months, or two years left on your mission. It is not too late or too early to get going on your personal "quest for perfection."

Sincerely,

*President Dunn*

A Fond Farewell to: Sister Woolley Elder Birgersson Elder & Sister Doty

A Thankful Welcome to: Elder Simonsen Elder Piercy Sister Fuhrmann

Sister Davis Sister Woolf Elder Barnett

# Happy Birthday!

08/11—Elder Kyle

19/11—Elder Orrock

12/11—Elder Horgmo

29/11—Sister Smith

November

Dear Elders & Sisters,

## SISTER DUNN'S MESSAGE

Thank you for all the service and good works that you do each week to help others! For your safety and well-being, our Area Medical Advisor has given the following directives when participating in any clean-up or beautification activity: 1) Always wear leather or pigskin gloves. 2) Needles encountered are to be put in an empty plastic bottle and capped or plugged. Place in appropriate trash container. 3) If several needles are encountered, notify local authorities as these are a high risk for local children. 4) If you are inadvertently stuck with a needle, save it in an appropriate container, cleanse the area immediately with soap & water, and notify the Area Medical Advisor ASAP.

Other directives given: - Leave all animals and birds alone. If bitten, cleanse the area immediately. Report incident to the area Medical Advisor.

-Do not obtain medicines that are produced in India, Turkey, China, or Jordan.

-Do not have medical procedures (endoscopy) done without first having clearance from the Medical Advisor.

(Call me. I am your link to the Area Medical Advisor.)

All the best,

*Sister Dunn*

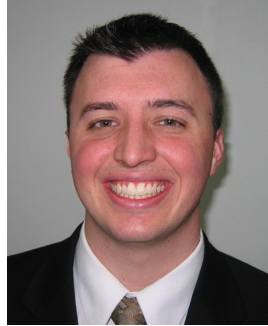


# Spotlights



## Elder Harrison

John Buckley Harrison was born March 8, 1984 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He always liked to show service. He started early in life by cutting down the family's small dogwood tree because it was autumn and the leaves needed to fall. He was 5 yrs. old. He would help members of his ward on a regular basis when the need would arise. He spent many hours cutting down trees, moving stone, building fences, and shoveling snow. One of his strengths is his ability to listen to and support his friends. He has always been one to help them find their way. He is an Eagle Scout & enjoys hiking and camping. He is also a very good wake boarder, water skier, swimmer & snow boarder. Elder Harrison is a wonderful big brother to his brother, Ben and his sister Jade. All in all, he is a great person to be around and brings a smile to all those who meet him.



***“You won’t remember the details of your mission later in life, but you will remember the feelings you had.”***

***Former Mission President***

## Elder Packer

Joshua Lawrence Packer was born January 30, 1988 in Orem, Utah. His Grampa (President Packer) was speaking at a Regional Conference that night and announced that Josh was being born that very minute, so he was officially announced at the pulpit! Josh loved life from the start and is extremely energetic. He is the oldest of 8 children and is a self-proclaimed ‘expert’ tease. His brother and sisters miss the fun he always created and they do Josh impressions daily, especially dance moves! (Really? Who knew?) When Elder Packer was 12, he decided he wanted a horse. For FHE, he scheduled a visit to a place that had a horse for sale. They went. They saw. They bought. Since then, anything he has set his mind to is as good as done. He is an excellent horse trainer. He loves to go on horse camping trips, plays a mean harmonica, loves cowboy music, basketball & football. (His nickname was “hands” on the football team.) In high school Elder Packer was asked to help with the special needs seminary class, which he loved. He would come home with quotes from those amazing people. One story was of a young girl who came in late to class. As she sat down, she whispered loudly, “Give me a recap of the opening prayer!” Elder Packer has graciously volunteered to dance while playing his harmonica at the next Zone Conference.



**Companions are Siamese twins joined at the Spirit**

## Message from the Assistants

**Elder Packer**

**Elder Haake**

During the mission tour with Elder and Sister Senkans, we were “taught from on high”. (D&C 43:16) The spiritual momentum we received is just what we need as we focus on implementing new council, also given “from on high”, concerning when we give an invitation to be baptized. One has said, speaking of the boldness that we possess in the AYM, “We are so bold that we ‘crack’ people in the face with spiritual sledge hammers”. Although we have kept that boldness, we are now striving to refine it. As we raise our boldness to the next level, we must understand that our teaching skills also must be raised and improved. In ancient Japan, when training to become a master fighter, young apprentices also sought, to improve and raise their skills. One of the martial arts’ most difficult skills to master is, “the kiss of the dragon.” This move involves a series of punches, and a simple sewing needle carefully inserted into a vein in the neck. Every move must be done with precise accuracy, timing and power, and when done correctly is fatal. The principle found in the example is clear. We are now in the next phase of becoming an AYM master missionary. We no longer have to beat people with our ‘spiritual sledge hammers’ all the time. Now we have an even more difficult skill to master. We have been asked to give the baptismal date with the same power and accuracy as before, but now it must be done according to the timing of the Holy Ghost. You have been asked to master this skill because you are teaching the future of Armenia. We promise that in doing “all things that lie in our power,” (D&C 123:17) you will master this skill.



You can’t ever get everything you want. It is impossible. Luckily, there is another option: You can learn to control your mind, to step outside of this endless cycle of desire and aversion. You can learn not to want what you want, to recognize desires but not be controlled by them.....

Buddha

## Elder Hansen

Nicholas Reed Hansen was born on December 1, 1987 in Idaho Falls, Idaho, the 3rd child in a family of 9 children. Just 14 months younger than his sister, he grew fast and soon was the same size as she. Everyone thought they were twins. But that didn’t last long and he was soon taller than everyone in the entire family! He grew up on the family farm and would be the first to tell you that he did not like working on it. He was heard to say, “I would rather be emptying garbage at an airport than working on the farm.” He loves basketball, riding motorcycles, sports and history. Elder Hansen has always been a very good student. In high school, he was on the scholastic team and in his Jr. year, the team won the state championship. He has learned a lot about life and living while on his mission and now even says he enjoyed growing up on a farm and misses it. While on his mission, he has missed the wedding of his older brother, the wedding of his older sister, the birth of a niece, the baptisms of his two youngest brothers and youngest sister. Looks like Elder Hansen has a lot of catching up to do.

