

THE LIGHTHOUSE

ST ALBANS ELDERS QUORUM 4th Quarter 2021

An Invitation to Return to Church

The world has had a major shift since March 2020 when the first lockdown was announced due to the coronavirus. People were told to stay at home and stop physically socialising. We all did as we were asked and it has affected us all differently. The places we would usually go were no longer afforded to us, and the bond between places and people was broken as we learnt to be an online community in all aspects of our lives. For those that could, work moved online, as well as shopping, education, family interaction, and church. For some it was an easy transition, even a desirable one, but for most it has been difficult and isolating.

Not being able to attend church has affected the spirituality of many in the ward. To help those in this situation from this Sunday we are returning to 2-hour church service and elders quorum will no longer be broadcast online. Therefore, I would encourage you that you return to inperson sabbath service. Doing so will allow us to reunite as a quorum, uplift and edify each other spiritually, and provide opportunities for interaction.

As priesthood holders we need to encourage our own families and our ministering families to make this transition with us. In conjunction with returning to 2-hour church service, the blanket Bishop's permission to perform the sacrament in our own homes has been lifted. Therefore, in order for us to partake of this sacred ordinance and renew your covenants, returning to church is important.

For those that are worried about potentially getting sick, we as a ward, are trying our best to ensure that the chapel remains clean, social distancing is practiced, and face coverings are still worn indoors.

The Lord needs us at this time to gather his sheep here in St Albans ward. Doing so will help provide the spiritual nourishment that for so many has been reduced over the past 18 months.

We hope that you are all doing well, and if you require help transitioning back to church, please let us know so we can help.

Love the St Albans Elders Quorum President.



CLICK HERE TO
JOIN
OUR ONLINE
COMMUNITY

"The stakes and districts of Zion are symbolic of the holy places spoken of by the Lord where His Saints are to gather in the last days as a refuge from the storm."

President Ezra Taft Benson

("Strengthen Thy Stakes", The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson)

EQ ACTIVITY



featuring

Daniel Yáñez

13th October

over zoom.

(details to be provided closer to the date)

Get to know him a little from his spotlight this quarter.

LESSON SCHEDULE

OCTOBER	3rd	General Conference Weekend	-
	10th	Developing Christlike Attributes	TBA
	17th	“Behold! I Am a God of Miracles”, Elder Ronald A. Rasband	Study at home
	24th	Returning to the Temple	Ryan Travers
	31st	Bishopric led discussion	-
NOVEMBER	7th	Pres. Nelsons talk from October 2021	Study at home
	14th	Loving in the Saviour’s way	TBA
	21st	Elder Christofferson’s talk from October 2021	Study at home
	28th	Serving others in the Winter	Paul Vega
DECEMBER	5th	Stake Conference	-
	12th	Light the World	TBA
	19th	Elder Uchtdorf’s talk from October 2021	Study at home
	26th	Preparing for the New Year	Jeremy Opie

LOOKING AHEAD



DATE	ACTIVITY
2/10	Ward activity @ ‘Nomansland common’ (12 pm)
2-3/10	General Conference Weekend
13/10	EQ Zoom activity (AMA on Daniel Yáñez 8 pm)
16/10	Stake Service Project
20/10	Hot Chocolate Evening (8 pm on zoom)
31/10	Daylight savings ends (clocks go back an hour)
3/11	Temple and Family History Fireside (8 pm on zoom)
14/11	Remembrance Sunday
4-5/12	Stake Conference Weekend
10/12	Place holder for potential EQ activity
11/12	Stake Christmas Concert
25/12	Christmas Day

BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER	Suliman Ahmed
	Sam Amos
	James Mateer
NOVEMBER	Patrick Barnes
	Joe Brown
	Sean Connolly
	Len Goff
	Paul Vega
DECEMBER	Jacob Duran
	Mauricio Duran
	Duncan Freck
	José Martins
	Jeremy Opie
	Sam Spoors



THIS MONTHS SPOTLIGHT

Daniel Yáñez Fernández



Where did you grow up?

I was born and Raised in Chile! I am from Viña del Mar, a lovely coastal city in central Chile, and lived in that region till I was 7. Then we moved to the big city--Santiago, Chile's capital, which is where I feel I truly grew up.

Who is in your family? parents/siblings/children - what are their names?

My parents are Rafael and Olivia. I have 3 brothers--Rafael, Roberto, and Francisco--, and I am the youngest. No sisters :(They all live in Chile and I'm fortunate that they're all alive and well.

Membership i.e. are you a convert? were you born into the church?

I am a "2nd generation member"; my dad got baptised in 1968 right before his 20th birthday, and then my mum followed in 1973 a couple years after they got married. In 1983 the Santiago, Chile temple was dedicated and they were finally able to be sealed, along with my 3 older siblings. I was then the bonus kid in 1985 :).

Growing up, I loved all things church. I sincerely felt the Gospel made so much sense. However during my teenage years I felt the need to question and to gain a conviction about all these things. Seminary became pivotal for me as it provided me with that opportunity to dive deep into the Gospel while also developing good friendships and having great experiences. I feel that during this time my true conversion began.

Have you served a mission? if so, where?

I did. I served in the Chile Concepción South mission from 2005-2007. Receiving my calling felt great, as 2 of my brothers had served in northern Chile in Antofagasta (covering the top 1/3 of the country) and the 3rd had served in southern Chile in Osorno (the bottom 1/3 of the country and the southernmost mission in the world). My dad had worked for the Church Educational System for decades and had covered most of central Chile during his tenure, so my mission covered the last remaining area where our family had not directly served in the church. It felt great and gave me a great sense of purpose! (plus it's a gorgeous place!)

What do you do for a living? i.e. do you work? what do you do? and do you love what you do - challenges/benefits

My background is in business management, particularly supply chain and operations. I came to the UK to work for Amazon; I spent my first 3 years working as an operations manager in their robotics fulfilment center in Dunstable, and the last 2 until today as a Sr Product Manager in London. Since February'21 made a change and I am now responsible for selection and customer experience for Pan-EU Musical Instruments business in the retail organization. It's quite the challenge but I enjoy working in something at least somewhat related to music!

Favourite scripture/scripture story

Tough question. I'll go with D&C 50:23-24 :)

Do you have a church calling? if so, what is this

I'm currently one of the counsellors to Bishop Howe. Been serving on this calling for 3 years now. Crazy how quickly it has gone by!

What talents do you have?

I love music. Even though I'm not a professional in any sense of the word, music has been such a critical part of my life and defines so much of who I am.

I think I have a mild case of synesthesia related to sounds--I can identify sound pitches/musical notes with no previous reference, and each musical note has a "color" in my mind (e.g. middle C is "blue" for me in my brain)

I also have a thing for calendars and dates. At one point in my life I could remember exactly what I was doing or what major events had happened on every single calendar day for the last +/- 10yrs. I can't do this anymore, but I remain kind of obsessed with dates.

Hobbies

Music too! Don't have time for much more these days :)

Favourite food

Mexican, Peruvian, and Turkish/mediterranean food (in no particular order. They are all just amazing)

Favourite sport to play or watch/ or favourite holiday

Football of course. Football is the best metaphor of life out there.

Likes

Football (especially international football), good, thoughtful art and entertainment (movies, series, documentaries), eating good food, and aesthetically pleasing spreadsheets and presentations. Also did I say music?

Dislikes

Slow computers or clunky technology, most shellfish, *LinkedIn*, and pseudoscientific motivational speakers.