Information and ideas about family history research.

Goal = cultivate excitement for family history involvement

Audience= ward members

Why will people come to the website?

Hopefully, because they would like to learn how to be involved in family history.

What questions will your visitors expect answers to?

Why they should become involved in family history.

How they can become involved in family history.

What types of activities will visitors want to complete on your site?

What information is necessary to complete actions your site offers?

Links to family search

Why will your visitors come to your site instead of another to get information?

I will lay it out in very simple terms—"explain like I’m five”. The language will be casual so they feel welcomed and comfortable. I won’t talk to them like they need to be a genealogist. Hopefully remove the intimidation.

Ideas:

- **Getting started**

- how to set up tree= link to family search page on this?

- How to link to a spouse’s tree

- affiliate partnerships- link to FS

-make it fun- link to FS

**- Tell their story, making connections with your past**

- article I wrote for other class

- interview with an ancestor: questions to ask and where you might find the answers

- learn about where they lived

**- My family history is done**

- it’s not done

110 years- link to FS criteria for baptism

Try decesndancy research- link to FS

- more records continuously added, we need to work together

**-CONTACT**

- ask me a question box with contact information

- share your family history experience or testimony with contact information

- add to our list of family history ideas – here are a few to get you thinking

The home page will contain quick information about getting started with family history. The page will answer common questions and provide links to Family Search where appropriate. Most of the provided information for this page is readily available on Family Search, but the page will be customized to the ward and its needs. Another benefit is that all the links will be housed in one easy to access place.

There will be information about how to get started with Family Search and how to create a family tree. There will also be information about how to link to a spouse’s tree. There will be information about the difference between a living person’s profile and a deceased person’s profile. There will be information about affiliate partnerships offered through Family Search. There will be information about how to share your tree using your helper number. There will be information about making family history fun using Family Search’s activities.

At the bottom of the home page, there will be a sentence or two encouraging ward members to reach out for more help through the connect page.

The interview page will share information about how ward members can “interview” deceased ancestors. The page will provide details explaining how to tell an ancestor’s story, even if they didn’t leave behind diaries or many personal records. There will be an article that I wrote about how to write life sketches for any ancestor, even if you never met them.

Another feature of the interview page will be a list of sample questions to “ask” an ancestor. The list will contain questions about various topics, such as career, military service, children, residence, religion, etc. The purpose of this page is to help ward members create connections with their ancestors.

The connect page will be a place for ward members to ask questions and share information. Currently, there will be three opportunities for connecting. First, ward members will be able to ask their family history questions. The ward’s family history consultants will work to answer the questions and share those answers. Second, ward members can submit their family history experiences and testimonies. In the future, the shared experiences and testimonies will be compiled onto another page of the website. Third, ward members will work together to compile a list of family history ideas. The purpose of this list is to inspire the ward to find ways that they would like to be involved in family history. The idea list will also be compiled onto another page of the website in the future.

Through the connect page, I hope to create an environment in which family history conversations will thrive among ward members. Sometimes, family history work can feel like a lone activity. However, it’s always more fun when you can share your family history experiences. Hopefully, ward members will feel a sense of joy and excitement about family history as they connect with one another. I also hope that the connect page will provide a safe space where ward members can feel comfortable asking their questions, no matter how experienced or inexperienced they are.