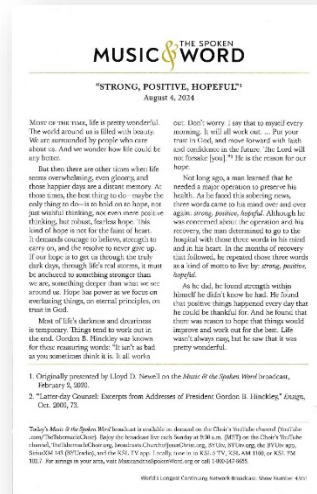
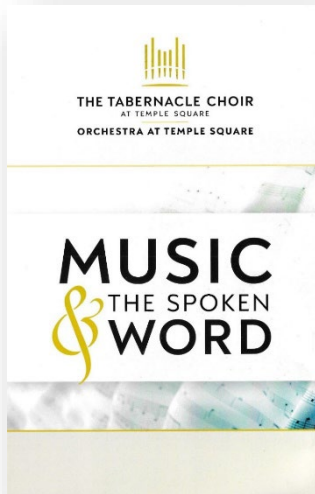


Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith Family Reunion in Salt Lake City, Utah – 2024
Report by Frances Orton

Sunday, August 4th - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QKjokl3l9c>



Music

Conductors: Mack Wilberg

Organist: Andrew Unsworth

Announcer: Derrick Porter

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Music: German Hymn Tune

Lyrics: St. Francis of Assisi

Arrangement: Mack Wilberg

“Let There Be Light”

Music: Gilbert M. Martin

Lyrics: John Marriott

“Final,” from Symphony No. 1 (organ solo)

Music: Louis Vierne

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Music: American Folk Melody

Lyrics: Isaac Watts

Arrangement: Mack Wilberg

“Awake and Arise, All Ye Children of Light”

Music: Welsh Tune (The Ash Grove)

Lyrics: David Warner

Arrangement: Mack Wilberg

“It Is Well With My Soul”

Music: Philip Paul Bliss

Lyrics: Horatio Spafford

Arrangement: Mack Wilberg

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Report by Frances Orton

August 4, 2024

Written By Lloyd Newell

Delivered By Derrick Porter

Most of the time, life is pretty wonderful. The world around us is filled with beauty. We are surrounded by people who care about us. And we wonder how life could be any better.

But then there are other times when life seems overwhelming and gloomy, and those happier days are a distant memory. At those times the best thing to do—maybe the only thing to do—is hold on to hope. Not just wishful thinking. Not even mere positive thinking. But robust, fearless hope. This kind of hope is not for the faint of heart. It demands courage to believe, strength to carry on, and the resolve to not give up. If our hope is to get us through the truly dark days, through life’s real storms, it must be anchored to something stronger than we are, something deeper than what we see around us. Hope has power as we focus on everlasting things, on eternal principles, on trust in God.

Most of life’s darkness and dreariness is temporary. Things tend to work out in the end. Gordon B. Hinckley was known for these reassuring words: “It isn’t as bad as you sometimes think it is. It all works out. Don’t worry. I say that to myself every morning. It will all work out. ... Put your trust in God, and move forward with faith and confidence in the future. The Lord will not forsake [you].”^[1] He is the reason for our hope.

Not long ago, a man learned that he needed a major operation to preserve his health. As he faced this sobering news, three words came to his mind over and over again: strong?positive?hopeful; Although he was concerned about the operation and his recovery, the man determined to go to the hospital with those three words in his mind and heart. In the months of recovery that followed, he repeated those three words as a kind of motto to live by: Strong. Positive. Hopeful.

As he did, he found strength within himself he didn’t know he had. He found that positive things happened every day that he could be thankful for. And he found that there was reason to hope that things would improve and work out for the best. Life wasn’t always easy, but he saw that it was pretty wonderful.

^[1] “Latter-day Counsel: Excerpts from Addresses of President Gordon B. Hinckley,” Ensign?Oct. 2000, 73.



Smith Family Group at Music and the Spoken Word – August 4, 2024

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Karl Anderson arranged for L. Whitney Clayton to speak to the group and answer questions - Lyndon Whitney Clayton III (born February 24, 1950) has been a general authority of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church) since 2001. He became a member of the church's Presidency of the Seventy in 2008 and was its senior president from 2015 until 2020. He was designated as an emeritus general authority in October 2020. Since August 2021, Clayton has been first counselor to Mike Leavitt in the presidency of the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square.