

WELCOME HOME

in time for the jubilee year

JERUSALEM—THE HOLY CITY, OUR KIRTLAND

Dan Adams

*And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green:
And was the holy Lamb of God,
On England's pleasant pastures seen!
And did the Countenance Divine,
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here,
Among these dark Satanic Mills?*

William Blake

William Blake's poem, Jerusalem, captured what faithful people in all ages have desired: to build the Holy city where Christ would dwell with His people. Of the few hallowed places on this continent where the Savior visited, Kirtland stands alone. Nowhere else had so many seen Christ and conversed with angels. In meetings where Joseph or the Three Witnesses bore testimony of the Restoration, congregations felt the power of heaven come upon them.

During the dedication period of the Kirtland temple, hundreds saw the temple afire with the glorious Shekinah of ancient Israel, the building filled with the sound of great rushing wind, and angels standing end to end on its roof. Even a self-declared "anti-Mormonite" newspaper, the Painesville Telegraph, reported that hundreds of people had spiritual

manifestations—seeing angels, visions, and feeling the Spirit testify. By 1838, few could leave Kirtland without having personally witnessed or known those who had marvelous manifestations. Truly, Kirtland was a Pentecostal era of the ages!

No other restoration site, not Palmyra, not Independence, not even Nauvoo, compares to Kirtland. This era accounts for the more part of the revelations recorded in the Doctrine and Covenants, making it the most prolific period of revelation in the Church's history. It is here where the foundation for the kingdom of God was laid, the priesthood organization was revealed, our understanding of the afterlife, the great power of the light of Christ, how we obtain that light to become like God, and finally, the restoration of priesthood keys to make that possible—all this makes Kirtland the preeminent restoration site.

In Doctrine and Covenants Section 95, the Lord reprimanded Joseph for delaying construction of the temple. There was an urgency for the saints to dedicate the temple on a specific date to fulfill Malachi's prophecy that Elijah would return to restore the sealing keys and reveal the purpose of the priesthood to gather Israel.

....Jerusalem p. 4



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us July 30-August 1, 2026 in Kirtland, Ohio for the Smith Family Reunion!

For more details see page 4

- Joseph Smith Jr. Honored



Painting's photo courtesy of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

"Sunset on Nauvoo"

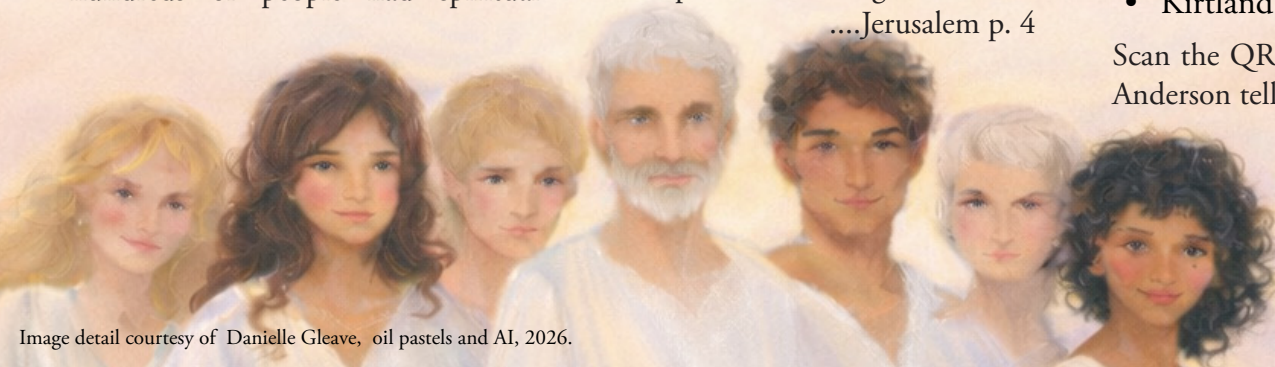
Artist Connie Lynn Reilly

The Martin Luther King Jr. Chapel, Morehouse College, honored Joseph Smith Jr.'s civil rights efforts with a new painting. Presented by the Dean of the College, Rev. Dr. Carter, the painting now hangs in the Hall of Honors alongside over 300 portraits of leaders dedicated to civil and human rights efforts globally. Scan the QR code to learn more:



- Kirtland Stories

Scan the QR code to watch Karl Ricks Anderson tells stories of Kirtland:



JUBILEE & ANGELS IN KIRTLAND, OH



1987 Joseph Smith Sr Family Photo on the steps of the Kirtland Temple

In biblical times, the children of Israel would celebrate a year of Jubilee every 50 years. Contemporary biblical scholars contend that the year of Jubilee would be held during the 49th year. Were we to hold to that same tradition, this year 2026 would be a Jubilee year since Joseph Smith organized the restored church in 1830. During this time, the land reverts to its original owners and is redistributed. Symbolically, we return to the land of our ancestors, Kirtland, Ohio for our reunion.

Jubilee was announced by trumpets. (Unfortunately, we cannot pass the sounds of trumpets through our newsletter, so if you could log into YouTube and find a soundbite before continuing, you might be able to better appreciate our announcement.) Here we herald our news of returning, in a sense, to our land, the Temple of Kirtland that was built by our ancestors' hands, and invite you to enjoy the angels that surround Kirtland to celebrate with us.

During our past reunions in Kirtland, we have gathered home in the steps of our ancestors, where heavenly angels and family, past and present, intertwine. At the end of our last reunion in Kirtland, many family members mentioned they felt angels and Smith family members on the other side joining us.

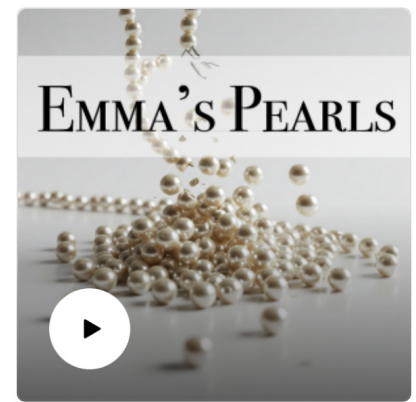
"It seemed to me that the whole temple was filled. I kept looking to the right corner, and could almost feel the spirits of those people there. Another HUGE highlight was the Don Carlos speech on Friday night. Did it seem to you that his countenance changed just a little bit, as well as his voice? It certainly seemed that way from where we were sitting." —Jennifer Brower Bruggeman

"Another moment was witnessing the countenance of [the presenter] brighten as he represented our uncle Don Carlos. Don Carlos was described as a tender man and I saw the image of this Smith brother in [him]. His testimony was real." —Joy

This year, for our family reunion and year of Jubilee, we welcome you home.



Smith descendants over the years remember those buried in the Kirtland area: Mary Duty Smith, Jerusha Barden Smith, Mary Smith (child), Infant twins of Joseph and Emma.



Want to learn more about your angels? Listen to David and Angeline's podcast dedicated to stories of your ancestors as they interview your cousins, Craig Frogley, Michael Kennedy Sr. and Jr., Gracia Jones, and more!

<https://emmaspearls.podbean.com>

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Come to Zion



Adelaide Smylie 1st Place

*Anchored by Legacy;
Guided by Light*



Krrisha Patel 2nd Place

Lucy Mack's Psalm



Jeremy Checketts 3rd Place

Excerpts from
*Jerusha Barden
Smith—Woman
of the Restoration*

by Courtney Nelson



Image detail of Jerusha Barden and Hyrum Smith portrait by Karen Sharp Foster. Used with permission.

Jerusha, born on February 15, 1805. Moved to Manchester, NY in 1820 where she met Hyrum

Smith. They were married on November 2, 1826.

Little is known about Jerusha, however, some pondering and knowing other Smith family members there are things we feel safe to assume.

With her long acquaintance with the Smith's, she was one of the earliest outside the Smith family to believe Joseph and gain a testimony of the restoration.

In a blessing she received from Father Smith in 1834: "Jerusha, my daughter-in-law, the Lord will reward thee for all thy labors and toils... Thy children shall be blessed, and thy children's children to the latest generation. Thy name is recorded on high and thou shalt rise with the just

to meet the Lord in the air, even so, Amen."

Hyrum and Jerusha had six children: Lovin, Mary, John, Hyrum, Jerusha, and Sarah.

In September of 1837, while living in Kirtland, Hyrum was called away on church business. Jerusha gave birth to her last child on October 2, 1837. Due to childbirth complications she became ill. She told her children "Tell your father when he comes that the Lord has taken your mother home and left you for him to take care of." She died October 13, 1837.

Lucy Mack Smith said of Jerusha's passing "A calamity happened to our family that wrung our hearts with more than common grief,

Jerusha..., died while her husband was absent... She was a woman whom everybody loved that was acquainted with her, for she was in every way worthy. The family were so warmly attached to her, that, had she been our own sister, they could not have been more afflicted by her death."

We honor this faithful woman who often gets overlooked but her legacy lives through her love—truly making her a guardian angel to her family.

Scan the QR code to read more:



PLEASE HELP US BY DONATING!



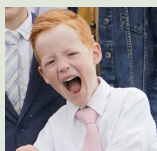
"Psssst"



"Yeah you"



"Family?"



"Awight!"



"Wanna..."



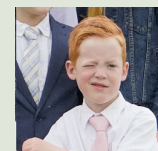
"...donate?"



le sigh



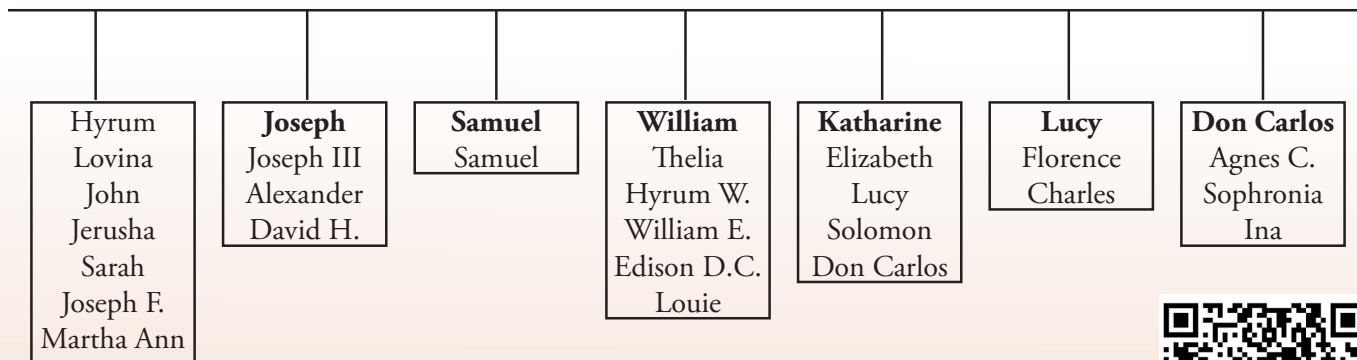
"Thanks!"



"See ya, Cuz"

Your **\$30 DONATION** helps us reach our cousins, keep them up-to-date about family events and news, make exciting discoveries about our ancestors, and maintain our database at www.JosephSmithSr.org. Send this form with your donation or address corrections to the Joseph Sr & Lucy Mack Smith Family Organization, care of Frances Orton OR donate online at www.JosephSmithSr.org. The address and QR code are provided below:

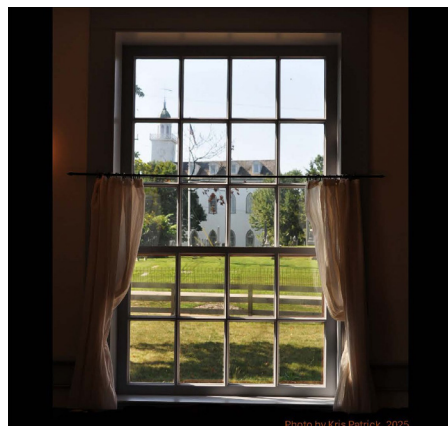
CIRCLE YOUR ANCESTOR



Joseph Sr. & Lucy Mack Smith Family Organization
c/o Frances Orton
381 W 3700 N
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SMITH FAMILY REUNION JULY 30-AUGUST 1 2026



WELCOME HOME! KIRTLAND, OHIO

- Tie hats for Veterans and the homeless
- Drill your own stone at the quarry
- Relish the family meeting in the Kirtland Temple
- Enjoy a family dinner, and more

Scan QR codes to register online for
the family reunion and service project:



...Jerusalem continued

With the temple dedication, the Kingdom was established, its truths were restored, and the nucleus of His people were forged with testimonies so sure that no power of the adversary could destroy His work.

This was Christ's Kirtland. This is how God establishes His people and builds again Zion, the sacred city of Jerusalem. This is why Joseph said that the Lord would protect His people and give them a brief respite from Satan's buffetings while they worked to finish the temple and be endowed with power from on high. With the work done, the storm's rage was unleashed, and they would shortly be driven from Ohio, again from Missouri, and again from Illinois. Through it all, those who had their first lessons of eternity in Kirtland's school of the prophets, those who saw, those who

knew what God had done for them and could not deny it, endured the persecution, and their efforts have brought millions to also personally know God and learn these restored truths for themselves.

But what of Kirtland's aftermath? People had come to Kirtland, wanting to build the new Jerusalem. It was what their ancestors' had fled England for. Those few garden spots where the Lord has visited have become hallowed, where a sacredness is felt. Many feel Kirtland is one of the rarest of these and holds eternal significance. Of this sacred spot, the Lord declared after it had become desolate, "... nevertheless, I, the Lord, will build up Kirtland."* Today Kirtland stands as a flourishing, restored community. There never was a better time to come, see, and feel for yourself the incredible

*Doctrine and Covenants 124:83

Smith
Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith
FAMILY ORGANIZATION

381 W 3700 N, Provo UT 84604

Web site: www.josephsmithsr.org

Facebook: Joseph Smith Sr and Lucy Mack

Smith Family Reunions

Facebook: Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack

Smith Family Association Group

Newsletter: Danielle Gleave, dannikmaddsd@gmail.com