

December 2000

Elder Dallin H. Oaks' Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Washington D.C.
3 First Presidency Christmas Devotional Quarterly Meeting	4	5 8:00 AM Twelve Meeting 10:30 AM PAC 12:30 PM Pre-MEC 2:30 PM President Faust	6 8:00 AM EP/Twelve Directors 10:00 AM DMC Board of Directors 12:00 PM MEC 1:30 PM Area Committee 6:30 PM DMC Christmas Social	7 8:00 AM Temple Mtg. 1:00 PM MEC (Follow-up) 2:00 PM Elder Ballard (Critical Text)	8 9:00 AM Pre-PAC 10:00 AM Missionary Assignments 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM General Authority/Employee Christmas Social 2:00 PM David Porter (Public Affairs)	9
10	11	12 8:00 AM Twelve Meeting 10:30 AM PAC 12:30 PM Pre-MEC 2:30 PM President Faust 6:30 PM Beneficial Life Christmas Social	13 8:00 AM MEC 1:30 PM Area Committee	14 8:00 AM Temple Mtg. 1:00 PM MEC (Follow-up)	15 9:00 AM Pre-PAC	16 7:30 PM Tabernacle Choir Christmas Concert
17	18	19	20 9:00 AM DMC Board of Directors 2:00 PM Retirement Party for Elizabeth Nichols	21	22	23
24 Yalecrest 2nd Ward	25	26	27	28	29 8:00 AM Missionary Assignments	30
31						

November 00

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47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

Elder Dallin H. Oaks

Executive Council Minutes

CONFIDENTIAL

**Deseret Management Corporation
Christmas Party
Joseph Smith Memorial Building
Wednesday, December 6, 2000**

9th Floor

Program Outline

6:30 PM	Introduction/Welcome	Rod Brady
	Invocation	Glen Snarr
6:30 - 7:40	Dinner	
7:40 - 7:55	Entertainment	Michael Ballam
7:55 - 8:00	Remarks	Rodney H. Brady
8:00 - 8:20	Remarks	President Faust President Monson
8:20 - 8:30	Remarks	President Hinckley
8:30 PM	Benediction	Mack Lawrence

Minutes of the Missionary Executive Council

Wednesday, November 29, 2000, at 8:00 A.M.

Missionary Department Conference Room, 3WW Church Office Building

Present: Elders Joseph B. Wirthlin, Jeffrey R. Holland, Earl C. Tingey, and John B. Dickson; Bishop Richard C. Edgley; and Brothers Robert P. Swensen and Dean B. Cleverly. Elder Dallin H. Oaks and Brother Stephen B. Allen were excused.

Invocation: Robert P. Swensen

Minutes. The council approved the minutes of November 22, 2000.

MEC00-703 Mission President Status Sheet. The status sheet was reviewed and approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve as an information item.

MEC00-704 Mission President Candidates Unable to Serve at This Time. A report was reviewed and approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve as an information item.

MEC00-705 Setting Apart MTC Presidents and Visitors' Center Directors. Elders Wirthlin and Holland selected MTC presidents and visitors' center directors they would like to set apart.

MEC00-706 Mission Presidents for Exploratory Interview. Information on 12 candidates recommended for exploratory interview was approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve: Scott Wallace Cameron, Federico Fabian Costales Jr., David William Eka, Max A. Jensen, Del R. Jones, Leroy Michael Kaleihoku Keone, Larry Ray Lawrence, James C. Mooring, Rikuo Touma, David Allred Whetten, Robert Bruce White, and George Allen Young.

MEC00-707 Mission Presidents for Call. Information on ten interviewed candidates recommended for call by the First Presidency was approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve: Curtis Robert Bennett, Raymon Botterell, Glenn A. Hansen, Gary LeRoy Poll, Albert Roy, Jimmie A. Sanders, Gerrit Mark Steenblik, Stephen Mark Studdert, Wesley Miller White, and Marion Darryl Woods.

MEC00-708 Family History Training at the Provo MTC. A memorandum was approved to the Temple and Family History Executive Council concerning no longer providing family history training at the Provo MTC. There was also considerable discussion of a concerted family history initiative in the California Sacramento Mission, a lack of convert baptisms attributable to family history efforts, family history as a missionary tool, and the use of family history to get people to turn to members rather than missionaries.

MEC00-709 Missionary Transgressions. There was considerable discussion of how to encourage missionaries to be obedient, the desirability of sending a problem missionary home rather than having him influence many other missionaries, and having stake presidents take a sense of responsibility for sending out missionaries who have problems.

MEC00-710 Number of Missionaries. The weekly chart, showing 60,379 missionaries currently serving, was reviewed. The decline in elders being called should begin to become evident during the coming year. There was also some discussion of the recruitment of missionary couples.

MEC00-711 Key Missionary Cases. Letters should be prepared to two former missionaries, Orin A. Voorheis and David Evan Pruner, who have lingering health challenges. Elder Dickson will visit Elder Voorheis at his home in Pleasant Grove.

MEC00-712 New Move-Ins. Elder Tingey shared an idea, mentioned by a brother who contributed \$50,000 to the General Missionary Fund, about having missionaries help people move into new homes. Elder Tingey will recommend an in-house task committee that might look at possible initiatives with new move-ins.

MEC00-713 Digital Presence of the Church. Elder L. Tom Perry and Brothers Franklin Lewis and Paul Hansen from M-Star met with the council to present information about the Church's use of the Internet and obtaining approvals to place web sites on the Internet.

Adjourned: 10:00 A.M.

Minutes of Priesthood Executive Council Meeting
Wednesday, 13 December 2000, 8:00 A.M.
West Board Room

Present: Elders M. Russell Ballard, Richard G. Scott, Marlin K. Jensen, John M. Madsen, and Carlos H. Amado; Bishop H. David Burton; and Brothers Ronald L. Knighton, Dennis R. Lifferth, and Frank May.

Excused: Elders Robert D. Hales and Dennis B. Neuenschwander (both ill)

Invocation: Bishop H. David Burton

Minutes: The council approved the minutes of its meeting held on Wednesday, 29 November 2000.

PEC00-242 Preparing Young Men for Missions. The council postponed consideration of this item.

PEC00-243 Internet Guidelines for the Priesthood Executive Council. Elder Jensen and Brother Lifferth reviewed proposed guidelines for the council to use in recommending materials to be posted to the Church Internet site, lds.org, and reviewed a sample of such materials for the Young Women. The council cleared the guidelines to go to Correlation Evaluation. As an information item, Brother Knighton reviewed the status and needed actions to complete posting the scriptures, Church curriculum, and Church magazines to the Church Internet site as directed by the First Presidency, particularly in non-English languages.

PEC00-244 Addition to the Temple Recommend Questions. Elder Jensen reviewed a proposed addition to the recommend questions to help priesthood leaders identify and help members who are struggling with pornography. The Priesthood Department will redraft the proposal and bring it back to the council.

PEC00-245 2001 Young Women General Meeting. Elder Jensen reviewed a Young Women request to change the opening hymn of the previously approved program from "Oh May My Soul Commune with Thee" to "I Know That My Redeemer Lives." The council approved the request. He reviewed also the proposed General Authorities who will participate in the meeting. The council cleared the proposal to go to the 14 December 2000 temple meeting. Elder Ballard will present it.

PEC00-246 Letter Announcing the Videotape for Parents and Youth. Elder Jensen reviewed the proposed Quorum of the Twelve letter. With revisions, the council cleared the letter to go to the Communications Correlation Committee. Suggested revisions include adding more information on how local leaders and parents may use the videotape and suggesting that it could be used in Saturday evening meetings of stake conferences. Information on using the videotape will be included in both the letter and in the insert that accompanies the videotape.

PEC00-247 General Authority Quotations, Featured Articles, and Topics for the Church Internet Site. Elder Madsen and Brother Knighton reviewed proposed items for the site, lds.org. The council cleared them to go to Correlation Evaluation.

PEC00-248 Scriptures Items. Elder Scott reviewed the following Scriptures Committee requests.

Initial Ecclesiastical Review Report and Request to Continue Translation:

- Sinhala Book of Mormon (Reference Guide Edition)
- Serbian Book of Mormon (Reference Guide Edition)
- Twi Book of Mormon (Reference Guide Edition)

Final Ecclesiastical Review Report and Request to Prepare for Publication

- Revision of the Danish Book of Mormon
- Mongolian Book of Mormon (Reference Guide Edition)

The council cleared the requests to go to the 14 December 2000 temple meeting. Elder Scott will present them.

PEC00-249 Book of Mormon Critical Text Final Report. The council cleared the report to go to the 19 December 2000 meeting of the Twelve and to the 21 December 2000 temple meeting. Elder Ballard will present it.

PEC00-250 Nativity Scenes on the Main Street Plaza. Bishop Burton reviewed a request from Chip Smith, Chairman of Visitor Activities, to consider holding a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony to introduce to the community four small nativity scenes on the plaza. The council suggested that the scenes be introduced in a *Church News* article.

Adjourned: 9:00 A.M.

Minutes of the Missionary Executive Council

Wednesday, January 3, 2001, at 8:00 A.M.

Missionary Department Conference Room, 3WW Church Office Building

Present: Elders Dallin H. Oaks, Joseph B. Wirthlin, Earl C. Tingey, and Stephen A. West; Bishop Richard C. Edgley; and Brothers Stephen B. Allen, Robert P. Swensen, and Dean B. Cleverly. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland was excused.

Invocation: Bishop Richard C. Edgley

Minutes. The council approved the minutes of December 20, 2000.

MEC01-001 Mission President Status Sheet. The status sheet was reviewed.

MEC01-002 Mission Presidents for Call. Information on two interviewed candidates recommended for call by the First Presidency was approved to be forwarded next week to the First Presidency and Twelve: Roger Paul Christensen and William Blood Mansell.

MEC01-003 Suits for Missionaries from the Dominican Republic. The council concurred in a recommendation from the North America Southeast Area Presidency that elders called from the Dominican Republic to serve in the Dominican Republic not be required to purchase a suit. No action will be taken, however, until after the Missionary Department studies other similar situations where native missionaries serve in areas where suits are rarely or never worn.

MEC01-004 Water Purification Units for the Philippines. A request from the Philippines Area Presidency, endorsed by Elder Richard G. Scott, for water filters for missionary quarters in the Philippines was approved.

MEC01-005 Pre-Mission Training for New Mission Presidents. A copy of the orientation videotape and the other training materials being sent to newly called mission presidents should be provided to each Area Presidency.

MEC01-006 Quorum of Twelve Letters for the Call Packet. Proposed letters for couples who do not serve in regular missionary assignments were taken for further review and will be discussed again next week.

MEC01-007 Reimbursement of Expenses for MTC Presidents. A request from James R. Palmer in the Brazil MTC to be reimbursed for various expenses was considered. Approval was given to reimburse him for medical insurance costs since May 2000 according to the policy approved by the First Presidency and Twelve on May 25, 2000. A general recommendation to provide MTC presidents and visitors' center directors with the same benefits as mission presidents was not approved.

MEC01-008 Task Committee Status. Elder Tingey reviewed the status of the various task committee initiatives.

MEC01-009 Operating and Project Budgets for 2001. The First Presidency's notification that the Missionary Department budgets were approved by the Council on the Disposition of the Tithes was noted as an information item.

MEC01-010 Temple Square Timeline. A revised schedule, showing the closure and reopening of the visitors' centers on Temple Square, was noted as an information item. Elder Oaks will circulate this to the First Presidency and Twelve for their information.

MEC01-011 Church Registration in Kazakstan. A report that the Church has been officially registered in Kazakstan was noted as an information item.

MEC01-012 Media Bible. Copies of the new edition of the Bible published by the Church as a media response item were distributed. If the Bible is reprinted, it should use the same binding currently used for the Spanish Book of Mormon.

MEC01-013 New Testament Murals on Temple Square. A report that the murals had been vandalized by someone running a razor blade across them was noted as an information item. The murals will be repaired as a part of the renovation of the center.

MEC01-014 Number of Missionaries. It was noted that 60,419 missionaries were serving as of December 29. The issue of confirmations not being performed or reported was also discussed.

MEC01-015 Missionary Arrivals and Departures. A revised letter was reviewed and with one addition will be considered again next week.

MEC01-016 Stake Mission Task Committee. It was noted that the issue of name tags for stake missionaries needs to be addressed if stake missions are not discontinued. This item should be reported to Elder F. Melvin Hammond.

MEC01-017 How We Refer to the Church and Its Members. Brother Allen will meet with Bruce Olson to draft a joint recommendation that can come forward through the Public Affairs Committee and the Missionary Executive Council to the First Presidency and Twelve.

MEC01-018 Preparation of Missionaries. Elder Oaks reported that Elder M. Russell Ballard is pursuing this matter through Priesthood Executive Council channels. Peter B. Rawlins is the Missionary Department's staff contact in this effort.

MEC01-019 Reassignment of Missionaries. Elder Wirthlin mentioned that reports show that most reassigned missionaries complete successful missions.

MEC01-020 Unrest in Haiti. Elder Wirthlin reported that the mission president appears to be on top of the situation in Haiti.

MEC01-021 Information Sheet. Brother Cleverly highlighted the differences between the Information Sheet and the Church-Service Candidate form. Elders Oaks and Wirthlin will follow through.

MEC01-022 Announcement of New Mission Presidents. Elder Tingey announced that the *Church News* will begin to announce the calls of new mission presidents and wives beginning the weekend of January 13.

MEC01-023 Missions in the Asia North Area. The council reviewed a memorandum from Elder L. Tom Perry conveying a recommendation of the Area Presidency. A response will be drafted outlining the history leading up to the decision to consolidate missions in Japan and indicating why it would not be desirable at this point to seek to reverse the decision of the First Presidency and Twelve.

MEC01-024 Print Ads. An interim report on media tests in selected regional issues of *Parade* and *USA Today* was noted as an information item. A final report needs to be prepared for the Twelve.

MEC01-025 Focus Groups. Brother Allen distributed information on focus groups scheduled next week in Seattle, Chicago, and the Washington D.C. area. Members of the council were invited as desired to view the focus groups by video conference in the Missionary Department conference room.

MEC01-026 Asia and Asia North Areas. Questions from Elder L. Tom Perry relative to missionary work in the two Asia areas were discussed. Elder Oaks will draft a response to Elder Perry for review in next week's meeting.

MEC01-027 Assignment of Mongolians. Brother Swensen will check with the Europe East Area Presidency on where Mongolians can be appropriately assigned in Russia and the Ukraine.

Adjourned: 9:45 A.M.

Minutes of the Missionary Executive Council

Wednesday, December 20, 2000, at 2:00 P.M.

Missionary Department Conference Room, 3WW Church Office Building

Present: Elders Dallin H. Oaks, Joseph B. Wirthlin, Jeffrey R. Holland, Earl C. Tingey, and John B. Dickson; and Brothers Stephen B. Allen, Robert P. Swensen, and Dean B. Cleverly. Bishop Richard C. Edgley was excused.

Invocation: Elder Dallin H. Oaks

Minutes. The council approved the minutes of December 13, 2000.

MEC00-756 Orientation Video for New Mission Presidents and Wives.

MEC00-757 Mission President Status Sheet. The status sheet was reviewed and approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve as an information item.

MEC00-758 Mission President for Exploratory Interview. Information on William Blood Mansell, who is recommended for exploratory interview, was approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve.

MEC00-759 Mission Presidents for Call. Information on three interviewed candidates recommended for call by the First Presidency was approved to be forwarded to the First Presidency and Twelve: Max A. Jensen, Larry Ray Lawrence, and Richard Carols Rife.

MEC00-760 New Missionary Initiatives. A copy of the status report on major MEC accomplishments during 2000, which was shared with the Twelve on Tuesday, was noted as an information item.

MEC00-761 Mexico Mexico City West Mission. Detailed information pertaining to the boundaries of the new mission previously approved in concept by the First Presidency and Twelve was approved to be forwarded to the Boundary and Leadership Change Committee.

MEC00-762 Washington Everett Mission. Detailed information pertaining to the boundaries of the new mission previously approved in concept by the First Presidency

and Twelve was approved to be forwarded to the Boundary and Leadership Change Committee.

MEC00-763 Temple Square Timeline. President Richard I. Winwood and Brother Merv Arnold joined the meeting to discuss the remodeling of the North Visitors' Center. Approval was given to close the center the first week of January for asbestos removal and other remodeling with the understanding that it would be partially reopened by the first of March.

MEC00-764 Missionary Couples Video. With feedback provided, the proposed video was approved to be forwarded to Correlation.

MEC00-765 Family Members at MTCs and Airports. A proposed letter was approved with corrections to be taken to the Twelve.

MEC00-766 Showing *Testaments* at the Provo MTC. Based on a report that it would cost approximately \$100,000 to prepare theaters to show the *Testaments* film at the Provo MTC, the Council withdrew its support from showing the video to missionaries.

MEC00-767 Costa Rica San Jose Mission Office. A request to lease an office for \$1,500 a month, plus an initial \$4,573 for remodeling and moving costs, was approved to be forwarded to the Appropriations Committee.

MEC00-768 Supervisor of Operations in the Exhibits Section. A request for a new and expanded budget request to support an FTE being transferred from the Provo MTC was approved to be forwarded to the Human Resource Committee and the Budget Office.

MEC00-769 Saturday Evening Stake Conference Training—First Half 2001. A sheet of proposed resources for discussing member missionary work was approved to be forwarded to the Twelve.

MEC00-770 Kirtland Update. Elder Dickson reviewed changes to the Kirtland master plan and showed pictures and a floor plan of the proposed visitors' center.

Adjourned: 3:10 P.M.

REFERENCES TO THE CHURCH AND ITS MEMBERS

January 12, 2001

This document is a synthesis of discussions and recommendations of the Public Affairs Committee and the Missionary Executive Council. It is submitted to the Quorum of the Twelve and the First Presidency as an aid to their discussions. We request their direction on these subjects. (DHO)

1. References to the Church

- A. The official name of the Church (D&C 115:4) should always be used by the Church and its members, and we should urge the media to use this official name in their reporting.
 - An example of implementation with the media would be to include this statement on Church news releases: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the official name of the Church whose members are sometimes referred to by others as "Mormons." While the Church does not shorten its official name, the contractions "the Church" or "the Church of Jesus Christ" are acceptable in news stories when required by space limitations.
 - An example of implementation with a Church-sponsored media ad would be: "You might know us as the Mormons, but chances are you don't really know us at all. We are your friends [or neighbors], The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints."
- B. The Church should never use "Mormon Church" and should strongly discourage the use of this term by the media and others.
- C. "LDS Church" or "LDS" should not be used in Church news releases and other communications to refer to the Church. ("LDS"

tends to shift the focus from "The Church of Jesus Christ" to "The Church of the Latter-day Saints.")

- D. LDS.Org is the official website address of the Church. Should that be changed to "The Church of Jesus Christ" with appropriate cross-references from "LDS.Org," "Mormon.Com," etc."

2. **References to Members of the Church**

- A. The Church prefers that its members be referred to as "members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints."
- B. If a shortened reference to members is needed in news reporting, "Latter-day Saints" is preferred (e.g., D&C 121:33, 128:24, 135:3), but "Mormons" is acceptable. ("Mormons" is a nickname others affixed to early members because of their belief in the *Book of Mormon*, which is named for its editor, a valiant ancient prophet.)

3. **Other References related to the Church and its members**

- A. The use of the term "Mormon" is acceptable:
- when used in official names such as the "Book of Mormon" or the "Mormon Trail."
 - when used as an adjective in such expressions as "Mormon pioneers."
- B. The term "Mormonism" is acceptable in describing the effect of doctrine, culture and lifestyle (e.g., D&C 135:7).
- C. The term "Mormon fundamentalist" is specifically discouraged

because it implies a connection with the Church by third parties who have no such affiliation and who espouse beliefs and engage in practices like polygamy that are forbidden by Church doctrine.

Deseret News

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FAX

This cover sheet plus 2 page(s)

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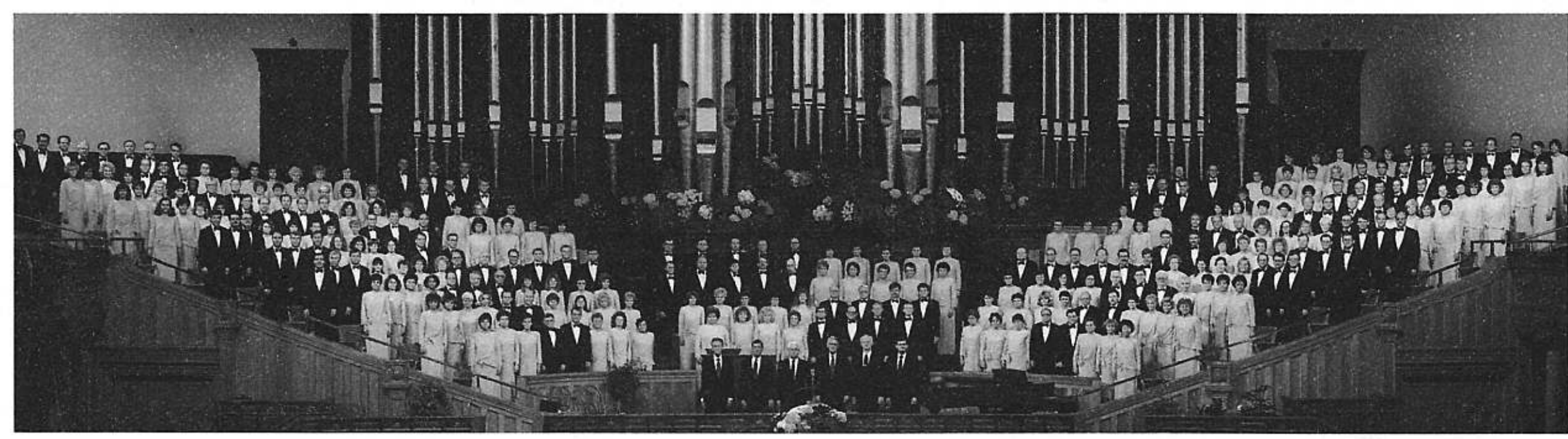
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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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December 20, 2000

Elder Dallin H. Oaks
Room 405
Church Administration Building

Dear Elder Oaks:

In behalf of the members of the Tabernacle Choir and the Orchestra at Temple Square, we wish to express to you our sincere wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord and His church in the capacity of the Tabernacle Choir Organization. Thank you for your faith, prayers and support.

I am enclosing a copy of the Choir & Orchestra's newest recording. It has been receiving wide spread national and international acclaim. It has just been listed on **Billboard Magazine's** top ten Classical CDs for the month and was chosen as the featured selection of the month by the **BMG Classical Music Catalogue**. We hope that you and your families will enjoy it during this holiday season.

Faithfully,

Mac Christensen
President

MC/at

Enclosure

*Thank you
sent*