

## Ministry Plan

Adapted from PA 140 Elders: Servants of God's People

Filling out a plan for ministry is an important step for priesthood members. The Holy Spirit will guide each one in the offering of ministry. From the beginning, the church has been admonished that further education and training are important.

*I give unto you a commandment, that you shall teach one another the doctrine of the kingdom; teach ye diligently and my grace shall attend you, that you may be instructed more perfectly in theory, in principle, in doctrine, in the law of the gospel, in all things that pertain unto the kingdom of God, that is expedient for you to understand; of things both in heaven, and in earth, and under the earth; things which have been; things which are; things which must shortly come to pass; things which are at home; things which are abroad; the wars and the perplexities of the nations; and the judgments which are on the land; and a knowledge also of countries, and of kingdoms, that ye may be prepared in all things when I shall send you again, to magnify the calling whereunto I have called you, and the mission with which I have commissioned you.*

—Doctrine and Covenants 85:21b-e

*Seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning even by study, and also by faith.*

—Doctrine and Covenants 85:36a

This call for training and education has been reiterated more recently. Doctrine and Covenants 156, given in 1984, called the church to “*Prepare yourselves through much study and earnest prayer.*” In 1992 the church was admonished “*I am longing to pour out greater blessings than you have ever known if you, my people, will open yourselves through preparation, study, and prayer*” (Doctrine and Covenants 158:11b). And in 2007 “*The expectation for priesthood to continually magnify their callings through spiritual growth, study, exemplary generosity, ethical choices, and fully accountable ministry is always present. How can the Spirit fill vessels that are unwilling to expand their capacity to receive and give according to a full measure of God's grace and truth?*” (Doctrine and Covenants 163:6c).

Not all education or training has to be focused on theological matters. Instead, priesthood members are called to obtain whatever training is necessary to make them more effective ministers. This is an ongoing process as ministers discover areas of need in their personal preparation and in the areas to which they are called.

Filling out a Ministry Plan should be a yearly activity. Circumstances change, needs change, and ministers are called to be responsive to those changes. Following this pattern will allow ministers to more effectively share with those in the congregation and the community, bringing them to “*the hope and the joy of discipleship in the community of Christ*” (Doctrine and Covenants 161:7).

## Pleasant Heights Congregation

### Elder's Plan for Ministry

As the pastor, priesthood, and congregational leaders, identify the ministry needs of the congregation and community, how will you focus the ministry you offer to meet some of those needs in the coming year?

Date

Name:

#### Ministry Needs of the Congregation and Community

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

## My Ministry Plan

**With Families**

**In Congregation**

**In Community**

## My Development Program

**Education/Training Planned**

**Possible Mentors**

**Sharing**

- Contribute Financially to Pleasant Heights Budget
- Contribute Financially to World Church Mission Initiatives

Elder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Facilitator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Pleasant Heights Pastor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_