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**Utah Area Seventies Correlation Meeting**  
**Joseph Smith Memorial Building – Ambassador Room – 10<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Wednesday, November 11, 2015 – 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

**Presiding:** Elder Craig C. Christensen

**Conducting:** Elder Michael T. Ringwood

**Opening Hymn:** #237, *Do What is Right*  
Music Director: Elder Craig B. Terry  
Pianist: Elder Ralph L. Dewsnap

**Invocation:** Elder Alin Spannaus

**Discussion Items:** Elder Craig C. Christensen

1. Patrick H. Price has been called as an executive secretary to Elder Christensen.
2. Brother Scott T. Seamons will be released as executive secretary as he and his wife, Susan, will be serving as full-time missionaries and executive secretary to the Area Presidency in the Pacific Area in New Zealand for twenty-four months.

***Blessing and Baptism of Children of Same-Sex Couples:***

1. Church discipline for same-gender marriages is mandatory. A same-gender marriage is different from a same-sex relationship.
2. Follow principles in Handbook 1, Chapter 6. These principles have not changed.
3. There is no hurry to quickly take this disciplinary action. Use prudence and judgment in the normal course. These members may request to have their names be removed.
4. Most questions that have been recently raised relate to children of same-sex couples.
5. More clarification may be coming, but it will not change the intent of the previously announced position of the Church. Remain calm and await further instructions.
6. Instructions may come directly to you and/or be in the Church Newsroom.
7. The Church does not want to interfere with parental or custodial supervision of children or create conflict in the family. We want to strengthen family relationships, not weaken them. We don't want to create a conflict in the mind of a child.
8. This policy is based on the principles found in the *Proclamation to the World*. The first three paragraphs reference our "divine destiny", which is only available to a "...man and a woman, legally wedded as husband and wife". It is not based on the Law of Chastity.
9. To understand the Church's position, people need to understand this doctrine.
10. The policy is consistent with the Church's long standing policy for children of polygamist marriages.
11. A priesthood blessings of health, direction or comfort is available to these children, as it is to everyone. These blessings are not performed in Church meetings.
12. We do not create a Church record for them (child of record).

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13. Stake president can ask the First Presidency for an exception to the policy if circumstances warrant.
14. Temple recommend questions do not apply unless the member is an activist or advocating against the Church.
15. Stake presidents may want to review this policy with prospective bishops to determine their willingness to support this policy before extending a call.
16. Those who advocate for tolerance should think about where the “line” should be drawn. The Lord has drawn the line here. Help members understand how this effects them.
17. Don’t minimize the importance of the doctrine and policy.
18. Church in Utah is not the same as everywhere else.
19. Provide feedback to Elder Christensen that will help him.

### ***Specific Requests of Area Seventies:***

1. Provide a brief email to Elder Christensen describing the five or so things you are doing or that is going on in your Area.
2. Provide report to Brother Elggren ([felggren@ldschurch.org](mailto:felggren@ldschurch.org)) on the following matters:
  - a. when you have distributed all of the Sabbath Day Training materials to all stake presidents in your coordinating councils, and
  - b. how the training is being implemented and when completed.
3. This is not about how fast but how well it is being taught.
4. Send email to Elder Christensen regarding the several apostate movements going on in the areas by **Tuesday, November 17th.**

### ***Other Items:***

### **Elder Ringwood and Elder Wilson**

1. Priesthood Leadership Conference Checklists:
  - a. Use the checklist on GA Resources.
  - b. Work with assigned stake president to make sure everything goes smoothly for the Twelve.
  - c. A sisters meeting will be held only if requested by the presiding general authority.
  - d. Find out the visiting authorities preferences and provide for them.
2. Saturday Evening Session of Stake Conference – *2016 Letter*: The presiding authority selects the theme under inspiration with goal to strengthen faith in God and Jesus Christ.
3. Names of Leaders & Members with Special Ministering Needs. Please let us know of current or former priesthood leaders or their spouses with health or other challenges for us to include in our prayers. Send to Scott T. Seamons ([sseamons@ldschurch.org](mailto:sseamons@ldschurch.org)) with brief explanation.
4. You can find statistics for your coordinating councils in GA Resource.
5. The goal is for each stake to have a live-at-home missionary couple. Please encourage stake presidents in this area.

**Benediction:** Elder David T. Warner

**Handouts:** 1. Hymns; 2. Handbook 1, 16.13 – Addition  
3. Saturday Evening Session of Stake Conference – 2016 Letter

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**Attendance**

Attendees: *Elders:* Craig C. Christensen, Michael T. Ringwood, Larry Y. Wilson, Stephen B. Allen, Jorge E. T. Becerra, Gene R. Chidester, Ralph L. Dewsnup, Mark P. Durham, Kyle S. McKay, Norman R. Nemrow, Steven M. Petersen, John C. Pingree Jr., Gary B. Porter, Steven K. Randall, Evan A. Schmutz, Alin Spannaus, Craig B. Terry, David T. Warner and Kevin J. Worthen, *Brothers:* M. Scott Newbold, Scott T. Seamons and F. Wayne Elggren

Via Phone: *Elders:* Michael H. Bourne, Gary B. Doxey, J. Kevin Ence, Peter F. Evans, Michael R. Jensen, Steven O. Laing, Bryan R. Larsen, Dane O. Leavitt, Dale H. Munk, R. Scott Runia, Terry L. Wade

Excused: Elder Lynn L. Summerhays (replaced by his executive secretary via phone)