

2026 Stake Council Speaking Topics

(revised 06/11/2026)

Dear Members of the Stake Council,

We are so pleased to share with you the following speaking topics and assignments as you prepare to speak in each respective ward over the next 6 months.

Please use supporting information from the October 2025 General Conference, other conference talks, scriptures, and other resources added to your own experiences and inspiration to share with the members of the Stake. Messages should be focused on Jesus Christ, His invitation for us to follow Him, and the love He has for each of us individually.

Please be prayerful as you take on each speaking opportunity and reach out to the Bishop of the assigned ward to gain additional insight into how your message might be tailored to best meet their local needs or as needed schedule for a different Sunday.

January:

Becoming Lifelong Disciples of Jesus Christ - Keeping the First Great Commandment. Making room to follow Him.”

February:

How can members apply the principles of love, share, and invite to help people attend sacrament meeting so they can worship the Savior and renew their Covenants with Him? How can members and missionaries unite to help people attend sacrament meeting for those same critical purposes? How can we create a joyfully welcoming and reverent environment at sacrament meeting so all can enjoy the highest level of Sabbath Worship and communion with the Savior? Fostering a culture of inclusion. Opening our doors and hearts to everyone.

March:

How can we make the temple, the house of the Lord, a more integral part of our lives? Gathering Israel on both sides of the veil. How does time in the temple fortify families, tune in our ability to Hear Him, and fortify and protect us from the fiery darts of the adversary?

April:

There will be no stake speaking assignments in April.

May:

Maintaining Spiritual Momentum. What helps parents and leaders understand the importance of starting early to prepare children and youth for the covenants and ordinances that connect them with the Father and the Son? What helps youth maintain the spiritual momentum they are blessed to receive at FSY gatherings after returning home?

June:

The law of the fast and strengthening self-reliance. Teach the Law of the Fast and give a generous fast offering. How can we as members help people to become spiritually and temporally self-reliant?

July:

Becoming Life-long Disciples of Jesus Christ

We become lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ through personal agency, covenant commitment, and active engagement in gospel learning. True discipleship requires enduring faith, individual responsibility, and continual growth along the covenant path.

August:

I am a Follower of Christ. I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

As a follower of Christ, declaring “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ” is both a personal testimony and a call to action. Alma 18:9 teaches that we are to “stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all places”. Our faith should be visible in how we live, speak, and serve.

September:

Ministering — “That Ye Love One Another; as I Have Loved You”

Ministering is truly loving and caring for others as the Savior would. It is a way of being; it is the way of our Savior, Jesus Christ. (see Sister Kristin M. Yee, April 2026 General Conference)

October:

Drawing upon the powers of Heaven through fasting and prayer.

We may not know all the reasons Heavenly Father has given us the principle of the fast, but we know that it is a principle of power. Fasting with prayer is an important part of our spiritual lives. (see Omni 1:26 and Alma 17:3)

November:

Whom say ye that I am?

Matthew 16:13–20, Jesus asks His disciples, “*But whom say ye that I am?*” This question is central to understanding the nature of Christ and the foundation of the Church. Peter declares, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God”. His testimony is not based on human reasoning but on divine revelation. Peter’s understanding of Christ’s identity comes from God, not from personal opinion or tradition.

Thank you,

Reno Stake Presidency

President Woodman

President Hunsaker

President Hiatt

Ideas:

- 1) What helps parents and leaders understand the importance of starting early to prepare children and youth for the covenants and ordinances that connect them with the Father and the Son? What helps youth maintain the spiritual momentum they are blessed to receive at FSY gatherings after returning home?
- 2) Teach the Law of the Fast and give a generous fast offering.
- 3) How can we as members help people to become spiritually and temporally self-reliant?
- 4) Fostering a culture of inclusion. Opening our doors and hearts to everyone.
- 5) Making room for the Savior. The art of simplification and prioritization. Good, better, best.
- 6) Maintaining Spiritual Momentum.

2026 Youth Theme: Walk with Christ

Leadership Meeting Summary:

Becoming Lifelong Disciples of Jesus Christ

The Rising Generation

The law of fast and strengthening self-reliance.

United States Southwest Area Emphasis:

As you prepare to “Always Remember Him,” prayerfully consider the following questions:

- How can we extend the beautiful spirit of the Christmas and Easter seasons year-round and make our sacrament meetings even more Christ-centered?
- How can we “Always Remember Him” better in each and every week of the year?
- What can we do to help our youth truly know the Savior in our daily routines at home and regularly scheduled Church activities?
- How can our ministering be more like the Savior’s ministry?
- What activities or events would point our friends and neighbors to Jesus?
- How can we make the temple, the house of the Lord, a more integral part of our lives?

Temple and Family History

Leadership Instruction 2025

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Thank you for gathering and watching the Temple and Family History Leadership Instruction

as leaders. As you watch the messages, you will be invited to counsel together. Consider using the questions below as a guide or adapting them to the needs of your council.

Consider

reviewing “Principles of Effective Councils” (General Handbook: Serving in The Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4.4).

1. How have you seen God's power through temple ordinances and covenants in your life?
2. What did we feel and learn about accessing God's power through temple ordinances and covenants?
3. Who can we help access God's power through temple ordinances and covenants? Consider listing them by name.
4. How can we help bless these members using the following resources:
 - Ordinances Ready
 - Family Name Assist
 - FamilySearch.org/LeaderResources
 - Temple and family history leaders and consultants
 - "And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth, and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory." 1 Nephi 14:14