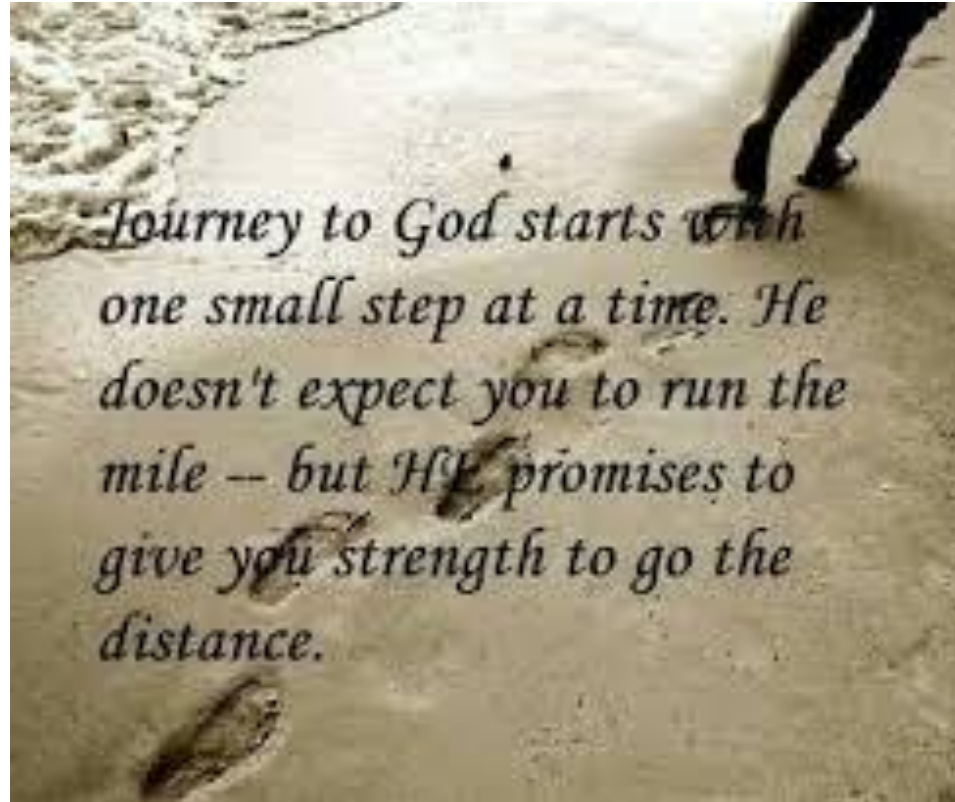


2022 Family Reunion

**COME HOME TO OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN
ONE STEP AT A TIME!**



**Prepared by Thomas Lee Palmer
Copyright 2022**

*WE COME HOME TO OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN
ONE STEP AT A TIME!*



Thanks to Tim, Tia and family for hosting this year's reunion!

Carter did a ton of mowing and weed whacking!



May I have your attention please?



Welcome to your favorite time at our family reunions - our *Whatchamathing!!!* 😊



What? You're not excited??



Unbelievable!!!!



I'll show you that it's worth your time!



*Oh, you think you'll stay and see what it's
all about?*



Then, let it roll



*The next step NOW, must be in the
right direction*



In taking YOUR NEXT STEP, a few reminders may be helpful!



It's important to plan ahead!



Timing can be everything!



BE creative in taking each step!



It's important to avoid distractions

I finally realized it!



People are prisoners
of their phones.
That's Why they are
called cell phones!

*“fitting in” is not always cool -
choose good friends!*

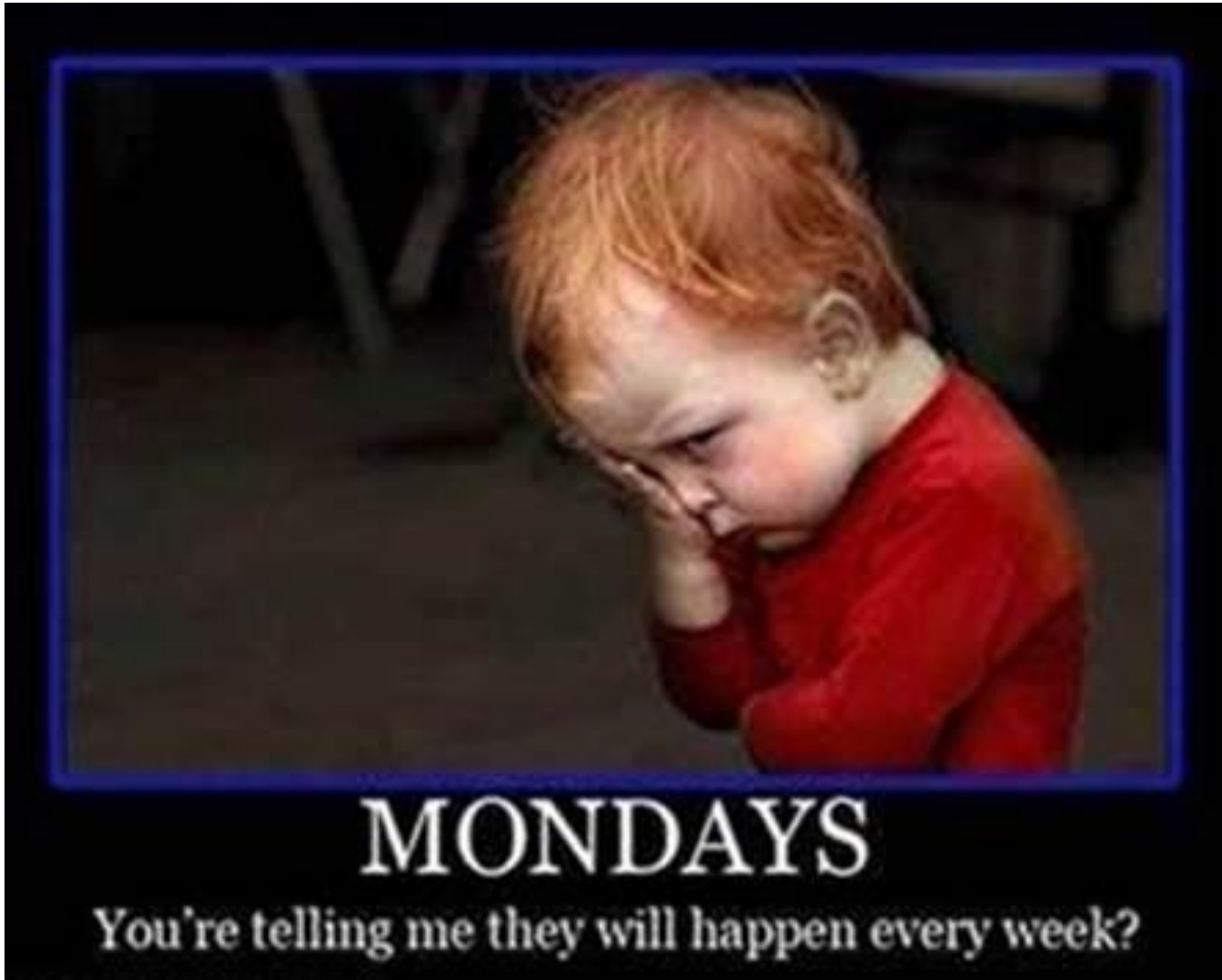


Heavenly help is always available - just a
prayer away

“Ask and ye shall receive”



*Don't get discouraged - there is
always a brighter day ahead!*



Be Prepared for challenges you will face!



**Be where you should be, with whom you should be, and
armed with the Spirit as your guide and protector**

*Follow those who know the way - JESUS
knows the way . . . HE is the way!*



*FAMILY will always be there for you -
TRUST THEM!*



SO,

WHAT IS *MY NEXT STEP* IN LIFE?

**Will it be one jump to the top,
or one step on the ladder home?**

One jump to the top, not likely!

Only a pole vaulter would think it possible



One jump to the top, not likely!

Bryant made it to the roof in one jump, but coming home to our Father in Heaven doesn't come in one jump 😊



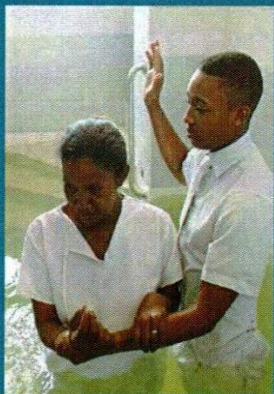
*STEP by STEP
we can and will come
home to our Father in Heaven*



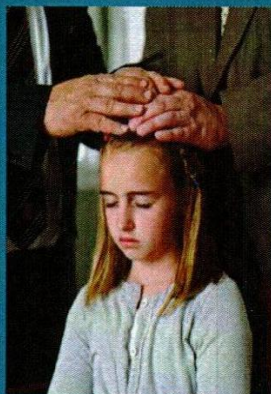
Covenant Path home to our Father in Heaven

The Covenant Path

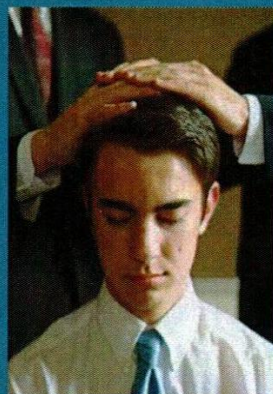
Baptized



Confirmed



Ordained



Endowed



Sealed



Endure



What is YOUR next step?

IMAGINE YOUR **FUTURE SELF!**

One day you will be a wife, a husband, a mother, a father

*Make choices **TODAY** that will prepare you for your **FUTURE SELF***

*In your future you will likely counsel **YOUR** child on friends, dating, and other choices they face - You will be able to draw on your experiences from your **NOW SELF**.*

*Make your **NOW SELF** your **BEST SELF!***

IMAGINE YOURSELF

. . . 2 years from now

. . . 5 years from now

. . . 10 years from now

. . . 30 years from now

. . . 60 years from now

. . . 80 years from now

. . . 2 years from now

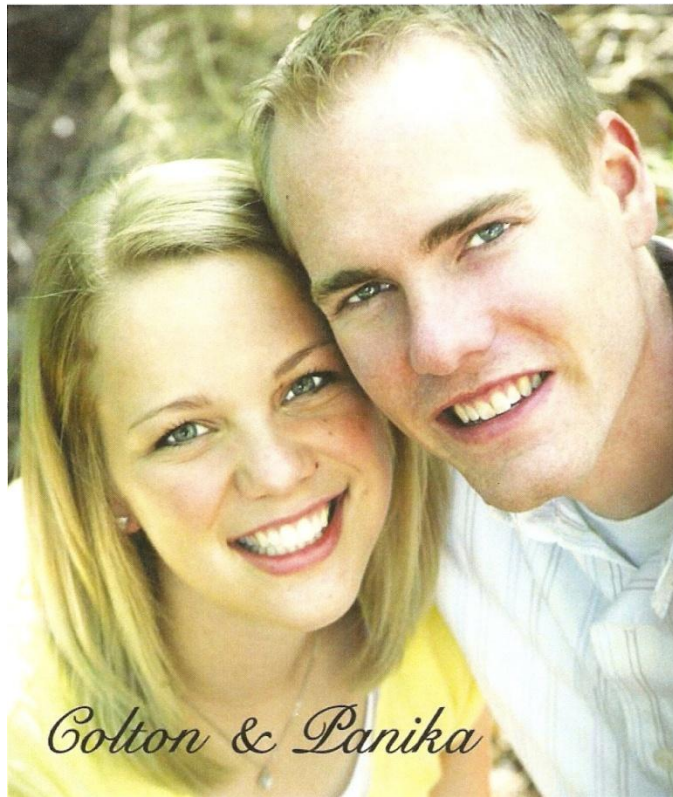
I could be endowed in the temple!



**. . . 2 years from now
I could be a MISSIONARY !**



**. . . 5 years from now
I could be married ! ! !**



... 5 years from now

... 10 years from now

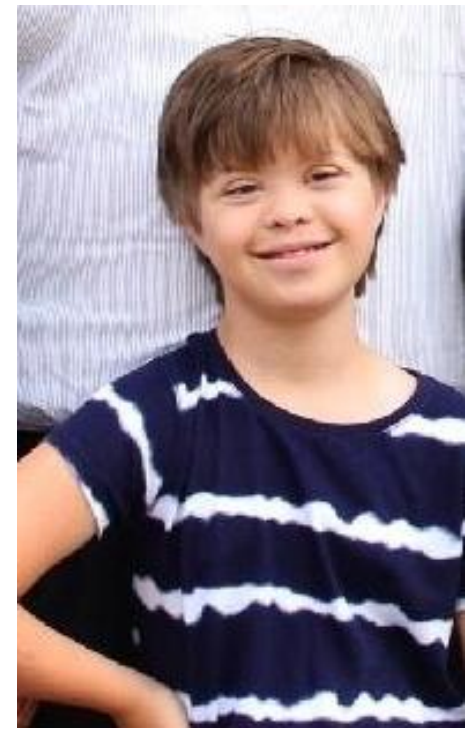
I could be a **MOTHER** or a **FATHER** !



. . . 5 years from now

. . . 10 years from now

I could be an AUNT or an UNCLE !



. . . 30 years from now
I could have a FAMILY !!!



. . . 60 years from now

Retirement



In your dreams 😊 - Ha! Ha!

Missions



. . . 80 years from now



Just old 😊 . . . On this side of the veil or the other

Never Give Up!



WHAT IS MY NEXT STEP

ON MY PATHWAY HOME TO MY FATHER IN HEAVEN?

Where am I NOW???

A child, single, married, with family,
old 😊 ??

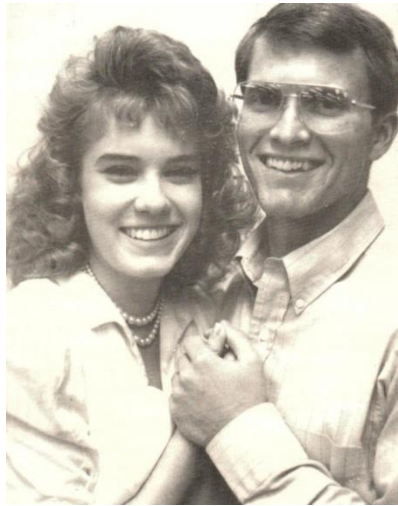
Where have I BEEN???

Childhood, mission, family, employed,
retired, empty nest ??

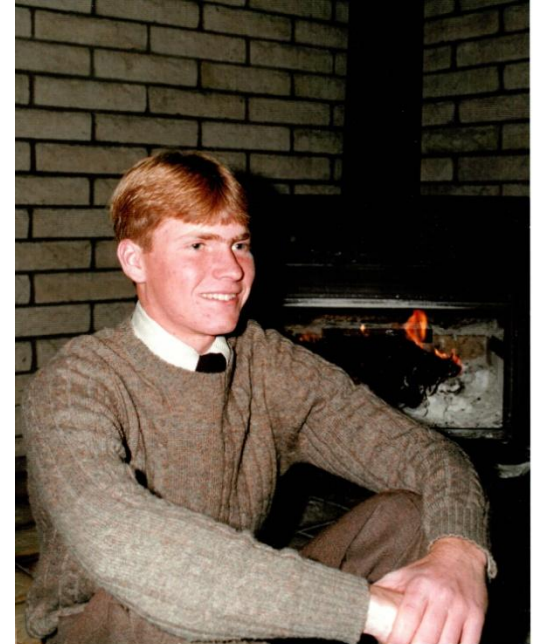
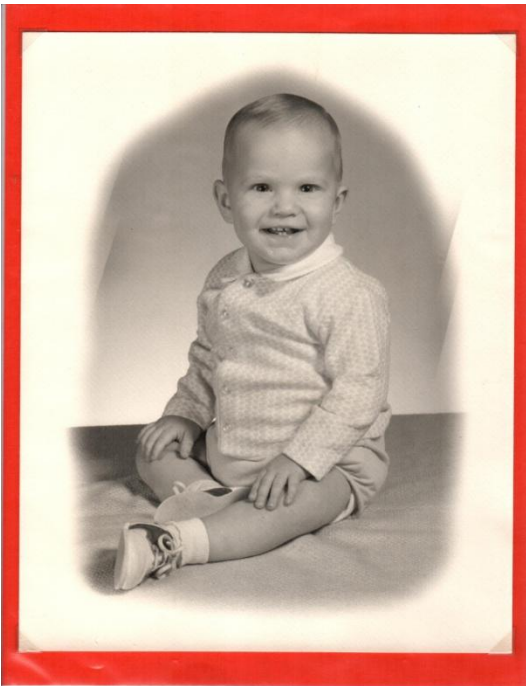
What is **NEXT FOR ME**???

High school graduation, mission,
endowment, marriage, family,
retirement, missions, etc ??

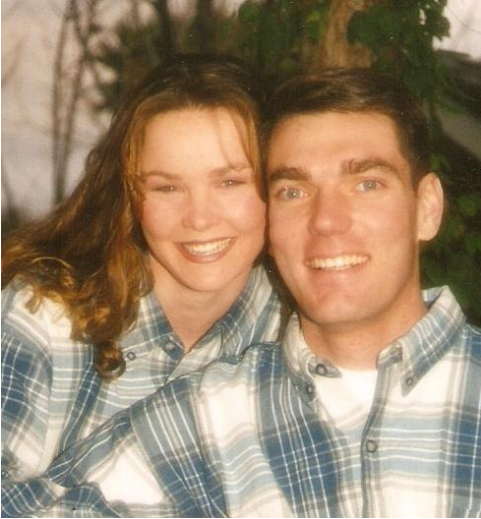
Kenneth



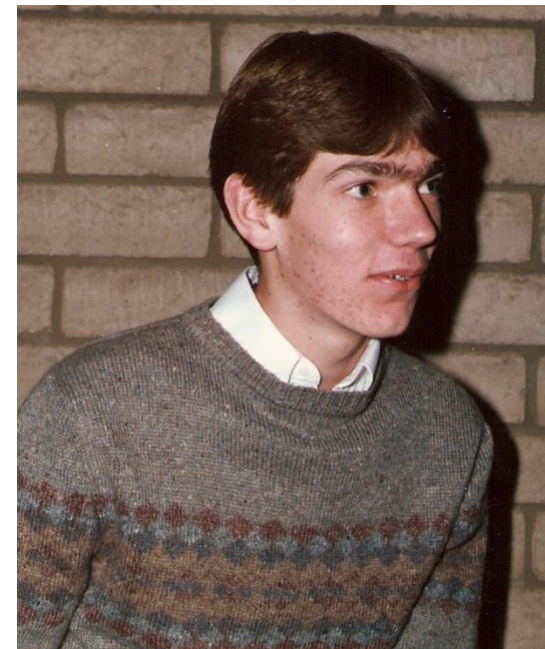
Next Step?
Retirement
Missions
Grandparenting
Serving



Steven



Next Step?
Retirement
?
Serving



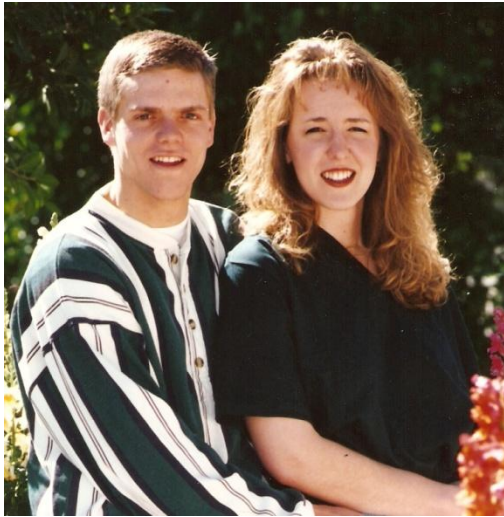
Michael



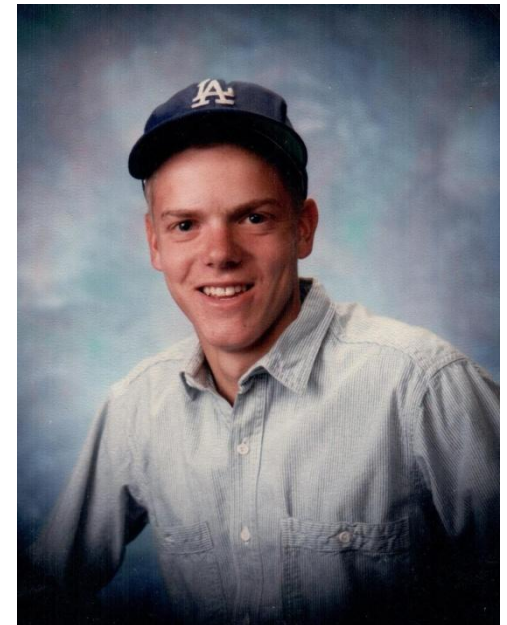
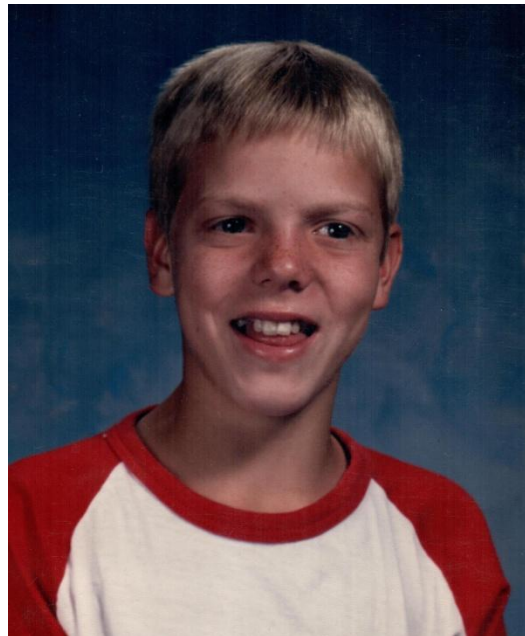
Next Step?
Empty Nesting
Working
Retirement
Grandparenting
Mission
Serving



Daniel



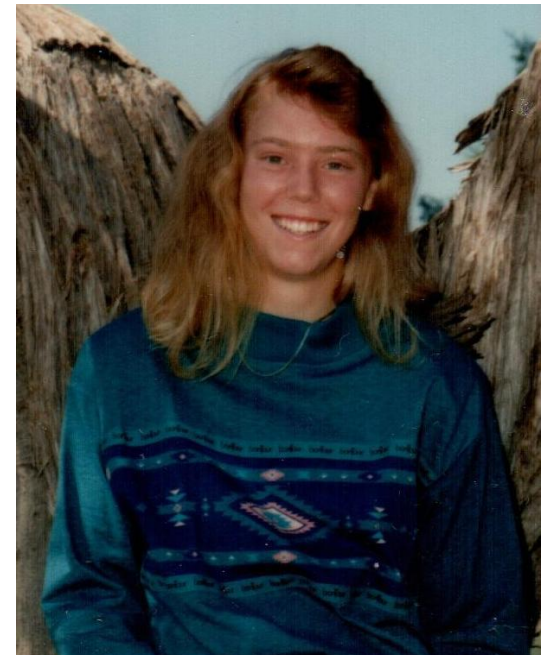
Next Step?
Working
Retirement
Grandparenting
Empty Nesting
Mission
Serving



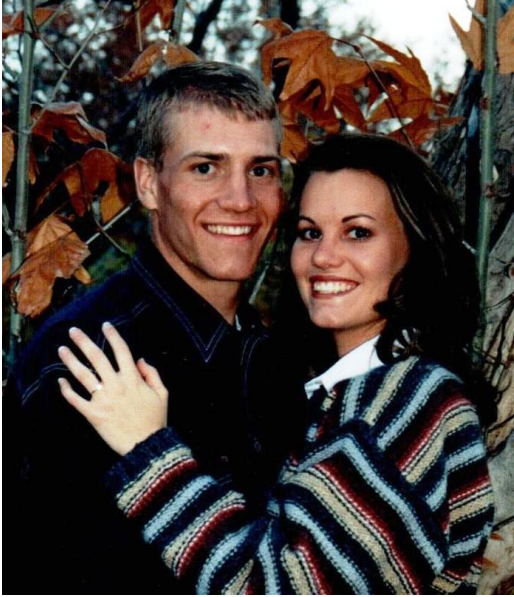
Kalynn



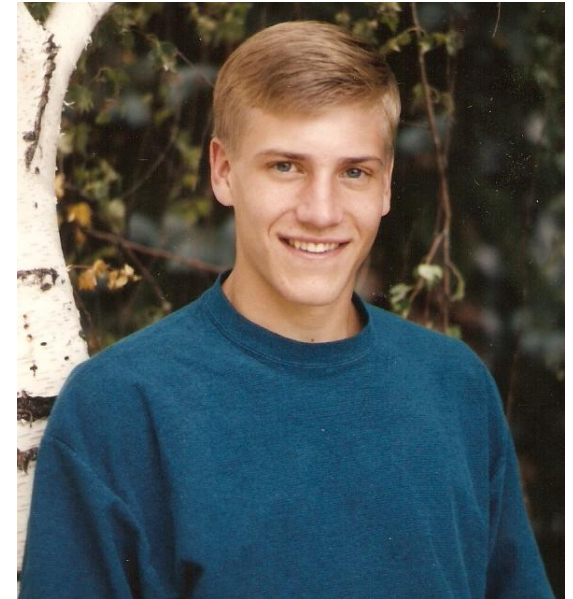
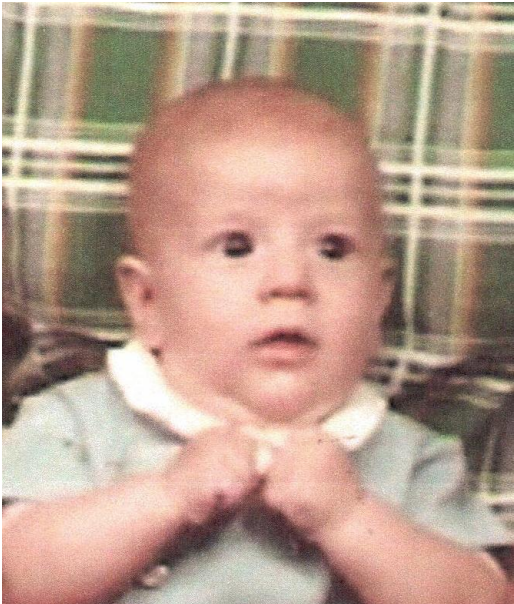
Next Step?
Working
Parenting
Angel to all
Serving



Ricky



Next Step?
Working
Parenting
Serving



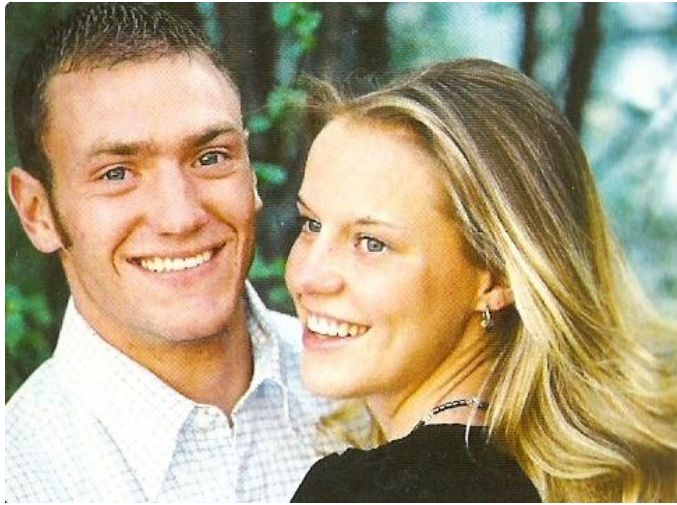
Timmy



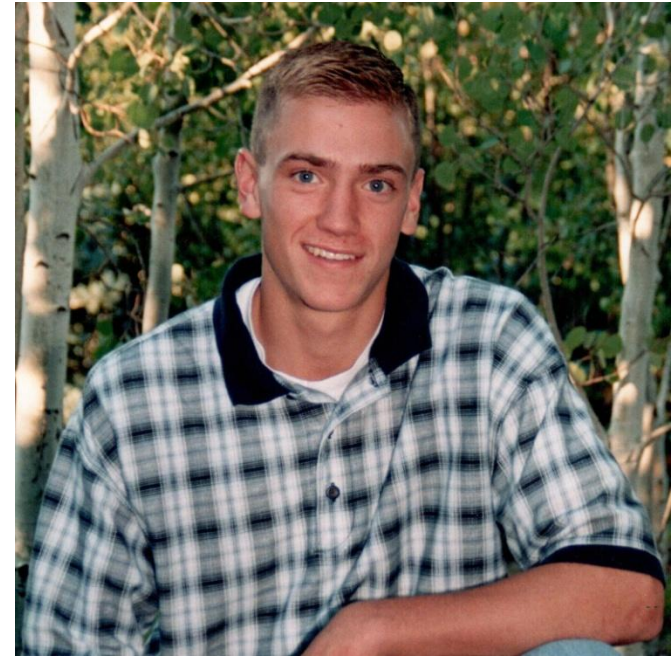
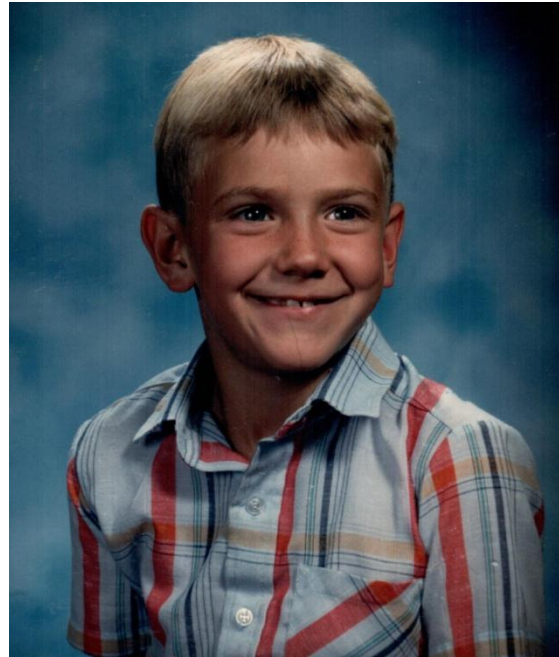
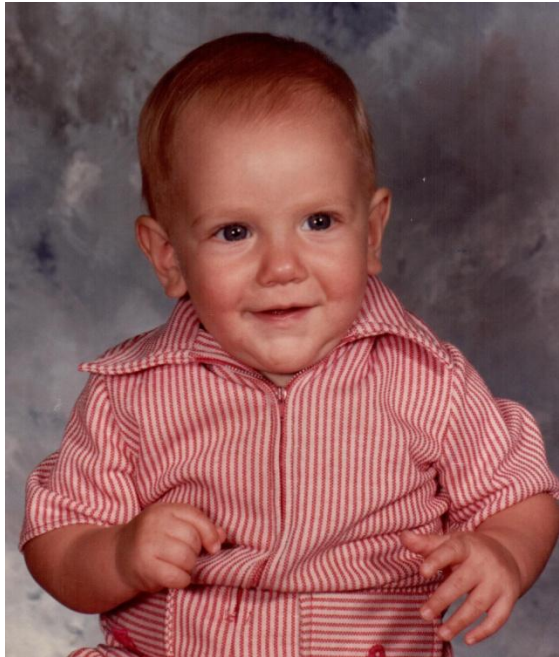
Next Step?
Parenting
Working
Serving



Mark



Next Step?
Serving and
Teaching
Parenting and
serving from
the other side



Pam



Next Step?
Parenting
Working
Serving



College-age Grandchildren

Kaycee, Amry, Hailey, Lance, Garrett, Bryant,
Kenzie, Keegan, Hyrum, Dillin, Brinlee, Carter,
Elyce, Mason, Braden

"Holding Hands"

Amry & Cisco

Hailey & Braden

Garrett & Regan

Kenzie & Cedric

"Preparing for Missions"

Carter, Mason, Braden - others?

"In College"

Lance, Garrett, Bryant, Kenzie, Keegan, Dillin, Brinlee, Elyce

"Graduated and employed"

Kaycee, Amry, Hailey

"Preparing to hold hands" 😊 Lance, Bryant, Keegan - others?

Next Step?

Endowment

Mission, Marriage,

Husband, Wife

Father, Mother

Family

Service

High-school Grandchildren

*Raely, Eiley, Sarah, Brylee
Sam, Tanna, Katherine, Hayden
Addy, Colton*

Next Step?

Graduation, Priesthood,
Endowment

Mission, Marriage,
Husband, Wife

Family

Father, Mother

Service

*Middle school
Grandchildren*

Bree, Ryker, Sofie, Tessalyn

Next Step?

YM/YW

High School, Graduation,
Priesthood, Endowment, Mission,

Marriage

Husband, Wife

Father, Mother

Family

Service

Elementary Grandchildren

*Lainey, Jacob, Ty
Trevor, Brody*

Next Step?

Middle School, YM/YW
High School, Graduation,
Priesthood, Endowment, Mission,
Marriage
Husband, Wife
Father, Mother
Family
Service

Next Step?

**Why “Husband, Wife, Father,
Mother, Family” on each NEXT
STEP?**

**We come home to our Father
as families – sealed in the Holy
Temples of the Lord
Family “callings” are eternal!**

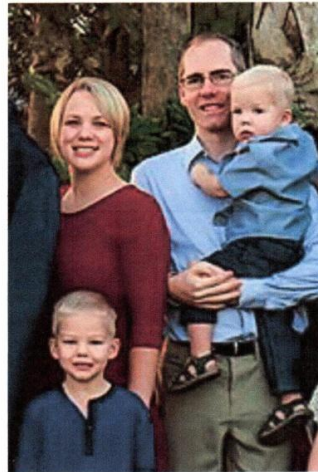
Next Step?

Why SERVICE on each NEXT STEP?

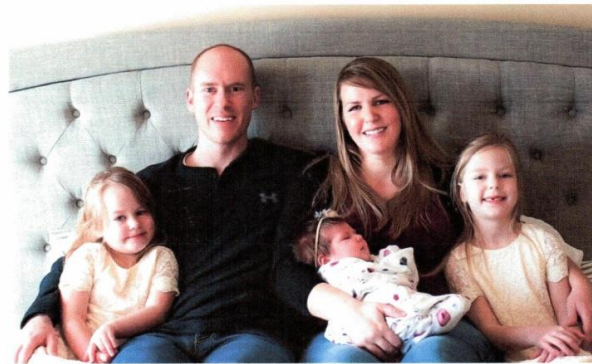
Alma baptizing Helam at Waters of Mormon: “I baptize thee, having authority from the Almighty God, as a testimony that ye have entered into a **covenant to serve him** until you are dead as to the mortal body” Mosiah 18:13

Great Grandchildren

Married grandchildren and their families
[as of March 2022]



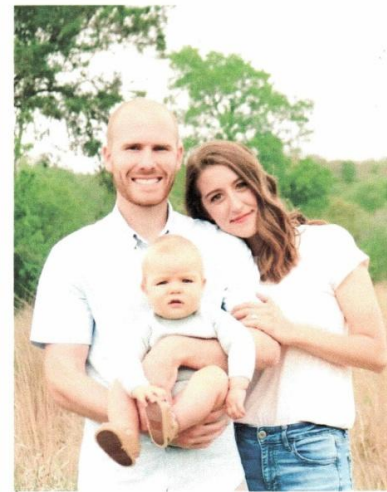
Colton and Panika; Parker, Weston



Thane and Amanda; Elena, Katie, Jemma

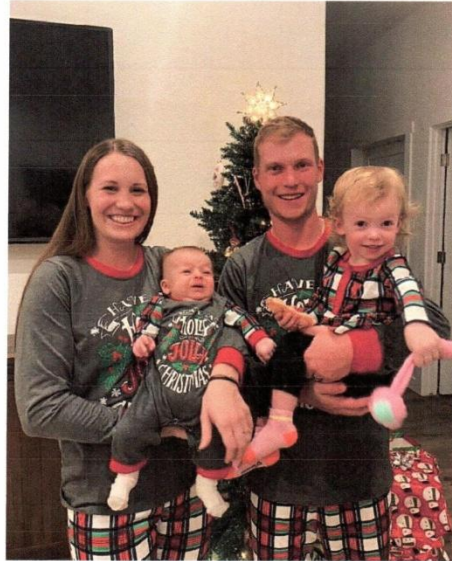


Darris and Amandalyn; Harvey, Huck

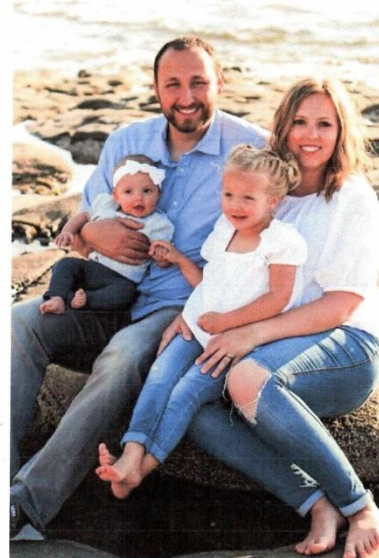


Trent and Alexandra; Henry

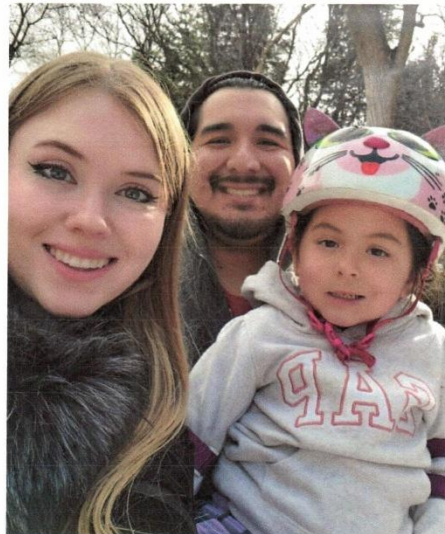
Great Grandchildren



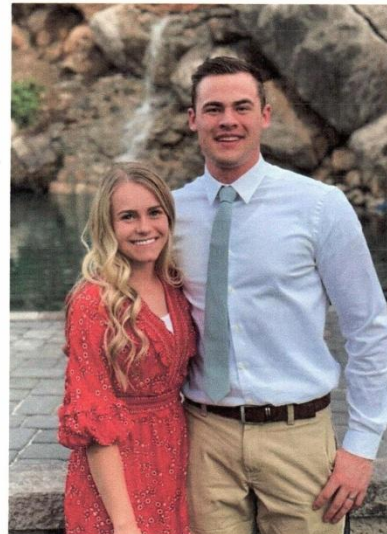
Torin and Sara; Elaine, Charlotte



Kymer and Miclaine Bendel; Brynn, Taylee



Danica and Alex Davila; Allison



Kaitlyn and Chase Moore

Great Grandchildren



Aria and Cal Christensen; Roman, Finnick

And many more to come 😊

*Need Help with **Your Next Step?**
We are Here for You!!*



*For example, we can help you
find someone special*



Lance



Bryant



Keegan

Okay, maybe YOU should find her 😊

*We REALLY do need to be
here for one another*

- *Pray for one another*
- *Keep family bonds strong*
 - *Stay in touch*
 - *Serve one another*



Preparing for **NEXT STEP**

- Take the *Sacrament* weekly
- *Pray* to know **HIS** will (personal revelation)
 - *Be* where we should be
 - *Seek counsel* of parents
 - Be in the *temple* often
 - *Serve* others



Important Latter-day Principles

- **Honor thy father and thy mother . . .** for you will one day be one
- Participate in the gathering of Israel – **start in your own home . . . pray** for parents and siblings, **serve** those in your home, **lift and bless** all around you
- Engage in **family history and temple work** and reap the promised blessings:
 - “Your **testimony of and conversion to the Savior** will become deep and abiding.”
 - “you will be **protected against the intensifying influence of the adversary**. . . you will be **safeguarded in your youth and throughout your lives**.”
 - “you will find **personal power** to change, power to repent, power to learn, power to be sanctified, . . . and power to heal that which needs healing.”



Family History



Temple Service

“the Lord is hastening His work to **gather Israel**. That gathering is the most important thing taking place on earth today. Nothing else compares in magnitude, nothing else compares in importance, nothing else compares in majesty.” **President Nelson**

Anytime you do *anything* that helps *anyone*—on either side of the veil—take a step toward making covenants with God and receiving their essential baptismal and temple ordinances, **you are helping to gather Israel. It is as simple as that” **President Nelson****



We have been promised as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - *“in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed, even with the blessings of the Gospel”*

Through *“our seed”* the families of the earth are being blessed” **GATHERING ISRAEL!** (our missionaries)



BE your BEST self

- LOVE GOD
- LOVE all of His children
 - SMILE a lot
 - BE KIND - always!
- Do YOUR best in all you do
 - SERVE one another



Be your
best self!

BE your BEST self

Focus on **JESUS CHRIST**

- **HE** will help you be your best self
 - Be in **HIS** temple
 - Follow **HIS** example
 - Feel of **HIS** Love
- Be blessed by **HIS** atonement
 - Find peace in **HIM**
- Often ask **“What would Jesus do?”**

Footprints in the sand

One night I dreamed a dream.

As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.

Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,

One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,

I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,

especially at the very lowest and saddest times,

there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

“Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,

You’d walk with me all the way.

But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my

life,

there was only one set of footprints.

I don’t understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me.”

He whispered, “**My precious child, I love you and will never leave you**

Never, ever, during your trials and testings.

When you saw only one set of footprints,

It was then that I carried you.”

HE LOVINGLY GUARDS EVERY FOOTSTEP

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff,
they comfort me.*

Psalm 23:1

Faith in every footstep

*With faith In every footstep,
we follow Christ, the Lord;
And filled with hope through his pure love,
we sing with one accord*

*Faith in Jesus Christ
Faith that He will be with us,
Faith that family will help us
Faith that we can make the next step!*

Faith in every footstep

A great movie to watch
“REMEMBER THE GOAL”

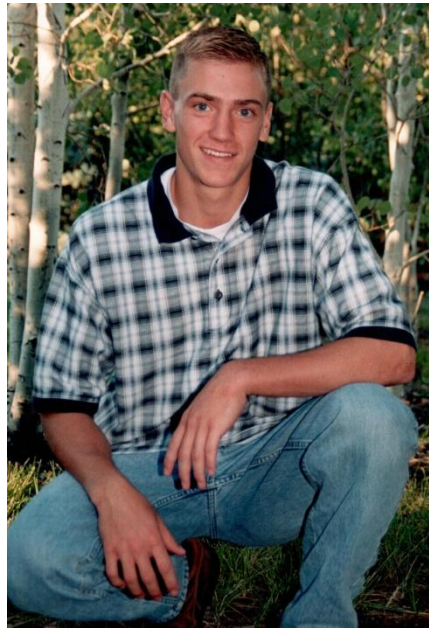
[Teaches us that the Coach knows the way to reach the GOAL]

The Savior, as our Coach (and parents as assistant coaches), knows the way - when we do it His way, it is always the right way!

We are NEVER alone - we need each other to become our BEST SELF

The Savior and our Father are mindful of our every need and are always just a prayer away!

In 1916 the prophet Joseph F. Smith declared: Those who have passed on “are as deeply interested in our welfare today, if not with greater capacity, with far more interest behind the veil, than they were in the flesh. . . . They see us, they are solicitous for our welfare, they love us now more than ever.”



WE LOVE EACH OF YOU!



*Step by step our FAMILY is growing ☺
We now number **87**, with more on the way*

*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Cosnino)*



*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Hawaii)*



*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Cosnino)*



*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Winona)*



*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Fruita)*



*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Globe)*



*Take time to appreciate the creations
of Jesus Christ around us (Fruita)*



Last Night at Reunion (Cosnino)



Last Night at Reunion (Cosnino)



Last Night at Reunion (Cosnino)



*Enjoy YOUR NEXT STEP . . . and THE
NEXT . . . and THE NEXT ☺ (Last night photo by Pam)*

