

2024 Kansas City Regional Singles Conference Workshop Schedule

**Avoiding Dating Scams- Ammon Waters**

Ammon Waters was born in Ft. Myers, Florida. He spent many years as a translator for the United States Air Force and other government agencies. He has worked in the federal sector for many years. He knows how to defend against various cyber threats due to the sensitive nature of his work. He currently resides in Lathrop, MO with his wife Traci, his daughter Abra and soon to be born daughter Adinah.

**What the Prophet Has Said and Why it Matters – Sheilah Clarke**

Sheilah E Clarke was born in Senetterre, Quebec and raised in the Rocky Mountains of beautiful British Columbia. She joined the church in her senior year of high school. She has six children: a daughter who is serving in the Tuscan Arizona mission and 5 other children who have married outstanding spouses and have blessed her with 27 grandchildren with two more on the way.

She has served as a Primary President, Seminary Teacher, Gospel Doctrine Teacher, YW Camp Director, and Temple Ordinance Worker for both the ASL and hearing sessions. She is now serving as a stake Single Adult Representative.

She loves the gospel, loves to teach, and hopes to serve a mission for the Lord in the near future.

**Emotional Resilience: Making it Through Difficulties- Joni Clausen**

Joni is a playful, purpose-driven, and perfectly imperfect disciple of Jesus Christ. Her life experiences have developed within her a passion for empowering people. Growing up in a military family, Joni learned connections are often the key to survival. Her hunger for connection led her to serve a full-time mission, dive into domesticity, and develop a deep love for the restored gospel of Christ. After 20 years, Joni is still deliciously in love with her hubby and the 5 knuckleheads kiddos. Following a powerful prompting from the Lord, Joni and her family moved from AZ to KC in 2015 and have never looked back.

Professionally, Joni works as a licensed professional counselor in an acute children's psychiatric hospital and residential treatment facility. Personally, she loves serving in the NKC Ward RS presidency and discovering new ways to help women recognize their worth. She values her family, friends, faith, and freedom. She is a sucker for spicy Mexican food, rescue dogs, bottomless Diet Cokes, and laughing so hard she snorts.

Joni received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting from Brigham Young University—Provo and her Master of Counseling Psychology, with a Couples and Family emphasis, from the University of Missouri—Kansas City. Joni is also currently completing a 2-year Registered Play Therapist program through Heartland Play Therapy Institute.

Chess not checkers. Arthur Bryant's not Gates. Jalapeños not hot sauce. Riddles not Reddit. Yoga pants not panty hose. Night owl not early bird. Compassion not criticism. Curiosity not judgement.

	9:00– 9:50	10:00 – 10:50	11:00 – 11:50	12:00 – 12:50	1:00- 1:50	2:00– 2:50
Leading a Love-centered Life	CH	CH				
Avoiding Dating Scams	PR		PR			
Getting More Out of Your Temple Worship	RS			L	RS	
Thriving through Revelation		RS		U		PR
How to Overcome the Fear of the Last Days: Why These Are the Best Days			RS	N C		RS
What the Prophet Has Said and Why It Matters			CH	H	CH	
Emotional Resilience: Making it Through difficulties		PR			PR	
Short Lecture and Question & Answer Session with Br. Haney						CH

CH= Chapel

PR= Primary Room

RS= Relief Society Room

### **Leading a Love-Centered Life- Darren Boyack**

President Boyack grew up in Lenexa, KS. He served his mission in the Durban, South Africa mission. He attended Brigham Young University for undergraduate school and met his beautiful wife Chrissy there. He attended Hershey Medical Center, where President and Sister Boyack started their family. After residency training in Delaware, they moved back to the Kansas City area where President Boyack accepted a job with a group at Shawnee Mission Medical Center as an emergency room physician.

President Boyack has served as a young men's president, Elder's quorum president, and bishop. He now serves as the President of the Olathe Kansas Stake.

President and Sister Boyack have 5 children: 1 girl and 4 boys. When President Boyack isn't attending to church duties or working, he is usually spectating at a cross country meet, baseball game or basketball game. President Boyack enjoys woodworking and building things. He also owns a Honda Goldwing motorcycle and loves to go on long motorcycle rides.

### **Getting More Out of Your Temple Worship: Understanding and Living Up to Our Temple Covenants- Mark Nye**

Mark Aaron Nye was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, and grew up in the Midwest-including for a time right here in Kansas City from when he was 10 until he was almost 16 years old. He served as a full-time missionary in the California Arcadia Mission and then graduated from BYU-Provo with a degree in Organizational Communications. He pursued a career in human resources as both a generalist and director of management development-primarily for large international food companies and industrial chemical manufacturers. He retired in 2021.

He and his wife Shelli met on a blind date and were married 12 weeks later and have never looked back. They have been married for almost 45 years, have five children and 11 grandchildren.

Mark has served as elders quorum president, high priest group leader, ward and stake Young Men's president, high counselor, branch president, bishop (twice), and as a ward temple and family history leader. He also served as a counselor to three different mission presidents in the Pennsylvania Philadelphia Mission from 2014-2019.

He served as an ordinance worker in the Philadelphia Pennsylvania Temple from 2016-2020. And after moving to this area in early 2021, he has served in the Kansas City Missouri Temple as an ordinance worker, assistant shift coordinator, and assistant temple recorder. He was called to be a sealer in Philadelphia in 2020 and now continues in that role today here in the Kansas City Missouri Temple.

He has been active in documenting family history for the past 30 years. In the past 10 years he has made over 300,000 contributions to Family Search- adding over 27,000 names to Family Tree, attaching 200,000 sources, and 75,000 memories to individual pages. He and his wife hosted weekly "live" and recorded family history instructional sessions on Facebook and YouTube while serving as Area Temple and Family History Leaders in the Philadelphia Pennsylvania Coordinating Council and taught similar sessions both in and around Philadelphia and now in our temple district.

Currently he is serving as a church service missionary and with another person researches, documents, and writes biographical summaries for each of the writers or composers for each of the hymns that will be included in the new hymnbook.

### **Thriving through Revelation – Cheri Battrick**

Cheri Battrick is an author, speaker, and writing mentor who has learned the value of personal revelation and how it can make a difference every day of your life. When President Nelson said, "In coming days, it will not be possible to survive spiritually without the guiding, directing, comforting, and constant influence of the Holy Ghost," she wanted to shout "Hallelujah!" Why? Because this prophetic statement underscored what she had been learning personally and sharing with those around her. We need the Holy Ghost more now than ever before. But knowing that we need to seek and obtain revelation, is a far cry from knowing how to do it.

You may remember Cheri from last year's conference where she shared with us about "Crafting a Compelling Personal History." This year her topic is: "Thriving Through Revelation: Opening the Heavens to Do More than Just Survive the Last Days." In this presentation, Cheri will be sharing with us the lessons she has personally learned which have opened the door to receiving the constant companionship of the Holy Ghost, and how to more effectively seek and receive the revelation we need on a daily basis.

While she doesn't pray over everything she does, Cheri has been known to pray over small things like why the impression has come to go into Walmart to buy a prescription vs. going through the drive-thru pharmacy. And the answers that have come have sometimes been quite astonishing and profound. She has also learned there are a couple of specific times of day when revelation is more apt to come and that if we show up for those "appointments", that the Holy Ghost is there to greet and enlighten us with the things Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ would like to share.

### **How to Overcome the Fear of the Last Day: Why These are the Best Days**

Mark Slamin was born in Kansas City, has lived in this area his whole life and wouldn't want to live anywhere else. He is the father of six teenagers and young adults. He served a mission in the Mexico City East Mission and attended the University of Kansas earning a Bachelor's degree in Business and Political Science. Mark always wanted to be an entrepreneur, and after starting companies in publishing and retail distribution, now owns a successful software company.

Callings in the church have included teaching seminary (for seven years), gospel doctrine, Sunday School, and Elder's Quorum. Mark has served as a counselor in the bishopric, as an Elder's Quorum President and as a YM leader (mainly with the wonderful Deacons). Passions include spending time with his kids doing anything and everything. Family camping (and camping with those Deacons) is always a blast. Game nights with family and friends are always fun. Travel that includes anywhere in, on, or near the water is the best. Trying new restaurants, especially when traveling, is great too. If you ask him what he's currently reading, he'll probably mention more than one book.

Mark loves teaching the gospel and worshipping in the House of the Lord. He tries to live his life by revelation, with varying success, but is fully committed to living his covenants and being a servant of the Lord.