



Come and See / Come, Follow Me



“Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers.”
 Doctrine and Covenants 2:2

“What was the promise made to the fathers that was to be fulfilled in the latter days by the turning of the hearts of the children to their fathers? It was the promise of the Lord made through Enoch, Isaiah, and the prophets, to the nations of the earth, that the time should come when the dead should be redeemed.”

President Joseph Fielding Smith

What is it Like Being a Volunteer?

One sister wrote: *“I had a wonderful experience serving in the temple during the Open House. I had been worried that it would be stressful. Instead, it was a very spiritual time and very calming.”*

Another young woman wrote: *“I was stationed outside, across the street from the temple. It got hot very quickly. Every time I started to get hot and tired I would look at the temple and read ‘Holiness to the Lord / The House of the Lord’ and it focused my thoughts and I would remember who I was volunteering for.”*

Open House Volunteers

As of August 4, **9,136** shift positions have been filled. We still need to fill **1,560** more shift positions to make this Open House successful. We need you. Don’t just limit yourself to shifts assigned to your stake. Please don’t limit yourself to 1 or 2 shifts, if you can do more. For example, many people have signed up for 10 shifts or more. Maybe answers to the questions below will help you decide to volunteer.

What will you do as a volunteer? All volunteers help create a warm and welcoming experience for visitors. There are many specific roles you could fill. You could:

- Welcome visitors to the parking garage, help them find a place to park, and direct them to the arrival center
- Be stationed on the grounds outside the temple to welcome visitors and indicate the way they should go
- Welcome and help visitors find their way to the stake center to begin their tours
- Welcome and direct visitors to a room in the stake center where a brief video on temples will be shown
- Guide a group of visitors from the stake center, into the temple, and from room to room through the temple, and then to the reception area – letting them see the beauty of the temple and be taught by the spirit
- Be positioned in one of the rooms of the temple to give a brief explanation of the purpose of that room

How will you know what to do? During the first hour of each shift, you will receive your specific assignment for that shift and training on what your role will be. This training happens in the stake center Relief Society room.

What are your fears? As you look at what might be keeping you from volunteering, consider the following:

- *Driving in the city?* Take mass transit, or find out who else in your ward is coming and have them drive!
- *Parking?* August 9 and before, volunteers may park in the temple parking lot. August 10 and after, volunteers will be provided free parking a few blocks from the temple (427 N. Broad Street).
- *Parking too far away?* The person with whom you are carpooling can drop you off at Wood and 17th streets, right near the stake center where your shift begins.
- *Not sure how to answer your visitors’ questions?* Visitors are asked to hold their questions until the end of the tour where they can ask sister missionaries their questions while in the reception area
- *Don’t think you can stand?* Many volunteers are able to sit during part of their shift. When you sign up, put your limitations in the comments field. We’ll find a place where you can still serve and welcome visitors.

So, please consider your circumstances and this unique and special opportunity to bless the lives of others, and see what you can do and if you can do more to show the Lord how grateful we are for this new temple. He will bless you for your sacrifice.

The volunteer site is: ldstemplevolunteer.org.



Inviting all to *Come and See*

As of August 4, just over 89,750 people have reserved tickets for the Open House. Our goal is over 150,000! Blessings to tens of thousands will be missed if we don't fill the temple with visitors!

Are there others who you can invite? Maybe answers to the questions below will help you decide who to invite.

What are the tours like? The tours will take about an hour. Visitors will:

- See an 8 minute video on the purpose of temples and our worship of the Savior
- Enter the temple through the front door and tour all four floors
- Receive a brief explanation of the purpose of each room: the baptistry, the bride's room, the chapel, the instruction rooms, the celestial room, a sealing room
- See the beautiful artwork, the murals, the furnishings, and the finish work of the temple
- See displays about the temple in the reception area, including a 7 foot replica of the Christus
- Visit the roof top garden over the Arrival Center where they can take pictures of the temple

Who should I ask? Everyone! You are just warmly inviting people to *Come and See* something beautiful that means a lot to you. You are simply sharing with others something that is important to you. You can invite:

- Investigators in your ward or branch, new converts, less-active friends, those you home and visit teach
- Extended family members
- Close friends, casual acquaintances, neighbors, colleagues at work,
- Those who are committed to their own church as well as those who are not committed to any church
- Those with whom you have discussed the Church as well as those with whom you have not

Don't miss the rare and special opportunity that many will never have the chance to see again!

Youth Cultural Celebration

Preparations continue for the Youth Cultural Celebration! We are grateful for the time, talents, and love of the youth, their parents, leaders, and others who are supporting this great event! The following practices remain:

Saturday, August 6, Valley Forge Stake Center [721 Paxon Hollow Rd, Broomall, PA]

Shift 1- 8:00 am to 11:00 am: Cherry Hill, East Brunswick, Wilmington, Philadelphia, Valley Forge stakes

Shift 2- 10:00 am to 1:00 pm: Dover, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Reading, Scranton, Williamsport stakes

Saturday, September 10, [*SAVE THE DATE – details to follow*]

Saturday, September 17, Liacouras Center [1776 N Broad St, Philadelphia]

8:00 am until after the Celebration is over

There will be a dress rehearsal at 3:00pm. The performance begins at 7:00pm and will be webcast and can be shown in any meetinghouse in the temple district.

Tickets to the Liacouras Center for the dress rehearsal and the performance will be available soon through your stake leaders.

Lesson on the Local History of the Church

Would you like to learn about the Pennsylvania "pioneers" who prepared the path for the establishment of the Church in our area, who worked and served to build the Kingdom so that we could now enjoy a temple? The Historical sub-committee has distributed to the stakes lesson materials that can be used in a 5th Sunday lesson, a ward or branch fireside, in family home evenings to learn about these people for whom we are so grateful!

To request these materials via email, send a note to phila.mormoninfo@gmail.com.

The Philadelphia Temple Dedication

Our Temple will be dedicated to the Lord on Sunday, September 18. Dedicatory Sessions will be held at 9am, 12noon, and 3pm and will be broadcast to select meetinghouses in your stake. Temple Dedication Recommends for temple-worthy, baptized members over 8 years of age, can be obtained from your bishop or branch president. Any of your friends or family outside of the temple district who wish to obtain Temple Dedication Recommends should contact Dwayne Hansen [dwayneh@ptd.net/ 610-554-5111] with their names, home ward and stake.