The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY

47 East South Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-1200

July 27, 2021

To: General Authorities; General Officers; Area Seventies; Stake, District, Mission, and Temple Presidencies; Bishoprics and Branch Presidencies

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

A basic principle of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the blessing of continuing revelation wherein the Lord reveals His will, "giving line upon line, precept upon precept; here a little, and there a little" (Doctrine and Covenants 128:21). The Lord directs His work according to changing circumstances and needs. For example, the format and schedule of general conference have been changed many times over the years. Some sessions of general conference were designated for specific groups of members or leaders, such as the welfare session, the women's session, the priesthood session, and other sessions designed to address topics pertinent to specific organizations of the Church.

In June 2021, we announced changes to the next general conference wherein the Saturday evening session would no longer be held. This decision was based on changes in technology that make it possible for all members and friends to view each session of general conference, including the women's session and the priesthood session.

We recognize the increasing challenges facing members of the Church worldwide in our day. An important way to fortify against these challenges comes through hearing the word of God (see Alma 31:5). Therefore, after additional study and prayer, we have felt impressed to continue to hold the Saturday evening session of general conference, albeit in a different format than in the past.

Beginning with the October 2021 semiannual general conference, the Saturday evening session will be continued. All members and friends of the Church are invited to view this session. It will not have a specific theme, nor will it be intended for any particular demographic or leadership group. Holding this session will allow for more gospel topics to be taught and permit more general leaders to address the conference.

We thank the Lord for His direction in this matter. We express our deep love and appreciation for the faithful members of the Church throughout the world and look forward to general conference, when the word of the Lord will be imparted through His servants.

Sincerely yours,

Russell M. Nelson Oallin & Oalst

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