**Pioneer Trek June 2023, Big Cottonwood Stake, Martin’s Cove**

***Trek to the Temple/Trek to Zion***

*You are familiar with their story. You are the fruit of all their planning and all of their labors.* ***Whether you have pioneer ancestry or came into the Church only yesterday, you are part of this whole grand picture of which those men and women dreamed.*** *Theirs was a tremendous undertaking. Ours is a great continuing responsibility. They laid the foundation. Ours is the duty to build upon it. They marked the path and led the way.* ***Ours is the obligation to enlarge and broaden and strengthen that path until it encompasses the whole earth.***

“These Noble Pioneers” given by President Gordon B. Hinckley at a BYU devotional, February ’97

**Each of the youth and leaders attending Trek will be given the opportunity to find and walk for an ancestor.** (Hopefully, one they have learned to love through their research!)

**YM/YW Find an Ancestor Evening; Engrave a leather bracelet with the name**

(To find pioneer ancestors you can schedule online a group visit to the Family History Library, which has every resource, but it would preclude making the leather bracelets that evening.)

**Creating/Accessing FamilySearch Accounts**  (Goal: Each youth with **OWN** account)

1. **It is highly recommended that the youth come with the user name and password for an account they have already set up, so encourage them to see if they have an account or set one up at home before you meet.** (Otherwise, too much time is spent trying to set up accounts instead of researching and finding an ancestor.)

**(Really industrious youth can find an ancestor prior to the meeting and come help others with the process!)**

1. To **set up an account** (prior to the meeting), instruct them to:
2. Go to FamilySearch.org
3. In upper righthand corner, click box, “Create Account,” and proceed.
4. Have them be prepared with their **Church membership record number,** which can be found in the **Church Tools app**: (Or ask a member of the Bishopric or Ward Clerk)
5. Click family name
6. Click View household
7. Click individual name
8. Click membership information
9. Find Record Number
10. **Just in case, ask all the youth to bring their member record number which can be found on LDS tools as described above.**
11. **Have them bring their own cell phones (with LDS Tools downloaded) and laptops**, if possible, to search, select and research an ancestor.

**Considerations in Setting Up an Account** (and reasons for doing it in **ADVANCE**)

1. Any youth, 12 and under, who are in YM/YW), **are required to have a parent’s permission** on the website to create an account in FamilySearch.
2. For youth who are **creating an account for the first time** (and who do not have a family with an account), they will need information such as full names and birth dates/death dates, places of origin etc. of parents and grandparents until they can locate a deceased relative to tie into the FamilySearch engine.
3. For youth who don’t have an individual account and are **trying to use the account of a parent,** they can do so, if they have the user name and password. **However,** the account will be tied to the cell phone or emails of that parent, so trying to reset the user name or password, the updates will be sent to their parent’s phone or email. Discourage this idea.
4. For some youth who might not be able to tie directly into FamilySearch because of **adoption** etc., please be sensitive to the situation and consider talking, in advance, with the parents/bishop/leader to determine if they want to use their adoptive line or represent a biological parent, if that information is available.

**Finding an Ancestor to Represent on Trek (And Learning About Them!)**

1. The youth can choose to **walk for any ancestor** (their own or someone else’s).

However, since this is for Trek, they may want to find a pioneer ancestor, and they may be surprised to find one or many!) (Let the youth know they can “share” their ancestors!)

1. **To find a pioneer ancestor**:
2. **Log into individual account in FamilySearch**
3. Click Activities
4. Click All Activities
5. Scroll Down to “All about your ancestors”
6. Click “View All
7. Click “My Pioneer Ancestors”

(They may also explore, “Nauvoo, Women of Faith, Missionaries, WWI, WWII, etc.)

1. From “My Pioneer Ancestors” scroll arrow, left to right to view more pioneer ancestors.
2. Select a Pioneer Ancestor, (Write down ID # for further reference.)

**To learn about them**:

1. Click “View relationship”
2. Click “View Photos and Stories”
3. In upper right hand corner of “View Photos and Stories,” click “Go to detail person page.”

Repeat the process until they have researched about and found one to represent.

1. If they have time, it’s fun to play “**Ancestor Challenge**” in “All About Your Ancestors.”

**Additional Information and Resources—Church History Biographical Data Base**

Another way to discover and get more information about which of your ancestors were

**Pioneers, Missionaries, or Members of the Mormon Battalion,**

1. Google and access: Church History Biographical Data Base

Click on: Landing/Church History Biographical Data Base

1. (If you happen to access Search/Church History Biographical Data Base, then In the upper left corner of the site, click “Church History Biographical Data Base” to bring up

“See All Pioneer Companies, See All Missions, See All Mormon Battalion Companies.”

1. On your computer, click, “Show My Ancestors” (Make sure the box on the left, “Only My Ancestors,” is clicked.)
2. Click “Activate Ancestor View” which will bring you to sign into your own FamilySearch account (unless you are already signed into FamilySearch)
3. Sign in and this will bring up results of your pioneers in the following categories:

“Pioneer Companies” or “Missions” or “Mormon Battalion”

To get more detailed information about the **journey of an individual pioneer and the company** with whom they travelled, access the **Church History Biographical Data Base.**

1. For example, if researching pioneers, click “See All Pioneer Companies.” In the “filter topics” bar, write the name of the **pioneer** or the name of the **company** for which you want more information. Click search.
2. Click on the name of the **pioneer** or **company** you wish to research.
3. If it is a **company,** Scroll down and Click “See All Participants of Organization,” or Click “All Companies” to research other pioneers, and scroll down to ”**Sources**, Pioneer,” etc.
4. If you have put in the name of a **pioneer,** click the name. It will give you an opportunity to “View in FamilySearch.”
5. **Scroll down to “Sources” for additional information and click “Person, Mission, Pioneer,” etc. for a wealth of references to that person.**

**Willie and Martin Handcart Companies** (and Additional Resources)

1. For information on the Willie and Martin Handcart Companies that can be used to research an ancestor or research principle players in the handcart companies:
2. Link to the Willie Company database page (click on "See Pioneers" to see the people who participated in this company): <https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/chd/organization/pioneer-company/james-g-willie-company-1856?lang=eng&timelineTabs=all-events>
3. Link to the Martin Company database page (click on "See Pioneers" to see the people who participated in this company):
4. <https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/chd/organization/pioneer-company/edward-martin-company-1856?lang=eng&timelineTabs=all-events>
5. Rescue Company: Link to the page in the database for the Rescue company 1856: <https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/chd/organization/pioneer-company/rescue-companies-1856?lang=eng&timelineTabs=all-events>
6. Emily Crumpton- Deason is a delightful, professional historian employed at the Church Historical Library. She has been contacted about our Trek and can be reached at: [askus@chl.libanswers.com](mailto:askus@chl.libanswers.com)
7. According to Emily, Jolene Allphin, another Church historian, knows more about the trail and trail stories than anyone! She wrote a book filled with stories of handcart pioneers. If you go to her website, you can download a free copy of her book. The website is <https://www.tellmystorytoo.com/> If you'd like to reach out to her, her email address is [tellmystory@msn.com](mailto:tellmystory@msn.com).
8. *I Walked to Zion, True Stories of Young Pioneers on the Mormon Trail* by Susan Arrington Madsen, is another good resource.

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