

Creating a Personalized Family History Experience

Personalized Family History Experiences-allows members to have a meaningful experience with their own family history where they can feel the spirit. It helps them to increase their love of family and build connections to their ancestors and our Heavenly Father

Goals

Help members feel the Spirit of Elijah

Help more people do something by adapting the experience to their interest and skill level

Guiding Principals

Pray to be led by the Holy Ghost-

*“Even the best technology can never be a substitute for revelation from heaven. **This is a spiritual work and the Lord directs it through the Holy Ghost**”* Gathering the Family of God April 2017 President Henry B. Eyring

Pray about Who to Reach Out to-

Consider the following

- New and Returning Members
 - 11 year olds and their families (help them find names to take on their first temple trip)
 - Newly Called Missionaries (4 generation chart, family stories)
 - Ward Council Members
 - Consider providing a “Family History Demo” on a 5th Sunday or during RS/EQ meeting then pass around a signup sheet for those who would like to learn more about their family
 - Ask your friends or ministering brothers/sisters if you can practice on them
 - **Anyone you feel prompted by the Holy Ghost to contact**
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Adapt the experience to the interest and skills of those you are assisting and help them feel the “Spirit of Elijah”

Wade-Beginners, not that interested, need encouragement to start, majority of members

Possible Areas of Interest

- Get a FamilySearch Account (age 8+)
- Bridge living to deceased ancestors on FamilySearch
- Ordinances Ready
- Discovery Experiences
- Learning about Family Members
- Attaching a Memory to FamilySearch



Swim- Have some previous experience, ready to learn more, some motivation, needs additional

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Possible Areas of Interest

- Build their Tree
- Attach Records
- Scanning Pictures and Slides
- Use Partner Accounts
- Find Family Names



Dive-Self guided, highly self-motivated, may need some direction

Possible Areas of Interest

- Research Family Lines
 - FamilySearch Wikipedia
 - FamilySearch Catalog
 - Family History Guide
 - Archiving Family Media
- Using DNA to Support Research



Prepare ahead of time- Preparation builds confidence in yourself and trust between you and those you teach. It contributes to an effective experience. With preparation you identify in advance opportunities and how to share them. Be sensitive to difficult family relationships or complex family trees. When possible, create opportunities for families to participate in temple and family history as a family.

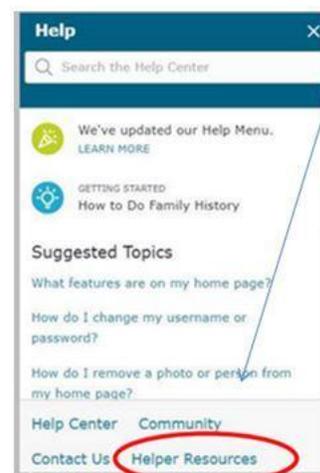
Sending Family Tree invitations can be done through the FamilySearch Planner found in Helper Resources



- Log into FamilySearch
- Click on the Question Mark located on the top right hand corner and a menu will pop up
- Click on Helper Resources located on the bottom right hand corner of the menu, takes you to the planner page
- Click on "+ADD SOMEONE" on right hand side of page. Allows you to send link via email, FamilySearch messaging or text

Requesting Tree access can also be done on the phone app

- Open App
- Click on More (right Hand Corner On Apple Phones)
- Next, Click on Help
- Click on helper Resources
- Next, Click on "Add Someone" and enter name
- Can only be used for Ward and Stake Members



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Revoking Access can happen at any time

- To Revoke Access through Patron's Account
 - Instruct Patron to Click on User Name to find settings
 - Click on PERMISSIONS tab
 - Click REMOVE ACCESS
- To Revoke Access through Consultant's Account
 - Load Planner page on FamilySearch
 - Click on the tree dots next to Patron's name
 - Delete from Planner



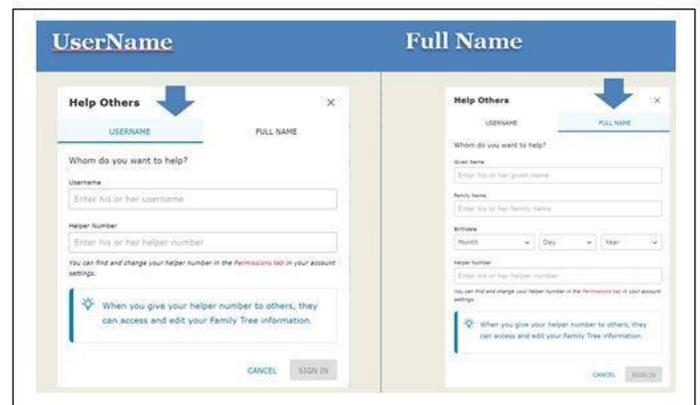
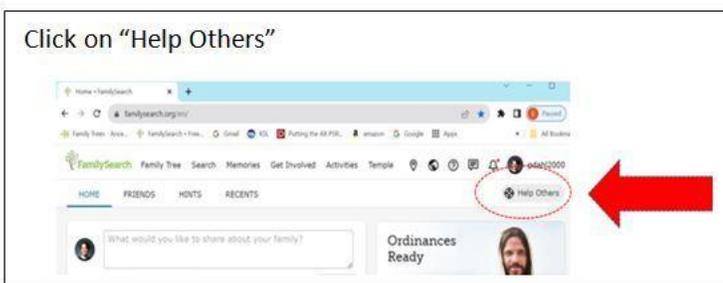
Important Numbers concerning FamilySearch Planner Invitations

- 300- Maximum Number of invitations
- 30 Days – Time period for invitation to be accepted before they expire
- 12 months –time that the invitations are valid



Request Tree Access through Helper Number- the Helper Number is usually the 5 last digits of a membership number and can be found on FamilySearch under settings, on a person's temple recommend or in Tools and only grants temporary access. Access can be added two different ways

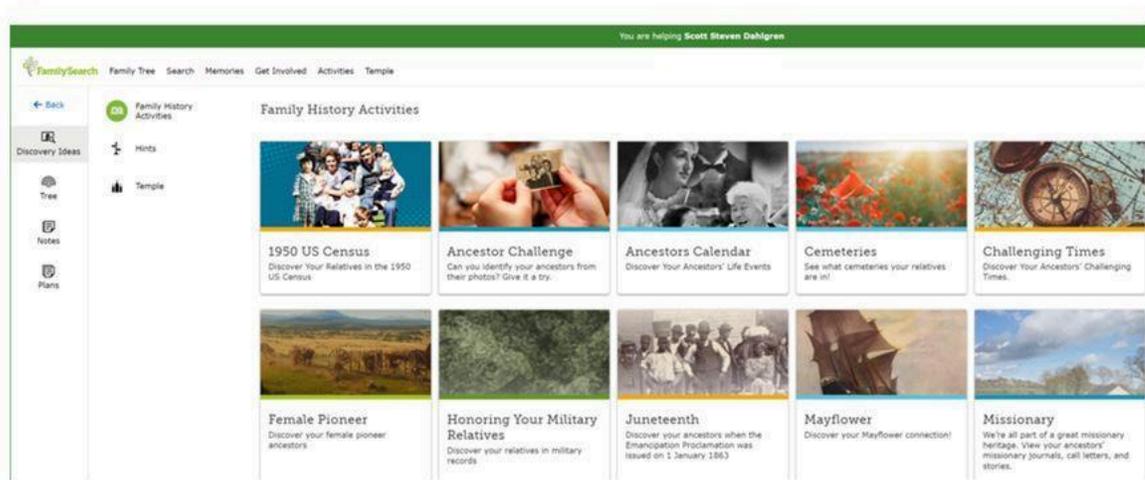
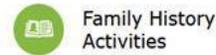
- By username and helper number
- or by Full name, birth date and helper number



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Tree Access- *“Think of someone inviting you into their tree as you would be invited into their home. Don’t go changing and knocking things around. Be respectful!”* Sister Karen Veach

Tree Access allows you to see their Tree and Discovery Opportunities



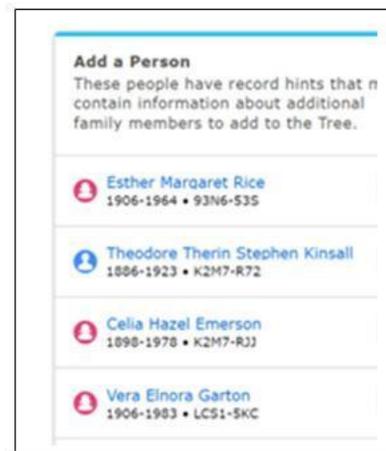
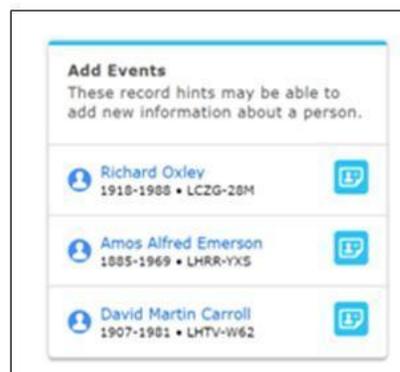
Discovery- A discovery experience is an activity that reveals something inspiring about the person’s ancestors or homelands. These experiences are fun ways to introduce people to the joys and excitement of family history.

- You can use one from FamilySearch or create one
- Choose one that you find well suited to the needs or interest level of the person or family you are helping
- BYU Family History Technology Lab also has discovery opportunities <https://fhtl.org/>

Hints- Show events and possible new people to add to the tree



Hints



Temple- Shows Family Members who need their work done, duplicates or those who need additional information to have their work completed

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Information Needed

These ancestors don't quite have enough information for temple work. See if you can find the missing information (date, place, sex, or name).

- Sidney Allen Cherry**
 1897-1976 • ZDTL-6C2
- Dahlgren**
 1902-1902 • LTSY-D74

Possible Duplicates

These ancestors might have more than one record in Family Tree. Please resolve the duplicates before taking the name to the temple.

- Margaret Elizabeth Stratton**
 1913-1980 • LVN2-GWS

Tree- Allows you to see their tree

- Use the fan chart to identify any missing family members in the person's 4-generation chart and to find record hints, ordinances, research helps or data problems.
- Explore the person pages of specific ancestors and confirming that all children and siblings have been accounted for



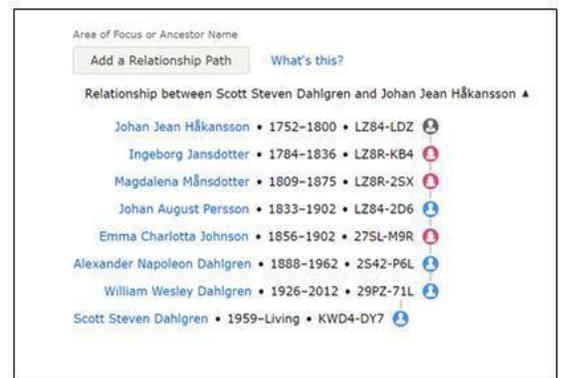
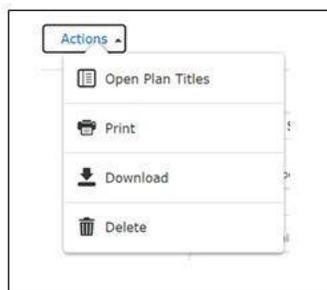
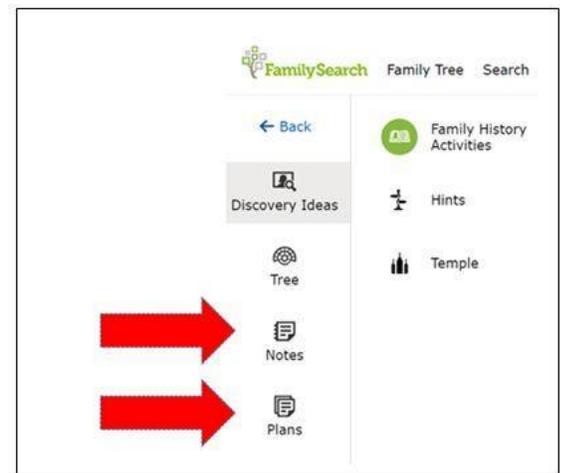
Notes and Plans- Found on Planner page

Notes

- Remind yourself of things that you want to do
- Help you track the progress of a person
- Can only be seen by you and cannot be shared
- Are separate from lesson plans

Plans

- Help create an individualize lesson plan
- Can only be used on the website version of the planner
- Can add links but not pictures to plans
- Use to include ideas for discovery, key steps and an invitation to act
- Allows you to add a visual relationship path from an ancestor to the person you are helping by adding the ancestor's ID number
- Can print or download plans through the "Actions Option"



Tips for Creating a Successful Family History Experience

- Build your lesson plan based on the person's experience level in family history
- Keep your plan short; 30-45 minutes is an ideal experience for a beginner
- Help the member feel a connection to his or her ancestors by sharing memories and records
- Look for and share common experiences between ancestors and those you are helping

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- For families, make a plan for involving all members of the family and you might encourage them to work together to find names and perform temple ordinances for their ancestors as a family
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Minister to the One- To Minister is to focus on creating an experience that brings joy to others. We show great kindness when we listen to and care about “the One”. Teach following the example of the Savior, line upon line, precept upon precept. Experiences should fit the individual’s knowledge of family history and should be considerate of his or her time. Seek opportunities to show increased love for those you are helping.

- Let them drive the experience
 - Listen
 - Meet their needs
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Invite Learners to Act- Personalize experiences should include an invitation to learn by doing. Temple and family history provides opportunities for individuals to participate in the Plan of Salvation and receive spiritual strength. Our invitations to act are intended to be simple and achievable. Following the example of Christ, we meet other where they are and help them learn line upon line, precept upon precept.

Possible Invitations

Ordinances Ready- Learn more about their ancestor

Digitizing Pictures- Post pictures on FamilySearch

Discovery Experience- Share Stories with family members and show them how to find their own stories

Conclusion

Temple and Family History is all about connections with past, present and future generations. Through personalized family history experiences, you can help people feel a connection with their own family.

Additional Resources

FamilySearch Planner/Training- additional Tutorial videos on how to use the Planner and Learning Resources

FamilySearch Planne/Calling Information- includes additional training on Personalized Family History Experiences including a couple of videos modeling experiences

<https://www.familysearch.org/help/calling/help-others?page=6>

<https://www.familysearch.org/help/calling/help-others?page=7>

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AlpineFamilySearch.org

Handout adapted from one created by Marilyn Thomsen