

INFORMATION PACK FOR STAKE PRESIDENTS



e11even
days

11 DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

THIS NOVEMBER

THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE WW1 ARMISTICE



lest we forget

Remembrance Day in 2018 falls on the Sabbath. It will be the 100 Year Anniversary of WW1. This provides a unique opportunity for priesthood leaders to invite members at a stake and ward level to turn their hearts to their fathers.

The 11 Days of Remembrance is a programme of options for leaders to consider. It includes suggestions for the following:

- Applying the first 11 days of November 2018 to research WW1 ancestors, take their names to the temple, and perform acts of **service** as tribute to what they stood for.*
- Suggesting wards attend a local wreath ceremony, or theme their sacrament meeting on topics such as **remembrance**, family history, faith or resurrection.*
- Inviting families and friends to an evening **devotional** of music & spoken word, with the option of staging a 60-minute show written for the occasion.*

No aspect of this programme is mandatory. A range of options are available. Stake leaders may choose to use none, some or all of the ideas available, based on local needs and resource.



11 days of service

What: Members can use the first 11 days of November to render acts of service in their local community and family.

Why: To experience 'doing unto others', in memory of the sacrifices and values cherished by those who gave their lives for their friends, families and country.

How: Each day offers a spiritual principle, scripture reference, and ideas for service on the day (similar to #LightTheWorld).

—————
This is an ideal activity for all ages, particularly Youth and YSA who can bring WW1 names to the Temple, perform saving ordinances, and know them as family when wreaths are laid on 11/11.

Resources available:

- A two-sided handout for members to print as a calendar reminder for their wall.
- The same document as a [pdf for mobile devices](#), with links to [LDS Scriptures](#) and [videos](#) that re-create WW1 soldiers, wives and mothers reading letters from the Front. Each letter has been carefully chosen from historical archives for the way it supports the theme of each day.
- A promotional campaign on [lds.org.uk](#), [newsroom](#) and [blog](#), with content suitable for national and stake Facebook pages and other social media.





a day of remembrance



A Morning of Remembrance

On this day your local community will come together to lay wreaths at a cenotaph and observe one minute's silence at 11am. Consider leading your Ward to attend this. You might conduct a Remembrance-themed sacrament meeting in your chapel later in the day.



Order LDS Wreaths

*The Royal British Legion produces an LDS wreath you can specially request. Orders to: UK: 01622-717-172
Scotland: evelynliston@ldspublicaffairs.org*



Joint Sacrament Meetings

If more than one unit meets in your building, consider joint afternoon meetings so both wards can attend community services in the morning.



Sacrament Meeting Music

Invite your music director to choose hymns and musical items appropriate for Remembrance Day. Ideas include:

- "Jerusalem"
- "I Vow to Thee My Country"
- #223 Have I Done Any Good?
- #232 Let Us Oft Speak Kind Words
- #246 Onward Christian Soldiers



Sacrament Meeting Talks

A Remembrance Day theme can help speakers teach correct doctrine, e.g.:

"Why We Remember Them" (the freedoms won for us at great cost; parallels with the Atonement).

"How We Can Remember Them" (turning the hearts of the children to the fathers; journals; genealogy; temple service).

"All These Things Are For Thy Good" (how adversity is an essential part of the Father's plan; enduring to the end; losing yourself in the service of others; the healing balm of the Atonement).



an evening of devotion

What: A fireside/concert that Stakes may want to stage on the Friday, Saturday or Sunday night of Remembrance Day Weekend.

Why: To bring members, family, friends and community leaders together to turn their hearts to their fathers, have an experience with the Spirit, and ponder the values and liberties that a past generation gave their lives to preserve.

Resources available:

- A **script** for Stakes to draw inspiration, then decide if you want to perform it, use parts, or create your own format.
- A **video** of the script being rehearsed, to see how the words, music and choreography come together.
- Promotional **posters** for noticeboards, in several styles, with space for your local date, time and venue to be written.



Click [here](#) for the **script**



Click [here](#) to watch a **rehearsal**

Ideas to ponder:

- Which local community, government, faith, charity or other leaders could you invite, or give a reading role to on the night?
- Do you have a local Royal British Legion or Salvation Army that might want to attend, with their brass band?
- What family trees, journals or photos from the WW1 era could you encourage people to research, bring with them and stick to a 'Stake Family Tree' on the night?



Click [here](#) for the **posters**



inviting dignitaries

Your Stake Director of Public Affairs (DPA) is trained to help you reach out to local VIPs and invite them to your Stake events. Once you have decided if and how you'd like to engage in this Remembrance Day programme, we suggest you prayerfully ponder who should be invited, any role you might ask them to play, and the best way to reach out to them.

People you choose to invite might include local heads and deputy heads of schools attended by LDS students; city mayors, deputy mayors and councillors; local media reporters and editors for newspapers, radio and online news; MPs, MEPs, ambassadors and their staff; leaders and members of other faiths, local charities, The Royal British Legion, the NHS Blood Transfusion Service, the Salvation Army, members of the Armed Forces, and others.

Consider especially those you may already have hosted at events that include firesides, sacrament meetings, or performances of The British Pageant or Our Story Goes On. They may have had an experience with the Spirit at these events, and be keen to feel this again. In fact, some may favourably respond to learning The 11 Days of Remembrance script (if you choose to use it) is from the same writers as the Pageant and OSGO.

If you plan to invite them to play a role (e.g. reading a passage of scripture or WW1 letter), give the materials in time for them to practice, and make sure you invite them to attend a rehearsal.

A VIP Invitation template has been prepared to tailor and use. This can be viewed and downloaded [here](#).

A follow-up Thank You gift suggestion has been prepared [here](#). Just add the VIP's name, print and frame it, then arrange to present it to your special guest several weeks after the event. This supports continuity in the relationship. Our artists can help you prepare this VIP gift.





timeline

We encourage Stake presidencies to decide if participating in one or more of the activities outlined in this document is right for your Stake. Certainly it will help members bring a friend, find an ancestor and do good. But can you invite people (and especially leaders) to participate in a way that will be a joy, and not a burden? If you decide the answer is Yes, here are some practical suggestions for how to get the most out of the months leading to 11/11.

JUN/JUL: *Invite Youth and YSA leaders to ponder how the '11 days of service' can help achieve Duty to God and Personal Progress goals. Encourage youth to conduct family history research for the WW1 era, temple service (especially for priests baptising in the temple), and to plan ahead whose lives they will bless with service in November. Consider how ward councils can help direct this effort to those in need.*

Should bishops be encouraged to lead their congregations to attend the local community wreath laying ceremony on the Sunday morning of 11/11? How might wards that share the same meetinghouse work to schedule meetings in the afternoon? Is this an opportunity to invite non-LDS family members and less active members to join an activity?

Will your Stake stage a devotional in November? On which night should this be? Will you use the script provided, or create an entirely different programme?

Start promoting your Remembrance programme to members in the Stake. Consider ward newsletters, noticeboards and social media, Facebook etc. Work with your DPA to invite VIP dignitaries, friends and media if desired.

AUG/SEP: *Start rehearsals for any spoken, choir or other performance roles. Prepare props, costumes or printing needed if you stage a local devotional. Check Youth, YSA and member progress toward their Remembrance Day goals.*

OCT: *Continue preparations. Confirm attendance numbers. Follow-up. Give direction.*

NOV: *Enjoy an uplifting programme that turns the hearts of the children to the fathers.*