

Dedication of the Chapel in Bonstetten, St. Gallen Stake

on Sunday, June 24, 2012

by Elder Louis Weidmann, Area Authority Seventy

Oh God, eternal Father in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in Heaven as on earth.

We have gathered here with deep gratitude in order to dedicate this house to thee. Our hearts have united in thanks, to thank thee for thy goodness. To thank thee for the opportunity afforded to us to know the restored Gospel, to have forged a covenant with thee and to know through the teachings of the Spirit that thou art from eternity to eternity. To know and to feel that thy Son is the Redeemer of the world, thine only begotten, full of light and truth, our Savior, who will return in glory. Who fulfilled thy will in all and leads us back to thee through His suffering, His merit, His mercy and grace, when we believe in Him and remain true to our covenants. We thank thee for loving us so much that thou didst give thine only begotten Son, so that all who believe in Him shall not be lost, but shall have eternal life. By means of the Spirit, we feel and know that all of the promises which thou hast given and dost give through thy servants shall be fulfilled. Father, we thank thee for thy prophets and apostles, for their testimonies and for those of our fathers and mothers, for the Holy Scriptures and the teachings of thy Son therein. We thank thee also for the prophet of the restoration, for his example and endurance. Father, we thank thee for our prophet today and for the blessings of being able to live in a country in which we have freedom to worship thee according to our faith and our conviction. We thank thee for prosperity and the opportunity we have to gather here in this newly built chapel. We thank thee for thine influence on the hearts of all those who, being well-disposed toward us, made the construction of this building possible and made material sacrifices such that the financial means were available to complete the construction. We thank thee for the officials and neighbors who supported us and let us do as we would. Father, mayest thou bless them and their families with health and material security, but especially with thy love, that they may feel it in their life and through it open their heart for thy Spirit and the teachings of thy Son, that they may find peace through faith in Him and in His atonement. Bless this house, that it may be a house of prayer, such that all who enter may feel thy Spirit, that they consecrate their heart to thee in unity, that they may be prepared to bear one another's burdens and to mourn with those who mourn, to comfort those who stand in need of comfort, that they may renew their covenant with a willing heart, ready to stand as thy witnesses at all times and in all things, wherever they may find themselves, that thou mayest redeem them and count them amongst those of the first resurrection, that they may have eternal life. Father, bless this house, that it can be a house of peace, a house of learning, and a house of faith; that the teachings given therein bear testimony of thy Son, that teachers and students may be uplifted and strengthened through thy Spirit, that discomfited hearts may gain strength, optimism and hope, that hearts may be consecrated to thee, and that the truth can go forth from here with power and glory. Protect this house from the influences and effects of the forces of nature, so that it can always be a refuge for thy children, that it may be a place of love, harmony and peace, that the music and songs that are played and sung in this place may sound to thy glory and that participants and audience members alike will be strengthened in their testimony. May all that is done and acted on in this chapel be done in thine honor, and may thine influence give peace and security to all who gather here. May it be a place in which thy children gather to make and renew the covenant with thee. Let each one leave with a cheerful heart, ready to bear testimony of thy love and to sing the song of redeeming love, so that thy work can go forth with power and thy church can grow in this area. Father, thy will be done, and thine is the power and the glory for ever and ever. In the name of thy Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.