

The Twig



HOUGHTON BRANCH NEWS

Branch News!

- *Joyanne and Allen Ludington had a baby boy, born December 4th, 2007. He's 4 1/2 months old now! Isaac Samuel Ludington!!*
- *Jacob and Jenifer Fugal are settled in Colorado and are doing great. Contact information is posted on the blue bulletin board.*
- *Josh and Kari Cowden moved this last December to California and are proud to announce that Kari is pregnant! She is due around October and the family is excited!*

Calendar of Events

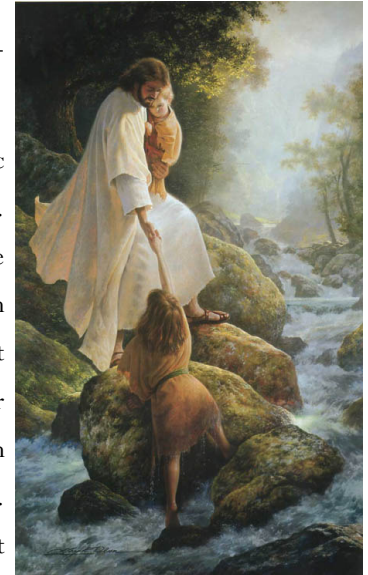
- April 27th - Branch Conference
- May 8th - Enrichment! (First Aid)
- May 11th - Mother's Day!
- June 12th - Enrichment! (Food Storage with our new stake specialist!)
- June 15th - Father's Day!
- July - Pioneer Day Celebration - TBA

Message from the Presidency!

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

When you read this title, you will probably think I am writing about the educational legislation introduced by President Bush.

I am not a big fan of that legislation, but I am an enthusiastic supporter of Heavenly Father's "No Child Left Behind" plan. Although we don't hear much of His plan in governmental circles, be assured that our Heavenly Father doesn't want any of his children left behind either. Unlike the government plan, this plan makes a lot of sense, but it involves action and correct choices on our part. Our Heavenly Father wants every one of us to return to live with Him in the Celestial Kingdom and has given us a way to achieve this goal. We are being given a wonderful opportunity, but it is we who must take advantage of that opportunity.



Be Not Afraid by Greg Olsen

America is the land of opportunity. We all have many opportunities to improve our lives, but it is up to us whether or not we take advantage of these opportunities. As students, we are not likely to learn much if we don't attend school. Although we can be forced to attend school, if we refuse to learn once we are there, we probably won't get much out of it. Heavenly Father will not force anyone to attend His church, but we will find it difficult to learn the things we need to know if we do not participate in the "schooling" he has made available to us and if we refuse to study the text. Some say they can learn without these things, but, just as in our secular life, statistics show that if we do not prepare ourselves, we probably won't achieve to the extent that we would otherwise. Our spiritual lives are not much different. Our Heavenly Father makes clear those things that we must do if we are to live with him in our next life. It is not complicated: Be an active part of His Church, study His textbooks, and follow His commandments. If we do these and the other simple and easy things He asks, we can all achieve eternal glory in His Celestial Kingdom.

Good luck. Hope to see you there.

Family History Update!

There is not much to report from the family history center as it is currently "under construction". The family history center is in the process of switching over from the old family search to the new family search. We are excited to announce that we will soon have better internet connections at the church, making genealogy work more of a possibility! Be sure to contact Joye Haapala if you have any questions. More to come soon!

Family Focus: The Antons



The Anton family has undergone quite a bit of change in the past year. July 16th 2007 marked the birth of Liam Christopher Anton. Despite a pregnancy filled with complications, Kari's labor and delivery went well and Liam has been quite healthy. He is now over eight months old, and continues to keep his parents on their toes by learning new tricks every week! Kari has chosen to stay home with

Liam, which it turns out is a full time job of its own.

Chris' flexible work schedule has allowed the family to make trips home to Detroit for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter this past year, something that we were not able to do previously because of Kari's work schedule. We have enjoyed our time with family, and are getting used to being outdone by our overly-cute infant at all family gatherings. Chris is planning on finishing up his Ph.D. in the next few months, and has several job prospects in the Washington DC area. Our family has truly enjoyed our time in the UP. At the same time, we are looking forward to starting a new phase of our lives in a new place. We can only hope that we will meet as nice of people as we have met here in Houghton.

Meeting Schedule:

Sacrament:

10:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

Sunday School:

11:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Primary:

11:20 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Priesthood and

Relief Society:

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

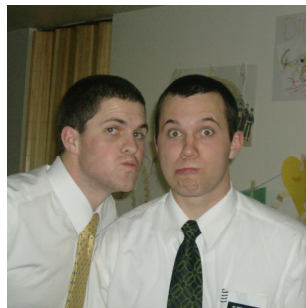
Missionary Spotlights! As of 3/08, the missionaries are no longer in the Houghton area, now in Marquette.



Elder Horne - Comes from Kaysville, UT and has two younger brothers. His mom is an RN who works in the ICU, and his dad is a teacher and a basketball and baseball coach at Davis High School.

Before his mission,

Elder Horne mowed lawns and worked for the city during the summer. He played basketball and baseball in high school and likes to go boating, wakeboarding, tubing and play all other sports! Coming from the life of a missionary, his current favorite foods are PB&J and Macaroni & Cheese and his mom's enchiladas, but he confesses that he loves anything Sister Haapala makes. "Yorkshire Pudding all the way baby!" He has a sweetheart at home but is completely focused on doing the Lord's work! His favorite thing about the U.P. is how everyone points to spots on their hand to give directions in Michigan. After his mission, he wants to go to college and eventually get married. He also wants a job, and to get a nicer truck than is 1986 dodge he had in high school. Elder Horne likes Cotton Candy ice cream with gummi bears on it from Coldstone Creamery and does not like anything with chocolate! His favorite quote is "Holy Wa!" by da Yoopers!



Elder Moulton - Comes from Colorado Springs, CO. He has one younger brother at BYU and four younger sisters! His mom is an RN at hospice and his dad works at

Fort Carson on a civilian contract.

His favorite food is Chicken Alfredo and he loves his mom's Stir Fry. Before his mission, his job was laying carpet. He wrestled in High School, played second guitar and backup vocals in their band "Knockout 55", and Drag raced in a truck! He has an awesome near death story! After his mission, he plans on going into college to be a police officer, a fireman, or something in the medical field. He's still working on it! Elder Moulton's favorite ice cream is Elephant tracks and his favorite quote is: "If ya ain't got it, ya broke" by El Luchi. We will miss him as they teach those in need in Marquette.



Humor Bits!



A young father carried his screaming baby out of sacrament meeting and into the foyer. "There, there," he said, "Take it easy. Control yourself. Calm down." The baby immediately became quiet. Another father in the foyer said, "Boy, you sure know how to talk to a baby." "Baby!" the first father said, "I was talking to myself!"

Spiritual Thought

"I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship." - Louisa May Alcott