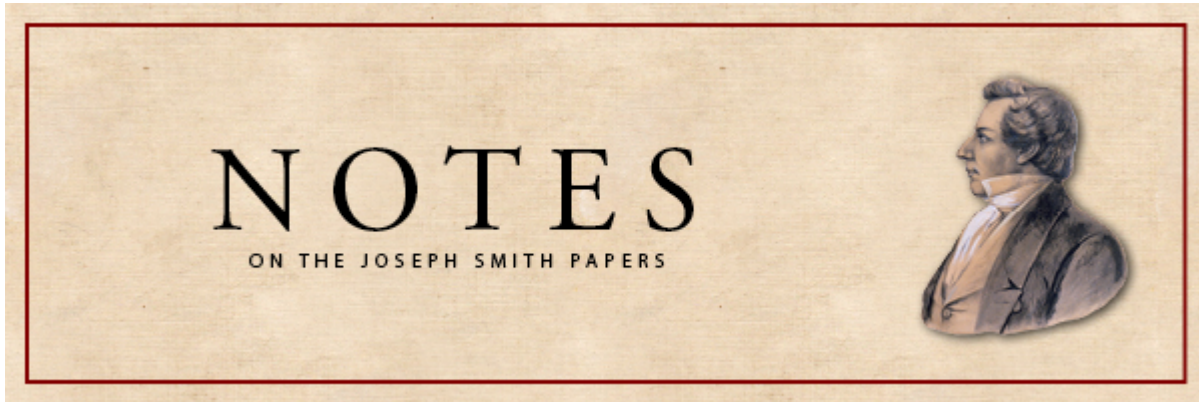


Read about the project's latest updates.

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Greetings

We are pleased to share with you our latest newsletter. This issue contains information about our newest website content, which includes the minutes of the Council of Fifty, and an article that offers insight into Joseph Smith's tenacity during a particularly trying time of his life. This issue of the newsletter also highlights a [new church history](#) that relies heavily on the scholarship of the *Joseph Smith Papers*.

Please take a few minutes to read about our latest efforts as well as the work of others to share the history of the church.

Sincerely,

Ronald K. Esplin, Matthew J. Grow, Matthew C. Godfrey, and R. Eric Smith

In This Issue

- [Minutes of Council of Fifty Now Online](#)
- [An Illinois Reunion: A Lesson in Joseph Smith's Tenacity](#)
- [First Volume of *Saints* Now Available](#)

Minutes of Council of Fifty Now Online

On 11 March 1844 in Nauvoo, Illinois, Joseph Smith organized a council that he and his closest associates saw as the beginning of the literal kingdom of God on earth. Among other things, the council explored possible Latter-day Saint settlement sites outside the boundaries of the United States and oversaw Joseph Smith's electioneering campaign for United States president. In 2016, the Joseph Smith Papers Project published in print the minutes from the Council of Fifty in Nauvoo. We are pleased to announce that those minutes are now available on our [website](#), including images of the record books.

[Read more](#) ►

THE JOSEPH SMITH PAPERS			
The Papers Reference Media News About Published Volumes			
Council of Fifty Minutes			
Administrative Records (388) Minutes and other official records	IMAGES AND TRANSCRIPTS	Record of the Twelve, 14 February–28 August 1835	Council of Fifty, Minutes, March 1844–January 1846; Volume 1, 10 March 1844–1 March 1845
	Letterbooks (2)	>	
	Minutebooks (2)	>	
Revelations and Translations (39) Early manuscript and printed versions of scriptural works	Records of Organization (3)	>	Council of Fifty, Minutes, March 1844–January 1846; Volume 2, 1 March–6 May 1845
	Municipal Records (8)	>	Council of Fifty, Minutes, March 1844–January 1846; Volume 3, 6 May 1845–13 January 1846
	Miscellaneous (1)	>	
Histories (51) Early histories and draft material for the later History of the Church	Joseph Smith Office Papers (362)	>	Council of Fifty, Minutes
	RELATED MATERIALS		Appendix Items (7)
Legal, Business, and Financial Records (426) Court, land, and business papers	Joseph Smith's Administrative Records		RELATED ITEMS
	Introduction to Joseph Smith Office Papers		Administrative Records, Volume 1 Introduction: The Council of Fifty in Nauvoo, Illinois
	Editorial Method		Administrative Records, Volume 1, Part 1 Introduction: March–June 1844
RELATED RESOURCES			Administrative Records, Volume 1, Part 2 Introduction: February–May 1845
Other Contemporary Papers			Administrative Records, Volume 1, Part 3 Introduction: September–October 1845
Selected papers of Joseph Smith's contemporaries			Administrative Records, Volume 1, Part 4 Introduction: January 1846
Calendar of Documents			Essay on Sources Cited in Administrative Records, Volume 1
Chronological list of all known Joseph Smith documents, including multiple versions of documents			

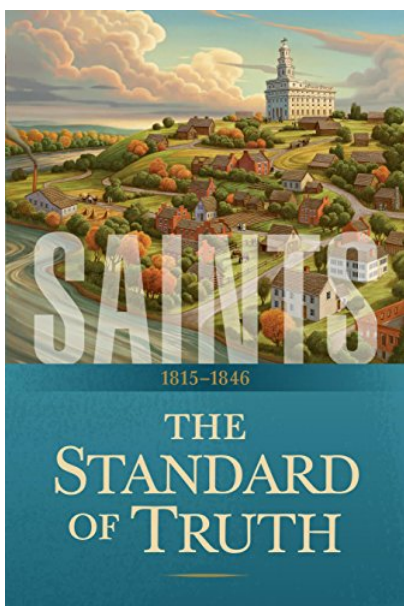
An Illinois Reunion: A Lesson in Joseph Smith's Tenacity

By Elizabeth A. Kuehn, Volume Editor

Those interested in the life of Joseph Smith are usually quite familiar with his incarceration in Clay County, Missouri, during the winter of 1838–1839 and the trials and soul-searching of that period. But perhaps less well-known is what came after Smith was reunited with his family and followers. After his harrowing imprisonment, one might expect him to have withdrawn from leadership and focused for a time on his own needs. Yet, demonstrating remarkable resiliency, he instead chose to focus on the needs of the Latter-day Saints, setting in motion plans that would shape the church for years to come.

[Read more](#) ►

First Volume of *Saints* Now Available



For the first time in nearly one hundred years, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is releasing a new multivolume work about its history. The first volume of *Saints: The Story of the Church of Jesus Christ in the Latter Days*, which covers key events in the early history of the church, is now available in print, [online](#), and in the [Gospel Library app](#). Subtitled “The Standard of Truth,” the first volume tells the story of the church beginning in 1815 with Joseph Smith’s childhood and concludes with Latter-day Saints worshipping in the Nauvoo temple in 1846 before their exodus west.

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