

George Mayer

George Mayer the Missionary

George Mayer (the maternal grandfather of George H. Brimhall) was the first German speaking missionary in Switzerland. As he recorded in his diary, he was one of “120 elders called [over the pulpit at an August 6, 1852 conference] and sent to the different parts of the world to preach the gospel.” Less than six weeks later, George said good-bye to his wife and 8 surviving children (the youngest just 6 months old) and set out for his assignment in Hamburg, Germany. Early in 1853, George was assigned to travel from Hamburg to Basel, Switzerland where he would be the first missionary to teach the Gospel to the German speaking people in that country. Lorenzo Snow had sent Thomas B. H. Stenhouse from Italy to serve as the first ever missionary in Switzerland in 1850. However, Elder Stenhouse worked primarily in Geneva and Lausanne, and he only taught in French. George wrote that he “went in an omnibus to Basel at six in the evening, and stayed at a tavern near the fishmarket, The Sign of an Anchor.” George’s record of the trip from Germany and his early days in Switzerland includes accounts of miracles and faith building adventures.

Although George faced almost immediate official opposition, he proved himself a fearless advocate of the restored gospel. On multiple occasions the Basel Chief of Police (who was also the son of a Presbyterian minister) put George in prison and, upon George’s release, told him he was forbidden to reenter the city. On each of those occasions, George bore a strong testimony and, though he eventually moved his lodgings to a nearby town, he continued to teach and baptize the citizens of Basel.

On December 1, 1853, George received a letter instructing him to “go and labor in and around the city of Zurich.” In response he wrote, “I considered it the will and the word of the Lord to me his servant.” Once there, George taught and baptized many despite more strong governmental opposition. As in Basel, he spent a stint in prison.

Of that experience George wrote that a policeman “led me to the Zurich jail and told the jailor to feed me on half rations. That was soup three times a day and a small slice of bread at noon. The bed was tolerable decent. At first the jailor and wife were very rough toward me, but the Lord softened their hearts toward me and they treated me with respect.” He also wrote of that experience: “I believe that while they had me in prison that they thought they would try an experiment on me. They put me in a room by myself and that night I was taken very sick. I had to get up six times on the pot, but I received no harm. God heard my prayers and it did not hurt me. The Savior says if they drink deadly poison it shall not hurt them.”

On May 7, 1854, a formal branch of the Church was organized in Zurich “by acknowledging the authority of President Brigham Young and his councilors as our prophets, seers, and revelators of the whole church over the whole world, ... Brother Lorenzo Snow as our president over the Swisse Mission, ... and Elder George Mayer president over the church in Zurich and Winigan and the Canton Zurich, which was received by the unanimous role of the whole of the Saints present, which numbered 38.”

Of miracles George wrote, “on the 7th of June, 1854 Catherine Verly was afflicted with sore eyes and the doctor said there was no help for her eyes and that she would go blind. She heard of our church and came to hear me preach several times and desired baptism, and when she was confirmed I said that she should receive her sight and her eyes should become strong, and she is now restored to her sight and gave her testimony that she was healed through the power of God through the ministration of laying on of hands of Elder Mayer. Many rejoiced and gave their testimony that they have been healed of diseases that the doctors couldn’t help.”

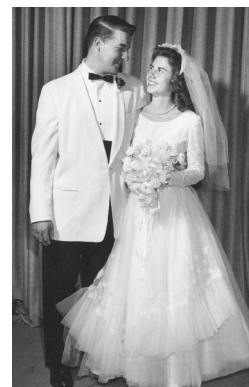
For some of George’s descendents, the most significant moment of his mission was captured in a single simple sentence about his work on September 24, 1854: “In the evening I baptized Sister Susanna Abegg.” Neither George nor the newly baptized Susanna Abegg could have even imagined that on another fateful Septem-

ber day a full 103 years into their future George’s great-great-grandson John H. Groberg would be marrying Susanna’s great-great-granddaughter Jean Sabin in a temple in far off Los Angeles, CA, USA. Neither could George and Susanna have guessed that in 159 years down the road they would be the joint ancestors of a young Sister missionary named Madeline Marie Powell from Tempe, AZ, USA who had come to serve in a German speaking mission covering that same sacred spot where George had just lifted Susanna from the waters of baptism. Maddy is living proof that little missionary moments can have big, long-lasting, and far-reaching impacts.

In March of 1855, George and a small contingent of saints made their way from Zurich, Switzerland to Liverpool, England. They sailed from England on April 1 and landed in Philadelphia on May 4, 1855. During May and June, he and his group and several other Saints made preparations for the trek west to SLC. They ultimately left in early July of 1855 and finally arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in the end of September of that year. The ship voyage, the preparation period, and the trek west were all fraught with death and deprivation. George recorded all of his adventures from the time from his call in August 1852 through the date of his return in September of 1855 in his journal. George ultimately settled, died, and is now buried in Spanish Fork, Utah.



Susanna Abegg



John & Jean Groberg



Sister Powell

Groberg Reports

John and Jean Groberg

2014 is a landmark year for us as we will both turn 80! We used to think that 70 was “old” and 80 was “ancient,” but as we conclude our 70's and start our 80's our perception has changed. Even though there is an increase in aches and pains (if we pay attention to them) there is a much greater increase in love and gratitude. Our love for Our Father in Heaven and for His Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, and for the family they have blessed us with, knows no bounds. We are deeply grateful for each of the eleven children God has given us, as well as for their families and their faithfulness. We are eternally grateful for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for the missions and assignments the Lord has given, and continues to give to each of us – including the trials of our faith, which with His help, make us stronger and more empathetic. We are particularly grateful for Temples and encourage everyone to attend regularly. We know this will bless them and others. Our faith and prayers are with all of you always.

Nancy and Steve Tingey

Our family has resided in Sandy Utah for 19 years and Steve has worked at the law firm, Ray, Quinney & Nebeker for 30 years. Even with that “stability”, our lives are busy with challenges and adventures that keep us learning and growing.

Nancy is in her second year as a member of our local school board. It is a challenging and rewarding experience to be a part of the public education enterprise and very interesting to study Great Grandpa Brimhall's thoughts on education with a 21st Century perspective.



Steve enjoys golf, being grandpa, cross-word puzzles, and catching some games on tv. My hobbies are being grandma, the school board, and I also like to quilt, read, and swim laps or do water aerobics for exercise.

Joe served in the Fresno California Spanish speaking mission. He graduated from BYU, worked for a couple of years then returned to school. He received his MBA from Notre Dame in 2011 and a few weeks later married Natalie Ashcroft. Joe is the Business Analyst at Smart Bomb Interactive, the creators of “Animal Jam” online video game. Joe and Natalie live in Holladay. Their son Soren Robert was born

in March of 2013 and is a happy, energetic, and adorable toddler.

Ben served in the Russia Rostov mission. He graduated from BYU with a Master's of Accounting in 2011 and is currently working for KPMG in Palo Alto, California. He recently ran in a Ragnar relay and plays in several softball leagues. He enjoys being in the Stanford Young Adult ward where he has met great friends and has had many wonderful experiences.

Eliza completed cosmetology school and worked at a salon in Holladay. She married Trent Guzy in 2008. They enjoy snowboarding, waterskiing, and golf. Eliza and Trent both work for Vivint Solar, Trent in sales and Eliza as office support. They live in Walnut Creek California and love all the amenities of Bay Area life.

Sarah is a junior at BYU majoring in Economics with a minor in Statistics. She is working as a TA in the Econ department. Some of us had the privilege of meeting up with Sarah and traveling to several countries in Europe at the end of her Study Abroad to Spain in the spring of 2013. She finds time in her demanding schedule to ski, read, and visit home often.

Nathan is a sophomore at Brighton High. He loves skiing, music, tv, video games, making things, and friends. Nate mastered the rubik's cube with a 54 second solve time. He has become an aficionado of “cool” cars from watching nearly every episode of “Top Gear.”

Liz and Karl Owens

Karl is in his 12th year of being self employed as a financial/estate planner (specializing in federal employees.) He stays busy with his bishopric duties (1st Counselor), hiking and hunting with his well trained dogs, Remmy and Ruger, and spoiling his 5 darling grandchildren.

Liz continues to maintain her large piano studio and remains involved in PMTA as the Scholarship Chair. She is a substitute teacher where she primarily subs for music/choir teachers but enjoys the occasional English and History class. She enjoys her callings as Stake Music Chair, ward primary pianist and nursery music leader. Like Karl, she loves spoiling her beautiful grandchildren.

Tyler enjoys socializing with a newly formed mid-singles group in our Stake and is a favorite uncle to his niece and nephews.

Whitney and Dustin Hemsath family: Jason (5), Evan (3), Clark (10 months)

Dustin is finishing his 5th year of teaching Spanish at Combs High School in San Tan Valley, AZ and enjoys honing his skills as a professional balloon twister on weekends. Whitney and Dustin recently chaperoned a high school group on a 10 day trip to Europe. Whitney teaches piano and is a wonderful mommy to 3 very active boys, as grandma and grandpa can attest after babysitting them during aforementioned trip to Europe.



Katie and Chris Johnson family: Evolette (3), Dempsey (1)

Both Katie and Chris graduated from ASU in 2012. Chris has been working for a disaster restoration company but recently accepted a position with Jewish Family and Children Services. Katie started a small business, “Oh Soy Memorable Candles” and stays busy running after her two little ones. They recently bought their first home and are having fun fixing and decorating it.

Jennie got her associates degree at MCC in 2012 then took a year off to work for Artistry in Motion as a professional embellisher of ballroom dance gowns. She moved to Provo this past fall to complete her bachelors degree and is learning to enjoy the many facets of life as a BYU student.

Marilyn and Matt Powell

The Powell family, just completing its 30th year in fairly blissful operation, continues to grow and spread far and wide. Matt is into his 19th year as a workers' compensation judge and Marilyn is into her 12th year working as a secretary with the Church's Seminaries and Institutes department. Marilyn capably shepherds the ward sisters as RS pres. Matt oversees the bell ringing so that Sunday School ends on time, he is the ward choir and priesthood meeting accompanist, and he still aspires to the calling of Primary accompanist.

Jim & Christie (with children Callie, James, Nathan, and a variety of critters) live in Somerton, AZ. They are enjoying the cultural diversity of life on the fringes of the Cocopah Native American reservation and the US/Mexico border. Jim is an elementary teacher. His 2nd grade students who speak English at all speak it as a second language. In addition to all she does and tends, Christie writes books and crochets and sells animal shaped baby rattles.

Tom & Sarita are living in Waltham, MA while Tom is working on his master's degree in electrical engineering. Sarita stays busy tending the young women in their ward and making and selling decorative pillows. Together they have played in their community orchestra and work as ordinance workers in the Boston Temple.



Sam & Elise (with baby Clara and their goldfish RIP) live in Centennial, CO. Sam works as an audit accountant with Ernst & Young in Denver. When Clara naps, Elise follows Christie's and Sarita's entrepreneurial example by making and selling baby girl headbands. [You can find and buy the wares of the 3 Powell-in-laws on etsy.com.]

Paul is studying chemistry at BYU-I. He will be working this summer as a nuclear chemistry intern at the Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York and then he is taking a semester off to teach English in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Maddy is serving and loving life as a missionary in the Alpine-German speaking mission. Her mission covers Southern Germany, all of Austria, and German speaking parts of Switzerland and Italy. She is loving the work, the people, and the places.

After a semester at BYU-I, Luke is currently home getting ready to leave on his mission to Honolulu, Hawaii. In the meantime he is working for his Uncle John Groberg building out hair salon spaces.

Finally, Joe (14) is holding out remarkably well as the last in the nest of aging parents who have long lost touch with the modern teen-age world. He still reaches out to them by taking up and even occasionally practicing the French horn.

Jane and Troy Garner

The Garners have been in Kaysville for the past 22 of their almost 29 years of marriage. Troy has been at Questar 27 of those years. Troy enjoys tennis, biking and fishing. He has recently taken up a new fish hobby and has several tanks where he is raising (and "accidentally" breeding) cichlids. We have almost 450 gallons of water in our basement now! Troy has been with the Young Men's program for a while now. They will release him, then call him right back in.

Jane has her fingers in too many pots (as always). She works for her three P's: Psych, Piano, and Photography. She has been the office manager for her neighbor's Psychological testing company for the past 6 years. She keeps her piano studio going and has started a small photography business. She is busy being the Young Women's president and loves working with them.

Ryan and Jessica have been married and living in Kaysville for 3 years. Ryan served his mission in Fiji and is graduating



from Weber State and applying to several PA schools. He played on Weber's tennis team for all 4 years. Jessica has her RN degree and is currently working on her BSN. She is working at Lakeview Hospital in Bountiful. It's nice to have them close by for now. Ryan and Jessica enjoy doing triathlons and are quite good at them.

Rachel went to LDS-BC, then took a break and went to China to teach English. She loved that experience and wants to travel the world. She is currently at BYU-Idaho working toward a Social Work degree. Some of her many talents include singing, swimming, playing and building guitars. She loves her dog, Kia, and misses her terribly while at school.

Brett is serving his mission in the Iowa, Des Moines mission. He hasn't had a chance to show off his amazing drumming and marimba skills yet, but we're sure he'll find just the right investigator to win over with that talent. He's also had to put off his extreme pogo sticking, acrobatics and free running activities while he serves the Lord. Brett was able to do his first triathlon just before his mission and he took 2nd place in his age division!

It's been a lot quieter now that we are "empty nesters" but we still keep plenty busy. We love our family and the gospel!

Gayle and Craig Teuscher

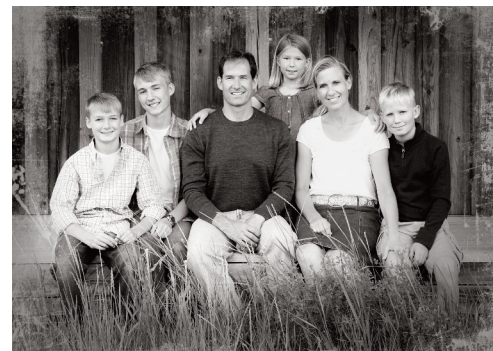
20 years have gone by since we got married and settled in the Bay Area. You know you are a Bay Area native when you think anything outside of 68-78 degrees is either too hot or too cold! Even so we sure enjoy spending time in Utah during the cold season for skiing/snowboarding and the hot season for biking and hiking and anytime for seeing family.

Gayle is in the soccer mom phase, but in addition to soccer we have cross-country, track, lacrosse, water polo, basketball, futsal and swimming. Sports dominates our after-school and weekend hours. Tired of just driving the kids to their sports, Gayle decided to take up a sport of her own and has gotten into road biking.

Adam is a junior. He runs track and maintains a demanding load at school while keeping up with piano. He is working his way through the Piano Guys book and we love hearing him play!

Isaac and Noah, our twins, are in 8th grade. In addition to all their sports they joined a robotics team and you should all be on the lookout for a phone app they are creating which will use crowd sourcing of animal behavior as a way to help predict natural disasters. They too play piano and do well in school.

Grace is 10 and will finish elementary school this year. She plays piano and started Cello. She is perfecting her many different flips on the trampoline and loves being involved in anything her brothers are doing, if they will let her.



Craig's company was sold to Maxim Integrated. After some initial difficulties the companies seem to be merging well and mutually benefitting from the acquisition. He started his 6th year as stake president of the San Leandro, CA stake. There are lots of learning opportunities that come with church service and we are (usually, and always eventually) grateful to have them.

John and Beverly Groberg

John and Beverly have been married for 23 years and love being parents of six wonderful children. Our first year was spent as students at BYU followed by 12 years in the Los Angeles area where our first three children, Kyle, Brian and Ethan were born.

For the last 10 years we've lived in Mesa, AZ where our other three children, Jason, Tessa and Kate, joined us. We have loved living in Mesa, where we have family contact with siblings Liz, Marilyn and Jennie as well as cousins Kristen and Anna.

John is in the process of a startup company called Styla Salon Suites. 4 locations opening within 4 months. He is also a commercial real estate broker and enjoys growing a fledgling online community of followers of his Spiral Up Yoga system (nearly 2000 people in 85 countries).

Beverly maintains her sanity by jazzercising by morning and walking with friends by night. The rest of her days are pretty much consumed being a mother to six kids.

Kyle (19) is on his mission in Santa Cruz, Bolivia and having a great time, loving the whole experience. Brian (16) is a junior and a night time only boarder at our home. He is typically gone from 6:30 am to 10:00 pm with school, band, choir, musical, and friends. He loves everything music and is a talented singer and piano player. Ethan (13) is a star student and a fun guy to have around. He loves playing the cello and playing with friends. Jason (9) is a great kid who loves to play. When he's not at school he's



usually running around with neighborhood boys. Tessa (6) and Kate (4) are our two little girls that we are so glad have each other as sisters. They get along great most of the time and love to dance, play, sing, color, draw, play dress-up and generally enjoy life.

Sue Squire

Sue and her 5 kids are learning a lot from life and its many challenges yet experiencing fun and joy too. Being a divorced single mom brought Sue into the work force where she was a registrar and office manager at a private school. She had an amazing experience at the Marine Educators Boot Camp in San Diego. As great as the work world was, she quit to better attend her greatest work at home as a mother.



Braydon (18) graduated from High School and is trying to figure out what his plan in life is. Kendra (17) an amazing artist and talented musician, has been recording an album. Devin (15) a brilliant young man, keeps his mom very busy and challenged in many ways, being home-schooled half days is one. Kaylee (12) a sweet and talented young woman, likes to draw and design clothes and crafts for dolls. Jarod (10) keeps us all laughing and smiling and loving life. He is a great Lego and Minecraft builder.

We enjoyed a fun trip with my parents back east to Washington D.C. and other areas. We learned lots about US History and had great experiences at the various sites and museums. Life is a wonderful joyful adventure! And we're loving the journey!

Thomas Groberg

Tom is enjoying living and working in Idaho Falls and occasionally getting out to photograph wildlife around the area.

Jennie and Dave Blaser

We have lived in our home in Gilbert Arizona longer than we have lived anywhere else! Dave is the Executive VP at Layton Construction. He was released last week from the Bishopric where he served for over three years. We bought a used boat a few



years ago and Dave is great at wake surfing. He is now busy remodeling our home.

Jennie enjoys being at home, but fills up her day with craft projects, volunteering at the temple and the kid's schools. She started taking cello lessons, and recently underwent brain surgery to remove a pituitary tumor. Health will be a challenge for the rest of her life, but she's grateful she can still function and contribute. She was just called to the Young Women's presidency.

Eden is finishing junior high and is playing JV lacrosse. She loves it and in the words of her coach, "was born to play lacrosse." Josh is excited to become a deacon. He loves to play the drums, solve rubik's cubes and yo-yo. Teya got baptized last year. She continues to keep us young by playing with stuffed animals and Barbies and creating complicated worlds and story lines for them. We went on our first Disney cruise 3 years ago and are getting ready to go on our 3rd one. We LOVE them. We love our family and are so grateful for your positive influence on our life.

Viki and Greg Bailey

We will celebrate our 18th anniversary this fall. We have lived in Idaho Falls for over 10 years now, which is the longest we have ever lived in one place, although it has been in 3 different houses! Greg runs a Physical Therapy Clinic called "Rehab Authority" where he specializes in necks and backs. He also enjoys being Scoutmaster. Viki is working at the Women's Center as an RN, finishing her bachelor's online, and mothering 7 adorable kids.



Maelynn and Landen are both sophomores at Bonneville High, excelling in their studies and social lives. Landen is running track. Maelynn works at a bakery and does Ballroom dance. Seth is in the 7th grade and running track. Sadie is in the 5th grade and loving Soccer. Lane is in the 2nd grade and excelling at piano. Miles and Emerson (4 and 3) are filling up our home with lots of noise and smells and laughter! Our puppy, "CC" is becoming part of the family. We have a dozen chickens and a big yard for playing and for the kids that come over from the school to frequent our pop machine!

Emily Groberg

I am enjoying living in my house in Pleasant Grove and filling my walls with beautiful art and working with the Beehives in my yard. I currently work at an HVAC company. It has been interesting learning all about the industry.

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