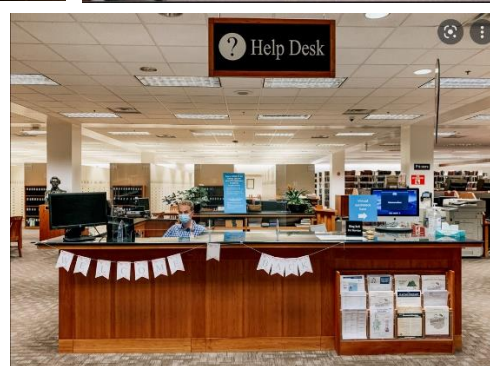
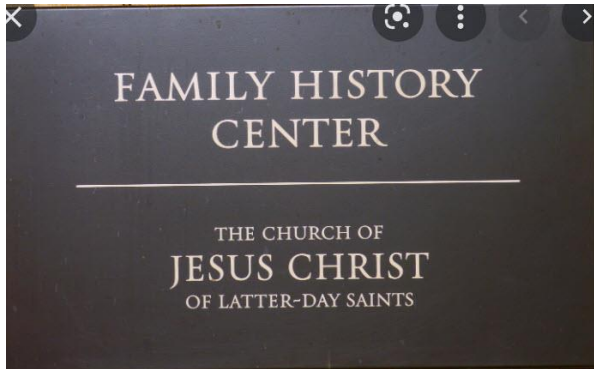


**Next Family Reunion:** Creative Alternatives from Local/Regional Family Reunions along with many More Creative Options (*reads better at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/Facebook/Next%20Family%20Reunion.pdf>*)

Ever need a creative idea for hosting an extended family reunion that offers much more than whatever you staged in the past? You have several options in finding a local family history center in your area or traveling to a more centralized location with even more technology/instructional facilities for enhanced learning and success.

Consider finding an AirAnB near Provo, Utah simply because the Brigham Young University Family History Library is loaded with outstanding features and capabilities for expanding and unifying your family history pursuits. Their website at [fh.lib.byu.edu](http://fh.lib.byu.edu) is also full of information about our equipment, resources, books, and microfilm, as well as their free virtual help desk (via Zoom). They have many types of scanners and media digitizing equipment - look under the "equipment" tab on their website. There are student workers at the welcome desk that answer questions and help with the equipment, and around 110 missionaries that are scheduled throughout the week to help patrons. They do not bind books (that service is available at other places on campus), but do print fan charts. They have one large teaching classroom within the family history library itself, plus others we can reserve for family history activities. They do not per se host family reunions, but can arrange for lectures or workshops for family groups - the attached brochure gives some examples. Advance notice of the type of activity, the number of people (over 30 becomes problematical), and the time desired is required. One thing worth mentioning is that may be of particular value to those individuals are the classes they offer on Sundays via Zoom - the schedule of upcoming classes is available on their website, as well as an archive of the hundreds of past recorded classes.



Do check out the above-mentioned links for a summary of equipment readily available. This list below provides a good shopping list of when brain-storming what technology items you might need to have a productive Family history

- How many scanners do you have for photos and slides?
- High speed scanners for copying family history books and photos?
- How many full-time and part-time staff members do you have?

- How many volumes of Family History books are in the library?
- How many conference rooms do you have for instruction?
- Do families ever have family reunions ever held at your library?
- If so, what kinds of activities were utilized in the library? Any agendas would be helpful.
- What kinds of special lectures can be offered for the family history reunion?
- Can books be bound and printed out?
- How many family history missionaries are attached to the library?
- Can books be bound and printed out?

If that isn't enough, there are many LDS temples nearby for doing temple work for one's ancestors in quantity in Utah. Utah County is home to **four** operating Latter-day Saint temples — two in Provo, one in American Fork and one in Payson. Besides the Orem Temple, another is under construction in Saratoga Springs. If you have potential housing in the Salt Lake City area, the Salt Lake Valley claims **five** temples — Salt Lake, Taylorsville, Jordan River, Oquirrh Mountain and Draper temples. Of if you desire to rent an AirAnB, consider using this URL: <https://www.airbnb.com/> and <https://www.google.com/search?q=Family+Reunions+near+Provo%2C+Utah&oq=Family+Reunions+near+Provo%2C+Utah&aqs=chrome..69i57j33i10i160j33i299.12850j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>. There will find some find vacation rentals, cabins, beach houses, unique homes and experiences around the Provo area all within commuting distance from the BYU campus. Motels can be expensive and restaurants can be equally as expensive. Using the AirAnB with full cooking facilities is probably the best way to host a large family reunion.

### **Closing Comments: Creative Alternatives for Local/Regional Family Reunions with Lower Costs**

Even if your family can't get to Salt Lake City Family History Library (their collection includes over 2.4 million rolls of microfilmed genealogical records; 727,000 microfiche; 356,000 books, serials, and other formats; over 4,500 periodicals and 3,725 electronic resources) or Provo for the BYU Family History Library areas because of their family history libraries, consider going to local stake family history center to work in your area with over 5,200 centers world-wide in 145 countries. Don't forget that there is telephone FamilySearch support at 1-866-406-1830 (in North America) or 00-800-1830-1830 (in the United Kingdom). For other international locations, please refer to the [Contact FamilySearch](#). Each one has multiple desktop computers, printers, scanners and good Internet connections. And best of all, each one is staffed by trained specialists for their patrons. Here's a global map with their locations at <https://www.familysearch.org/centers/locations/>, Then there are multiple ways to connect virtually on your cell phone with free virtual conferencing software apps. Here's a neat article explaining the creative free opportunities on the subject at <https://whereby.com/blog/the-nine-best-free-video-conferencing-apps/>. Here's a breakdown of the best free video conferencing apps ranked based on their video and audio capabilities, security, screen sharing features, chat and more on computers, tablets and smartphones.

These include:

- **Whereby:** <https://whereby.com/>
- **Jitsi:** <https://jitsi.org/>
- **Google Meet:** <https://meet.google.com/>
- **Zoom:** <https://zoom.us/>
- **Zoho Meeting:** <https://www.zoho.com/meeting/>
- **Livestorm:** <https://livestorm.co/>
- **Cisco Webex:** <https://www.webex.com/video-conferencing>

But you can also divide you family reunion members into small groups to work together if each group using ear buds for more silence even if confined to one room. However, the family history center is usually a part of a large church building which has many rooms as well so groups can place themselves away statistically from other groups more conveniently and then return to the FHC's computer room for on-line researching



as a family unit. Good luck in learning how to brighten up your next family reunion and/or consider expanding it from the ideas shared in this post. If you need more inspiration for hosting your next Family Union with an emphasis on temple & family history, consider perusing these previous Facebook Group postings:

- [Partial Virtual Family Reunions Part 4: Why You Might Be Successful?!!](http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Family%20Reunions%20Part%206.pdf) reads better at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Family%20Reunions%20Part%206.pdf>: or see June 17, 2022 posting
- [Partial Virtual Family Reunion, Part 1: Activities with technology that can add fun and excitement to your summer gathering including Memorial Day and other Holidays](http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Virtual%20Family%20Reunion.pdf) at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Virtual%20Family%20Reunion.pdf>: or see May 25, 2022 posting
- [Partial Virtual Family Reunion: Part 2, technology that can add fun and excitement to your summer gatherings \(Don't miss Part 3 forthcoming\)](http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Partial%20Virtual%20Family...) reads better at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Partial%20Virtual%20Family...>: or see May 31, 2022 posting
- [Partial Virtual Family Reunion: Part 3: Don't Miss These Jeopardy TV Game Templates with Customized Options!](https://kuzmich4.com/.../Partial%20Virtual%20Family...) (reads better at <https://kuzmich4.com/.../Partial%20Virtual%20Family...>: or see June 12, 2022 posting
- [Partial Virtual Family Reunions Part 4: Why You Might Be Successful?!!](http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Family%20Reunions%20Part%206.pdf) reads better at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Family%20Reunions%20Part%206.pdf>: or see June 17, 2022 posting
- [Family History Reunions: Plan Now for Special Memories Either Virtually or In-Person](http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Family%20History%20Reunions.pdf) or see <http://www.kuzmich4.com/.../Family%20History%20Reunions.pdf> as it reads better at the above link: or see January 18, 2022 posting
- [He Who Hesitates Misses Golden Opportunities:](#) or see July 11, 2020 posting
- [Stimulating Ideas/Activities for Family Reunions That Incorporate Family History!:](#) or see January 10, 2020 posting
- [Consider Hosting a Virtual Family Reunion:](#) or see January 4, 2019 posting
- [Family Reunions: Jump Start your Family History Memories:](#) or see December 26 posting



# BYU Family History Library Family & Group Experiences



## Activity Experiences

- Family History Escape Room
- Family History Library Tour
- Family History Games
- FamilySearch Scavenger Hunt
- FamilySearch Activities
- Record Preservation
- Personalized Discovery Experience\*



## Before You Come

- ✓ Create a FamilySearch account (ages 8-12 require parental permission)
- ✓ Record your username & password
- ✓ Gather pedigree information for living ancestors
- ✓ Identify the first deceased person in each ancestral line




## Preparing for a Personalized Discovery Experience

- ✓ Define a goal
  - Which person in your tree would you like to learn more about and why?
  - What is the FamilySearch ID for this person?
- ✓ Identify your FamilySearch "Helper number" (US Accounts - Permissions - Helper Number or Google "Find FamilySearch helper number for detailed instructions")
- ✓ Schedule your experience with the BYU FHL Missionary Coordinators
- ✓ Send the following information for each participant\* to: [byu/missionaries@gmail.com](mailto:byu/missionaries@gmail.com)
  - A research goal (defined above)
  - The FamilySearch ID of the ancestor identified in the goal
  - The helper number
  - Contact information

\* Information must be received 2 weeks prior to schedule a discovery experience

## Brief Instructions with Missionary Help

- Getting started with FamilySearch (brief overview—why it matters)
- Indexing for beginners
- Beginning research - general tips
- Documenting sources
- Recording memorabilia
- Discovering the Wild & Historical records
- Finding people for temple ordinances
- Using Smartphone apps
- Accessing partner programs (Ancestry, FindMyPast, MyHeritage, GeneNet, American Ancestors)



## How to Schedule an Event

- Contact BYU FHL Missionary Coordinators: [byu/missionaries@gmail.com](mailto:byu/missionaries@gmail.com) (301) 422-3766
- Arrange – date, time, number of participants, group leader
- Select desired activity

