

Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness; for the power is in them.

DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 58:27–28

**MISSION STATEMENT**

As members of the Jamaica 1st Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Savior of the world, and our greatest Exemplar. We strive to deepen our discipleship by proclaiming the truths of the restored gospel, participating in temple work, and building Zion in southeast Queens — a community of Saints who serve all of God’s children with tolerance, respect, dignity, and charity — the pure love of Christ (see Moroni 7:47).

**PRIORITIES**

The Jamaica 1st Ward and its members will strive to —

- 1

Invite all to come unto Christ (see Doctrine and Covenants 20:59).
- 2

Teach all ward members to become more self-reliant, spiritually and temporally.
- 3

Reach out to the community through service and bring the church out of obscurity.
- 4

Work toward the creation of a Haitian Creole branch and the establishment of a stake of Zion in Jamaica.

We will work toward these priorities collectively and individually (see Doctrine and Covenants 1:30) by making the Jamaica 1st Ward a place where:

Everyone is welcome.

*[The Lord] doeth that which is good among the children of men; and he doeth nothing save it be plain unto the children of men; and he inviteth them all to come unto him and partake of his goodness; and he denieth none that come unto him, black and white, bond and free, male and female; and he remembereth the heathen; and all are alike unto God, both Jew and Gentile.*

2 NEPHI 26:33

The Jamaica 1st Ward is a spiritual home and a safe place for everyone who lives in our ward boundaries and all who visit, regardless of faith or other distinction.

OBJECTIVE

We will recognize that the Sabbath is the Lord's day, keep it holy, and call it a delight (see Exodus 20:8–11; Isaiah 58:13).

►

Sacrament meeting and other Sunday meetings will be a spiritual feast for those who participate.

►

Meetings will be thoughtfully planned in advance under the guidance of the Holy Ghost.

►

Speakers, teachers, and other participants will be trained and supported as they serve.

OBJECTIVE

We will seek opportunities to connect with our community.

►

We will provide service to each other and our community on a regular basis.

►

We will build interfaith connections, trust, and cooperation.

OBJECTIVE

We will heed our prophet’s call to “lead out in abandoning attitudes and actions of prejudice.”<sup>1</sup>

Everyone contributes.

*Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are called to the work.*

DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 4:3

The Lord needs all of us to help accomplish his work in this part of his vineyard. All ward members will have opportunities to share their time and talents, express their faith, and exercise priesthood authority.

OBJECTIVE

All members will be invited to contribute to the life of the ward.

►

All active members will receive a calling or assignment to complete at least once a month.

►

At least 80% of ministering interviews will be completed each quarter.

►

We will work to make contact with each member and family in the ward.

OBJECTIVE

Men and young men will exercise priesthood authority and progress in the priesthood.

►

All active young men will be ordained to the appropriate priesthood office for their age.

►

Adult men, especially recent converts, will be prepared for ordination to and service in the Melchizedek Priesthood.

►

All priesthood holders will have regular opportunities to administer the sacrament and perform other ordinances.

OBJECTIVE

Women and young women will be equal partners in building up the ward.

►

Women will serve and be respected and supported in positions of authority and responsibility.

►

All young women will have opportunities to participate, lead, serve, and teach in visible ways, and serve in a Young Women class presidency.

Everyone learns, teaches, and grows.

*Seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning, even by study and also by faith. Organize yourselves; prepare every needful thing; and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God.*

DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 88:118–119

The Jamaica 1st Ward is a “house of learning” where everyone can follow the Savior’s example by growing spiritually, intellectually, physically, and socially (see Luke 2:52).

OBJECTIVE

Members and visitors whose first language is not English will be fully supported in their efforts to learn the truths of the restored gospel.

►

We will celebrate the multicultural heritage of our community.

►

We will provide translation and other essential support to non-English speakers.

OBJECTIVE

We will prepare children, youth, new members, and long-time members to *make and keep* baptismal and temple covenants.

►

We will fellowship and support new members so they can achieve spiritual milestones on the covenant path.

►

All members will be invited to be worthy of and hold a current temple recommend and to attend the temple regularly.

OBJECTIVE

We will become more converted disciples of Jesus Christ.

►

Members will know what the covenant path is and be empowered to progress on it.

►

Members will prioritize individual and family gospel study, supported by the church and the ward.

►

We will invite the Holy Ghost into our lives by fulfilling the two great commandments (see Matthew 22:36–40).