

Learn more about the Joseph Smith Papers project.

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Greetings

We are pleased to share with you our latest newsletter. This issue contains information on the most recent update to our website, which included the entire digital version of [Documents, Volume 7](#), an introduction to and transcription of the [Kirtland Safety Society Stock Ledger](#), a number of Nauvoo City Council documents, introductions for six legal cases, and a [historical introduction and annotation](#) for Doctrine and Covenants 132.

This issue of the newsletter also highlights the fourth annual Joseph Smith Papers Conference and includes an article by our senior research and review editor that analyzes the King Follett discourse and Joseph Smith's preaching style.

Sincerely,

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



New Content on Joseph Smith Papers Website

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Fourth Annual Joseph Smith Papers Conference

On Friday, September 18, 2020, the Joseph Smith Papers Project held the fourth annual Joseph Smith Papers Conference. Due to the ongoing global pandemic, the event was held online.

Presentations explored aspects of Joseph Smith's interrelated worldviews, including with respect to race, politics, finance, and theology. Papers engaged with themes found in volumes 10 and 11 of the Documents series of *The Joseph Smith Papers*.

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The King Follett Discourse and Joseph Smith's Preaching Style

By Mark Ashurst-McGee, Senior Research and Review Editor

It is known as the King Follett discourse, a sermon that Joseph Smith gave toward the end of his life in honor of recently deceased church member King Follett. Widely considered Smith's greatest discourse—in which he expounded the doctrines of premortal spirit existence, salvation for the dead, and exaltation—it is also the best documented of all his discourses. The seven extant accounts go beyond capturing his words, offering valuable details regarding his dynamic preaching style.

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