



# Young Women Age-Group Names

First Presidency | April 20, 2026

To: Stake, Mission, and District Presidencies; Bishoprics and Branch Presidencies; Members of Stake and Ward Councils and Their Counselors and Secretaries; Young Women Advisers and Specialists; Young Women Class Presidencies

Copies: General Authorities, General Officers, Area Seventies, All Members

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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

To help young women understand their divine place in God's work, to represent their spiritual dignity as His beloved daughters, and to highlight their progression, we are pleased to announce the following age-group names for young women, beginning in the year they turn 12:

- **Builder of Faith**, young women turning 12 or 13—a Builder of Faith helps build God's kingdom through her faith in Christ, steadfast witness, and actions that uplift and encourage others (see Ephesians 2:20).
- **Messenger of Hope**, young women turning 14 or 15—a Messenger of Hope carries Christ's message of hope to the weary, speaking peace, sharing comfort, and lifting hearts through the power of the Spirit (see Mosiah 18:8–9).
- **Gatherer of Light**, young women turning 16 or older—a Gatherer of Light trusts divine guidance and draws strength from covenants as she seeks, gathers, and reflects God's light (see Doctrine and Covenants 50:24).

Bishoprics and adult Young Women leaders may decide how to organize the young women for instruction and activities. When needed, age-groups may meet together.

No matter how the young women are organized for instruction and activities, they are referred to by their age-group names, and each age-group has a called president. Where possible, one or two counselors and a secretary serve with each president.

Sincerely,

The First Presidency

Dallin H. Oaks

Henry B. Eyring

D. Todd Christofferson

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## Young Women Age-Group Changes

### **When will changes to Young Women age-group names take place?**

Members are encouraged to begin using the new age-group names immediately. Leader and Clerk Resources (LCR) will be updated on June 1, 2026, to include the new Young Women age-groups. At that time, all young women will automatically be assigned to an age-group based on the age they turn in 2026. Age-group presidencies can then be assigned in LCR. In a ward or branch with few young women, age-groups may meet together for instruction and activities.

### **Do existing class presidencies need to be released and called again?**

If all members of an existing class presidency will be in the same age-group, they do not need to be released and called again. However, the ward clerk will need to reassign the callings in LCR on June 1, 2026. If a class presidency will not become an age-group presidency, they should be formally released by a member of the bishopric and new presidencies called.

If new presidencies are needed, the bishopric may begin calling young women to serve now. The presidencies can also be sustained and set apart now, but the ward clerk will need to wait to assign the callings in LCR on or after June 1, 2026.

### **What is the difference between an age-group and a class?**

Currently, bishoprics and adult Young Women leaders work together to organize young women into one or more classes. Effective immediately, three age-groups will be organized according to the age each young woman turns during the year: Builders of Faith (turning 12–13), Messengers of Hope (turning 14–15), and Gatherers of Light (turning 16 or older).

### **Can we move young women into classes in the same way that we have for the past six years?**

No. Each age-group is distinct. However, bishoprics and adult Young Women leaders prayerfully decide how to organize the young women for instruction and activities. When

needed, age-groups may meet together. Each age-group should still have a presidency. When more than one age-group meets together, the presidencies work together to plan and hold Sunday meetings and activities.

### **What if our ward has a small number of young women?**

Each age-group with a young woman in the group should have a president. For example, if a ward has two young women who are in different age-groups, they would each serve as president of their age-group. Where possible, one or two counselors and a secretary serve with each president.

### **What if our ward has a large number of young women?**

If bishoprics and adult Young Women leaders decide that an age-group includes too many young women, they may divide the age-group. Each group would have its own presidency.

### **Who attends ward youth council?**

The president of each age-group attends ward youth council meetings.

### **How are adult leaders assigned to age-groups?**

The Young Women president has responsibility for the Gatherers of Light (ages 16 or older). Her first counselor has responsibility for the Messengers of Hope (ages 14–15). Her second counselor has responsibility for the Builders of Faith (ages 12–13). When needed, advisers can be called and assigned to a specific age-group.

### **How will age-group progression occur each year?**

Young women will become Builders of Faith beginning in January of the year they turn 12 years old, Messengers of Hope beginning in January of the year they turn 14 years old, and Gatherers of Light beginning in January of the year they turn 16 years old.