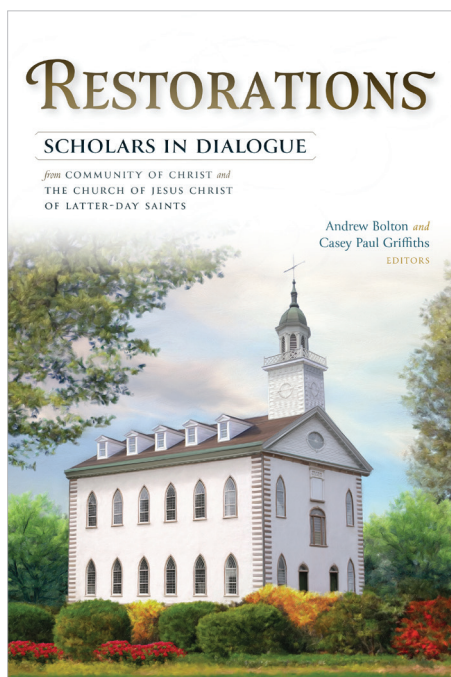


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER

# RESTORATIONS

Scholars in Dialogue from Community of Christ and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



PROVO, UTAH, AND SALT LAKE CITY—"I have a greater appreciation for the early history that we shared."

"I feel that this experience has strengthened my faith in God and has helped me gain a greater feeling of love for all of God's children."

These are just a small sample of the responses from participants in the dialogue between Community of Christ and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Both churches descend from the Restoration movement brought about by Joseph Smith. The two churches hold fourteen years (1830–44) of shared history and then nearly two centuries of separate development and growth.

Yet those shared years, brief though they were, created a bond between the two churches. Those shared, sacred spaces will always connect the faiths, but these faiths are only now finding that their members can find connection, peace, and the grace of Jesus Christ as they create a new sacred space together. Since 2016, the authors of *Restorations*, as well as many other members from each faith, have worked to create this sacred space as they have engaged in meaningful dialogue with one another.

Many have questioned the value of this interfaith dialogue. What is the point of a dialogue in which you don't convert others to your own faith? Is there any purpose in conversing with people of another faith who are seemingly set in their ways?

As the dialogue's participants have come to learn, this faithful, respectful dialogue is not about converting the other party but about building understanding and friendship. Within this book are discussions between scholars from both faiths on twelve topics, from Jesus Christ to Zion. Like the participants in the dialogue, readers of this book will come to a greater understanding of both faith traditions and gain a better appreciation of their common roots.

*Restorations: Scholars in Dialogue from Community of Christ and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints* was edited by Andrew Bolton and Casey Paul Griffiths and copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and Deseret Book. Visit [rsc.byu.edu](http://rsc.byu.edu) for more information.

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