Getting started with my Family History

http://www.familysearch.org **FamilySearch**, search the IGI, Ancestral File, and the Pedigree Resource File. Use the Family History Library Catalog to find micro films that can be ordered at your Family History Center. Search the 1880 US Census, 1881 British Census, and the 1881 Canadian Census. Search the Social Security Death Index and the Vital Records indexes for Mexico **and** Scandinavia. Find research guides and other helps.

http://pilot.familysearch.org **Record Search**, search records indexed from the FamilySearch Indexing project. Including all or parts of: 1850 US Census, 1860 US Census, 1880 US Census, 1900 US Census, Ellis Island Passenger Arrival Lists; Georgia, Michigan, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Washington, West Virginia,Texas and Utah Death Certificates. Many other records including records from England, Germany, Mexico, and Norway, also many other vital records for the US. New records are added every month as the Indexing projects are completed. There are also many images of records which have not yet been indexed which are available to look through by locality.

http://www.familysearchindexing.org **FamilySearch Indexing**, volunteer to index records from the Church's microfilm collection to help make more records available online. Each batch takes about 30 minutes.

https://wiki.familysearch.org **FamilySearch Research Wiki**, contains research helps for many locations throughout the world. Look for help or contribute information which you have about family history research.

http://forums.familysearchsupport.org **FamilySearch Forums**, ask for help finding a specific type of information or help others who are asking for help. Give feedback on how to improve the research wiki or the forums.

New FamilySearch (may not be available in your area yet) the replacement for Temple Ready, will allow members to clear names for the temple from home. Allows all family members to work on the same family history files, the official records of the Church. Allows families to update and correct errors which have been submitted to the Church. Now available in about half of the Temple districts in the world. All Church members should have access by the first part of 2009.

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/frameset_fhc.asp **Family History Centers,** order microfilms and microfiche for use in the center. Use: FamilyLink, Footnote, Genline, Godfrey Memorial Library, Heritage Quest Online, World Vital Records subscription web services for free in the center. Get one on one help from Family History Consultants. Use newFamilySearch in the helper mode before it is available in your Temple District with the help of a Family History Consultant with an advanced account.

http://www.slco.lib.ut.us/databases_genealogy.htm **Salt Lake County Library**. use Heritage Quest Online from home or in the library, use Ancestry.com while in the library. Use NewsBank with the Pioneer database and the America's Obituaries and Death Notices database from home or while in the library. Some of these databases may be available in other public libraries. http://newfamilyhistory.googlepages.com/home **newFamilyHistory** is a family history helps web sites. Where you can find many online links to family history records all over the internet.

Family History Consultants, call your Ward's Family History Consultant for one on one help in any area of family history research and assistance in clearing names for the Temple at the Family History Center.

Getting Started, the best way to start doing family history research is to gather what information you know or can get from relatives onto a pedigree chart, when you get back to dead ancestors you may be able to find in Church databases at FamilySearch.org, or in databases at the Family History Center, names all linked into families that you can download into a file called a GEDCOM file, this will save a lot of typing. These files can be imported into your PAF (Personal Ancestral File) computer program (a free download at http://www.ldscatalog.com click on Family History then Software Downloads, download PAF version 5.2). Enter your family names in PAF. With an LDS member account at FamilySearch.org (requires your membership number and confirmation date, get this information from your Ward Clerk) you can look up the names to see if the Temple Work has been done at FamilySearch on the IGI database which contains all the Temple records. When you find a name that needs Temple work, bring a backup of your PAF file to the Family History Center and the workers there will help you clear the name for the Temple. You can find the names of ancestors at many of the above listed web sites, your Public library, or at the Family History Center. Find help learning where to look for ancestors at the FamilySearch Wiki and at the FamilySearch website. Ask for help from a Family History Consultant or others in your Ward with Family History research experience or at the FamilySearch forums.

Read this article by **President Howard W Hunter** to learn about the blessings of doing Family History Work. http://www.lds.org/pa/library/0,17905,7315-1,00.html