

Our next Legacy Lecture Series will be held on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 12 noon in the basement of the St. George Tabernacle

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Dear Friends,

Our next **Legacy Lecture Series** presentation will be held on **Monday, January 9, 2023** at 12 noon in the basement of the St. George Tabernacle. Our featured guest speaker will again be **Ron Thompson, former Washington County Water Conservancy District Manager**. We were pleased to hear from Mr. Thompson during our October meeting, and he has accepted an encore performance to continue providing information to help us understand our ongoing water issues and challenges.

Mr. Thompson served in his position as Washington County Water Conservancy District Manager for 38 years before he retired in 2019. He said he learned about forecasting future needs from the pioneers who settled Washington County. When they started coming to this area in 1861, water quickly became a priority and a problem. Situated at the cross-section of the Mojave Desert, Colorado Plateau, and Great Basin, the area fluctuates in water availability. Droughts and flooding are common in Utah, the nation's second driest state, and the early settlers had to learn to build and rebuild water and infrastructure to survive the arid landscape.

Thompson grew up in Cedar City and also had family members in Washington County. To give himself an edge professionally, Thompson studied accounting for his undergraduate degree at Brigham Young University, and then went to law school at the University of Utah. In 1974, he and his wife Dorothy moved to Washington County to practice law. He worked in various county positions, and then started working as the general manager of the water district in 1982, which coincided with the beginning of the Quail Creek Reservoir project. The \$20 million Quail Creek Reservoir was dedicated in 1985 and in full use by 1987. But early on New Year's Day 1989, the dam broke, bringing a flood of 30,000-acre feet of water and displacing over 1,000 people. Reflecting on the disaster, Thompson said he was amazed at how well the engineers and contractors handled the rebuilding project. He went on to work on the Lake Powell Pipeline project until his retirement in 2019. Ron and his wife and children and grandchildren all live in St. George, and enjoy their time together.

Thank you so much for your support of the **Legacy Lecture Series**. We look forward to being with you on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 12 noon in the St. George Tabernacle. Please invite your friends and neighbors.

Looking ahead, our February 6th speaker will be Steve Studdert, who served as senior White House advisor to three Presidents of the United States and carried out diplomatic assignments to more than 100 nations. He will be speaking about his diplomatic experiences then and now.

**PLEASE REPLY TO LET US KNOW IF YOU RECEIVED THIS EMAIL, AND IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE MEETING. THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Lamoreaux  
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