

www.familysearch.org

A **FREE** website operated by the Church of the Latter-Day Saints.

6.3* billion searchable records coming from around the WORLD.

1/3* of what records that have been digitalized are NOT indexed

1. First time going to this site:
 - Sign up for a free account, choose “Create Account” top right-hand corner of home page and answer the questions, name, birthdate, e-mail, etc. Next page will ask for user name and password.
 - WRITE your user name and password in a safe place, one you will be able to find when needed.
 - Opt for receiving messages from Family Search, then check that you agree to their terms of use.
 - You will then receive a confirming e-mail, respond by following the directions given. Next time you go to the website, choose “Sign In”. Only create an account once.
2. Don't be afraid to click on things, drop-down menus, anything in blue, the little circle with the letter i in the middle... You need to spend time exploring. Read everything on the page.
3. If you need help click on the “Help” option at the top right of the home page. It's a “?” in a circle.
4. Use the wiki for information on how to research.
 - Go to the wiki and find genealogical word lists in foreign languages to use when reading documents not in English.
 - The wiki can also give you research suggestions such as when birth records began for the area you are researching and so much more.
5. By clicking on “Search” on the top left of the home page, you can research Records, Images, Family Trees, Genealogies, Catalogs, Books and the Research Wiki.
 - You can search by putting in identifying information about your ancestor, or you can search by geographical location, or by collection or by browsing all collections.
 - Not all records are indexed so be sure to try by location and collections as well as by names of ancestors.
6. Family Search has a global “Family Tree”.
 - It's easy to use, can be used with apps on phones, with both PC and Apple, with tablets etc.
 - It can be accessed anywhere in the world.
 - It allows you to post pictures, family stories, audio recordings, video recordings, documents and know that the Church has guaranteed that all links will always remain active and will be safely stored in the Church's mountain vault.
 - Living people only appear on your tree, they are not accessible to anyone other than you. Likewise, you will not see living people on other person's trees unless they are on your tree as well.
 - You can communicate with others that have added information or source documents to a common ancestor.
 - It could be your solution for what to do with your research when you die.