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While some may view Jerald and Sandra Tanner only as despised critics of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, it is impossible to trace the course of Mormon history over the past sixty years without acknowledging their contribution. Many both inside and outside of Mormonism respect them for their unflinching quest for truth no matter the cost, as when Jerald declared Mark Hofmann’s notorious Salamander Letter a forgery months before some experts declared it authentic. Their Utah Lighthouse Ministry has operated for decades only blocks from church headquarters, where their many works on Mormonism are still printed and sold. Jerald died in 2006 but Sandra continues to oversee the ministry.

The Tanners consistently challenged the church’s position on many historical issues. Utah Lighthouse was long the only source for Mormon scholars to obtain crucial historical reprints, which they still happily or begrudgingly purchase; for others, the Tanners’ writings have been the source of disillusionment with the church. Despised or beloved, the influence of Jerald and Sandra Tanner cannot be underestimated or ignored.

Ronald V. Huggins received his ThD from the University of Toronto/Toronto School of Theology. He taught at Moody Bible Institute Northwest, Salt Lake Theological Seminary, and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he also served as managing editor of the Midwestern Journal of Theology. He has published in the Journal of Biblical Literature, Novum Testamentum, Ephemerides Theologicae Lovaniensis, and the Westminster Theological Journal. His writings in the fields of world views, psychology, and comparative religion have appeared in The Evangelical Dictionary of World Religions, the Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society, The Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies, Phanê: Journal of Jung History, and Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought. He and his wife Marguerite have four children and ten grandchildren.
After D. Michael Quinn’s death in April 2021, his children found his remarkable, unpublished memoir in his home and entrusted Signature Books with its publication. Relying on his journals, primary research, and reminiscences, Quinn shares his life story as few have heard it—from his father’s hiding of his true name and Mexican identity, to his upbringing by his abusive grandmother, to his choice to closet his homosexuality, to his undying commitment to his faith and its history.

From the age of nine, Quinn felt convicted he would one day serve as an apostle of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He chose the path he believed would take him there, eventually living as a straight LDS family man in a mixed-orientation marriage. In the 1980s he became a BYU professor and one of Mormonism’s most promising, prolific, and respected historians. But his uncompromising commitment to total honesty about his religion’s history, along with his homosexuality, set him on a collision course with church leaders and the end of his seemingly idyllic Mormon life. Throughout his telling, Quinn unflinchingly opens up about his feelings and experiences that shaped his enigmatic life.

D. Michael Quinn taught history at Brigham Young University for twelve years after he earned his PhD at Yale University in 1976. He is the author of several books on Mormon history, including his three-volume *Mormon Hierarchy* series and *Early Mormonism and the Magic World View* published by Signature Books. He received the Herbert Feis Award from the American Historical Association for his 1996 study, *Same-Sex Dynamics among Nineteenth Century Americans: A Mormon Example*. In 2016 the Mormon History Association awarded him the Leonard J. Arrington Award for distinguished and outstanding service in Mormon history.
Latter-day Saints believe that, following the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the death of the original apostles, a Great Apostasy occurred that took God’s authorized servants from the earth and with them, direct revelation from God. This forced people to fend for themselves spiritually, which only resulted in lost truths, false doctrines, and a state of confusion that could only be remedied by a restoration. This, Mormons believe, was initiated by Joseph Smith, God’s chosen mouthpiece for this new era. But many church members’ understanding of this apostasy is tinged with tainted suppositions and misunderstandings. Statements such as “the priesthood was taken from the earth” and “the gospel was shattered into many pieces” are not only inaccurate but are curtly dismissive of fellow Christians. Gregor McHardy examines the fate of the apostles, the actual dissipation of authority following their deaths, the gradual onset of changed doctrines, and similar topics.

McHardy’s careful, astute examination leads to a realization that Jesus’s prediction that “the gates of hell shall not prevail” against the organization Peter led was accurate. With that understanding, today’s Latter-day Saints can craft more positive, engaging statements about the nature and meaning of their Restoration.

Gregor McHardy is a resident professor of computer science at Scottsdale Community College in Arizona and holds an MA in history from American Public University. McHardy has traveled extensively, visiting forty-eight of the United States as well as thirty-two countries. Over the past dozen years, he has undertaken to read the Book of Mormon in many languages, including Greek, his tenth. He and his wife, Lorri, are graduates of Brigham Young University and are the parents of six children.
Mormonism begins with a memoir: Joseph Smith kneeling in a grove until two-thirds of the Godhead appear and promise him a quixotic religious renown. Since then, the faith Smith birthed has raised up memoirs as gritty as Parley P. Pratt’s quasicanonical *Autobiography* or as luminously sarcastic as Elna Baker’s *New York Regional Mormon Singles Halloween Dance*. Grafted somewhere into those works’ genealogy comes this boyhood memoir, rooted not in Mormonism but in the Protestantism of American suburbia and the Jesus Freak movement of the early 1970s, then in, out, and back into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Michael Hicks’s story is a tale studded with awkward episodes of sex, drugs, and rock and roll (not necessarily in that order), along with alcohol, sci-fi, theft, radical politics, cartooning, halfway houses, and the musical avant-garde. The one constant is the brooding figure of Jesus Christ behind Hicks’s various personal rejections and metamorphoses, often via methods admittedly off the books. While many readers know Hicks as a Mormon academic—thirty-five years a professor of music at Brigham Young University—*Wineskin* excavates the path, from boyhood to a PhD, that led him toward a faith that is both primitively Christian and highmindedly Mormon.

Michael Hicks taught music at Brigham Young University for thirty-five years. Among the books he has authored are *Mormonism and Music: A History*, *The Mormon Tabernacle Choir: A Biography*, and *Spencer Kimball’s Record Collection: Essays on Mormon Music*. He has also contributed to the *Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World* and the *Oxford Handbook of Mormonism* and has published in *Journal of the American Musicological Society* and *Journal of Aesthetic Education*. He is a three-time recipient of the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award for his writing about music and as editor of the journal *American Music*. He and his wife, Pam, are the parents of four children and have several grandchildren.


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