Finding spiritually uplifting content in a social media landscape that challenges gospel principles can be difficult. In an effort to produce more positive content, College of Humanities alumnus Zachary Davis (Interdisciplinary Humanities, International Relations '08) introduced Wayfare, a groundbreaking print magazine with a humanities-based approach to gospel learning.

Wayfare is not a typical gospel-related publication like the Liahona. The name of the magazine explains it best: our faith journeys are sometimes unexpected and meandering, but the vistas we arrive at are worth the effort. The magazine helps readers navigate these faith journeys through unique media including visual art, poetry, fiction, essays, interviews, sermons, and even art criticism.

The magazine is designed to be intellectually stimulating, with the goal of proving that faith indeed matters. Isaac Richards (English MA ’24), a contributing editor for Wayfare, acknowledged that the magazine seeks to be spiritually disruptive by writing about topics such as nativism, inequality, and mental health through a gospel lens. “Our lives are pretty seamless. I need something disruptive to help me have a spiritual experience, and the magazine is something out of my daily routine that slows me down,” Richards says.

Through these unique approaches, Wayfare helps Latter-day Saints gain understanding of spiritual topics often overlooked in Church culture. Davis says, “One of the things that Wayfare does really well is that it looks for spiritual insight outside of our tradition and then tries to bring it into conversation with language and ideas that we already understand. Everything is designed to bring you closer to Jesus and your heavenly parents and give you strength to move forward in your personal journey.”

In a world overwhelmed by digital media, Davis wanted copies of the magazine exclusively on paper. Davis says, “I personally think there is nothing like the beauty, delight, and pleasure of a magazine in your hands.” He believes that combining writing, artwork, and poetry can “lift your spirits, give you new perspective, and open windows of understanding.” Although some content is available online, the majority is found only in the semiannual publication.

Davis believes that the humanities are one of the best ways to build one’s testimony. “Everyone should be thinking and learning about what it means to be human,” he says. “If you don’t have the chance to really reflect on what human life is, you can never transcend it or appreciate the joy of consciousness.”

You can learn more about Wayfare and check out its submission guidelines at wayfarenmagazine.org.