

CONGREGATIONAL  
**CLARION**

---

First Congregational Church  
Salt Lake City, UT

SEPTEMBER 2007



**GEARING UP FOR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

## **WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Service at 10:00am**

**Service will return to 11:00am beginning September 9th**

**September 2**                      Place of Honor  
Jer 2:8,12-13; Luke 14:1,7-14

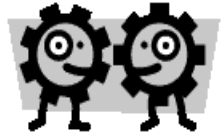
**September 9**                      RALLY SUNDAY  
PICNIC AT  
SUGARHOUSE PARK

**September 16**                      Perfect Patience  
1 Tim 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

**September 23**                      Unrighteous Wealth  
1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

**September 30**                      Pursuits & Persuasion  
1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

**First Congregational Church**  
**2150 S. Foothill Drive**  
**Salt Lake City, Utah 84109**



*Phone: (801) 487-1357      Fax: (801) 466-1331*

**Web Address: [www.firstcongregationalslc.org](http://www.firstcongregationalslc.org)**

**Email: [firstcongo@qwestoffice.net](mailto:firstcongo@qwestoffice.net)**

**Church Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 8:30am - 3:00pm**

**Friday: 8:00am - Noon**

**Worship Hour: Sundays at 11:00am**

<b>Minister.....</b>	Pastor Al Hammond
<b>Moderator.....</b>	Alice Stephenson
<b>1st Assoc. Moderator.....</b>	Wendy Haupt
<b>2nd Assoc. Moderator.....</b>	Paul Kelley
<b>Treasurer.....</b>	Gerry Pala
<b>Financial Secretary .....</b>	Herb & Sandra Shipman
<b>Asst. Fin. Secretary .....</b>	Pamela Dropek
<b>Church Clerk.....</b>	Cathy Rockwell
<b>Board of Trustees.....</b>	Scott Hansen
<b>Board of Deacons.....</b>	Marge Kimes
<b>Outreach Board.....</b>	Ken Rockwell
<b>Stewardship Board.....</b>	Pam Dropek
<b>Christian Education.....</b>	Robin Smith
<b>Membership &amp; Church Development.....</b>	Scott Brown
<b>Parish Nurses.....</b>	Diane Forster-Burke & Marge Kimes
<b>Sunday School Superintendent.....</b>	Annette Tomlinson
<b>Camp Fellowship for Youth.....</b>	Mary Wittke & Tom Hohler
<b>Garden of Grace .....</b>	Scott & Jeanne Hansen
<b>Choir Director.....</b>	Devon Durkee
<b>Organist.....</b>	Edna Hamilton & Bob Dobson
<b>Church Secretary.....</b>	Kristi Hanson

# **REFLECTIONS FROM THE PASTOR....**

*By Pastor Al Hammond*

## **FORGETTING**

I had just crossed over the pass at Big Mountain and was rushing down the north side on my bicycle. The next thing that I remember is changing a flat tire. I must have gone off the road and fell onto the gravel. But I do not remember what caused the fall or even what part of my body had hit first. As I was fixing the tire, a pair of cyclists came by and offered to call for help; they then rode with me to East Canyon Resort to make sure that I safely got that far where my wife picked me up.

I want to remember what happened. I want to know why I fell. I do not like forgetting something that important to my cycling life.

Isn't it amazing that I rejoice when God forgets things, things important for my eternal life? One of our recent readings talks of God removing our sins as if they had not occurred. Whether we have had a spiritual crash or a minor scrape resulting from a bad decision in life, God willingly forgets what we have done wrong, what we should have done. The Lord says in Isaiah 43:25 "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins." God chooses to forget what we have done once we call out to God for help and forgiveness.

We should rejoice in God's purposeful forgetfulness. Even after a spiritual crash, God continues to be with us and watches over us, offering us help and comfort. God gently guides us back to the way. God will continue to escort us over the hills of our lives, helping us arrive safely. From the early church martyrs to the Pilgrims' hardships, to follow Jesus is not without cost. Yet, as my bike crash will soon fade into insignificance, so do our other hardships once we look back from the Kingdom of God. God waits with perfect patience for us to understand that God is trustworthy, full of mercy and grace; waiting to welcome us home.

I am glad that I do remember how welcoming you have been as we start this time together. Thank you for your words of encouragement and support. I look forward each day to serving you.

Blessings,  
Al

**AL HAMMOND – CONTACT INFORMATION**

I will be in the office mornings. (It is a good idea to call and confirm) I will also be available other times by appointment. Please let me know if you would like to meet or have me visit. (Home, hospital, etc....)

After hours please contact me at Home (801) 274-1935, Cell (801) 891-4944 or email at [interim.pastor@earthlink.net](mailto:interim.pastor@earthlink.net)

**FROM THE SECRETARY**

*By Kristi Hanson*

**OCTOBER CLARION DEADLINE IS**  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007**

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES IN ON TIME**

## **HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?**



Strength in a congregation means staying connected. One tool for staying connected is the FCC Directory. It has been over a year since we published the last FCC Directory. So, we are asking members and friends to let us know if your name, address, phone number, or email has changed. If you are not listed in the 2006 Directory, we would like to add your information to help us stay connected. It is easy to update the information, just call FCC office with the changes at 487-1357 or email us at [firstcongo@qwestoffice.net](mailto:firstcongo@qwestoffice.net) or just leave a note in pew pads or drop a note in the collection plate. But, please let us know. An update Directory is planned for this summer.

## **NEW OFFICE HOURS**

The church office will be open Tuesday – Thursday from 8:30am – 3:00 and Friday from 8:00am – Noon.

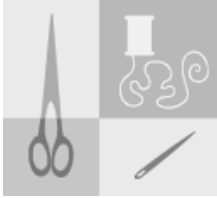


## **NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY**

We are in need of someone who can update the photo section of the church directory. Jeff Emmons emailed the 2005-2006 photo directory to the church office and we need someone to update it by taking pictures of new friends and members and then emailing the finished copy to the church to be attached with the addresses and phone numbers. Kristi will be working on updating the addresses and numbers but she needs someone to handle the photo side of things. The format that the photo directory is in is pdf. Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer.

## **STITCHERS R&R**

Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 4pm in the Fireside Room. Our plan is to meet every other month – last Saturday of every other month.



Just come, bring your sewing supplies and a brown bag lunch, (or plan on going out for fast food). It's just for friends to get together 6 times a year and solve all the worlds' problems. There are NO officers – There are NO by-laws – There are NO rules.

We have talked about having people in the group demonstrate techniques they know – we will talk more about this on September 29<sup>th</sup> – but for this first time just bring one of your unfinished projects or a new one and plan on a great day with good friends. And as always, WE WILL HAVE SHOW AND TELL (that's the best part!!!!). Also bring a quilting book that you particularly like, that's always fun to review.

Contact Alice Stephenson or Kathy Souba for further information.

## **PULPIT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Pulpit Committee has been meeting and is into the process of recruiting a new minister. We have completed the forms required to be listed with the National Association and have been contacted by our first interested parties.

Thank you for completing and returning your surveys. Seventy-eight interested parties provided their input. Your answers indicated much diversity within but a definite commitment to First Congregational Church.

We will provide updates periodically and you can talk with any of us if you have questions.

Marge Kimes  
Diane Forster Burke  
Rob Cope  
Alice Stephenson

Louise York  
Kelli Burdette  
Becky Bishop

## **SEPTEMBER OUTREACH PROJECT: Huntington miners**

At the time of the Clarion deadline, the major story on our minds was the trapped miners of Huntington, Utah. It seems likely at this point that the miners may not have survived; and even if they come through, their families are likely to need some financial assistance. Let us join with other people of goodwill who are likely to help out. We will post further details in the September bulletins.

On the 5th Sunday of September, we will once again be making and serving sandwiches for the Salvation Army. Please plan on joining us after church in the Fireside Room for the sandwich making. Six to eight volunteers are needed for serving, 4:30pm to 6:00pm at the St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen.

## **PICK-UP BASKETBALL**

A couple persons have asked whether FCC might revive pick-up basketball games on Monday nights from November through March. To do so will require interest by a new crop of participants. There needs to be a critical mass of reasonably regular players to keep the program going throughout the winter.

If you would be interested in participating please let Paul Kelley know at 532-3809.



## **HEALTH TIPS FROM PARISH NURSING**

If you want more information on disaster preparedness, go to [www.slneighborhoodpreparedness.net](http://www.slneighborhoodpreparedness.net). There is a web manual at this site.

## FROM THE CHANCEL CHOIR

Hello First Congregational Church!

Here we are again at the end of a very hot summer to open another new chapter for our church. Fall is a great time of change and the transition of this time of year has special significance as we not only greet a new season, but a new interim Minister.



I hope that you feel as I do that music as one of the great equalizers is an excellent device to uplift our emotions in all their color be they joy, apprehension, sadness or hope. In that vein, I would like to welcome our interim minister Al Hammond as well as welcoming back the choir and the congregation for another church year of wonderful music making. Our official return will be on Rally Sunday, September 9, 2007 and I would like to invite everyone in the Congregation to participate in whatever way they feel comfortable whether that be as a choir member, a special musician, a requestor of songs or just a lover and appreciator. Our first rehearsal will be Thursday September 6, 2007 at 7:30pm and all are welcome. Please leave any requests for music in my box at church or via email - [devalily@hotmail.com](mailto:devalily@hotmail.com). As the leaves change, so may we reflect on all of the things that are changing and unchanging in music, faith and life.

Much Love,

Devon Durkee  
Choir Director

**RALLY SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ALL CHURCH PICNIC**

Start the new church year off with fellowship and fun on Rally Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Following the church service in the sanctuary, join us at Sugarhouse Park for a picnic lunch and fun and games.

What a great way to celebrate the start of the new Sunday School and church year.

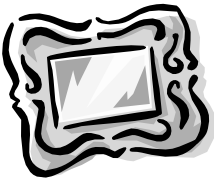
The Church will provide the main course. The rest is up to you. If you can, please bring a dish to share according to the following list.

***BASED ON THE FIRST LETTER OF YOUR LAST NAME:***

**A-G = Chips and Drinks**  
**H-M = Dessert**  
**N-Z = Salad or Side Dish**



Bring yourself, your family, and even a few friends. There will be fun for everyone – guaranteed!



**Stewardship Reflections**

Anything that is of value in life only multiplies when it is given.

**--Deepak Chopra**

## **NEW ADDRESSES**

The Ikefuna Family  
4890 Mossberg Circle  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
Phone: (h) 208-457-8427  
(c) 208-409-6266



The Ritter Family  
24748 Davenport Ave.  
Novi, MI 48374  
Phone: (248) 449-6331

## **NURSERY ATTENDANT AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT POSITIONS**

Our church would like to continue to provide a nursery on Sunday for our worship service attendees who have children too young to attend Sunday School. This is an important “in-reach” service we provide for our churchgoers so that parents may be able to more freely participate in the worship services. Because of liability issues, there must be two people present in the nursery, one of which must be an adult. Consequently, we are seeking applicants for a nursery attendant position that pays \$20/Sunday. In addition, we are seeking a group of about six volunteers that would staff the nursery with the paid attendant on a rotating basis. Our goal is to have a full time paid attendant and one volunteer present in the nursery each Sunday. Our schedule is to have the mechanics of this process in place by Rally Sunday. Please contact Scott Brown, Cissy Wolff, or Rich Dropek of the Membership Board if you have an interest in serving the church in this way. Thank you.



