

CONGREGATIONAL
CLARION

First Congregational Church
Salt Lake City, UT

NOVEMBER 2007



GIVE THANKS

WORSHIP SERVICES



**Worship Service and Sunday School at 11:00am
Nursery Provided**

- November 4** **“Climb a Tree”**
Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thess 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19: 1-10
- November 11** **“Day of the Lord”**
Psalm 98
2 Thess 2: 1-5, 13-17
Luke 20: 27-38
- November 18** **“Opportunity for Testimony”**
Isaiah 12
2 Thess 3: 6-13
Luke 21: 5-19
- November 22** **Thanksgiving Service**
“Food that Endures”
Deut 26: 1-11
Psalm 100
Phil 4: 4-9
John 6: 25-35
- November 25** **“Christ the King”**
Jer 23: 1-6
Col 1: 11-20
Luke 23: 33-43

First Congregational Church
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Web Address: www.firstcongregationalslc.org

Email: firstcongo@qwestoffice.net

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

Friday: 8:00am - Noon

Worship Hour: Sundays at 11:00am

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

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PASTOR....

By Pastor Al Hammond

The fall colors are a delight to the eyes, the bright reds, brilliant yellows, the oranges that seem to blend in with the pumpkins. The air itself is crisp and clear. It seems as if we can see forever. The freshness is a pleasure to the nose. The cool breeze is refreshing on our cheeks, tingling our skin. New sounds abound: the rustle of the leaves, squirrels scampering across the roof as they gather nuts. We know it is time for Thanksgiving and our mouths start to anticipate the food, perhaps for pumpkin pies that we only eat then or that extra scoop of gravy (Why not? Thanksgiving only comes once a year!)

As each of our senses come alive, it is a good time for a rebirth of our faith as well. What can we be thankful about this year? What new blessings have we received from God since last fall? What new ways has God used us to be a blessing to others? This is also a time when we are bombarded with opportunities to serve others: bell ringers for Salvation Army, buying or serving meals at the Rescue Mission for the homeless, making and gathering Christmas baskets for families overseas, the list seems endless and they are all worthwhile. It is less important to do many different things than it is to do something. God has richly blessed us: family, wealth, faith. It is because of our faith that we want to help those around us.

I and my family are thankful for many things. I am thankful that you have given me this opportunity to serve you and to serve God as your interim pastor. I am thankful that I have recovered from my bike crash. I am thankful (and proud) that my eldest daughter has joined the New York Bar, my middle daughter is healthy and my youngest is established in graduate school in Atlanta.

As we reflect on our individual thanksgivings, let us remember our service women and men, the police and fireman keeping us safe as we eat, the doctors and nurses spending their Thanksgiving healing and caring for the injured. Let us look back to our Pilgrim forefathers: that first Thanksgiving was a matter of

survival, not a pleasant feast. As we look back to them, the risks they took to come across the ocean, what they did out of faith so that they could enjoy faithful worship, let us consider what risks we are being called to take for our faith, even if it is only sharing it with a neighbor.

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

FROM THE SECRETARY

By Kristi Hanson

DECEMBER CLARION DEADLINE IS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES IN ON TIME

THANKSGIVING OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be open Tuesday the 20th and Wednesday 21st 8:30am – 3:00pm, closed Thursday and Friday.



Stewardship Reflections

Giving is a necessity sometimes...more urgent, indeed, than having.

--Margaret Lee Runbeck

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

NOVEMBER 18, 2007

5PM

**HOSTED BY LDS BIG COTTONWOOD STAKE AT 5165
HIGHLAND DRIVE (ON DONELSON LANE)**

You are invited to attend the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on November 18th. Geri and Phil Thom's granddaughter, Chloe Thom will be offering the benediction.

The main speaker will be Robert Kirby, S.L. Tribune columnist. Food and fellowship will follow.

All are invited to attend.

Watch for Sunday bulletin inserts for location and other details. If you have any questions, please call Jeniel Smith, 461-0165.

FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Last month Annette, Keli, and Paul helped us celebrate Jesus' healing of the sick through the rotation "Dance for Joy". This month we start a new rotation, Living God's Word through Acceptance, based on Acts 10:1-48 and Corinthians 12: 12-31. We will learn to recognize our diverse and unique gifts, and how we can use them together to serve God and others. We are glad to have Patti Garver, Becky Eaton, Wendy Haupt, and Nancy Hohler teaching this month, and we would like to thank all of the teachers who enrich our children's lives.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE

Everyone is invited to attend the Thanksgiving Day worship service at First Congregational Church. The service will begin at 10:30am. On that day we remember our Congregational ancestors, the Pilgrims, and worship in the same manner they did at Plymouth Colony.

OUTREACH PROJECTS, Nov.–Dec. 2007



Share the Harvest: Has become our tradition at First Congregational Church, November is "Share the Harvest" month. Congregants are asked to bring cans of food each Sunday, which will be collected for Crossroads Urban Center, one of the premiere food pantries and charitable outlets in downtown Salt Lake City. Plate donations will go to Crossroads as well.

Utah Food Bank: Looking ahead to December, we will have another food sorting session at the Food Bank on tentatively Saturday, Dec. 1st, 10 to noon. Address: 1025 S. 700 West. See Ken Rockwell for further details.

10,000 Villages: We will once again host 10,000 Villages on Dec. 2nd. You will have the opportunity to purchase unique handicrafts made by artisans in developing countries: Christmas ornaments and Nativities, jewelry, personal accessories, and

children's items. Ten Thousand Villages, a nonprofit store whose mission is to provide vital, fair income to Third World people by marketing their handicrafts in North America. Their vision is that one day all artisans in developing countries will earn a fair wage, be treated with dignity and respect, and have a good quality of life.

Also, during the first few Sundays in December we will once again stage the Alternative Gifts International Market that was so successful last year. You can donate money targeted for an international project aiding the needy of the world, and get a gift card describing the project, to be sent to an honoree of your choice. Some examples:

- For the price of an iPod, provide a fully equipped doctor's kit in North Korea with basic diagnostic tools to enable doctors to deliver better health care.
- For the price of a video game, provide a wheelchair and give mobility, dignity, independence, and hope to a person with disabilities in Cambodia.
- For the cost of a dinner and movie, provide permanent, accessible, clean water for an Andean village.

Glenda LeHoux is orchestrating the organization and setup of the bazaar, and would appreciate a little help with setting up and staffing the tables on the first two Sundays of December. For further information call Glenda at 733-4950.

OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP VOLUNTEERS FILL DUMPSTER TO OVERFLOWING

The Garden of Grace and the south and west perimeters of the church were cleared of weeds, underbrush and trash on Friday and Saturday the 13th under the guidance of Trustee Scott Hansen.

Refreshments were kindly provided by Jeanne Hansen.

Volunteers included Scott and Jeanne and Ryan Hansen, Pastor Al, Moderator Alice, Gerry Thom, Phil LeHoux, Paul Kelley, Scott Haupt, and Phil Thom. Joyce Gordon spruced up the garden fronting the narthex.

HANGING OF THE GREENS



Please reserve the morning of December 1st, 10:00AM until Noon for the Hanging of the Greens. Come help us decorate and bring the colors and lights of the season to our sanctuary and narthax. Many hands make light work and it is fun working together to create a space we can enjoy throughout the Christmas season. See you there. Contact anyone on the Board of Deacons for more information.

STITCHERS R&R

Saturday November 24th from 10 am. to 4 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Come, bring your sewing supplies and a brown bag lunch, (or plan on going out for fast food). We can use this time for sewing, or solving all the worlds' problems. There are NO officers - There are NO by-laws - There are NO rules.

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!!!!).

Contact Alice Stephenson or Kathy Souba for further information.

POINSTETTIA ORDER FORM



The Flower Committee is once again making the purchase of poinsettias available for the congregation as memorials or celebrations. The poinsettias will beautify the sanctuary during the Christmas Season. The cost of each will be \$7.50. Please pay when you place your order.

Please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church accompanied with your check if you wish to place an order. Please make checks payable to FCC/Poinsettias. Call the church office if you have any questions. The deadline for ordering is December 2nd, 2007.



Name _____

Number of Poinsettias (at 7.50 each) _____

In Memory of _____



OR

In Celebration of _____



