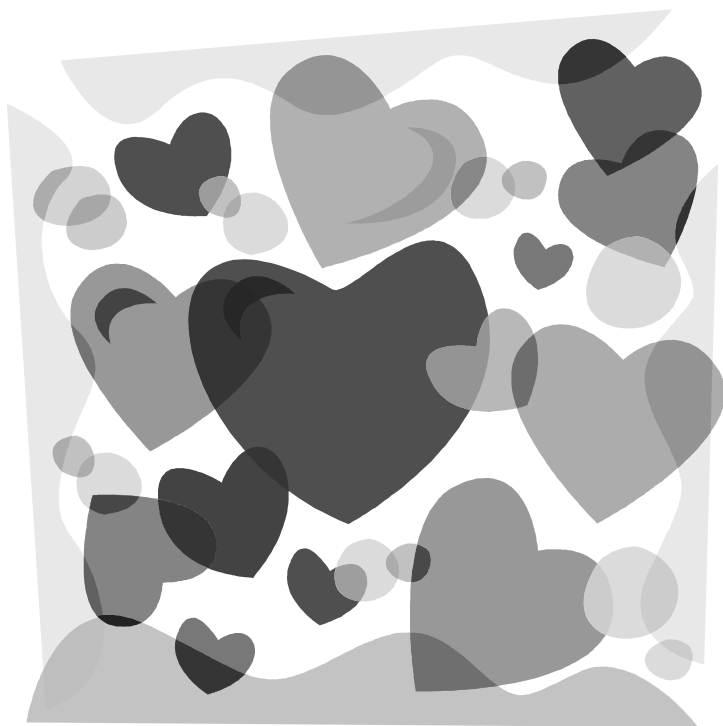


CONGREGATIONAL
CLARION

First Congregational Church
Salt Lake City, UT

FEBRUARY 2008



Happy Valentines

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

February 3 **“The Blessed” Communion**
Micah 6: 6-8
Matthew 5: 1-12

February 6 **ASH WEDNESDAY Communion**
“God’s People: Those Who Fast”
Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17
Isaiah 58: 6-9
Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

February 10 **“God’s People: Tempted”**
Psalms 32
Matthew 4: 1-11

February 17 **“God’s People: Spectators”**
Matthew 17: 1-9

February 24 **“God’s People: Outsiders”**
Exodus 17: 1-7
John 4: 5-26



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

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	Pam 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

LENT

So often we think of Lent as the time to give up something, to deny ourselves some pleasure for the following weeks until Easter. There are many reasons to fast, whether it is for a particular food, a meal, a day or more. When our fasting focuses our attention upon God it becomes a worthwhile spiritual discipline, one that leads to a renewing of faith and to action and is valid throughout the year.

Isaiah 58:6-9 broadens the concept of a fast far beyond giving up a single item:

- 6 “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
and break every yoke?
- 7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe him,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?
- 8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.
- 9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.

Isaiah makes fasting an interesting mixture of actions: letting go of injustice as we work to end exploitation, giving up our food to help the hungry. Isaiah calls us to fast from certain actions as we replace them with new actions, putting our faith into action.

Jesus talks of denying ourselves, to not put our own needs first. But this isn't just doing without something, it is also doing

Continued:

something else instead. In Matthew 16:23-25, Jesus states: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”

As we enter Lent, let us think of the things we can, we should, do. We can help feed the poor, end injustice for all people. We can sit with those who suffer, help the sick. We can also follow Jesus, follow Jesus clear through Lent, through the joy of Palm Sunday, the depths of Good Friday, and then arrive with Jesus victorious at Easter.

Jesus did not keep silent: he brought a message to all the world. That message endures unto today. Let us also not keep silent; let us tell others about the message that endures: the Good News of Easter.

As we follow Jesus, let us give up our silence for Lent, let us replace it by inviting others to celebrate with us the victory of Easter.

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

FEBRUARY CLARION DEADLINE IS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES IN ON TIME



Stewardship Reflections

If I acknowledge God as the creator, it occurs to me that all I am and have is a gift.

--Martin E. Marty, "Giving" Magazine

DESIGNATED OFFERINGS

Please help FCC direct special offerings as you intend. Gifts via check to monthly outreach projects should be noted "Outreach" in the memo section. If you are making a special offering other than the outreach project designated for the month, be sure to provide the name of the fund ("Flowers", "Candles", "Coffee Fund" etc.) or memorial gift. Its fine to write one check designated for multiple funds or projects. Just be sure to clearly note how you would like your gift distributed.

Remember, too, that all cash offerings intended for outreach or other special purposes should indicate the fund designation on the offering envelope. Thank you for supporting the special ministries of First Congregational Church through your generous giving!

DEACONS CARE AND CONCERN CORNER

We have members unable to attend worship and other activities regularly. They would enjoy visitors, phone calls and other contact. Those we are currently aware of are:

Shirl Gadette – Hillside Rehab, 1216 So 1300 East, 487-5865
Daughter Jill 860-7187

Dorothy Parks – Evergreen Canyons Care Center, 4600 So
Highland Dr. Ph: 272-1892

Dorothy Carlin - 1768 W Liberty Dr. West Valley City Ph: 975-
1618

If you have time and interest, please contact these members.
Thanks

Lent and Easter at FCC

Lent is traditionally forty days (representing the days Jesus spent in the desert after His baptism) of fasting and prayer in preparation for Holy Week (which includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.) Join us to honor Lent and Easter:

<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>What</u>
Wed. Feb. 6, 6 PM	Chapel	Ash Wednesday Service (1/2 hour)
Wed. Feb. 13, 6:30 PM	Gym	Youth Lent Melodrama and Potluck (1 ½ hours)
Wed. Feb. 27, 6:30 PM	Gym	“This I believe” Discussion and Potluck (1 ½ hours)
Wed. Mar. 12 , 6:30 PM	Gym	Activity: “TBA” and Potluck (1 ½ hours)
Sun. Mar. 16, 11:00 AM	Sanctuary	Palm Sunday Service
Thurs. Mar. 20, 7:30 PM	Sanctuary	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri. Mar. 21, Noon	Chapel	Good Friday Service
Sun. Mar. 23, 8:30	Chapel	Youth Easter Service
Sun. Mar. 23, 9:30	Gym	Easter Brunch
Sun. Mar. 23, 11:00	Sanctuary	Easter Service

FEBRUARY OUTREACH

By Ken Rockwell

The Outreach Board has chosen to designate February Outreach offerings for the Mazahua Mission in Mexico. First Congregational Church hopes that some of its members may once again visit the Mission this year. Last summer, five members went and joined Congregationalists from elsewhere in local work projects. Plans are still being developed, but we know that our money will be used to make life easier for the people of the Mission and its neighborhood. We will provide more information on the Mission in the coming months.

With the coming of the Lenten season, it's also time for the annual Love Loaves campaign. Love Loaves will be available starting Sunday, February 10, and will be collected on Palm Sunday, March 16.

EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM

It is time to place your order for lilies for the Easter Service! PLEASE! Place your order as soon as possible so that we may reserve the quantity needed. We must have your order no later than March 9th, along with your payment of \$7.50. Your order will be placed when payment is received. Thank You.

Complete the order form below and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office accompanied with your check made out to First Congregational Church / Lilies.

NAME _____

NUMBER OF LILIES (at \$7.50) _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

Please remember to take your Lily/Lilies
home after the Easter Service.

