

CONGREGATIONAL
CLARION

First Congregational Church
Salt Lake City, UT

SEPTEMBER 2008



*GEARING UP FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL*

WORSHIP SERVICES

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

**September 7 RALLY DAY/INSTALLATION SERVICE
"Working With God"
Psalm 119: 33-40
Matthew 18:15-20**

**September 14 COMMUNION
"Forgiveness"
Genesis 45:4-5, 14-15
Matthew 18: 21-35**

**September 21 "Graciousness"
Psalm 105: 1-3
Matthew 20: 1-16**

**September 28 "In Step"
Psalm 78: 1-4
Philippians 2: 1-5**



**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

Minister	Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum
Moderator	Wendy Haupt
1st Assoc. Moderator	Paul Kelley
2nd Assoc. Moderator	Scott Brown
Treasurer	Jerry 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 & Lynne Calame	
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....

Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

No, I have not taken leave of my senses. I fully realize that January 1, 2009 is still several months away. Yet, in many ways, this time of year is like starting a new year. Think about it; family vacation time is over, and the new school year has started.

Most importantly, for me, people are back into the swing of things at church. Sunday School classes are back in full session. More people are in worship. The overall level of excitement and involvement in the life of our church rises.

We even have our own celebration to mark the new year. On August 31, the MISSION MAZAHUA team will lead an extraordinary worship service with special music as they share about their work. Then, September 7 is RALLY DAY to mark the kick-off of a new year of Sunday School. After worship time, we will gather as a church family in Sugar House Park for a picnic after service. In addition to everything else on that day, First Congregational will hold a service of installation for me as the 14th minister of this congregation.

One thing about the "ordinary" New Year's Day is the New Year's resolutions we make. Most resolutions involve ways in which we want to improve our lives in the coming year. Let me challenge you to make "New Year" resolutions for your involvement in First Congregational Church. How could you be a more faithful and involved part of this congregation? How could you help spread the word about the good things happening at First Congregational Church? How could you be more faithfully involved in the work of the Kingdom of God?

Grace and Peace,
Michael

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR
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FROM THE SECRETARY

By Kristi Hanson

OCTOBER CLARION DEADLINE IS
SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES IN ON TIME

FCC EMAIL LIST

The church office would like to update the email list of all of our members and friends. Email is a great way to alert the congregation of any upcoming events or changes or emergencies. Please fill out the form below and mail it into the church office or drop it in the offering plate.

Please indicate if you would like to receive the Clarion by email, if that were available.

(Please add all email addresses you use)

NAME _____

EMAIL _____ For _____

_____ For _____

_____ For _____

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to help out in the nursery please contact Cissy Wolff at 582-2820.

Enjoy meeting and greeting the wonderful people at First Congregational Church. Sign up to host a Coffee Hour. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex or contact Cissy Wolff at 582-2820.

THANK YOU

Sandra Shipman

As our summer schedule comes to a close, I would like to thank all the musicians who enhanced our worship with special music. We had an amazing range of types of music performed by outstanding musicians. To all of you thank you and you are appreciated!

CARE AND CONCERNS

Sandra Shipman

Care and Concern for our members and friends is a foundation of our faith community. In the past one deacon a month would handle cares and concerns, mostly arranging meals. The deacons, council, and our pastor would like to expand the focus to include all members and friends of the church as ministers of cares and concerns.

As we are all considered “ministers” and frequently provide help and support when needed, it would seem this concept would just require a shift in focus and a bit of organizing and publicity. We would include in our effort the parish nurses, prayer chain members, other board members and council. In the meantime, Sandra Shipman will be the contact deacon for Cares and Concerns and answer any immediate questions.

RALLY SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 7TH
ALL CHURCH PICNIC

Start the new church year off with fellowship and fun on Rally Sunday, September 7th, 2008

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.

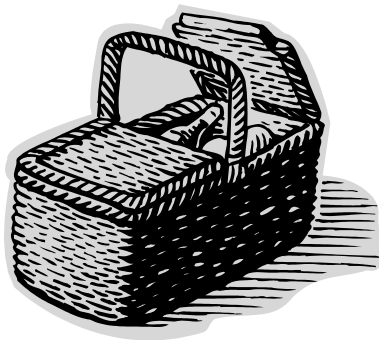
BASED ON THE FIRST LETTER OF YOUR LAST NAME:

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!



FROM THE MODERATOR

Wendy Haupt

As I have gotten to know people in our congregation, I am amazed at the wealth of talent and time people in our congregation have given to our church. We are a small congregation, and it takes all of us to make our church run. Paul Kelly, Scott Brown and I have gotten together to discuss long range goals that we would like to see in our 3 years as moderators. One of the goals we discussed is to make our church more inviting to visitors. The Membership board is working on a new directory and new web site that will be up to date information for anyone in the community to see what is going on in our church. The Outreach Board is planning on updating their bulletin board to show members and visitors where our donations are going and what is planned for the future. The Outreach Board would also like to establish a long term relationship with local, national, and international charities. The Trustees are working hard to improve the look of our facility. The fireside room is undergoing a major renovation, and new flooring will be installed in our kitchen and stage areas. The Trustees also have made a list of future improvements they would like to see in the bathrooms, parlor and other rooms in our church. Many of the rooms just need some paint and some clean up. All of this will take a lot of work by many people. If you see an area that you wish to help with, please contact me or any member of Trustees. You do not have to be on a board to help with a project. Any help is greatly appreciated because the church is all of ours, and we want to keep it looking nice now and in the future.

FROM THE TRUSTEES

Scott Haupt

Management of honoring traditions and historical gifts or assets with our needs just over the horizon is the difficult task of the Trustees. We have assets that are rarely if ever used or enjoyed. Can these be updated or sold to benefit our future? We would like to represent ourselves well and updating our church may be vital in our survival. Do we keep these assets for the benefit of one person or family, or renovate our rooms to modernize and create more comfort for future members or youth programs? Do we keep the monetary funds in savings for emergency needs or draw it down to create a new environment? Obviously a balance is ideal, but we need your input and help. We need volunteers for each room in the Church to oversee and work with the Trustees for the renovations. This may take a couple of years, but each room needs to be uncluttered, assets claimed, marked for renovation, sale or donation, and reconstructed for optimal utilization and appearance.

The Trustees have started with the fireside room renovation. With money earmarked for buildings and grounds, new flooring, lighting, walls, and gas insert fireplace will help create a new warm environment for our church usage. We hope you will enjoy update. With direction of the Council, Our next project will be the bathrooms. If anyone knows of a bathroom renovation contractor, please feel free to contact me to obtain bids. Also, call me if you would like to oversee a room in our church.
Scott Haupt

OUTREACH BOARD NEWS

Thanks to all of you who contributed to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation as part of July's plate offerings! A total of \$605 was raised for this important cause. The August plate offerings will be directed to the Salt Lake Education Foundation which supports underprivileged youth in the Salt Lake City Public School system. In addition to the cash donations, your Outreach Board collected 50 backpacks stuffed with your donations of school supplies that will go directly to young children at the beginning of the school year. Just think of the smiles on the faces of the children who will receive a bright red backpack of their very own!

Your Outreach Board is also happy to announce that we will once again be supporting the Adopt-A-Native-Elder program here in Salt Lake. As you may remember, this program assists tribal elders who live in the four corners region of Utah and Arizona. The elders often live in traditional hogans with no electricity and in very remote, hard to reach locations. They are provided with much needed food and personal hygiene items. You can support the elders in several ways. **First**, plate offerings collected in September will be donated to the program to assist in buying supplies.

Secondly, you can participate in the upcoming food packing days on September 6th and September 13th (Saturdays), from 8:00am – Noon. This simply involves placing food items in boxes to prepare them for delivery in October. The warehouse is located at 328 West Gregson Avenue (near the 3300 South Trax station). Not only does it help the elders but it's a lot of fun!

Finally, you can assist the elders by attending the Navajo Rug Show and Sale that is held annually in Park City. This year's sale is November 7-9 at the Deer Valley Resort. Over 700 rugs woven by Navajo elders will be on display and for sale. All proceeds from the rug sales are returned directly to the weavers. In addition to the rugs, the show includes dances, demonstrations and other special entertainment. This is another great way to support our brothers and sisters while having fun at the same time!

Continued:

Beginning on Rally Sunday, September 7, the Outreach Board will begin selling fairly traded coffee. What exactly is that, you ask? The term “fair trade” indicates that the farmers who produce the product receive a greater portion of the proceeds than through the more common method where wholesalers and retailers keep most of the profits. The fairly traded coffee sustains the individual farmers and their cooperatives and improves the quality of their lives. The coffee that we will be serving and selling at church is from the Peace Kawomera Cooperative (Mirembe Kawomera means “delicious peace” in the Ugandan language Luganda). Look for the coffee table in the narthex beginning in September.

INTERESTED IN ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION?

Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum

Dr. Chittum will plan to offer two classes for adults starting this Fall, if there is sufficient interest. One would be held on Sunday morning during the 10 a.m. hour and repeated on another day of the week - day and time to be determined. The first topic will be "A Beginner's Guide To The Bible" in which the class will discuss how we got the Bible and look at representative books from the different literary genres of the scripture.

The second class will meet monthly - on a mutually agreeable Sunday - and will use the *Living The Questions* material. It is a DVD based class that will require longer than the typical Sunday morning time slot. The class would plan to share lunch together after Sunday service, then watch the DVD and discuss the ideas. The participants would need to plan for at least 1.5-2 hours for the class.

If you have any interest in either class, please let Dr. Chittum know.

ALTERNATIVE CONTACT

Alice Stephenson

I recently realized that sometimes our phone directory is not enough to find you, especially if you live alone. I'm proposing an addition to the church directory consisting of an alternative contact. This contact could be a local family member, or a close friend. Information needed would be name, relationship, and phone number. I will be gathering the information and compiling it for submission to the Membership Board and church office. Please call me with your information.

Alice Stephenson, 272-9047.

2008 Women's Retreat

The annual FCC Women's Retreat is back—a new month but again at last year's beautiful Brighton Lodge at the top of Big Cottonwood Canyon. The dates are Friday-Saturday, October 24 and 25.

Our leader will be June Evans. She has a certificate in Christian studies from Salt Lake Theological Seminary, where she was also vice president for eight years. She is now an adjunct chaplain at Primary Children's Hospital and an Elder at First Presbyterian Church. June has been married to Larry for 46 years and is the mother of 2 and grandmother of 2. Before she moved to Utah 17 years ago, she was a vice president with the Bank of America in California. There's a nice article about June on page 3 of a recent issue of the seminary newsletter:

http://www.slts.edu/Documents/News_2008SU.pdf.

June's theme for the retreat is **Be Still and Know** (Psalm 48:10), exploring the meaning and Christian experience of patience. We will gather for the retreat between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Friday and adjourn no later than 4:00 Saturday. The cost of the retreat is \$80 for a private room with queen bed or \$70 for a shared, dorm-style room with bunk beds. A deposit of \$30 to Diane Forster-Burke (home: 943-4364) is required by Sunday, October 12, with the balance to be paid no later than the retreat itself. Please let Diane know your choice of accommodations and whether you prefer vegetarian meals. Directions to the retreat

center and a list of participants and items to bring will be sent to those who register.

This retreat is a very special tradition among the women of First Congregational, and we invite newcomers as well as those who have come many times. Come, sing, pray, meditate, and socialize to deepen your relationship with God and one another. For further information, contact Susan Olson at 532-3809 or kelloolsn@msn.com.

**Registration Form –
First Congregational Church Women’s Retreat
October 24-25, 2008 Brighton Lodge**



First Name Last Name

Street Address

City State Zip

Registration Fee: _____ **\$80.00 (Private Room)**
_____ **\$70.00 (Dorm Room)**

Vegetarian meals? _____ Yes _____ No

Deposit \$_____ \$30.00 Requested by October 12

Total \$_____ \$70 or \$80

Balance due no later than retreat

