

CONGREGATIONAL  
**CLARION**

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First Congregational Church  
Salt Lake City, UT

February 2009



# WORSHIP SERVICES

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

February 1 – COMMUNION/4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany  
SERMON – Miracle of Grace  
SCRIPTURE – Deuteronomy 18:15-20 & Mark 1:21-28

February 8 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany  
SERMON – Incarnation  
SCRIPTURE – Isaiah 40:21-31 & Mark 1:29-39

February 15 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany  
SERMON – Choosing  
SCRIPTURE – Psalm 30 & Mark 1:40-45

February 22 – Transfiguration Sunday  
SERMON – Worship  
SCRIPTURE – 2 Kings 2:1-12 & Mark 9:2-9

February 25 – Ash Wednesday at 7:00pm



**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**

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**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 Haupt**  
**Board of Deacons ..... Judy Weibel**  
**Outreach Board ..... Carol Price**  
**Stewardship Board ..... Pam Dropek**  
**Christian Education ..... Robin Smith**  
**Membership & Church Development .....  
Brad Ericson & Cissy Wolff**  
**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 Bettolo**  
**Organist..... Edna Hamilton & Bob Dobson**  
**Church Secretary..... Kristi Hanson**

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

**Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum**

## **LOOKING AHEAD TOWARD LENT**

By the time of the Council of Nicea (325 CE), the Christian Church was observing the season of Lent. Lent has traditionally been marked by penitential prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Some churches today still observe a rigid schedule of fasting on certain days during Lent, especially the giving up of meat, alcohol, sweets, and other types of food. Other traditions do not place as great an emphasis on fasting, but focus on charitable deeds, especially helping those in physical need with food and clothing, or simply the giving of money to charities. Most Christian churches that observe Lent at all focus on it as a time of prayer, especially penance, repenting for failures and sin as a way to focus on the need for God's grace. It is really a preparation to celebrate God's marvelous redemption at Easter, and the resurrected life that we live, and hope for, as Christians.

There are a number of special events and special services in which I hope you will take part as part of your spiritual preparation for Easter.

\*\* In this Clarion is a listing of special events connected with Inter-Faith Week.

\*\* You will note an opportunity for Fellowship with your family at FCC at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 24.

\*\* We will gather for service on Ash Wednesday in the chapel at 7:00 p.m.

\*\* During Lent, we will have three Wednesday pot-luck meals followed by a study based on Henri Nouwen's book, *The Return of The Prodigal Son*.

\*\* On March 1, during the 11 a.m. service, the Youth will present a drama, written by Mary Wittke, on the meaning of Lent.

\*\* Also during Lent, I will be doing a sermon series based on *The Lord's Prayer*.

My prayer for you is that this season will be a time when you deepen your spiritual walk and draw closer to God.

## **INTERFAITH WEEK EVENTS**

### **Saturday, January 31**

**MEDITATION, SLC Library, 4th Floor Room, 3 p.m.**

*World peace meditation, with Rev. Gretchen Faulk, Our Lady of the Wasatch Church - Prayer practice for peace within and without, w/ presentation on deities of diverse spiritual traditions*

**TOUR, Spiritual Sites Stroll of Salt Lake, self-guided**

*Brief tour of key religious locations in Downtown Salt Lake City. See map, locations, route, details [www.utahfaiths.org/slc](http://www.utahfaiths.org/slc)*

### **SUNDAY, February 1**

**FILMS & discussion, SLC Library, Main Aud., 12:30 p.m.**

*"Beyond Our Differences" - Bill Moyers film interviews global figures (pbs.org) - Comments by Khando Chazotsang, niece of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, 2 p.m.*

*"Kundun" story of the Dalai Lama, his destiny and spiritual practice, 2:30 p.m. Comments by Utah Tibetan Association ~ Mr. Rinzin, Mr. Choeden, Ms. Lhaksam, 4:30 p.m.*

### **MONDAY, February 2**

**PRESS, SL Interfaith Roundtable Press Conf., Marriott, West Temple, 11 a.m.** - *Annual interfaith awards and events of Interfaith Week*

**VESPERS, interfaith "Return of Light," - Holy Cross Chapel, 6 p.m.** - *From Brigid to Imbolc to Candlemas to Groundhog Day, the light returns in February*

**LECTURE, Utah Krishnas, 4th Floor Room, SLC Library, 7 p.m** - *A lecture about vegetarianism in world cultures, with chanting [www.utahkrishnas.com](http://www.utahkrishnas.com)*

### **TUESDAY, February 3**

**ART & FILM, Expressing Spirituality, Utah Museum of Fine Arts, UU, 3-5 p.m.** - *Gallery stroll ~ "An Innermost Journey: the Art of Shauna Cook Clinger," 2 p.m.* - *Free with any university ID; public \$5; high school students \$3*

*"What Do You Believe?" film about student views on religion, spirituality, 3 p.m. Free film screening and discussion after; food for sale in the café.*

**CONCERT, First Baptist Church, 777 S. 1300 East, SLC, 7:30 p.m. "Celebrate the Earth" ~ award-winning musicians - Stone-Circle, Kate MacLeod, Phillip Bimstein, April Meservy, Rebecca Eaton, Bill Green, Jon Eaton - on faith & environment [www.utahipl.org](http://www.utahipl.org). Folk and contemporary musicians contemplate spirituality and environment**

### **THURSDAY, February 5**

**COUNCIL on Homeless, Salvation Army, 679 South Main St., 12 noon - Salt Lake County Homeless Coordination Council [www.utahcontinuum.org/ucc/cocm](http://www.utahcontinuum.org/ucc/cocm). Info on homeless services & resources of faith-based organizations, Rescue Mission, Family Promise**

**LECTURE, "Utah: Jews Live Here Too" Rochelle Kaplan, SLC Library Main Aud., 7 p.m.**

*A photographic history of rare and entertaining images that tell an unknown story of Jewish influence on Utah history, culture, architecture, arts, business and society ~ a visual tour.*

### **FRIDAY, February 6**

**OPEN HOUSE, "Diversity in Islam" with Imam Mohammed Mehtar, Khadeeja Mosque, 6 p.m.**

*Social 6 p.m. Lecture 6:45 p.m. Prayers 7:30 p.m. 1019 W. Parkway Ave. West Valley. Islamic Society welcomes visitors for prayers, conversation, refreshment [www.utahmuslims.com](http://www.utahmuslims.com)*

### **SATURDAY, February 7**

**WORKSHOP, Carla Kelly & Karla Reading, 4th Floor Rm, SLC Public Library, 2 p.m.**

*"Coming Together to Heal: the Labyrinth of Forgiveness" ~ an active process, central to peacemaking - Interactive workshop navigates complex passageways of healing, for both sides of conflict.*

**ASHURE, Multicultural Arch Foundation,  
363 W. 2720 South, Suite A, Salt Lake, 5 p.m.**

*"Noah's Pudding Night,"( Simple dish of grains, nuts & fruits symbolizes Noah's first meal after the Flood) - a taste of Turkish culture, RSVP [contact@mcarchfoundation.org](mailto:contact@mcarchfoundation.org)*

**SUNDAY, February 8**

**SERVICE, "Interfaith Music Tribute to the Human Spirit,"  
Salt Lake Tabernacle, 5 p.m. - Annual interfaith service sponsored by SL Interfaith Roundtable, hosted by LDS Church featuring music, song, dance, prayer, devotions, and readings of many faiths with participants from Buddhist, Christian, First Nation, Jewish, Muslim, and other traditions - Open to all ~ Free tickets mailed [www.lds.org/events](http://www.lds.org/events) or available **at the door****

**SERVICE, Ogden Interfaith Music Tribute, Weber State Ballroom, 5 p.m. - Interfaith service sponsored by Ogden Interfaith Roundtable, hosted by Weber State University featuring music, song, dance, prayer, devotions, and readings of many faiths - Open to all, Free seating, see location ballroom [www.weber.edu](http://www.weber.edu)**

**LECTURES, Tuesday, Feb. 10, Feb. 24, Mar. 17, Dr. Lance Owens, 7:30 p.m. (tuition \$10 ea) - "J.R.R. Tolkien: An Imaginative Life," Gore Business School Aud., Westminster College, 1840 S. 1300 East**  
*Three lectures examine the span of Tolkien's work with focus on his gift of creative imagination. Dr. Owens lectures on mythology, psychology, Jung, Kabbalah, Gnostic themes*

**CHORAL, Wednesday, Feb. 11,**

**Vieve Gore Concert Hall, Westminster College, 7:30 p.m.**  
*"Understanding the African American Spirituals and their Place in Public Education" - Choral groups from Bountiful Community Church, Calvary Baptist Church, and Davis School Dist. Narrated by Pastor France Davis of Calvary Baptist, and Anita P. Baker of Hill Field*

## **FROM THE SECRETARY**

*By Kristi Hanson*

**MARCH CLARION DEADLINE IS**  
**FEBRUARY 18, 2009**  
**PLEASE HAVE YOUR ARTICLES IN ON TIME**

### **Knitting Group**

The knitting group will be meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> following Worship. Please come and knit and visit.

### **BOARD OF DEACONS – Lenten Season**

The Lenten Season will begin with Ash Wednesday Communion Service on February 25 at 7:00pm. We will then do a three week Lenten study program using the book **The Prodigal Son** by Henri Nouwen. This book is based upon the painting by Rembrandt and focuses on the three key figures: the father, the prodigal son and the son who did not leave but stayed with the father. Sections of the book that will be emphasized will be available so it will not be necessary to purchase or read the book. However, information about purchasing the book will be made available for those that are interested in purchasing it.

Potlucks will be held before the book studies on the following Wednesdays: March 11, March 25 and April 1. These potlucks will be held at 6:00pm with the book study following at 7:30. We hope you will be able to attend one or all of these sessions to help you with your journey to Easter.

### **FROM YOUR PARISH NURSES**



#### **Surviving a Hotel Fire - Part One - Escape from Your Room**

**The U.S. has over 5,000 hotel fires annually.**

**1. Ask for a room on or below the 7th floor. Most fire truck ladders can only reach the 7th floor.**

- 2. Come to a hotel prepared: charged cell phone, bright flashlight with new batteries, possibly bring a battery-operated smoke detector.**
- 3. When you check in, ask for a map of the hotel.**
- 4. If you hear a fire alarm, don't assume it is a drill or some kid pulled the lever, assume there is a fire! Get out!!!**
- 5. When you check into your room, find the nearest stairwell. Then find a second exit. Count the number of rooms there are between your room and the stairways. If there is smoke, you will be crawling on the floor and won't be able to see the exit signs. Find out if the stairwell doors lock behind you. If they do, you could be trapped in the stairwell if it fills with smoke, so you'll want to exercise extra caution before committing to that option. If possible try to prop the door open, so you would have some chance of getting back to your room if need be.**
- 6. Locate the nearest fire extinguisher, fire alarm, and other emergency equipment on your floor. Make sure you know how to use the equipment.**
- 7. Make sure that the smoke detector in your room is in working order.**
- 8. Ask when the last time the room sprinklers were tested.**
- 9. When you go to sleep, keep your slippers or easy to slip on shoes right by the bed, with your keys, cell phone and a new "battered" flashlight tucked into the toes of your slippers or shoes. Remember once you go out of your room, the door will lock. If you don't have your key, you will be out of luck if you need to get back into your room.**
- 10. Before leaving your room to escape down the stairway, touch the door knob to see if it is hot with the back of your hand, not the palm. You will need both of your hands in working order. If it is burning hot, you probably don't want to leave your room.**
- 11. If you determine that it is safe to enter the hallway and exit, grab a towel, and thoroughly wet it to cover your face.**
- 12. Make sure you have your key, cell phone, a flashlight, and shoes. Don't take any of your belongings. You do not want to be encumbered with luggage or a purse.**

13. If you die because you stopped to pack and carry a bag with you, you are going to be so embarrassed.
14. **DO NOT USE THE ELEVATOR!**
15. Be sure and close the door to your room when you leave.
16. Do not walk down the middle of the hallway, people running could trample you, walk down the side of the hall way as your room.
17. If there is even a trace amount of smoke, get on your hands and knees and crawl.
18. When you get to the stairway, hold on to the railing, this is most important. There will always be some fools who will be running, you could be trampled.
19. If you are staying in a high rise on one of the top floors, be wary of “stacking”. In a tall building, smoke will sometimes get into the exit stairway. This smoke may not rise very high before it cools and becomes heavy. This is called “stacking”. Let’s say, your room is on the 20th floor, you enter the stairway and find it clear. As you descend, you encounter smoke that as “stacked”. Do not try to run through it-people die that way. Turn around and walk back up to your room or somewhere safe. Now you must really hang onto the handrail. There will be people in panic both running up the stairs and down.
20. Once you are outside, safe and sound, seek medical help, even if you feel fine. This is extremely important. You may be suffering from complications from smoke inhalation or burns.
21. Check in with the hotel concierge.
22. Most people who die in fires are the victims of smoke and gasses. The majority of people who die in hotel fires need not have done so. **AVOID SMOKE AND PANIC.**

Next month, “How to survive when trapped in your room”.

Wishing you Good Health, Your Parish Nurses

[Sources: Burn Prevention Foundation, Captain R.H. Kauffman, “Warning: Hotels could be hazardous to your health.”, wikiHow]

## **Camp Fellowship 2009 (July 24-July 31)** by Mary Wittke

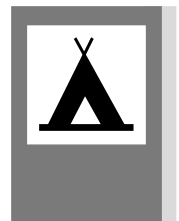
Camp is truly a special place and the primary youth ministry of our church. It has been an honor to serve in the kitchen for two years and as a co-director with Tom Hohler for five years. I had decided to make Camp 2007 my last year with my son Sam's graduation, but because Art left, I thought having consistency in the leadership when Michael started would be best, so 2008 became my last year.

I would like to encourage anyone who has considered making a commitment to this ministry to do so at this time. We would like to fill, as soon as possible, the two BIG spots that are open this year: 1) co-director (my spot) and 2) main kitchen person (Nancy Hohler's spot). The first camp meeting will be sometime in March and a "save the date" mailing will go out in February, so these people will need to be "on board" before then.

My experience at camp over the years has been challenging and rewarding. Some of my most poignant and fun memories in my life have come from these weeks. My faith has grown in these weeks. I have truly felt close to God at camp. I will not sugar-coat the job, though. Each of these two jobs is a lot of work. The work is worth it! Camp is one of the things our church does best! I have been proud to be part of it.

The main kitchen job comes with all the past planning done, from Carla and Mike McIntire's years of doing it, proceeded by Dorothy Carlin and others, and adjusted recently by Nancy. It includes doing all the shopping and taking responsibility for all the meals, whether you are there to do them all or not. Nancy is the best person to talk to about what it entails (801)561-7538.

The co-director job, most importantly comes with an experienced other half: Tom Hohler. He has been doing this since before me and will provide a lot of support. I am available to assist in the set up, etc. but cannot be at camp. Whoever takes this position can work out with Tom the exact division of labor, as I have in the past. So, please let Tom know if you are interested (801)561-7538. *PLEASE* help us, and **GO CAMP!**



## **Mission Mazahua 2009**

First Congregational Church has been invited to join in the formation of a short term mission team based at Mission Mazahua this June 24 through July 1 (Wednesday through Wednesday). Groups of adults and youths from FCC took part in short-term missions at Mission Mazahua in 2007 and 2008. They have been great experiences, and much good has been accomplished. It is a wonderful outreach project for our community to participate in.

Mission Mazahua is an early 18th century hacienda located in a beautiful, high mountain valley sixty miles northwest of Mexico City. The Mission attends to the spiritual, health and economic development needs of the local indigenous Mazahua people. Mission tasks have involved maintenance and improvement of the Mission complex, health clinics and construction projects outside the mission. The experience is truly a cross-cultural one where we work, eat and worship with members of the local community, and enjoy the scenery and historical sites of the area.

The cost of attending is a \$360 participation fee plus airfare to Mexico City. FCC can offer some financial aid for first time participants. Since there are a limited number of slots available for this short-term mission, and many other churches send members, don't wait too long to apply.

If the idea interests you, and you would like more information, please contact Paul Kelley at 532-3809. He can forward you the invitation that provides much more detail about the short-term mission. Any of the participants from prior years would be more than happy to share their experiences and impressions with you. Ask Paul for names.

## **February Outreach Mission**

The Outreach Committee has selected Ministering to Ministers (MTM) Foundation, Inc. to receive the plate offerings during February. MTM serves individual ministers, their families and church organizations in all faith groups who are experiencing personal or professional crisis due to deteriorating employment or congregation-minister relationships. It works as a mediator to reunite minister and congregation when resolution of issues is needed. Ministering to Ministers strives to develop good church-minister

relations in the beginning stages of their relationship, promoting strong communication before conflict arises. Our Senior Minister, Michael Chittum, serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Foundation.

Over its 10+ years of service, MTM has helped hundreds of ministers and families from scores of different church groups all at no cost to the minister. One of the major events MTM sponsors is a week long “Healthy Transitions Wellness Retreats For Ministers and Spouses,” which are held periodically throughout the United States and offer the opportunity to renew, refresh and nurture spirit, mind and body of both minister and spouse.

**Thank-You**

We appreciate all the work done for the Church Anniversary Dinner on January 25. Alice Stephenson headed up the effort with assistance from many other former Moderators and other willing workers. To all of you from all of us: THANK YOU!

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Lynne Calame  
Ron Sawdey  
Vicki Chittum  
Dave, Pam, Ben, Anna, Svikhart



# February 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion	2	3	4 Men's Breakfast 7:00am	5	6	7
8 Knitting Group Following Worship	9	10 Board Meetings 7:00pm	11	12	13	14
15  Family Sunday	16	17	18 Council Meeting 7:00pm Clarion Deadline	19	20	21
22	23	24 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Time	25 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm	26	27	28

# March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Family Sunday	2	3	4 Men's Breakfast 7:00am	5	6	7
8	9	10 Board Meetings 7:00pm	11 Potluck & Study 6:00pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Council Meeting 7:00pm Clarion Deadline	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Potluck & Study 6:00pm	26	27	28
29 Salvation Army Sandwich Making	30	31				



