

First Congregational Church

2150 S. Foothill Drive

Salt Lake City, Utah 84109

Phone: (801) 487-1357

Email: firstcongo@qwestoffice.net

Website: www.firstcongregationalslc.org

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 8:30am – 3:00pm

Friday: 8:00am – Noon

Sunday Worship Services:

Online Worship at 10:30am

Follow Us on Facebook for Live Online Sunday Worship

Interim Minister: Rev. Janie Gebhardt

Moderator: Cissy Wolff

1st Assoc. Moderator:

2nd Assoc. Moderator: Carla McIntire

Treasurer: Paul Kelley

Financial Secretary: Mike McIntire

Church Clerk: Ken Rockwell

Board of Trustees:

Board of Deacons: Phil LeHoux

Outreach Board: Diane Forster-Burke

Christian Education: Patti Garver

Youth Director: Molly Connor

Membership Board:

Parish Nurses: Diane Forster-Burke, Marge Kimes, Lynne Calame

Camp Fellowship: Christine Madsen and Shaun McIntire

Garden of Grace: Scott & Jeanne Hansen

Choir Director: Devon Bettolo

Organist: Teresa Clawson

Church Secretary: Kristi Hanson

JANIE'S JOTTINGS

It seems I had barely arrived and we suddenly thrust into a new world. I was trying to think about how many things I do differently now. I sent a note to a friend to find out if he had suggestions for things I might try. His note back had several suggestions - some of which we are doing - but his last note was to try new technology and have fun - be playful! I've been trying to wrap my head around that last bit. I'm so glad we can connect on Zoom but I wish we could see one another and share your thoughts and feelings - both about what we are living through and what we hope for in the future. What I've experienced while here is a great group of people who really support one another! And from the work Cissy has done, I have the strong sense that most of you want to continue to be a church, but just like going through COVID we may have to learn how to do things differently. What I need to hear from you are the things you treasure about this church, the things you really value as a community of faith. What things stand out for you? How has your faith grown at FCC?

We're going to figure this out, but I'd like as many of your voices to be part of this conversation as possible. Even though we have to "socially distance" please know you're not forgotten! For the near term our conversations will continue to be via Zoom or written, but we'll try to figure out safe ways to do other things - like perhaps meeting in a park. Please watch for updates but above all, stay safe!

Blessings!

Janie Gebhardt

FROM THE MODERATOR

Thank you so much to all the people who have volunteered to serve on boards, to be officers, and to help out with investigations for the future of our church. As a Council we will strive to coordinate and support meaningful spiritual experiences for our gathered community. Council will also evaluate and discuss the information from the various investigations to determine our future.

Many people have stepped up to gather and share information. Paul Kelley continues to do an incredible job as treasurer and volunteered to host informational meetings about the proposed budget via Zoom. Phil LeHoux organized our first vote by mail to approve the budget since we are not able to gather in person for an annual meeting. Be sure to look for an email in early August that will be sent to all voting members describing how to vote by mail.

Ken Rockwell and Carla McIntire are reaching out to churches to investigate the possibility of sharing space either in our church or having us share space at another church. Tom Simons, Ron Sawdey, Scott Hansen, and Dave Svikhart have investigated hiring a real estate broker and finding a leasing agent. Wendy Haupt and Susan Olsen continue gathering information about the potential to be involved with affordable housing. Nancy Dahill-Brown has arranged a meeting with the NACCC to find out what help they can provide as we determine our future. Bob Dobson has investigated possibilities for our organ. Scott Hansen is working on how to handle facilities management. Susan Olsen, Marge Kimes, and Wendy Haupt continue to work on revising the bylaws. Janie Gebhart will start Appreciative Inquiry where we will begin looking at what we value and what we want to be as a church.

So many are working hard to get answers to the questions we have about our future. Council members have agreed to extra meetings to have the tough discussions to determine our future. Please be on the lookout for updates and for when we schedule informational meetings for the entire congregation. Feel free to help out with any investigations that you think would be helpful. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns about FCC.

FROM THE DEACONS

A new church year has started much as the last one has ended. We remain unable to plan or predict the resumption of worship in the sanctuary. With the return of Rev. Janie's worship here, the deacons have resumed assisting as liturgists for the online worship. For now, we will only be able to imagine the familiar faces looking at us from the pews.

The deacons would also like to welcome a new member; Diane Forster-Burke has joined the Board, though she continues to work with the Outreach Board, as well as remaining a Parish Nurse. Marge Kimes, her fellow Parish Nurse, will also continue as an adjunct deacon, while Ken Rockwell has agreed to remain on the Board as well. Another familiar face at the meetings (as well as taking on many deacon responsibilities) will be Carla McIntire, who continues as the Moderator representative on the Board. Of course, Rev. Janie is also present for all meetings, as worship planning with her is the primary role of the Board. We have been meeting every month as a Zoom event, working through the issues related to the online worship and our constraints within the health guidelines in effect. No one misses the travel to meetings, but all would gladly put up with it for the warmth of in-person meetings

If you have any thoughts on how we could improve our worship through this difficult time, please open your directory and contact any of us through whichever method you are most comfortable.
Phil LeHoux (Chair)

ZOOM Bible Study – Thursdays at 7:30pm



church if you are interested in joining in and we will get you the information you need to login to Zoom for the Bible Study

AUGUST OUTREACH

Our August project will be the Granite School District Education Foundation (GSD). We will solicit funds through the month of August for this Education Foundation.

The funds raised will assist the Granite School Education Foundation to help with school supplies and other needs experienced by their students. GSD has an extremely diverse population with a total of 68,000 students who have a wide range of needs. This year 65% of the students, approximately 44,000, are living at or below poverty level. Granite Education Foundation also endeavors to provide support for over 1,000 students identified as homeless. The Foundation strives to meet the needs for each student, but especially those who are at an economic disadvantage. Granite Education Foundation focuses on helping with basic needs such as food, school supplies and hygiene items.

You can donate to FCC via PayPal

For those of you who prefer to do all of your financial transactions through credit card, we have now made it possible for you to use your credit card to donate to FCC through PayPal. You simply go to the FCC web site (firstcongregationalslc.org) and find the “Donate” button on the lower left of the first page. If don't have a PayPal account it is easily done the first time you donate. You can use any major credit card (e.g. VISA, Mastercard, American Express and Discover Card) to make your payment.

ZOOM Coffee with the Pastor – Wednesdays at 10:00am



Please email the church if you are interested in joining in and we will get you the information you need to get online and chat with other members/friends and pastor of FCC.

Did you know Increase Mather...



Increase Mather was the most brilliant Puritan clergyman and public figure of his day. He graduated from Harvard at 17 and earned a master's degree from Trinity College in Ireland. Upon his graduation he was offered a professorship but declined the post. When the Puritan Commonwealth in England was replaced by the Monarchy in 1660 he returned home to become the pastor of Boston's North Church.

While pastor there, he also served as the president of Harvard College. Mather came of age as the leadership of the Bay Colony was passing to the second generation which experienced the most tumultuous and challenging period in its history. It was largely Increase Mather who shepherded the Colony through it, both spiritually and politically. Increase Mather was a prominent participant in the Reforming Synod of 1679-80. Its delegates called for Colony-wide repentance and rededication to Christian zeal and holiness in churches and society.

The Colony faced its greatest political crisis in 1684 when the king revoked its Charter and imposed direct royal rule, which abruptly denied the colonists any voice in their governance. Edmund Andros was sent as the king's governor to enforce royal decrees which the colonists resisted as tyranny. Increase Mather sailed to England in time to witness the "Glorious Revolution" of 1688 in which James II was deposed. Mather was able to negotiate a new Charter that restored limited self-rule to the Bay Colony. Increase was also a voice of reason that brought an end to the Salem witchcraft trials.

Was a Congregationalist

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 Facebook Live Worship Service 10:30am every Sunday until Further Notice Trustees Meeting??	3 AA group meeting virtually until further notice	4 Deacons Meeting – Zoom @7pm	5 Men's Breakfast 7:30am Pastor Coffee – Zoom 10am	6 Zoom Bible Study 7:30pm	7	8
9	10	11	12 Pastor Coffee – Zoom 10am	13 Zoom Bible Study 7:30pm	14	15
16	17	18	19 Pastor Coffee – Zoom 10am Zoom Council Meeting @7:00pm Clarion Deadline	20 Zoom Bible Study 7:30pm	21	22
23	24	25	26 Pastor Coffee – Zoom 10am	27 Zoom Bible Study 7:30pm	28	29
30	31					