

CONGREGATIONAL CLARION

2150 FOOTHILL DRIVE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
801-487-1357

May 2020



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

First Congregational Church, Salt Lake City

Interim Minister:	Rev. Janie Gebhardt
Moderator:	Wendy Haupt
1st Assoc. Moderator:	Kevin Haupt
2nd Assoc. Moderator:	Carla McIntire
Treasurer:	Paul Kelley
Financial Secretary:	Mike McIntire
Church Clerk:	Ken Rockwell
Board of Trustees:	Scott Haupt
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

Sometimes when I think about this “new normal” I think about images I’ve seen from other parts of the world reflecting ‘but that is there and won’t happen here’. But here we are in a strange new world. Being in the middle of it is a strange place and I suspect this won’t go away soon if ever. But there are some things I embrace in this time. I appreciate Bill Gates reflecting that empty streets and shops do show the signs economic distress, but they also mean that most people are putting care of our neighbors above other concerns.

As the days go on we are hearing of other concerns – people who have been living on the edge now facing hunger as well as other stressors. I called to check on a young woman I am guardian for, worried that this could be a very difficult time for her, and though she is missing her friends, the center she spends most days at has reached out to let their clients know they are not forgotten with phone calls and the provision of books and other items to help them occupy their time. There are so many stories of people offering extraordinary care to others – stories that can offer inspiration for our own responses to need.

As a church family we hope each of you is staying safe and well, but trust that if you are in need you will let us know how we can support you. There is the prayer chain for some of our concerns, but if you are needing other kinds of help please contact the church office or you can connect with me via email: janiegebhardt@gmail.com. I will do my best to respond quickly.

May Easter blessings accompany each of you in this new normal!

Rev. Janie Gebhardt

Secretary's Travel Plans for May

Kristi will be out of the office May 14th through 18th, please plan ahead if you need anything from her before she leaves.

CLARION DEADLINE



Summer Clarion (June, July, August) Deadline will be May 20th. During the summer months there will be an updated Calendar available each month. You can email your articles or leave them in the church office.

firstcongo@qwestoffice.net

GOT GRADUATES?

We would like to honor all in our church family who will be graduating from high school or college. Please call or email the church office with this information. We will list our graduates in the Summer Issue of the Clarion so get your information in by May 20th.



ANNUAL REPORTS DEADLINE

All annual reports need to be turned in to the church office (firstcongo@qwestoffice.net) in final, print ready, electronic form by May 20, 2019. This will give the office time to get the Report booklet ready for the meeting. Thank You. If you have any questions please call the church office at 801-487-1357.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 155th Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church of Salt Lake City will be held on June 7th, 2020. The purpose of the meeting will be the presentation and approval of the budget, receipt of reports from boards, moderator, and minister, and election of board members and officers for the coming year and other issues needing consideration by the membership of the church. Please watch for details as to how this meeting will be held.



FROM THE CLEANING CREW



During this Time the Cleaning Crew has been still doing a weekly cleaning of the bathrooms also a once a week vacuum to try and keep things dust free.

GARDEN OF GRACE: May Update

Our family got the Garden back into shape.

We also planted some Daffodils, a Hyacinth, and a Poppy.

In these challenging times, people out walking especially appreciated our efforts. Lots of smiles.

In your own gardens, after the rain is a great time to weed. A stitch in time saves nine later.

The Herbs in the Garden are growing well if you need any.

A big thanks to Millcreek Gardens 801.487.4131 for their quality plants & mulch. It is good to support the locals.

Take care & be safe!

Scott, Jeanne, Jon & Ryan Hansen



MAY OUTREACH - Wasatch Community Gardens

The selected organization for Outreach donations for May is Wasatch Community Gardens. <https://wasatchgardens.org/>. The organization began in SLC in 1989 with a mission “to empower people of all ages and incomes to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food.” They believe that the quality of a community is directly related to the quality of its food. They offer garden space, educational programs, and community events to empower people to grow, harvest, preserve, and prepare fresh, healthy food through four main programs: Community Garden, Youth Garden, School Garden, and Community Education. They have one entire garden just for growing tomatoes. It is the

Grateful Tomato Garden on 600 E and 800 S. They offer workshops on gardening and the produce often goes to poorer families who have learned to grow some of their own food. Workshops are open to everyone. Due to Corona Virus this spring, their workshops are on hold.

In 2020, Wasatch Community Gardens' signature Salt Lake City campus, 615 E. 800 South, will undergo an expansion that includes more gardens, a greenhouse, indoor classrooms, a kitchen, a community center, office space and — in a twist mandated by the city — an eight-unit affordable apartment complex. All combined the 1.2-acre project will cost \$6.2 million, Executive Director Ashley Patterson said. In December 2019, they announced that they were in the homestretch of its fundraising, still needing to collect about \$200,000 before Jan. 2. If it reached that goal, Patterson said, it would qualify for all of a \$2 million matching grant available from the Alternative Visions Fund.

Public health research shows that inner city communities have poor health outcomes because of the lack of green grocers where community members can purchase fresh produce; often residents are only able to shop at convenience stores. Purchasing food at convenience stores results in high calorie, nutrient poor eating patterns resulting in obesity and other co-morbidities like diabetes and heart disease.

Wasatch Community Gardens has helped communities to establish gardens in unused blocks of the city, on school grounds, and is currently involved in a capital campaign to raise money to purchase a larger area of ground for a demonstration garden and the organization's headquarters.



Celebrate Your Commitment to First Congregational Church

We invite you to prayerfully consider how you can commit to First Congregational Church. Please look at the Giving Chart and the Commitment Form that is provided in this Clarion. Decide what your financial commitment will be to this special place and email in your commitment form to the church office or if you prefer you can also mail in your commitment form to the church office.
firstcongo@qwestoffice.net

Experience the Joy of Generosity!

EXPERIENCE THE JOY THAT COMES FROM GIVING, SERVING, AND GROWING IN THE LORD!

To help me grow in the joy of generosity:

My giving will be \$ ____per week or \$____per month or \$____per year for July 2020-July 2021

To help me grow in the joy of serving and growing in the Lord:

- I commit to grow in the joy of serving by using my time and talents within the church.
- I commit to grow in the joy of knowing Jesus more by reading my Bible daily, attending church regularly and developing an active prayer life.

Name(s) (please print) _____

Please send it to the church office by mail or email

Did you know Mary Ann Ball Bickerdyke...

Mary Ann mostly grew up in her Grandparent Roger's home near Mansfield, Ohio. She was able to attend Oberlin College, but went home to care for relatives who were ill before she graduated. At age 29, she married Robert Bickerdyke. He had children with him at the marriage and they had four children of their own. When Robert died the youngest was a toddler.



As a widow Mary Ann, cleaned homes, did laundry, did home nursing and was known as a botanic physician. After raising her family, she began serving as a nurse during cholera epidemics in Ohio. Early during the Civil War Rev. Edward Beecher, her minister at the First (Brick) Congregational Church of Galesburg, Illinois, made an appeal for the sick and wounded Union soldiers.

One family in the church filled a large wagon with supplies. Mary Ann volunteered to go and distribute them. Church people took care of her children. The Army had little organization to take care of the sick and wounded. Mary Ann organized the medical services, nursed the soldiers and came to be called Mother Bickerdyke by the soldiers. She came to be seen as the Florence Nightingale of America.

Contrary to Ken Burn's comment in his great Civil War Series that she was a Quaker, Mary Ann was an active Congregationalist, inspired to do this by her minister and faith. She also came to be called the Patron Saint of Kansas.

...was a Congregationalist?

Did you know Charles Sheldon...

In 1896, a series of Sunday sermons by the Rev. Charles Sheldon, pastor of First Congregational Church in Topeka, became one of the best selling novels of all time. Each sermon was a chapter in a story about the transformation of a town whose residents vowed to live by the slogan, "What Would Jesus Do?"

In His Steps imagined how different the world would be if Christians lived by the ethical teaching of Jesus. The story begins when a down and out visitor in town, whose appeals for help had been ignored by the pastor and other members, stands up in a Sunday church service and says to the congregation, “I heard you sing, All for Jesus, and your pastor preached that Christians must follow in the steps of Jesus. There is an awful lot of trouble in the world that somehow wouldn’t exist if all the people who hear such sermons and sing such songs went and lived them out.” The Pastor, deeply convicted issued a challenge to the congregation, “I want volunteers from First Church who will pledge themselves for an entire year not to attempt anything without first asking the question, ‘What would Jesus do?’”

In His Steps captured perfectly the spirit of the Social Gospel movement in this one compelling phrase. Rev. Sheldon supported the equality of the races, women’s right to vote, and the compassionate treatment of animals, because he believed that is what Jesus would do.

...was a Congregationalist?

May Calendar

May 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Facebook Worship @10:30am Trustees Email Meeting	4 AA Meeting will be held online until further notice.	5 Deacons Email Meeting	6 Coffee with Pastor Via Zoom @10am	7	8	9
10 Facebook Worship @10:30am Mother's Day	11	12	13 Coffee with Pastor Via Zoom @10am PEO Meeting Glenda LeHoux Fireside Room/Kitchen 11am – 3pm TBD Council Zoom Meeting @6:30pm	14 Kristi Out of Office	15 Kristi Out of Office	16
17 Facebook Worship @10:30am Sunday School and Choir Appreciation TBD	18 Kristi Out of Office	19	20 Coffee with Pastor Via Zoom @10am ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS DUE IN FINAL FORMAT. Please email them to firstcongo@qwestoffice.net Summer Clarion Deadline(June/July/August Issue)	21	22	23
24 Facebook Worship @10:30am Necrology Sunday TBD	25 Memorial Day	26	27 Coffee with Pastor Via Zoom @10am	28	29	30
31 Facebook Worship @10:30am	Until Further Notice Sunday Worship will be held on our Facebook Page at 10:30am Sunday Mornings					

June Calendar

June 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 AA Meeting will be held Virtually until further notice	2 Deacons Meeting	3 Coffee With Pastor via Zoom @10am	4	5	6
7 ANNUAL MEETING Watch for Details	8	9	10 Coffee With Pastor via Zoom @10am Council Zoom Meeting @6:30pm	11	12	13
14 Outdoor Service Watch for Details	15	16 Kristi Out of the Office Will be back in the office the 24th	17 Coffee With Pastor via Zoom @10am	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Coffee With Pastor via Zoom @10am	25	26	27
28	29 Kristi out of town will be back in the office July 2nd	30 Kristi Out of the Office				

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2150 S. Foothill Drive

SLC, Utah 84109

MAY 2020

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED