



# The Beacon

The Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City—

January 2011 Vol 5 Issue 1

Website donated by XMission: [www.firstbaptist-slc.org](http://www.firstbaptist-slc.org)

## What does the future hold?

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. - Jeremiah 22:11*

What is 2011 going to be like for First Baptist Church? I sometimes wish I had a crystal ball that told me what to expect down the road. It would be nice to know what is going to happen or what we need to plan for. I can say with confidence that God is at work. In our midst God is faithfully pointing us in the direction we need to go. God is reaching out to the hurt and the broken and the disenfranchised and the left out. The question for us is, how can we be a community that is responsive to all that God is doing? How do we cultivate an atmosphere that is safe, inviting, encouraging and supportive? How do we continue to be a church that is actively seeking ways to make the world we live in better for everyone? How we make room at the table for all those who need a family like this one? How do we join one another in the journey of faith, coming alongside as we explore together what it means to live out our calling as Disciples of Christ?

It will be important for us to answer these questions because this year will be filled with new challenges and new opportunities, this much is certain. Our city is changing and thus our ministry is changing. What will help us to be ready for all that God is doing is to have a solid foundation that makes room for new people and new things. This is why I am excited to be looking at practices of the church such as radical hospitality, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, passionate worship and extravagant generosity. Many of these our church does very well, and we want to explore how to make sure we keep doing them well. Some of these ideas need more focused attention so that we can learn to do them well. I feel confident that as we spend time strengthening the foundation of the church, that our faithfulness will find relevance within our city and among the people God is reaching out to.

Please join me in exploring these foundational concepts over the first few weeks of the year. I am looking forward to all that we will do together this year.

Happy New Year,  
Pastor Curtis

**January at First Baptist**

January 12; Council of Ministries Meeting at 5:45 pm  
January 13: ABWOMEN meeting at noon  
January 17: Office and Child Care Center Closed  
Martin Luther King Day Rally at East High at 2 pm  
January 23: Annual Meeting following Worship  
January 28-30 Ladies Go To Lava Trip

Happy Birthday to: Jan 4: Bert Hewes, Shannon Ellis, Jan 6: Robert Cook:  
Jan 9: Esther Chelsea-McCarty, Damon Medina, Jan 11: Rachel Winzenried,  
Jan 13: Ann Burnett, Beth Bruce, Jan 15; Kelly Newman, Jan 19; Nick Chaney,  
Jan 22; Katie Carter, Pastor Curtis Price, Jan 24: Eva Cardrino, Jan 27: Gary Felker  
Jan 30: Karen Keck

Thank You to all my friends and family of FBC. I appreciate the visits and the concerns, the phone calls and wish all of you a Happy New Year.—*Margie Newman*

I wish to say thank you to First Baptist Church for the generous gift I received on Christmas. It really helped to lighten the burden. But I really want to thank you for how you have received my family and me. Everyone has been so nice and we have received so much from this congregation. It really feels like home. Your warmth and generosity is real blessing on this first Christmas away from Seattle as we were missing many friends from there. But the rich blessings we have received from the people of this great church really made this a very Merry Christmas. *Pastor Curtis*

Thanks to all who helped to make Advent and Christmas so meaningful. To all those who read and did the Advent Candle lighting, to the Choir, Beth Bruce and Christopher Nelson for the beautiful music, to the ABYouth, Robbin Price and Valerie Wynn for the decorating of the church, to our ushers and greeters we can only say God Bless you for the work you have done.

**The University of Utah, Office for Equity & Diversity invites you** to participate in the 3rd annual Rally/Marade (march/parade) in celebration of the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please join us on Monday, January 17th at 2:00 pm, East High School **840 S. 1300 E.** for the Rally with the Marade immediately following from East High School to the University of Utah President's Circle (1.2 miles). Contact Deacon Jay Molock for further information or call 801-581-5193.

You are invited to join the University of Utah, Office for Equity & Diversity's 27th annual celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (**REAFFIRMING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY Keeping The Dream Alive**), the celebration will be held from January 17-21, 2011. The weeklong celebration will feature keynote speakers; Kimberle' Crenshaw and Michael Olivas; **a student rally, the play; The Talented Tenth; cultural celebration, workshops and much more!** For more information check our website at [www.diversity.utah](http://www.diversity.utah) or call 801-581-5193.

## **Radical Hospitality - Passionate Worship - Intentional Faith Development Risk-Taking Mission and Service - Extravagant Generosity**

These are the Five Practices of vital, fruitful congregations. These ideas aren't secret or new, but they are the practices that can lead to excellence and growth in the life of our church. And they are the practices we will be focusing on for five consecutive weeks, beginning on January 16th and ending on February 13th.

Besides focusing on these topics in the Sunday Sermons, we will be hosting opportunities for learning and dialogue with the intention of pooling ideas and action plans for cultivating these five practices in our midst.

You are invited to participate in this exciting emphasis in a variety of ways:

### ***Beginning on January 16<sup>th</sup>--***

Sunday morning worship	11:00 am	Sunday in the Sanctuary
Joint Sunday School	9:45am	Sunday in Keck Hall (There will be activities for children K-5 <sup>th</sup> grade)
Bible Study	11:00 am	Wednesdays in the conference room
	7:00 pm	Wednesdays at the Burnett's house (2080 E. 4675 S. -- 801-273-8242)

***Please plan on joining us for the exciting new beginning to the year and to life in our church family.***

### **MODERATOR'S CORNER**

The ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING FOR 2011 will be held after church service on January 23, 2011. We will be reviewing and approving the church and childcare budgets for 2011. Also elections of officers will be held. If there are other agenda items appropriate for the annual meeting, please contact Gary Felker or Rev. Curtis Price. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

### **Officers for 2011**

Moderator: Gary Felker  
Moderator Elect: Shirley Rogers  
Clerk: Julia Watson  
Treasurer:  
Financial Secretary; Doug Huntsman  
Church Administrator: Dennis McCracken  
ABWomen: Jackie Nielsen

Ministry Team Chairs:  
Child Care; Carol Butler Guilkey  
Church Administration:  
Discipleship: Ray Carter  
Member Care: Sandra Clegg

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**Annual Meeting—January 23<sup>rd</sup> following Worship  
Election of officers for 2011  
Report on the state of the Church for 2010.**

**Please join us for this important meeting.**