



The Beacon

The Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City

February

Vol 4 Issue 2

February can be a bleak month in Utah. We anticipate spring's coming while knowing it is still some time away. While days are growing longer, the sun still has little warmth. The third wave of H1N1 is anticipated with weariness. But we have much to celebrate and be grateful for in these drab days... so let's appreciate them!

◇ BRAVO! Response to Haiti disaster was incredible. By noon last Sunday the receipts were 2,642 and by Wednesday it was up to \$2,800 and growing. It was divided between local Dr. Randall who was on site in Haiti and our ABCUSA mission group. Good Job, FBC!

◇ "THE WEEKEND" FOLLOWUP WORK CONTINUES.
New and retiring members of Council met together in January to insure a smooth transition from one group to another. A key item of attention was to refine the identity statement from "The Weekend" retreat in October. A statement of Focus for 2010 was adopted by the Council using all the input since that retreat:

"We are a worshipping community of Christ seeking to display God's love through being:

†A rich fellowship with mutual support and respect of one another.

†A place where each can develop and foster faith in Christ that is encouraging and safe.

†A people loving beyond our congregation to the community and the world"

The areas we will emphasize in light of this identity statement include:

{watch this space. March's Beacon will list six areas that the Council selected as priorities for our limited resources over the next months}

◇ We are thankful for the leaders of FBC who completed their terms at the election January 24:

Council of Ministries

Peggy Keiffer

Marian Stephen

Shannon Ellis

Judy Rausher

Pat Ditton

Moderator for the past two years

Discipleship Ministry Team

Child Care Ministry Team

Treasurer

Church Clerk

FBC Foundation Board

Brett Ellis

And for our new and continuing leaders on Council of Ministries

Gary Felker	Moderator
Shirley Rogers-	Moderator Elect
Ray Carter	Discipleship Ministry Team
Carol Butler-Guilkey	Child Care Ministry Team
Josh Bower	Administration Ministry team
Sandra Clegg	Member Care Ministry Team
Doug Huntsman	Treasurer
Jackie Nielsen	AB Women
Julia Watson	Church Clerk

FBC Foundation Board

Guy Tutonda, Lynn Christensen, Jeff Norris

◇ I enjoyed preaching about building a stronger relationship with God since Christmas. My hope is these messages will have stimulated you to reach for a stronger faith and find spiritual depth that will heighten your sense of abundant life in Jesus Christ. If some of you take up the challenge, we will all have cause to celebrate because such decisions always change both the individual and the church. My prayers are with you.

◇ **God is good in providing a new spirit and new direction in this congregation. We simply need to prayerfully give thanks every day for the gifts God gives so abundantly. These are material gifts, people gifts, and gifts of inspiration and hope. Let us not grow weary in doing God's work or showing God's love or anticipating surprises and joys that we discover as we work together in God's vineyard. Let all of God's people say "Amen" and ask "what's next?"**

Faithfully, David Henry, Interim Pastor

February Happenings

- Feb 6: Leadership Retreat 8:30 – 1:30
Memorial Service for Otis Stroud 3 pm
Feb 7: Souper Bowl of Caring—AB Youth
Feb 10: Child Care Team meeting at 6 pm
Church Administration Team meeting at 6:30 pm
Feb 15: Office and Child Care closed for holiday
Feb 15: Discipleship Team meeting at 6 pm
Feb 17: Council of Ministries at 5:45 pm
Feb 19: Bingo at 7 pm
Feb 21: Service Sunday

Happy Birthday to:

Feb 1: Marion Deware, Blake Robertson, Feb 4: Ione Stephenson,
Feb 8: Gary Leimback, Feb 9; Joni Wilson, Feb 10: Natasha Tutonda
Feb 13: Ryan Willett, Feb 15: Kathy Felker, Feb 18: Kavan Cannon, Kaitlin Ellis, Feb 19:
Jennifer Weyerstall, Feb 24: Emily Brown, Lisa Rausher Hekking, Feb 25: Ken Hekking,
James Mitchell

Parlez Vous LOVE?

Well of course you speak love!

We all do.

But sometimes we speak love in a love language that is different from that of the person we're intending to love.

And the result is they don't **feel** loved.

Come learn how easily we can change that.

Just in time for Valentines Day, join the Sunday School that will meet in Keck Hall from 9:30 to 10:30 on two Sundays: February 7 and 14.

Learn about five possible love languages and how to determine which one each of us speaks most fluently.

Married couples and committed partners will find this both fun and useful, but so will parents, kids and singles.

Our text is **The Five Love Languages** by Gary Chapman, PhD, including an accompanying DVD and questionnaires for identifying your and others' primary love language profiles.

You'll learn how to relate to people in their own love language, including what to say, how to behave and what to avoid!

Led by retired therapist Marian Stephen, the class will begin promptly at 9:30 since there's so much to cover in the two weeks.

So come at 9:15 for breakfast before the class starts.

From Marcia to Evergreen people:

International Ministries is closely coordinating earthquake response activities with the Haitian Baptist Convention and the Christian University of Northern Haiti. IM partners in the north of Haiti are providing medical care and relief supplies at the partially finished hospital at Quartier Morin as Haitians leave Port-au-Prince for safer locations. The United Nations estimates 235,000 people have departed from the Haitian capital using the free transportation being provided by the government. The additional number of people leaving Port-au-Prince by private means cannot be determined.

To date IM has released a total of \$65,000 of One Great Hour of Sharing funds in response to the needs in Haiti. Emergency donations are desperately needed and can be made on the IM website: www.internationalministries.org/items/80. Donors can also write a check made payable to "One Great Hour of Sharing – Haiti Earthquake Relief" and mail to: International Ministries, P.O. Box 851, Valley Forge, PA 19482, or make a check payable to their American Baptist church and write "Haiti Earthquake Relief" in the memo section.

A new tax relief law allows people who contribute to Haiti earthquake relief by March 1, 2010 to take a tax deduction for the contribution on their 2009 tax return. This means donors can receive an immediate tax benefit, rather than having to wait until they file next year's return. Donors may deduct these contributions on either their 2009 or 2010 returns, but not both. See: www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=218645,00.html?portlet=7

ABGIRLS News:

AB GIRLS National Gathering 2009

My experience at the Lake Williamson Gathering was completely enlightening. I really felt the essence of God while I was in attendance. The thing I loved the most was that all of us girls, though we were all different, were able to get along and have such a good time together. I have never felt closer to God than when I was with all of them just crying, singing and laughing. True happiness. I'm quite happy with my experience and the friends I have made.
by Kaitlin Ellis

Gathering, in the summer of 2009 was one of the best gatherings, mission and service-wise. All of the girls and some of the women spent a day at the Friendship House in Peoria, Illinois. Instead of just getting started on the service projects, the administration told us about the mission house, the programs there and stories about people who have been helped by the Friendship House., It was very inspirational and encouraged many of the girls to get involved in future service or mission projects. The emphasis on helping people was what I remember most from the experience.

By Ashleigh Thompson

Mark your calendar for the annual AB GIRLS Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction, Sunday, April 18 at 12:30 p.m.

Calling all FBC Talent! The annual talent show will be held on Saturday evening, March 6 at 7 pm. Start practicing your talent(s) now! We are looking for musical numbers, dances and skits (okay, unicycles and juggling knives are also permitted)! Contact Maggie Chaney (margaret.chaney@comcast.net) if you would like to participate. Check Friday e-blasts for more detail as the date approaches. If your talent is more in the visual arts area - feel free to contact Maggie Chaney or Karen Carter about sharing some of your talent for sale at the upcoming silent auction in April.

ROMEO's are moving their breakfast days from the 2nd and 4th Fridays to the 1st and 3rd Fridays. The breakfast hour remains the same. The next get together will be on February 5th at 9 AM at the Little America Coffee Shop.

CHURCH LADIES:

Sixteen ladies met at Susan Robertson's home on January 11 to discuss The Kindness of Strangers. Discussion leader, Marian. While not a book that we could say, "love the book", we agreed that it was well written, informative, worthwhile, educational and was written about "real people" and their perspective of how they are impacted by the pain and tragedy of sexual abuse. We rated this book 8-1/2 (1-10 scale).

On March 8 at 7 PM we'll meet at Nia's and Kathy will lead the discussion of Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society (an interesting book written in the format of letters).

Upcoming Books:

That Went Well to be hosted by Karen and book leader Karen.

Trespass - Living on The Edge of the Promised Land, book leader, Lee.

Plain Truth by Jodi Picoult (she's also the author of My Sister's Keeper), book leader Marian.

Upcoming Activities:

Quilters Without Borders: February 4, 7 PM, Liberty 2nd Ward, SW Corner 7th S & 5th E

**Congratulations to Dr Royce Moser for his installation
as the president of the Harvard School of Public Health
Alumni Association.**

Who's Who on the Council of Ministries:

The members of your Council of Ministries are the folks you have elected to supervise and run the business of the church and keep us focused on the ministries of First Baptist Church. Our interim pastor, the Rev. Dr. David Henry is our spiritual shepherd and leader, guiding us into a deeper relationship with God and outreach into our community.

Each member of the Council of Ministries has specific responsibilities. You are encouraged to contact that member with any questions, suggestions or concerns within their area of ministry. Following are the members of the Council of Ministries and their respective areas:

Moderator: Gary Felker

Leads the Council and supervises all the business of the church, provides guidance and direction to the Council. Is legally the President of the congregation and signs all contracts and legal documents.

Moderator Elect: Shirley Rogers

Acts as Moderator when the Moderator is absent. Heads up the nomination process for officers and Council Members and various special projects assigned by the Moderator or the Council.

Treasurer: Doug Huntsman

Responsible for all the financial matters and records of the church.

Church Clerk: Julia Watson

Serves as secretary to the Council, takes minutes and maintains records of all Council and church meetings. Is also responsible for church voting requirements.

Discipleship Ministry Team: Ray Carter

Responsible for Worship, Christian Education and Mission Work.. This is who to contact with ideas for Sunday School Classes, FBC Café, worship or mission projects that you would like to see happen.

Member Care Ministry Team: Sandra Clegg

Responsible for the care of the church family. They maintain contact with shut ins, Care Teams, coordinate with ABW on food during hospitalization, maternity or deaths. They provide training for members to assist the pastor in ministry. They also coordinate the prayer team and send personal greetings to FBC members. Social gatherings such as Chicken in the Courtyard, Easter Brunch, Thanksgiving Dinner and Celebration Sunday are under this ministry team's work.

Child Care Ministry Team: Carol Butler-Guilkey

Responsible for the operation of the Child Care Center. Their job includes overseeing the financial picture of the center, personnel and parent issues.

Church Administration Ministry Team: Josh Bower

Responsible for the church property, facilities, stewardship campaign and the general business of the church. They conduct work projects throughout the year to maintain the building, plan the annual stewardship drive, oversee the church clerk and the office administrator, maintain the standard operating procedures and the official documents of the church.

Interim Pastor: Rev. David Henry

Shepherds the congregation and guides the spiritual leaders of the church. Leads worship, conducts funerals and weddings, provides training and teaching opportunities and pastors the flock. Serves on all ministry teams.

There are two non-voting members of Council:

AB Women President: Jackie Nielsen

As President of ABW, she serves on Council to coordinate the efforts of the ABW and the church body.

Church Administrator: Dennis McCracken

The office manager, church secretary and bookkeeper. Documents and deposits income, pays bills, prepares required reports and budget records. Schedules the church calendar, supervises staff and office volunteers, oversees property, facilities, maintenance and repair. Serves on all ministry teams.

We thank all these folks for the many hours they devote to God and the First Baptist Family. We also thank all those who so willingly give of their time and talents to serve on the Ministry Teams and the task forces.

Looking to get involved in the life of FBC? Talk to one of these Chairs about opportunities to serve. There is always room for those who wish to participate in a task force.