



The Beacon

The Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City – July 2010 Vol 4 Issue 7

Well, it is time to say goodbye. Twenty-one months ago I changed from being an outside consultant to your interim pastor. The different role has been good for me and for the congregation.

There is a quality of relationship between pastor and people that is like no other. It is one of affection, trust, shared spirituality, common faith, and mutual work and service. It takes time to cultivate and a lifetime to enjoy. While being a former pastor requires a professional distance from the inner-workings of a congregation, the bonds are still present, and yes, they remain important. It will not be fair to your new pastor if you connect with me for a second opinion. But let us continue to hold each other in our prayers and remember with gratitude these past two years.

You will read this after my last Sunday has passed and our formal goodbyes have been said. I will have returned the shepherd's staff and the keys of the congregation. They will be waiting for a short time to be received by the pastor who comes after me. May you welcome him with grace and warmth. And may God bless all the people of First Baptist Church, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Faithfully,

David Henry

NOTE: Please return any books you have borrowed from me.

July At First Baptist Church

July 5: Office and Childcare Closed for Holiday.

July 7: Church Administration Team at 6 pm

Special Schedule to meet Pastor Curtis Price & family

(See letter below)

Friday July 9:

7:00 pm-- Social at the home of the Felkers'—2614 East 1300 South

Please bring some variety of finger foods to share; beverages provided

Saturday July 10:

9:00 am—Breakfast and meeting with ABYouth

10:30 am—Meeting with Council of Ministries

6:30 pm—Ice Cream Social at Ann & Ken Burnetts'—2080 East 4675 South. Ice Cream provided; please bring your favorite toppings.

Sunday July 11:

9:00 am—Visit with Christian Ed Classes

10:00 am—Worship with Communion

11:30 am—Potluck Dinner in Keck Hall—we will provide the fried chicken and beverages, please bring a dish to share.

12:15 pm—Question and Answer Discussion

1:15 pm —A special business meeting will be called and a vote will be taken.

July 11-16: Kids Camp at Utaba

July 14: Child Care Ministry Team at 6 pm

July 16: Bingo at 7 pm,

July 19: Discipleship Ministry Team at 6 pm

July 21: Council of Ministries at 5:45 pm

Happy Birthday to:

July 4: Phyllis Hollen, July 6: Matt Chaney, July 9: Theo Stephen, Barbie Willett,

July 13: Chuck McCarty, Herb Paschal, Gene Miner, July 16: Don Steward, July 17;

Alexis Gosdis, July 18: Verna Cook, July 20: Ela Drozd-Borysiuk, July 28: Marquita Halvorsen, Maurine McKellar, July 29: Alicia Toplinrud

As called for in our bylaws, here is a copy of the letter you should have received this week in the mail—

The Pastor Search Committee after nearly two years of effort and prayer has selected the Rev. Curtis Price as the candidate to present to our congregation to be called to serve at the First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, this choice was the unanimous choice of the search committee.

Currently, Rev. Price is the pastor at the Wedgewood Community Church in Seattle, Washington.

Accompanying this letter will be a profile statement and a biography of his history and experiences. These documents have also been presented in the worship bulletin, this Beacon and Friday E-blasts. We have invited Curtis, his wife and two children to meet the congregation during the weekend of July 9th through July 11th. (See schedule above.) After worship service on Sunday, July 11th, there will be a question and answer period in Keck Hall to be followed by an official church business meeting where active church members will vote to call Curtis as our pastor.

Individuals who are not going to be able to attend this business meeting may cast an absentee ballot. These ballots can be picked up from the church office beginning 9:00 AM on July 1st through July 9th at noon. Please come prepared to cast your ballot when they are picked up.

Beginning on Friday (July 9th) evening, the church leadership will be holding a variety of events and meetings so you may have an opportunity to meet Curtis and family. You are welcome to attend any of the events listed below.

- A patio reception will be held at Gary and Kathy Felkers' home, 2614 E 1300 S beginning on July 9th at 7:00 PM. Guests are invited to bring a finger food dish to share and beverages will be provided.
- On Saturday, July 10th, Curtis will meet with the youth group for breakfast and conversation.
- At 10:30 AM on July 10th, Curtis will be meeting with the Council members. This is an open meeting, as all Council meetings are.
- On Saturday evening at 7:30 PM, there will be a patio ice cream social at the home of Ken and Ann Burnett, 2080 E 4675 S. All are welcome. Ice cream and beverages will be served. Guests are asked to bring their favorite toppings.

- At 9:00 to 9:30 AM on Sunday morning, July 11th, Curtis will sit in on the Parlor class and the Young Adults class. Class members are requested to allow Curtis some prior time before service to ready himself for worship.
- Sunday worship and communion will be led and given by Rev. Curtis Price.
- After worship service, there will be a pot luck dinner in Keck Hall. Fried Chicken will be furnished and church members are asked to bring a dish or dessert to share.
- At 12:15 PM, there will be a question and answer period where church members can dialogue with Curtis.
- At 1:15 PM, Gary Felker will open a special meeting to vote on calling Pastor Price to our church to serve as our pastor. Ballots will be provided to eligible voting members.

In closing we want to give special thanks to our Pastor Search Committee members who have worked and prayed so hard for these past many months. Their sacrifice of time and effort is truly appreciated by all of our church family. Next, I ask us all to pray and listen to the Holy Spirit as we move towards calling Curtis as our pastor.

Yours in Christ

Gary Felker, Moderator

EVERGREEN REGION PERSONAL PROFILE PREPARED
BY REV. CURTIS PRICE Reprinted by his permission

I am a life-long American Baptist who grew up in Utah, giving me a unique perspective on challenging places to do ministry as well as an appreciation of ecumenical relationships. In Utah Protestants of all stripes as well as Catholics and Jews all feel like they need to stick together. I have been sole pastor of a neighborhood church in North Seattle since 2002.

As a pastor, I see myself in the role of a coach: training and empowering teams of people to do the ministry of the church. My passion is connecting the church to its community and finding ministries that are unique, compelling and that contribute to community at large. I like being a part of a community that can take the church outside its own walls. In a world that is more and more skeptical about the church as an institution, I feel this redemptive work is vital. I love engaging spiritual practices to deepen the connection between the individual and God. Within that, for me the worship experience is not a bunch of parts done in succession, but a whole and I try to design worship that draws us into that connection from prelude to postlude. As a coach, equipping leaders is my main occupation and I feel I have a gift for helping people find their vocation within the church.

Having two children of my own, I am especially aware of the needs of families and strive to find ways to include young people in every aspect of the church. Having grown up American Baptist, I am grounded in the traditions that make us a great community of churches, yet I am also very excited about where the church is going in the future.

The church is making another evolutionary leap that is creative and holistic, compelling and generous, unifying and diverse. As the church moves into its next incarnation, I think American Baptists are particularly well equipped to make the transitions needed. I feel particularly called to help bridge the traditional and the new. In addition to pastoral ministry, I spent close to ten years in youth ministry and still have affinity for teenagers. I have several years experience in Christian Camping playing various roles. I love all kinds of music and bring experience and ability there as well.

I enjoy being outdoors in nature but I really love the pace of the city. I like being on the water. I love to cook mostly because I love to eat (another Baptist attribute). My family is my first priority and I like being a father. I look forward to the Holy Spirit bringing me into the next relationship with a community of faith.

Biographical Information from Curtis:

I was born and raised in Clearfield.

I was baptized at Clearfield Community Church when I was 15.

I was active duty Air Force for close to eight years

I have a degree in History and Anthropology from Weber State University

I received my Master of Divinity from the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley

I was ordained in 2000 and have ten years experience in pastoral ministry.

I was a youth pastor in several settings over a span of almost 10 years.

Several years experience in Christian Camping

Member of the Evergreen Region Task Force that designed the new structure.

Immediate Past Chair of the Evergreen Association.

Thanks,

Grace and Peace,
Curtis

The Can Can project is moving down the road... That's the Road Home Shelter for the Homeless. We will be collecting items that their clients need desperately. Please bring the following items for the Can Can project for the month of July: Towels: both bath and hand (both new and used), bedding: sheets and pillow cases (twin and full and again both new and used). So if you haven't done your spring cleaning you can still get it done and benefit those in need in our area.

Construction News:

Plans are underway for all our construction projects:

The organ renovation begins July 5th. The Sanctuary organ will be ready for worship on July 11th. The organ in Skaggs Chapel will be installed in August.

The Kitchen renovation begins on July 12th. A metal backsplash will be installed behind the stove, the electrician will update all the plugs and wiring. On the 14th the plumbers will be here to install new sinks, faucets etc. We hope to have the kitchen painted this week too!

We hope the painting of the parlor will begin July 12th.

Keck Hall floor replacement is scheduled for July 19th. We hope to have all the projects completed by the middle of August.

A huge thank you to the Skaggs family for their generous donation to cover the renovation of the Parlor and the organs.

Thanks to all who helped to pay a share of the Parlor renovation.

Congratulations to **Pat Ditton** who won the TV and to **Susan Gore** who won the Wii.

Thanks to all who helped with Pastor David and Donna's farewell dinner: Shirley and Monte Rogers and Hannah for setting up, and the Schimmelpfennings, Lynn Christensen, Lee Fry and Sandra Clegg for their help in the kitchen.

Thanks to Judy Rausher and Shirley Cannon who reorganized the kitchen cupboards and with crowbar and screwdriver removed the cabinets in anticipation of the new refrigerator.

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