

AB GIRLS would like to thank the church family for supporting our annual Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction. A special thanks to those who donated items for the auction: Paula Walker, Julia Watson, Pat Ditton, Jo Joyce, Pam Gosdis, Stephanie Gosdis, and Kristen Carter. A special thank you to Ken Burnet for making the red gravy—it was wonderful! Thanks to, Pat and Paul Ditton, Julia Watson, Natalie Meadow, Marion Neversummer, Carlyn Chester, Marion Deware and Lynn Christensen for helping with set-up, clean-up and cooking.

We love all of you.

Attention: Have you always wanted to travel to Kansas City by automobile?

Have you always wanted to attend a national American Baptist Churches event? Karen Carter is looking for a travel companion to go with her and 4 young girls to the Mission Summit in Overland Park, Kansas. The Mission Summit begins Friday, June 26 and ends Monday, June 29. The girls will be participating in the AB GIRLS Leadership Academy which runs concurrent with the Mission Summit. We're tentatively planning on doing mission work on June 29-30. If that doesn't work out, then we will visit some tourist sites.

We're leaving on Wednesday, June 24 and returning on Thursday, July 2.

Call Karen (801)486-8539 or e-mail her at rkcarter1@comcast.net if you're interested or you just have questions.

The Can-Can is now accepting all kinds of ready made, portable hearty foods such as canned ravioli and chili. These items will be donated to the Homeless Youth Resource Center. Please donate and let's fill the Can!

You are invited to join Bishops United Against Gun Violence, a group of more than 60 Episcopal bishops, will sponsor a prayerful procession through the streets of Salt Lake City during the church's General Convention. The gathering is intended to urge people of faith to seek common ground in efforts to curtail gun violence.

The event, called Claiming Common Ground Against Gun Violence, will begin at 7:15 a.m. on Sunday, June 28, outside the Salt Palace Convention Center on the northwest corner of West Temple and 200 South (across the street from the Holiday Inn Express). The service will last roughly one hour and cover a one-mile route. It will include opening prayers, a stop for testimony in nearby Pioneer Park, and concluding prayers outside the Salt Palace.

about a work related topic, please remember that they are your brother or sister in Christ; that they work very hard and yet sometimes things get overlooked or mistakes happen. Please treat them with the dignity and respect they deserve. There is really never an appropriate occasion to be belligerent, condescending, or harsh when talking to anyone on staff here. If there is an issue that someone feels warrants outrage, then my door is always open and I am confident we can come to a resolution. Of course, it is always appropriate to thank our staff for their hard work.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Pastor Curtis

As you vacation this summer please remember that when you find someone to watch your pets, check your house and all the other little things that come with taking a vacation to put your pledge and offering check in the mail to the church. We always need to make sure that while you are gone the missions and work of the church continue through the summer. Thanks for being so faithful in helping us to keep our budget and commitments where they need to be.

Praise Club Kids and teachers along with their families gathered on May 3 to play games, eat hot dogs, visit with each other and enjoy a beautiful afternoon at the park. We hope to do it again soon. Come and join us!

A thank you goes to our Child Development Center for contributing \$650 for new flooring in our Praise Club room. We are also enjoying our new carpet and appreciate the work of Gene Miner who has painted our walls and done much to make our room a place we enjoy. Please come and visit us on a Sunday morning.

Make Summer Count!

Come to Camp Utaba for a week of getting away, connecting with old friends, making new ones, having fun and getting closer to God. There'll be campfires, games and water fun. Our summer camps are open to young people of all faiths. So don't let summer go to waste, make it count at Camp Utaba. Camp Is JULY 12-17

Teen Camp (grade 7-12) Directed by Curtis Price (801) 582-4921 Pastorcurtis@firstbaptist-slc.org .
Kid's Camp (grade 3-6) Directed by Wendy Winzenreid 801-808-7796 and wendywinzenried@aol.com or Lisa Rausher-Hekking lhekking@msn.com and her phone is 801-755-3432.

Primary Camp—July 11 and 12 at Camp Utaba. For children Kindergarten thru Second Grade and a parent or guardian. Cost is \$75 for 1 camper and 1 adult, \$25 for each additional camper or \$45 for additional adult. There are some scholarships available. Registration forms are in the office.

Angel Fund Plea—Every year we have children and teens who have a difficult time in paying for camp. We feel that EVERY child should be able to go to camp. Can you help us out? We are taking donations for the Angel Fund to be used in helping those who need scholarships for camp. You can make your checks out to First Baptist Church and mark the envelope Angel Fund. Last year we helped 6 young people go to camp.

provide a place to heal from past hurts but we also provide a place where people can worship and get involved and participate and that fact that they are gay is not the totality of who they are.

We are a special congregation with a unique gift and calling to the LGBT Community. It is my pray that you join me in being proud of this calling and embrace what it means for our church and the Kingdom of God.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Curtis

Happening at FBC for June

- June 4: Pride Interfaith service at 7 pm
- June 11: ABWomen Brunch
- June 13: FBCDC Summer Carnival 8 am
- June 14: Foundation Annual Meeting following worship
- June 16: Ruth's Circle
Beers and Bros at Fiddler's Elbow a 6:30 pm
- July 3: Church closed for Holiday Weekend
- July 7: Beers and Bros at Fiddler's Elbow a 6:30 pm

Happy Birthday to: June 1: Vicki Firestack. June 3: Henry Winn. June 4: Alicia Dabel, June 7: Christel Fox. June 8: Jim Guilkey, Greg Allan. June 9: Joel Everts. June 11: Austin Bond
June 13: Gabriel Vasso. June 15: Les Ridley. June 21: Dustin Wolters. June 22: Jeannette Flamming, Shirley Rogers. June 25: Susan Everts, Brian Schellenberg. June 26: Greg Roth.

A Blessing and a Curse

This is my commandment, that you love one another, by this they will know you are my disciples, if you love one another – John 13:34-35

We have a very rare blessing in that our paid administrative/custodial staff are also members of our congregation. It is wonderful that Carol, Dennis and Bob have an investment in the ministry here beyond just a paycheck. They give of their time, prayer and resource to the churches well-being and they feel passionate about what we are doing here. The difficulty with being a staff person who also worships here is that the lines often get blurred between working and worshipping. They become pretty easy targets on Sunday if the hall is not set up right or if the bulletin has spelling errors. It is also tempting, as a congregation who has ownership of the ministry and the church, to adopt a rather harsh tone when speaking to our staff about perceived problems. I have noticed this more and more lately. So here is my plea. When you see Carol, Bob, or Dennis on Sunday mornings please remember that they are here to worship too. We do not pay them to come to worship here they do it because this is their church home. If there is a critique about something, please save it for Monday. If there is an immediate issue (something that must happen right now) and you have to approach someone



The Beacon

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Pride is . . . Responding to God's Call!

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. "Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. - Matthew 9:37-38

The beginning of June is Pride Week and there are a lot of festivities happening in Salt Lake City to celebrate embracing the LGBT community. It is a busy week for First Baptist Church as well. This year the Pride Interfaith Service is being held at our church; we have a booth at the festival inviting people to get to know us; and I will be going around the festival on Saturday and Sunday offering to pray with anyone who wishes. We are quite involved to say the least. Some might wonder why we are so vocal in our support of the LGBT community. Some may wonder if it diminishes the other ministries we sponsor and if it makes us a one-issue church.

But here is my take on this. The first thing I would say is that we are quite involved with many ministries that reach out to people and advocate for the disenfranchised in general. Family promise, homeless youth resource center, Coalition of Religious Communities and many other ministries get a lot of attention. So our ministry of reaching out and advocating among the LGBT community is one of our many ministry's.

Another point I would make is that in trying to help Salt Lake City get to know us it is important to be clear in our position on LGBT issues. For the people of Salt Lake who are and will be finding a home a First Baptist, this is an important issue (its equally important to those who would not feel at home in our church). For people in Salt Lake who are looking for a church like ours one of the first things they will want to know is where we stand when it comes to inclusion. I would also add that I am not just talking about LGBT folks. This is a make or break issue for many straight people.

My final point and perhaps the most significant is that God has called this church to this ministry. I believe with all my heart that we are a church for these times and that our efforts to make a place where all people regardless of background, gender, sexual orientation, station in life, color, creed or nationality feel welcomed and accepted for who they are; who God made them to be is one of the most significant things we have ever done in the history of the congregation. People are rejecting church in droves but they still long for a communal experience of the sacred. We provide that. We