



# The Beacon

The Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City—

April 2017 Vol 11 Issue 3

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*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love;  
- I Love to Tell the Story, Arabella K. Hankey, 1866*

Darkness and light, blindness and sight, deafness and hearing, old and new, death and life – these metaphors are all at the heart of the Gospel message. The stories of Jesus recorded in the Bible offer them in stark black and white terms, yet there is much between darkness and light and death and life. The days from Good Friday to Easter Sunday are short, but the journey from Good Friday to Easter Sunday is a life-long pursuit.

It is a rare thing to be instantly transformed indeed. Most of us spend the bulk of our life in the in-between stages where we are not plunged into utter darkness but we are not fully bathed in the light either. We hear a little, we see a little and we dabble with death even as we seek to live.

What this means for us is that we are always the object of the Gospel message. We have heard it all before and we think we know what Jesus' message says. Yet, upon hearing it again we are called anew out of the darkness and death into a life in pursuit of the light and life Christ offers us.

Holy Week is upon us once again. It is the same Holy week that has been observed since time immemorial. We will sing familiar songs and hear the familiar stories. As we do, it is our invitation to move further in the journey, to embrace a little more light, to see a little bit deeper, to hear a little bit clearer and to come alive a little bit more. It is my prayer that we would all move ahead in our journey as we hear the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Grace and Peace

Pastor Curtis

## April at FBC:

- April 2: Quarterly Business meeting follows worship  
April 4: Beers and Bros at Fiddler's Elbow at 6:30  
April 9: Palm Sunday worship at 11 am  
April 13: ABW Luncheon at noon  
Seder Dinner at 7 pm  
April 14: Good Friday Service at 7 pm  
April 16: EASTER SUNDAY:  
8:30-10:30 Easter Breakfast  
11: Easter Worship  
Reception and Easter Egg Hunt follows Worship  
April 17: Church Closed  
April 18: Beers and Bros at Fiddler's Elbow at 6:30  
April 21: Third Friday Bingo  
April 29: The Wedding of Rev. Curtis Price and Katie Davies at 3 pm  
April 30: Wedding Reception for Pastor Curtis and Katie during Hospitality Time.

**Happy Birthday to:** Happy Birthday to: April 2: Dennis McCracken. April 5: Marlo Brown. Taylor Alstrom. April 9: Judy Rausher. April 10: Tori Wood. April 17: Cindy Trent. April 19: Loren Rausher. April 22: Jane Nelson. April 23: Paul Ditton, Caitlin Fellows, Bugs Stanley. April 24: Tom Burnett. April 26: Shirley Cannon, Ryan Winzenried. April 27: Jackie Mercado. April 29: Winnie Hollenbeck.

## Easter At First Baptist Church

Holy Week and Easter are always a wonderful time of celebration of this important part of our faith. Please join us for:

April 9: Palm/Passion Sunday 11 am: This service begins with the joyful entry into Jerusalem, the waving of palms and shouts of Hosanna, and continues with the Passion of our Lord.

April 13: Seder Dinner at 7 pm in Keck Hall: We will observe a traditional Passover Seder dinner in Keck Hall. Readings to learn and re-live the Passover story. As Kosher for Passover as we can make it food. We'll celebrate with Kosher for Passover grape juice again this year. Plenty of opportunities for everyone to cook a part of the meal. We'll observe again the traditions of hospitality, sharing and caring for this season. Join us! See Kelly Byrnes for more information

April 14: Good Friday Service at 7 pm: We will hear the Seven Last Words of Christ and explore their meaning during this moving service of Scripture and song.

## **April 16: EASTER SUNDAY:**

Our Traditional Easter Breakfast served 8:30 to 10:30 am under the direction of Chef Ken and his wonderful crew.

Easter Worship at 11 am: Christ the Lord is Risen, He is risen indeed! We will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with trumpets and song.

Reception and Easter Egg Hunt follows worship: While the adults enjoy each other's company and the reception, ABYouth will host an Easter egg hunt for all the kids.

**The Church office will be closed on Easter Monday.**

### **Wedding Bells Ring for Pastor Curtis and Katie**

All of you are invited to attend the wedding of Pastor Curtis and Katie on April 29 at 3 pm. A reception will be held on Sunday, April 30 following worship. Come wish them the very best as they begin their new lives together. Pastor Tim Phillips, Curtis' good friend will marry them on Saturday and then be our guest Preacher on Sunday morning.

**This year's Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction** will be Sunday, May 21 right after worship in Keck Hall. Tickets go on sale, Sunday, April 9.

*"Serve one another in love." Galatians 5: 13  
Do you have a heart for serving others?*

Since Hurricane Katrina devastated the gulf coast (2005), the American Baptist Home Mission Society (A.B.H.M.S.) has sponsored a week-long event, "Til the Work Is Done." This is an opportunity to assist in rebuilding the city of New Orleans.

This summer's event is July 30-August 5. Registration is \$250.00, which covers food and lodging. Air fare and ground transportation are additional costs.

Why would you want to sign up?

1. You can participate in hands-on efforts to rebuild homes, communities and lives.
2. You can have the opportunity to encourage and support those in need.

Who can participate? Anyone age 13 and older, skilled, unskilled and those willing to learn something new. They need carpenters, clean-up workers, clerical workers, those with computer skills, drywall hangers, drywall finishers, electricians, carpet and vinyl flooring installers, framers, insulation installers, landscapers, brick layers, painters, plumbers, roofers, siding installers, those trained in first aid and those trained in C.P.R. They are also looking for nurses and doctors.

How can you help?

1. Join the team.
2. Donate to help others do the work.
3. Pray for those who will serve and for those who will be served.

I am looking for 2 adults (or more), with or without technical expertise to accompany me and possibly some of our young people to New Orleans for this event. If you have questions,

suggestions and/or an interest in “‘Til the Work Is Done,” I need to hear from you by the first of May. You can speak to me in person, call, text or email me.

Karen Carter, [rkcarter1@comcast.net](mailto:rkcarter1@comcast.net) 801-486-8539 or 801-918-510

## **2017 Biennial Mission Summit**

American Baptists from all around the globe will gather in Portland, OR June 30 – July 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Biennial Mission Summit to celebrate Christ's love. Daily worship services are high energy joyful events, reinforcing the special bonds we enjoy. Themes for the event are how we are Connected to Christ, Connected to Each Other and Connected to the World.

The Biennial Mission Summit is when the American Baptist Churches USA as a whole determines where to focus our energy and efforts. Every voice is important. Pastors, church leaders and lay people will have opportunity to be heard. These conversations will determine our priorities for the next two years. Pastor Curtis and Karen Carter will represent us at these meetings. As a church, we need to be in prayer that God will guide our leaders and that His Spirit will prevail throughout this gathering.