



# The Beacon

The Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City—

March 2018 Vol 12 Issue 1

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## Lent and Easter

*For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures . . .* I Corinthians 15:3-4

Lent and Easter are the “high holy” season of the Christian faith. Many contemporary churches don’t engage Lent much these days, but really the two go hand in hand. To skip Lent creates the illusion that life with Christ is all rainbows and butterflies without recognizing that there are times of woe and despair, even for faithful believers. Without Lent and its build-up from the temptation in the Desert to the last days of Holy Week and finally Jesus’ death on a cross we miss the dramatic play that tells us the story of death to the old self and new life in Christ. We fail to acknowledge the ebb and flow of joy and sorrow and the recognition that God is faithful in both. We need that fast in the desert to understand Christ as the bread of life. We need that washing of the feet to understand that we are called to serve, not be served. We need the betrayal of Judas to really grasp how great a gift is the forgiveness of Christ. We need the last supper so that we might continually remember the cost of the Kingdom of God each time we eat the bread and drink the cup. Lent and Easter together remind us that faith is a victory hard won and yet, a victory it is. The contemplation of Lent makes the celebration of Easter all the sweeter because we have done the hard work of self-reflection that makes us recognize the real miracle of being a resurrection people; people who know what new life is.

And so, as we approach Easter, I encourage each of us to fully engage Lent, particularly the events of Holy Week, that we might fully experience the joy of declaring, “He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!”

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Curtis

## Happenings at FBC:

- Mar 9-10: Jesus Seminar  
Mar 13: Ruth's Circle 5 pm in the Library  
Mar 16: Bingo  
Mar 17: St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dessert Auction  
Mar 20: Beers and Bros at 6 pm at Fiddler's Elbow  
Mar 21: Council of Ministries at 5:45 pm  
Mar 23: Roma Downey Book signing and presentation  
Mar 25: Palm Sunday  
Mar 30: Good Friday Service at 7 pm  
Apr 1: Easter Breakfast served 8:30 – 10:30  
Easter Worship at 11 am  
Reception and Easter Egg Hunt following worship  
Apr 2: Church office closed  
Apr 6-7: Church Leadership Retreat

**Happy Birthday to:** Mar 12: Don Urry, Christopher Nelson. Mar 14: Christian Ellis, Kevin Wood. Mar 18: Peggy Keiffer. Mar 19: Matt Klassen. Mar 20: Carol Butler-Guilkey. Mar 22: Lily Wood, Audrey Kenyon. Mar 25: Leland Flinders. Mar 27: Bertha Reyes. Venessa Nobles. Mar 28: Bruce Burnett. Mar 29; Carlyn Chester. Mar 31: Erika Roth. April 2: Dennis McCracken. April 5: Marlo Brown. Taylor Alstrom. April 9: Judy Rausher. April 10: Tori Wood.

## Change to the Beacon

Beginning with this issue we are going to publish the Beacon quarterly instead of monthly. We will be giving you news and pictures of what has happened at FBC along with the calendar and events that are happening during that quarter of the year. The next issue will appear in May.

## St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dessert Auction—March 17<sup>th</sup>

Debra McBride is looking for folks to donate desserts for the auction and Pastor Curtis is looking for folks who are willing to share their talents during the dinner. Talk to them if you can help with this fun evening.

## Jesus Seminar: The Real Paul-- Recovering His Radical Challenge

March 9 and 10 at Rowland Hall. Sponsored by Utahns for Religious Scholarship.

This will be an in depth look at the historical Paul and the new Paul who is emerging. The Friday night and all day Saturday session is \$75. Single session for Friday night is \$20 and the Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon sessions are \$30 each. More information and registrations forms are in the church office on the volunteer desk.

## **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:

March 25: 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 Communion and the Passion of our Lord. ***Please note; Communion will be served at this service. We will not be having communion on Easter.***

March 30: Good Friday Service at 7 pm: We will hear about the last hours of Jesus' life in word and song.

### **April 1: 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 following 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.**

### **Lenten Clean Water Project**

Our American Baptist Missionaries in Haiti, Nzunga Mabadiga and his wife Kihomi Ngwemi, are seeking our help in providing clean water to 14 villages. Each well costs \$4,740, far beyond the reach of Haitians who earn \$1 a day.

In support of this project, Pastor Curtis has decided that over Lent, he will fast from all drinks but water and donate what would otherwise be spent on drinks to this project. The Pastor challenges others to join him in this Lenten fast and provide fresh drinking water to the people of Haiti. ***Put your donations in the water bottle next to the pulpit.***

**Pastor Curtis' Bible Study will be on a break until after Easter.** When it returns they will be studying the book of Revelation.

## **Christian Education / Sunday School**

It's not like when you were a kid. Come try it out with us. 9:30am Sunday morning. We talk. We learn. We share. We grow.

**March:** Pastor Curtis is teaching from the book, *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.

**April/May:** Feasting on the Word curriculum. Adult perspectives on the same Scriptures both the youth and children are learning about. Not a lecture. Share your experience with us.

**June:** 3rd annual intergenerational programming. From 8 to 88. Fun and challenging. Come and see how smart our kids are. And our elders. Did I mention Legos and snacks?

Questions? Comments? Contact Kelly Byrnes - - [kellyb84321@msn.com](mailto:kellyb84321@msn.com)

**Note from AB Women:** We finally had the stove cleaned. It would be a great help if people using the stove cleaned up after they use the stove or oven. Thanks!

**Corrections to the New Church Directory:** Try as we might to be perfect, there are some errors to the new directory. Please make the following changes:

**Gordon Remington:** Phone should be 801-918-3597, email: [glrpersonal@gmail.com](mailto:glrpersonal@gmail.com) address needs Apt 102 added.

**Kathy Felker:** phone should be 801-879-8817 and email; [ksfelker@comcast.com](mailto:ksfelker@comcast.com)

**Shirley Cannon:** address is 2460 South 1100 West Woods Cross, UT 84087; same for Michael)

**Jackie Mercardo:** house address is 5364

**Dexter and Linda Church:** phone number is 801-230-5469

**Katie Carter:** Phone number is 801-300-0511

**Courtney Moser:** phone 801-682-7087

**Kelly Byrnes:** phone is 801-682-7299

**Peg Keiffer and Jeff Norris:** Zip Code is 18034

**Audrey Kenyon:** street name is Westwood

*If you would like an electronic copy of the Directory, send me an email ([office@firstbaptist-slc.org](mailto:office@firstbaptist-slc.org)) and I will be happy to send you one. Dennis.*

**Easter Lily Order:** Help us decorate the church

Please return to the office by March 25th.

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_ and/or

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Plants are \$11.00 each number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ total \$ \_\_\_\_\_