



# *The Beacon*

The Newsletter of First Baptist Church of Salt Lake City

November-December 2018

website: [www.firstbaptist-slc.org](http://www.firstbaptist-slc.org) Hosted by Xmission

## **Pray with your feet**

There has been a lot of unsettling violence in the news lately. Bombs sent to citizens who are outspoken about the administration; two African Americans gunned down in a grocery store in Kentucky because the shooter couldn't get into the church he originally targeted; eleven worshipers massacred in a synagogue in Pittsburgh. It is all so shocking. These acts of violence are swelling in recent days. The Anti-Defamation League stated that in the last year incidents of anti-Semitic violence have risen almost 60%. It is easy to feel discouraged and to want to just give up. Of course, for people like me, (white, male, protestant, straight, privileged) giving up means just ignoring it and getting on with my life. It is not so easy to give up if you are from a minority faith or a person of color. Because of this, when I attended a candlelight vigil for the victims of the shooting in Pittsburgh, I expected to hear despair and futility in the voices speaking that night. However, instead of despair, I heard resolve. Resolve to not let the death of those eleven go unheeded but to let it be our motivation for standing all the more firm on the side of love and peace. Resolve to be the People of God and to live out what it means to be a People in the face of evil. Resolve to not let the violence and the rhetoric of us and them divide us from one another but to unite in solidarity and together face down the evil that is plaguing our country right now. It was amazing to see Catholics, Protestants, Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists all coming together in the face of this tragedy to stand with our Jewish family as they were targeted as a people by those who are filled with hate. Yet there was no talk of being victims. Instead the speakers spoke about how this particular synagogue in Pittsburgh was targeted not just because they were Jewish, but because they were a synagogue that was actively seeking to help immigrants relocate to the United States. Jay Jacobson, president of the United Jewish Federation of Utah, encouraged us to double our efforts in extending Godly hospitality to the stranger in response to this act that was meant to intimidate and thwart. The Tree of Life Synagogue was also a place that welcomed the LGBTQ community, which also made them a target. Again, though frightened, the call at this vigil was to continue to faithfully embrace all of our diversity in the face of those who see it as a threat.

I was inspired and encouraged by this vigil and the unity displayed there. It gives me a lot of hope and no small amount of peace about the future. Of course, it was not meant to offer me comfort but to

motivate me to action. More than one speaker made reference to Martin Luther King's proclamation when asked in Selma if he prayed. Dr. King said, "I prayed with my feet." We are all encouraged to pray with our feet. To respond to these vile acts of division by working all the harder to live out the beloved community and to seek first the Kingdom of God.

May the Holy Spirit embolden us to live faithfully.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Curtis

#### November at FBC:

- Nov 3: Craft and Vendor Fair 9 am to 5 pm
- Nov 4: Commemoration of All Saints Day  
Community Prayer in Skaggs Chapel at 10:30  
Communion Sunday at 11 am
- Nov 6: Beers and Bros at Fiddler's Elbow at 6 pm
- Nov 8: AB Women's Luncheon at noon in the library
- Nov 12: Office closed for holiday
- Nov 18: Thanksgiving worship and Dinner
- Nov 20: Beers and Bros at 6 pm at Fiddler's Elbow
- Nov 22: HAPPY THANKSGIVING
- Nov 23: Church office and Child Development Center closed
- Nov 27: Council of Ministries meeting at 5:45 pm

Happy Birthday to: : Nov 4: Michael Davies. Nov 5: Capri Gregson. Nov 8: Brett Ellis.  
Nov 10: Jeanne Hall. Nov 15: Richard Brown. Nov 25: Ashley Roth. Elijah Nelson. Nov 28:  
Mike Cannon. Nov 30: Jace Wolters.

**AB Women Luncheon**—November 8 at noon in the Library. Come enjoy lunch and fellowship.

#### **Thanksgiving Service and Dinner**

##### **Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. Worship at 11 am. Dinner follows in Keck Hall**

Come join your church family in Thanksgiving worship and then our traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. We furnish the turkey, dressing, potatoes and gravy. We need folks to bring side dishes to share, and pies. There are sign up sheets by the office door to indicate you'll bring pies, salads, sweet potatoes or green bean casseroles. Ken will be looking for men to cook turkeys and help in the kitchen.

**Decorate the Church Nov 25**—stick around and help our Youth decorate the church for Christmas. Many hands are needed to fluff bows and greenery and hang ornaments on the tree.

## December at FBC

- Dec 2: Community Prayer in Skaggs Chapel at 10:30 am  
Communion Sunday
- Dec : Mission Summit following worship
- Dec 11: Beers and Bros at Fiddler's Elbow at 6 pm
- Dec 13: AB Women Luncheon at noon in the Library.
- Dec 14: Child Development Center Christmas Party 4-6 pm
- Dec 16: Children's Christmas Pageant during worship
- Dec 24: Christmas Eve Service at 7:30 pm
- Dec 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS
- Dec 26: Office and Child Development Center closed

**Happy Birthday to:** Dec 3: Angela Bond, Pat Johnston. Dec 5: Wendy Winzenried. Dec 7: Karen Carter. Dec 9: Lilian Brown. Dec 10: Jennifer Schimmlfenning. Dec 11: Andrew Thompson. Dec 12: Ricardo dosSantos. Dec 14: Jessica Hall. Dec 15: Mark Rausher. Dec 16: Aaron Barnes. Dec 20: Ron Hall. Dec 21: Alyssa Wilson, Matthew Keysaw. Dec 24: Scott Smith. Dec 26: Amy David. Dec 27: Georgine Parmeter. Dec 28: Abigail Nelson.

**Our traditional Christmas Eve service will begin at 7:30 pm.** Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with word, music, candles and love. This is the service to invite your friends and neighbors to join you at worship.

**Children's Christmas Pageant will be December 16** during worship. This is always a fun morning as our children tell the Christmas story. Rehearsals will be during Kid's Praise Club starting in November so be sure your kids are here.

**Mission Summit—December 9 following worship.** Join Pastor Curtis in the library following worship to discuss what missions First Baptist should look at and participate in next year. Bring your ideas and help us be part of Jesus' hands outside the walls of the church.

**End of Year giving for 2018: Just a reminder that all donations to the church for 2018 must be in the Church office no later than Thursday, Dec 27th in order to receive credit on your 2018 taxes.**

**Alpha Lambda's Annual Santa Breakfast:** Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 to 11:30. There will be a pancake breakfast, holiday boutique and baked goods, raffles, door prizes and Santa. Donation is \$4 for children under 7 and \$7 for everyone over 7. Talk to Phyllis Hollen for more information

**Sign Up Sheets for Hospitality and Flowers for 2018** are on the bulletin board outside the office. Sign up now and get the weekend you want.

**Order Form for Poinsettias for the Church:** Buy a poinsettia for the Sanctuary. These may be purchased in honor of someone, or in memory of someone. The list of dedications will appear in the Christmas Eve Bulletin. Plants are \$11.00 each this year and may be taken home following the Christmas Eve service.

Orders need to be in the office no later than December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Name of giver \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of  
plants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$11.00= total paid \_\_\_\_\_

### **Annual Junior-Senior High Winter Retreat at Camp Utaba**

At this year's retreat, we will explore the role of God and how we so often deny God that role by turning elsewhere for our help. In addition, we will enjoy playing in the snow, reconnecting with old friends, making new friends and just having a good time.

Camp Utaba—January 4, 5, and 6. Applications are available in the church office or from Pastor Curtis or Tommy Burnett.

**American Baptist Women shipped** 13 lbs. of goods last week to our missionaries in Haiti, Nzunga and Kihomi. The package was sent to Venice, Florida. Agape Flights in Florida will then deliver the box to Haiti. Credit should be given to **Pat Ditton** who made at least 30-35 shorts for boys from T-shirts and more than 30 washable sanitary pads for girls and young women. AB GIRLS purchased panties to go with the reusable pads.

## **Christmas Concerts at FBC:**

Once again Christmas music will ring through our Sanctuary during the month of December. Please know that you are welcome to any & all of these events:

Dec 1:	Swedish Festival 6 pm
Dec 4 and 5:	Lux Singers 7:30 pm
Dec 7 and 8:	Salt Lake Men's Choir 7:30
Dec 9:	Salt Lake Men's Choir 7:30
Dec 15:	Salt Lake Symphonic Choir 7:30
Dec 16:	German Chorus 7 pm
Dec 19:	Wasatch Singers 7:30

The Swedish Festival is the Celebration of St Lucia's Day and includes a market and dinner. The entire service is in Swedish. The German Chorus comes with a glockenspiel and is sung entirely in German.

**Our Building has a hero and his name is Gene Miner.** Notice the new drinking fountains, or the new light on the building that lights up the ramp at night? Those are all Gene's handiwork along with the new lighting in the hallway, replaced windows, the filters replaced in the heating system, the painting in the conference room and upstairs hallway, the coffee machine moved to a more convenient location, kitchen cupboards moved and repaired, and hundreds of other items fixed and repaired. These are all Gene's doing. He freely shares his talents, his time and his treasure with us. THANKS GENE!!!

**AB Women Christmas Luncheon**—December 8 at noon in the Library. Please bring a small gift to share and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

## **First Baptist Child Development Center**

We have had an exciting few months in the child care. We have been focusing on all things Autumn in our classrooms. The children have loved playing with leaves, pumpkins, watching the outside changes and more. We had a family field trip last week at Cross E. Ranch that was enjoyed by all. FBCDC provided hot chocolate and cookies and families enjoyed getting together outside of the everyday hustle and bustle. The kids of course loved the hay rides, slides, corn pits, delicious food, corn mazes, and much more!

Although we almost didn't make it out of the corn maze without having to call in a rescue squad. As the sun was setting Maria, Jade and about 10 children from FBCDC thought it would be a great time to go in the corn maze. The options of corn maze were easy, medium and hard. We had several adults with us, so we thought we could easily make it through the medium corn maze. Quickly, we realized that we bit off more than we could chew. We made it to the very back, the corn maze was now lit by the moonlight and we somehow now were in the hard maze. We had children ages 1 to 12 who we were constantly counting since it was

getting darker and darker. We were becoming frantic if we would ever make it out of the corn maze. Then another obstacle: once the sun goes down the ranch has a special deal for dogs and their owners to go through the maze. We now had 10 children that we were counting every 2-5 minutes and trying to get through rows and rows of dogs. Each person we met that were going into the maze as we were trying to make it out we would ask, "are we going the right way?" They would point us in a different direction and we would keep trekking on. Finally, after about an hour we could see the light at the end of the tunnel and a sigh of relief from everyone. We made it out! No child was left behind, no helicopter or search team had to be called and we quickly vowed to never do that again. The children absolutely loved it and of course started asking when we could go again!

We have a busy November and December planned to wrap up 2018. We will be having our bi annual picture day coming up, chapel with Jane and Maggie, and Thanksgiving that we are looking forward to. In the beginning of December Ms. Maggie will come celebrate Advent with the children each week. Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm we will have our Christmas program where the preschool children will sing songs and dance followed by a visit from Santa Claus. We look forward to finishing up this exciting year and to reflect on all that we have accomplished here at FBCDC throughout this year. We look forward to what 2019 will bring us!

**Pave the Way reminder**—June 1, 2019 is the end of the three years we committed to paying off our pledges for the new parking lot. If you have a balance on your pledge please do all you can to get it paid off by then.

#### **Council Corner—**

**Ray Carter is chairing a security task force.** They have met with a detective from the Salt Lake Police Department who has looked closely at our building and the groups who use it. He will be coming to the next Council meeting with recommendations about security and safety and help us discuss how best to implement his suggestions.

**A new task force was established** to take a close look at stewardship, both short and long range. You will be hearing from them shortly as we begin our stewardship month and then they will focus their attention on some long range goals.

**The Council has had** conversations about marketing and how best to market our church to attract visitors and newcomers. You will hear more about this in the coming months.