

The ARK of New Beginnings Church

February 25, 2009

This Sunday...

In the Pulpit



New Beginnings welcomes James Holeman

James Holeman's father was in the military, allowing James to see firsthand different cultures and places every three years (ranging from Japan to Germany). One constant in this upheaval was experiencing the church family or body of Christ, surrounding and welcoming his own family wherever they were. The analogy of the "body of Christ" or the "family of God," with Christ at the head; the idea of Christ in true relationship with those he loves; strongly influences James' understanding of God even today. James has worked with youth of the church for 9 years and has recently received his MDIV from the Seattle campus of Fuller Theological Seminary. He, his wife Vicky, and 2 year old Jack moved to Utah in 2008 to accept a call as Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Salt Lake City.

The Message...



"Praise in the Ups and Downs of Life"

"As the Deer Panteth for the water so my soul longeth after thee. You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship thee. You alone are my strength, my shield. To you alone let my Spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship thee."

~ Praise song derived from Psalm 42

James will share about his love/hate relationships with Praise songs. "I love to sing them but always feel like I'm missing something. Praise songs TEND to miss the wide range of emotion evident in Praise PSALMS."

But what he notes is "how it is refreshing that the Psalmists are "Just Like Us." They sometimes forget that it is God in control not them. They also take their problems to God. They also have to wait to see how God responds..."

James then plans to "challenge the congregation with what we can take away.... For those of us who are in the ups or the downs of life. God responds to our cries to him (and that is something to praise God about)."

What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. It falls on a different date each year, because it is dependent on the date of Easter; it can occur as early as February 4 or as late as March 10.

Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a sign of repentance. Following the example of the Nine vites, who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and reminds us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told

"Remember, from dust you are, and to dust you shall return." ~ Genesis 3:19 (NIV)

The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the church because of their sins -- just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion. In earlier times, the distribution of ashes was followed by a penitential procession.

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

Not all Christian churches observe Ash Wednesday or Lent. They are mostly observed by the Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and Anglican denominations, and also by Roman Catholics. Eastern Orthodox churches observe Lent or Great Lent, during the 6 weeks or 40 days (Sundays are not counted) preceding Palm Sunday with fasting continuing during the Holy Week of Easter. Lent for Eastern Orthodox churches begins on Monday and Ash Wednesday is not observed.

The Bible does not mention Ash Wednesday or the custom of Lent, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.

NBC WOMEN'S MINISTRY

February Schedule:

2/5	Open Discussion
2/12	Bible Study, Valentine's Day Celebration
2/19	Open Discussion
2/26	Bible Study



All women are welcome

without regard to faith, beliefs or denomination.

Fellowship will be held at Aileen Johanson's house:
Please call the office 801-302-3322 for directions.

For further information about our events and activities, contact Women's Ministry Leader, Edrie Bridenbaugh.

edrieallred@aol.com; tel. #[\(801\)253-4505](tel:8012534505).

**"Friends come and friends go,
but a true friend sticks by you
like family"**

Proverbs 18:24 (The Message translation)

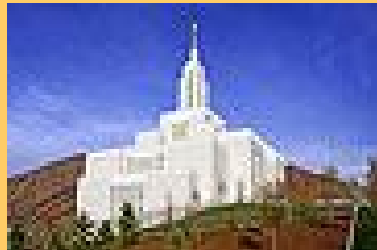
March 7, Saturday---

Women's Ministry - sponsored tour of the LDS Draper Temple.

We will tour in a group.

If you aren't already signed up but would like to go, contact Edrie a.s.a.p.-- there are a few more spaces.

Children, other family members, and friends are welcome!



YOU'RE INVITED!

To: Show **GOD'S LOVE** and our support for a week of hosting and providing for families without a place to live at this time.

For: Families - sponsored by FAMILY PROMISE - Salt Lake

Where: Hilltop United Methodist Church Hilltop House - 985 E. 10600 S.

When: **March 8 - 15, 2009**

We need

Breakfast Hosts from 6 - 7 a.m weekdays, Weekend a.m., midday and afternoon shifts, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. People to prepare and deliver meals by 6 p.m., Evening Hosts from 5 - 8:30 p.m. to help with delivered meals, etc., Overnight Hosts (preferably a male and a female) from 8:30 p.m. - 6 or 7 a.m. (Fri. & Sat. nights hosts stay until 8 a.m.), Transport Volunteers on Sunday, March 15 at 1:30 p.m., food items, telephone support, and much Prayer.

RSVP: Jane C. Tago, 801-282-0765, for more information &/or sign-up at Mt. Vista UMC, or contact Brandee at the office 801-302-3322.



Church Women United

A multi faith gathering of Christian Women

Mark your calendar and plan to attend CWU's **Human Rights Celebration 2009**

When: Friday, March 13, 2009 (2nd Friday)

Time: 9:30 a.m. Reg; 10:00 - 1:00 Program & Lunch

Where: Centenary United Methodist Church

1740 South 500 East (Salt Lake City)

Theme: "Seeking Shalom"

Registration: \$1 Lunch: \$4.00

Community Outreach: TBD

Offering: Used for CWU National Programs:

Checks need to be made payable to:

Church Women United

Lunch RSVP: To Barbara Stone at 262-1109 or

**Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz
at 272-5356**

by Monday, March 9

This is a wonderful ecumenical gathering and an opportunity to learn and grow spiritually and personally.

Hope to see you there.

THERE IS STILL MUCH NEED FOR HELP AT HILLTOP HOUSE FOR FAMILY PROMISE!!

Please prayerfully consider whether you can help with one of the following items:

Openings for hosts:

- Sunday, March 8-Afternoon hosts, 2-5 PM
- Overnight host-one for 8:30 PM to 7:00 AM Monday
- Monday- March 9-Overnight host-one
- Tuesday-March 10- Overnight hosts-two
- Wednesday-March 11- Meal host, Evening hosts- 5PM to 8:30 PM
- Overnight hosts- two
- Saturday-March 14- AM hosts-8-11 AM
- Evening hosts- 5-8:30 PM
- Sunday- March 15- AM hosts-8-11, 11-1:30PM
- Transportation- 1:30 PM

Groceries needed:

- Assorted fruits-Bananas, apples, etc.
- 4 gals.- Milk (2-whole, 2-2%)
- 2 half-gals. Juice/apple or orange
- 3 loaves of bread-1 w., 2 w.w.
- 1 pkg. Bagels
- 2 lbs. Luncheon meat
- 2 pkg. Sliced cheese
- 2 sm. Tubs butter
- 1 can- cream cheese spread
- Drink mixes
- 2 doz. Eggs
- Mayonnaise
- 2 pkgs. Cookies, any kind
- 1 box Saltine Crackers
- Veggies-1 Head of Lettuce/tomatoes/carrots, etc.
- 9 x 13 sheet cake-Sunday, 03/08
- Monetary funds for emergency
- Pkgs. Adult & childrens' toothbrushes, Travel sized deodorant - men & women

If you feel you could help with any of these items, please contact Brandee 801-302-3322 or Jane Tago 801-282-0765.