

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
268 West 100 South (Japantown Street)
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801) 363-3251 www.jccslc.net

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Pastor Brad Kramer
info@jccslc.net

Summer Schedule (**through
Labor Day weekend**):
Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

**Winter Schedule begins on
Sunday, September 13.**
Adult Bible Study and Sunday
School resume at 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor's Message

September 2015

As I write this, we are in the middle of our Fall celebration; Aki Matsuri. Simply by mentioning this, I'm inviting trouble as I should be upstairs helping with all the work going on – and as you know, there is a tremendous amount of work that goes into pulling off an undertaking such as Aki Matsuri. It is truly a team effort; and that is why I felt compelled to take a few moments to share with you how proud I am of all those in our church family who have worked so diligently to make this happen.

The Bible places a premium on hospitality. In the book of III John, the author has some harsh words for a man by the name of Diotrophes, who distinguishes himself by his selfishness and unwillingness to demonstrate hospitality. In my five years at JCC, I continue to be astounded by the amazing and humbling acts of service performed by our church family. It strikes me that such a relatively small number of people could produce such a successful project like this. You all exemplify hearts that are turned towards others; and that is why no one will ever have to write a letter to JCC questioning your hospitality – it is second to none.

Uh oh, I better get back upstairs; they're calling me!

Blessings,
Pastor Brad

The JCC Mission Statement

To proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and seek spiritual growth for the entire congregation through:

- Worship, prayer, and Bible study
- Outreach and evangelism
- Loving service to the Church and community
- Fellowship
- Cultural activities unique to our ethnic congregation

THE HERALD

A monthly publication of the Japanese Church of Christ, Salt Lake City, UT.

Pastor Brad Kramer
Clerk of Session: Greg Paige

Session

Julee Mori, Finance
 Lorraine Crouse, Worship
 Hiro Iwasaki, Stewardship
 Greg Paige, Personnel, Education
 Lynne Aramaki, Building and Grounds
 Karen Okawa, Membership
 Alan Shino, Evangelism/Missions

Deacons

Jan Aramaki, Moderator

 Misako Bowker, Miki Harada, Keiko Ikeda, Wilma Kimura, Lillian Nakamura, Karla Paige, Danni Uyeda

Newsletter articles are due on the last Sunday of each month at **noon**. Send your articles to klokawa@msn.com

Website: www.jccslc.net

Condolences

A belated condolence is extended to the family of Rose Kawashima Miya, who passed away on July 4, 2015.

Herald Fund Drive

Attached with this month's newsletter is an envelope for your convenience for the Herald fund drive. Your donation will offset printing, paper and postage costs. Thank you in advance!



Rally Day 2015

Summer is winding down ☺, so it is time for Adult Bible Study and Youth Sunday School to begin again ☺. The two will start **at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 13 with worship service to begin at 10:30 a.m.**

Nichigo Guest Speaker and Potluck Luncheon

Reverend Hajimu Fujii from the Fresno Japanese Church will be a guest for the Nichigo on the weekend of September 12 and 13. His wife Kayoko will also accompany him. Reverend Fujii will also deliver the English-speaking sermon on **Sunday, September 13**. A potluck luncheon will be held following worship service. **Please bring a food item to share!**

September Culture Class

The September Culture Class on **Sunday, September 27**, after worship service - will feature **Judy Iwamoto** as she shows us how to create a "Lucky Bamboo" arrangement for our homes. The meaning of lucky bamboo plays an important role as a living example of the feng shui elements of water, wood and earth. Participation is limited (due to number of materials available), so sign up soon on the sign up sheet posted in the Fellowship Hall. Materials cost, \$5 per person.



September Youth Activity

The next youth activity will be held on **Sunday, September 6**. The Iwamoto-Fukumitsu family has invited the youth group to the Iwamoto cabin for a day of hiking and relaxing. Contact Elise Mori for details at elisemori17@gmail.com.

Flu Shot Season!

Flu shots are tentatively scheduled to be offered at the JCC on **Sunday, September 13** after worship service as well (busy Sunday!). At press time, the date was still to be confirmed depending on when the serum will be available. An announcement will be made during worship service on Sept. 6.



Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Saeko Nakashima | Shawna Johnson | Chris Miya |
| Susan Rosvall | Joy Hashimoto | Bernice Kida |
| Miki Harada | Betty Murakami | Marie Matsukawa |
| Yaeko Tomomatsu | Grace Matsumura | Grace Oshita |
| Yoshiko Nakagama | Kristen Kobayashi | Cristal Aoki |
| Jana Hansen | Toshiko Marse | Lillian Nakamura |
| Frank Imai | Utako Aramaki | Jessie Lamb |
| Wat Misaka | Garin Harada | Mr. "C" |
| Susan Fukushima | Larry Harada | |

A Time to Reflect

Some ways in which the Japanese Church of Christ makes a difference in the life of the church family and the community:

- Worship and fellowship with God
- Celebrations of baptisms, weddings, memorial services
- Bible study in both English and Japanese, providing a way to gain knowledge of our God and His Son, Jesus Christ and grow in our faith and relationship with Him
- Fellowship with the church family
- Visitations to share God's love and caring. We are His hands
- Contributions to the Presbyterian Church, USA and the United Church of Christ as members of the body of Christ
- Donations of hand-made items by our Agape ladies to various charities
- Share our facilities with the Tongan and Kachin (Burmese) congregations
- English classes by Pastor Brad for the Kachin congregation
- Participation in the Gideons' international program through gift Bibles given in memory of loved ones
- Celebration of Thanksgiving and Christmas joy, a special time of fellowship with potluck dinners with the church family and friends
- Serve at the St Vincent de Paul kitchen once a month
- Participation in Operation Christmas Box, a project of Samaritan's Purse
- Participation in giving goods to the food pantry at Crossroads Urban Center
- Host the Nikkei Center senior lunch once a year through the efforts of the Agape women
- Participation in Nihon Matsuri, a yearly community event
- Participation in Church Women United
- Participation in the softball and basketball Inter-City Church League
- Performance by the Kenshin Taiko group at community events
- Contributions of other donations to/or participation in Rescue Mission, Salt Lake Mission, Ronald McDonald House, Primary Children's Hospital, Road Home and Hunger Crop Walk

Contributions of time, talent and financial resources are abundant and freely given by members and friends of the Japanese Church of Christ.

In November, each of us will have the opportunity to share our blessings and give financial support to our church, the Japanese Church of Christ, in making a difference in our lives and in the community.

Small Groups

Small group Bible studies continue at various homes during the month. Contact Pastor Brad for information on the next location.

Updated JCC Website

After some time off line, the JCC website is now up and running again at www.jccslc.net. Please check it out and see what is there! Information is easy to find –there is even a mobile version.

A grateful thank you to William Jeyaraj, the web designer who generously put the site together for us in-kind!

Note – If you had previously bookmarked the JCC website, that domain is no longer valid. The web address now has a “.net” extension (formerly “.com”).

www.jccslc.net

Building Committee Report

The Building Committee meets regularly on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. These meetings are open to anyone interested in attending – not just member of the committee. If you have a concern or question regarding this project, please plan to attend!

From Crossroads Urban Center

The following is a list of items need most at the Crossroads Urban Center: Canned goods (soup, tomatoes, chili, peanut butter), dry goods – pasta, beans, boxed meals, saltine crackers, drinks, hotel size soap, shampoo, lotion, etc., razors, toothpaste and brushes, toilet paper, deodorant, diapers, baby formula, kids, women's and men's clothing, shoes, work boots, socks, jackets and coats, underwear (new), blankets, towels and sheets, dishes and silverware, pots, pans, crock pots, small appliances. (No furniture, please.)

If you can help, the Deacons have a collection box in the front of the Fellowship Hall.

September Birthdays

| | |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Greg Paige |
| 2 | Laura Olson |
| 5 | Karla Paige |
| 7 | Katie Misaka |
| 8 | Richard Uyeda |
| 10 | Andy Matsukawa |
| 11 | Michael Hashimoto |
| 12 | John Kawai |
| 15 | Josh Uyeda |
| 17 | Theresa Sueoka |
| 19 | Jon Matsukawa. Jane Sugihara |
| 22 | Ryan Kawai |
| 25 | Marcia Garcia |

September 2015 - Worship Service Participants

| | September 6 | (Service at 10:30) September 13 | September 20 | Music Worship September 27 |
|--------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Liturgist | Jan Aramaki | Rick Aoki | Ron Nishijima | Laura Olson |
| Scripture Readers | E) Zach Paige J) Yeiko Homma | E) Alex Okawa J) Keiko Ikeda | E) Tyler Uyeda J) Toshiko Marse | E) Pauline Vosburgh J) Shigeko Ota |
| Greeter | Karla Paige | Saeko Nakashima | Wilma Kimura | Sadie Yoshimura |
| Ushers | Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner | Doug Murakami Joe Ota | Lorraine Crouse Christine Lund | Al Kubota Barry Nakamura |
| Songs of Praise | Brian Itliong Brad Kramer | Brian Itliong Brad Kramer | Brian Itliong Brad Kramer | JCC Worship Band |
| Organist/Pianist | Greg Paige | Allyn Nakashima | Yas Iwamoto | Misako Bowker |
| Offeratory Music | Greg Paige | Allyn Nakashima | Yas Iwamoto | Nichigo Choir |
| Acolyte | Nichole Kramer | Alex Okawa | Tyler Uyeda | TBD |
| Communion Servers | Al Kubota Ron Nishijima Laura Olson | --- | --- | --- |
| Ed Bldg Monitor | Uyedas | Barry Nakamura | Tosh Nakaya | --- |

JCC September 2015 Events Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 -Communion, 10 am -Youth Activity, Iwamoto cabin | 7 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 8 | 9 -Session Meeting, 6 pm | 10 | 11 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 12 -Nichigo guest Rev. Fujii |
| 13 -Rally Day -Nichigo speaker, worship service – 10:30 a.m. -Pot Luck Luncheon -Flu shots | 14 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 15 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am -Aki Matsuri request for reimbursement due | 16 | 17 | 18 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 19 |
| 20 | 21 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 22 -Aki Matsuri wrap up meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 26 |
| 27 -Music Worship -Culture Class, Lucky Bamboo, noon -Herald Deadline, noon | 28 -Taiko practice, 6 pm | 29 | 30 | | | |

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 8/30/15.

Upcoming Community Events

Saturday, September 12 – Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon, sponsored by Dai Ichi Ward, 1900 South 900 East, noon.

Reminder – Lock Up!

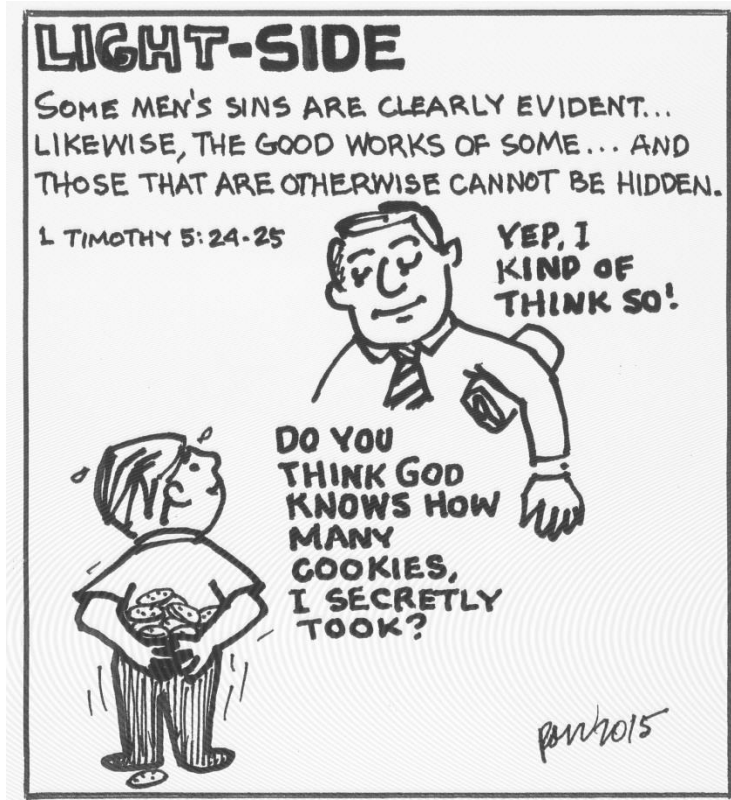
On several occasions, windows have been found ajar in the chapel and the sliding glass doors unlocked. Remember to perform a “double check” of the building when locking up after using the church facilities.

Youth Sunday

On Sunday, August 30, the worship service was conducted by the Youth Group. Speakers included testimonies from those that attended Mount Hermon in June. It was great to hear such uplifting words and experiences of their journeys with God.



Brian Itliong, Josh Uyeda, Tyler Uyeda, Alex Okawa, Elise Mori, Nichole Kramer, Katie Iwamoto-Fukumitsu and Elizabeth Ward perform the "Papaya" song. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki



Out of Place?

During the next few months, you may notice that the chapel furnishings may be rearranged. In looking at different design options for the chapel, the Building Committee will be moving some of the furniture around to test out the fit, views, and new configurations. Please be open to these changes; they are TEMPORARY.

Happy Birthday Yeiko!

On Saturday, August 22, an open house was held at the JCC in celebration of Yeiko Homma's 90th birthday, hosted by her children. She had just returned from an Alaskan cruise with her children Mike, Donna and Victor, their families and sisters Keiko and Miyoshi. As she blew out the candles on her cake, her wish was to live to be 100!



Left: Yeiko is 90!
 Below: Son Victor leads everyone in singing Happy Birthday!



Photo courtesy: Allison Oki

Aki Matsuri 2015

Thank you to everyone who helped at Aki Matsuri and made it a big success! A line of people formed outside the door a half hour before the event officially began!

A big thank you to Danni Uyeda who volunteered to take on the daunting task of chairperson this year. The event could not have gone on without her 24/7 efforts; she is very much appreciated.

Financial numbers will be reported on in the October Herald.

NOTE: If you have any requests for reimbursement, the deadline for submission is **September 15**. Submit to Danni Uyeda, Hiro Iwasaki or Janice Oike. Be sure to have receipts.



Wat Misaka and Ron Nishijima enjoy some people watching.



More Aki Matsuri Photos

Left: Frank Imai in front of a photo display of the JCC.

Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

JCC Softball Team Fields Two MPPs

Submitted by Doug Murakami

The JCC softball team ended their co-ed Summer Christian Church League season finishing in the upper third of a 19 team league. Tournament play pitted the JCC squad against only the "top tier" teams in the league. We won a thrilling comeback game against Shadow Mountain, on a very hot day, with everyone playing at their best! We then lost to a solidly talented Capital Church team, immediately following our exciting victory.

New friendships were made with players on the other teams and everyone enjoyed and appreciated the great fan support for the JCC team. Barry and Tosh were regular attendees along with many friends and relatives of our team. Although fans cheered for their respective teams, by far the two most popular players (MPP) among the all the teams were Raymond Uno and Frank Ujifusa. Raymond and Frank brought a smile to everyone's face, including each-and-every umpire! Three cheers for our MPPs and to a rewarding successful season!



The "Noodle" (aka udon) guys: Keith Garcia, Luke, Jake, Wayne and Doug Murakami.



Cashiers Mark and Lynne Ward.



Back row: Dan Crouse, Zach Paige, Wally Doi, Briar Doi, Alex Aoyama, Luke Murakami, Keith Garcia, Doug Murakami
 Middle row: Alix Oike, Midori Murakami
 Front row: Mike Erlacher, Ernie Garcia, Frank Ujifusa, Chris Sundwall
 Missing: Lauren Erlacher, Mark Ward, Thomas Mori, Raymond Uno



Janice Oike and Mary Imamura use a mochi cutter to make manju.



Our fans are the best! Karla Paige, Janice Oike and Greg Paige cheer the team on. Photos courtesy: Dani Murakami