

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
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Pastor Brad Kramer
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Schedule:

Traditional Worship Service at
10:00 a.m.

Urban Grace (Contemporary
Service) at 11:30 a.m.

Pastor's Message

August 2016

This past week I began re-reading a book, which has been on my shelf for many years. *Man In The Mirror* by Patrick Morley, is a very insightful analysis of the top 24 struggles faced by men.

The introductory chapter entitled "The Rat Race" is of particular interest to me because it seems that more and more men are susceptible to the danger of joining the rat race, and losing sight of what is truly most important in life. Morley defines the rat race as "the pursuit of the beautiful, wrinkle free life." Such a "life," of course, doesn't exist.

How many of us have struggled to avoid falling prey to the empty promises of a culture that places so much value on self-fulfillment and instant gratification? I certainly have. Thankfully there is protection against this trap – it's called the Bible. Throughout God's word, the reader is reminded of the emptiness, which results through the endless pursuit of selfish desires. King Solomon discovered this after dedicating himself to finding pleasure in a dizzying array of activities. His conclusion? Apart from God, "everything is meaningless!"

Hopefully you have come to the same conclusion as Solomon, as well as the Apostle Paul who wrote that true contentment in life is found only through reliance upon our Lord Jesus Christ.

If you are trying to extricate yourself from the rat race, I encourage you to open up God's word, seek the Lord in prayer and discover what true happiness looks like.

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
 Karen Okawa, Membership
 Alan Shino, Evangelism/Missions

Deacons

Jan Aramaki, Moderator

 Misako Bowker, Miki Harada, Keiko Ikeda, Wilma Kimura, Karla Paige, Dorthie Conway

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

Aki Matsuri Update

Questions have arisen regarding Aki Matsuri, which traditionally is held during the last part of August. Unfortunately, the festival will not be held this year due to manpower shortages and lack of interest. A chairperson could not be secured and at this date, it is too late to submit the paperwork necessary for city permits, etc. The one day event requires a lot of planning and coordination; but our congregation is small and aging and it is difficult to stage a large festival with our numbers.

Income from Aki Matsuri was not included as part of the annual 2016 balanced budget; but the budget is running a deficit this year, so any additional income derived from the festival would have been beneficial.

Other options have been discussed – such as a smaller scale version of the festival; perhaps a bento box dinner, sushi sale, silent auction, or raffle. If you have any ideas for fundraising efforts this year or how Aki Matsuri might be simplified for next year, please contact an Elder.

JCC Softball Team Enters Tournament Play

Submitted by Doug Murakami

Finishing a successful and fun regular season with a record of 6 wins 4 losses, the JCC Softball team began tournament play July 29th as the fourth place team in an 18-team league. With season-long solid hitting from Alix Oike, Zac Paige, Thomas Mori, and Mark Ward, and newly acquired homerun-hitting third baseman Mitch Imamura, the JCC team had many quality wins, including a victory over a previously undefeated Life Church team.

Facing triple-digit temperatures, we began the double elimination tournament with a victory against South Mountain Community Church of South Jordan. We lost our next game, played immediately after, facing the league’s number one team, Capital Church 1. Our next game is scheduled for August 5th at 7:30 p.m. Win or lose, it’s been a great season – you simply can’t help but have fun, having teammates like Raymond Uno and Frank Ujifusa! Thanks to all of our fans that support us!

Belated Congratulations!

A baby son, Taiki Han-Joon Nakamura, was born on May 12, 2016 to Kim Nakamura and his wife. Proud grandparents are Moose and Eleanore Nakamura; their first grandchild!



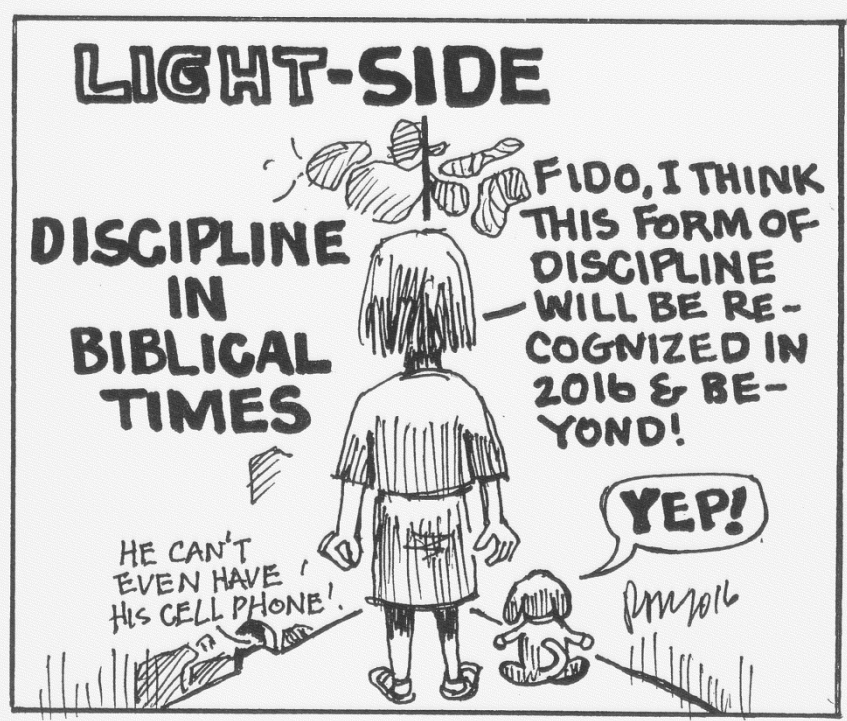
Condolences

To the family of Yoshiko (Mary) Kido, who passed away on Saturday, July 23, 2016 at the age of 93.

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 | Toshiko Marse | Cristal Aoki |
| Jana Hansen | Utako Aramaki | Lillian Nakamura |
| Frank Imai | Larry Harada | Jessie Lamb |
| Wat Misaka | Michael Darger | Mr. "C" |
| Susan Fukushima | Keri Kramer | Finn Horve |
| Kevin Turner | Barbara Woody | Chris Tabata Lund |
| Joanne Nakaya | | |



The Exclusive 90 Plus Club

On Sunday, July 30, Toshi Hirose was in town to visit her daughter Laura Olson, so a special luncheon was held for those 90 years of age plus. Those that were present on that Sunday included Wat Misaka, Mas Horiuch, Toshi Hirose, Yeiko Homma, Betty Morishita, Sumi Arakaki, Nob Iwamoto, Kay Nakashima and Utako Aramaki. Thanks to all of those that provided the delicious salads.

We pray that the Lord will continue to grant them (as well as all of the other 90+ in our congregation) strength and health for many more birthdays to come!



From left to right – Back row - Wat Misaka, Mas Horiuch, Toshi Hirose, Yeiko Homma, Betty Morishita. Front row - Sumi Arakaki, Nob Iwamoto, Kay Nakashima and Utako Aramaki. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki.

Mount Hermon Testimonies

On two Sundays, July 17 and July 24, testimonies were given by this year's Mount Hermon attendees: Elizabeth Ward, Katie Iwamoto-Fukumitsu, Tyler Uyeda, Yeiko Homma, Shoji Mori, Madison and Nichole Kramer. It was great to hear of their experiences at the JEMS camp. All of the attendees had been to Mount Hermon before; in fact, Mrs. Homma has attended faithfully for over 30 years!



Madison Kramer shares her Mount Hermon experience. Photo courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

Music Worship Change

Beginning this month, Music Worship will be held in the chapel from now on, rather than in the Fellowship Hall. This move is necessary so that the audio equipment does not have to be moved and set up between the regular worship service and Urban Grace every week. The next Music Worship will be held on Sunday, August 28.

August Birthdays

- 4 Ron Nishijima
- 8 Pat Pichavayoramas
- 10 Moto Lochner
- 11 Aidan Okawa
- 14 Andy Aoyama, Lynne Ward
- 15 Bernice Kida
- 16 Yeiko Homma
- 17 Betty Murakami
- 19 Madi Shino
- 20 Arlene Aoki
- 23 Amy Murakami
- 25 Donna Davis
- 27 Kiara DeRose
- 28 Janice Oike
- 30 Elizabeth Ward

August 2016 - Worship Service Participants

	August 7	August 14	August 21	Music Worship August 28
Liturgist	Greg Paige	Ron Nishijima	Greg Paige	Steve Fukumitsu
Scripture Readers	E) Pauline Vosburgh J) Toshiko Marse	E) Betty Kubota J) Shigeko Ota	E) Zach Paige J) Misako Bowker	E) Tyler Uyeda J) Yoko DeRose
Greeter	Mary Tabata	Sadie Yoshimura	Saeko Nakashima	Betty Morishita
Ushers	Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner	Lorraine Crouse Julee Mori	Lorraine Crouse Karla Paige	Doug Murakami Karen Okawa
Songs of Praise	Brian Itliong	---	Brian Itliong	JCC Worship Band
Organist/Pianist	Yoko DeRose	Greg Paige	Allyn Nakashima	Keiko Ikeda
Offeratory Music	Yoko DeRose	Greg Paige	Allyn Nakashima	Nichigo Choir
Acolyte	TBD	TBD	TBD	Tyler Uyeda
Communion Servers	Al Kubota Ron Nishijima Laura Olson	---	---	---
Ed Bldg Monitor	Tosh Nakaya	Paul DeRose	Tosh Nakaya	Paul DeRose

JCC August 2016 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 -Taiko practice, 6pm	6
7 -Communion Sunday, 10 am -Urban Grace, 11:30 am	8 -Taiko practice, 6pm	9	10	11 -Session Meeting, 6 pm	12 -Taiko practice, 6pm	13
14 -Urban Grace, 11:30 am	15 -Taiko practice, 6pm	16 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am	17	18	19 -Taiko practice, 6pm	20
21 -Urban Grace, 11:30 am	22	23	24	25	26 -Taiko practice, 6pm	27
28 --Music Worship, 10 am -Urban Grace, 11:30 am	29	30				

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 7/30/16.

For building use information, go to www.jccslc.net, Events/Activities tab, JCC Building Usage Schedule link

Upcoming Community Events

- August 20 – Mount Olympus JACL August Outing, Evergreen Park. For details, see Sadie Yoshimura.