

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
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Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801) 363-3251 www.jccslc.net

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Pastor Brad Kramer
info@jccslc.net

Worship Schedule:

Adult and Nichigo Bible Study
9:30 a.m.

Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

December JCC Events

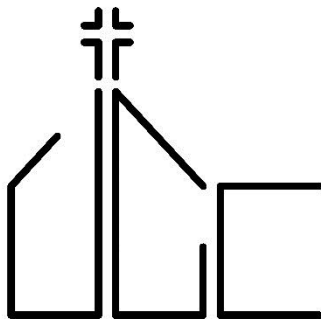
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|------------------|--|----|--|
| 3, 10,
17, 24 | Advent Candle Lighting
(See page 3) | 17 | Christmas Program and Potluck
5:00 p.m. (See page 2) |
| 9, 16 | Mochi Making
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (See page 2)
The mochi has already sold out, but we can
always use volunteers to help make it! | 24 | Christmas/Christmas Eve Service
10:30 a.m. Come celebrate the reason for
the season! This year because the Sunday
before Christmas and Christmas Eve fall on
the same day, the services will be combined
(to avoid two trips to church within a few
hours). The traditional candle lighting and
carols will take place during the morning
service. Stay for soup and dessert
afterwards. |
| 10 | Agape Christmas Luncheon
12:30 p.m. (See page 2) | | |



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



Japanese Church of Christ
 Celebrating 100 years of worship

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
- Hiro Iwasaki, Stewardship
- Greg Paige, Personnel, Education
- Pauline Vosburgh, Worship
- Keiko Ikeda, Nichigo
- Allyn Nakashima
- Patricia Arakaki Price

Deacons

- Elaine Iwasaki, Misako Bowker, Miki Harada, Dorthie Conway, Lorraine Crouse, Toshiko Marse,

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

Christmas Program and Potluck

Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Join us for the annual Christmas program and potluck – bring a dish to share with everyone. The Tongan and Kachin congregations have also been invited to join us. As always, the special guest in a red suit and hat will make his annual appearance!



Mochi Making

The dates for making mochi will be **December 9 and 16, 2017 (Saturdays)**. There is a maximum production per day of 140 pounds and both dates are already sold out! There is a wait list for orders on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. We also need volunteers to help shape, cool, brush, weigh and package the mochi cakes on both dates. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. Shifts are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. on both Saturdays.



Agape Christmas Luncheon

The Agape Christmas Luncheon will be held on **Sunday, December 10, 2017** at **Ombu Grill** (Korean BBQ), 1438 South State Street at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 per person, choice of beef bowl or chicken curry. A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall or contact Suzanne Hata for reservations.

Christmas Candle Lighting Time Change

This year, the Christmas Eve candle lighting service will be held in conjunction with the morning Christmas service at **10:30 a.m.** on **Sunday, December 24**. Soup and dessert afterwards!



Condolences

Our condolences go out to the family of Mary Aoki, who passed away on November 22, 2017 at the age of 99. Mary was a member of the Ogden Japanese Christian Church. Please keep Rick and Arlene and family in your prayers.

Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jana Hansen | Mas Horiuchi | Mr. "C" |
| Larry Harada | Chris Miya | Miki Harada |
| Sarah and Malachi | Grace Matsumura | Kai Ronning |
| Toshiko Marse | Susan Fukushima | Steve Fukushima |
| Aoki family | | |

December 2017

One of my favorite all time Christmas shows is the timeless “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” I can remember as a child in southern California excitedly anticipating the once a year telecast on one of the network channels. The premise of the show is fairly straightforward; as a means of lifting Charlie out of his usual holiday depression, his nemesis Lucy Van Pelt invites him to direct the school’s Christmas play. Amidst the chaos of trying to bring all the plays characters together, and sensing that a true Christmas mood is being lost, Charlie throws the directors megaphone in frustration and exclaims, “It’s all wrong.”

In an attempt to capture the proper mood, Lucy suggests that what the play really needs is a big “aluminum” Christmas tree. Unfortunately for Charlie, instead of buying an artificial tree; he takes pity on a sorry excuse for a tree and is later mocked for his blockheaded move. In utter desperation, Charlie cries out, “Isn’t there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?”

The payoff comes in the form of Lucy’s brother Linus, who answers Charlie’s question by quoting verbatim from the gospel of Luke.

⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

The lesson for us grownups is as simple as the show’s premise; let us do our best to wade through all the material trappings of the holiday and focus on the One thing that matters of above all else: The Lamb of God, coming to the world, taking the form of man and dying on a cross in order to save us from our sin. In the words of Linus – “That’s what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.”

Merry Christmas,

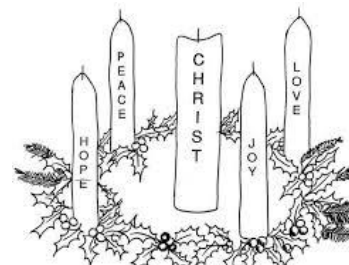
Pastor Brad

Advent Season

The season of Advent begins on December 3 and continues for 3 more weeks before December 25, when we celebrate the arrival of baby Jesus. Candles are lit each Sunday; 3 candles are purple, signifying royalty and Jesus as our King; one candle is pink to signify the Joy felt upon his birth. The final candle is the Christ Candle, white in color to represent the holiness and purity of our Savior Jesus. This candle is lit on Christmas Eve.

Advent Candle Lighting Participants:

First Week of Advent (December 3), HOPE (purple) – Chris Lund, Mary Tabata
 Second Week of Advent (December 10), PEACE (purple) – Youth Group
 Third Week of Advent (December 17), JOY (pink) – Allison and Daniel Cheung
 Fourth Week of Advent (December 24) LOVE (purple) - Jan Aramaki and Matt Miya
 Christmas Eve (December 24) CHRIST (white) – Kramer Family



December 2017 - Worship Service Participants

	December 3	December 10	December 17	Music Worship December 24	December 30
Liturgist	Greg Paige	Laura Olson	Hiro Iwasaki	Pauline Vosburgh	Rick Aoki
Scripture Readers	E) Zach Paige J) Yoko DeRose	E) Allison Cheung J) Yeiko Homma	E) Nicole Kramer J) Keiko Ikeda	E) Daniel Cheung J) Toshiko Marse	E) Chris Lund J) Shigeko Ota
Greeter	Karla Paige	Michiko Kenmotsu	Sadie Yoshimura	Dorthie Conway	Wilma Kimura
Ushers	Misako Bowker Moto Lochner	Doug Murakami Dani Murakami	Karen Okawa Mary Tabata	Al Kubota Lorraine Crouse	Betty Kubota Lynne Crabbe
Songs of Praise	---	---	---	JCC Worship Band	
Organist/Pianist	Elizabeth Ward	Allyn Nakashima	Yas Iwamoto	Yoko DeRose	TBD
Offeratory Music	---	---	---	Nichigo Choir	
Acolyte	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
CommunionServers	Al Kubota Betty Kubota Laura Olson	---	---	---	
Ed Bldg Monitor	*	*	*	*	

*Make sure there is someone in the Fellowship Hall during service or that the door is locked.

JCC December 2017 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz 7pm	2
3 -Communion, 10:30am	4 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz 7pm	5 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	6	7 -Parking, Jazz 7pm	8 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Piano Guys, 7:30pm	9 -Mochi Making, 9am to 5pm -Parking, Beehive Classic, 5:30pm
10 -Agape Christmas Luncheon, noon	11 -Taiko practice, 6pm	12 -Parking, Foo Fighters, 7:30pm	13	14 -Parking, Lady Gaga, 7:30pm	15 -Taiko practice, 6pm	16 -Mochi Making, 9am to 5pm -Parking, Gabriel Iglesias, 8pm
17 -Christmas Program and Potluck, 5pm	18 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Christmas Singalong, 7pm	19 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am	20	21 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	22 -Taiko practice, 6pm	23 -Parking, Jazz, 8pm
24 -Christmas Eve service, 5pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28	29	30 -Parking, Jazz, 6pm
31						

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 11/27/17.

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



Centennial Update

Thank you to Ted Nagata for designing the new JCC Centennial logo (shown above)! You will be seeing a lot of that logo in the months to come.

Remember to mark the dates of **August 25 (Saturday)** and **August 26 (Sunday), 2018** for very special events commemorating our 100 years of existence. Be sure to spread the word to your families too to save the dates! Saturday will be a luncheon at the Cottonwood Country Club and Sunday will be a special worship service and program with a luncheon and fellowship to follow. Stay tuned for more details as the date draws closer.

Other activities are in the making – a photo session for a new phone/address directory in March, family bowling event in June, and a Thousand Crane project for the entire congregation (more details on that project to follow in January).

We are still looking for old photos of JCC events and activities; if you have any, please submit them by December 10 to Karen Okawa.

Thanksgiving Wrap Up

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner was held on Sunday, November 19. Thanks to Jerry Mori, Bob Jones, Greg and Zach Paige, Elaine Iwasaki, and many others for cooking and setting up, and the entire congregation for bringing lots of great food. Thank you to Laura Olson for conducting the bingo. A good time was had by all!



A lot to be thankful for. Photo courtesy: Jani Iwamoto

Youth Group

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Youth Group at the Holiday Boutique on November 18 and 19. This year the group sold bottles of "Oishii" Teriyaki Sauce (Out of the Box café recipe – thanks Jerry!) and greeting card sets. A special thanks to Ted Nagata for donating the beautiful card/postcard sets for us to sell! Proceeds will be used to fund transportation costs to Mount Hermon. It is not too late to purchase either item for Christmas gift giving. Contact Elise Mori if you are interested in ordering.



Alex Okawa, Carson Kawabata and Elizabeth Ward sell "Oishii" Teriyaki Sauce!

Congratulations, Jani

On Monday, November 6, 2017, an award ceremony for the Foreign Minister's Commendations for 2017 was held at the Grand America Hotel. During the ceremony, the commendation was awarded to Jani Iwamoto-Fukumitsu for her public service by Consul-General Hirakoba from the Consulate of Japan in Denver.



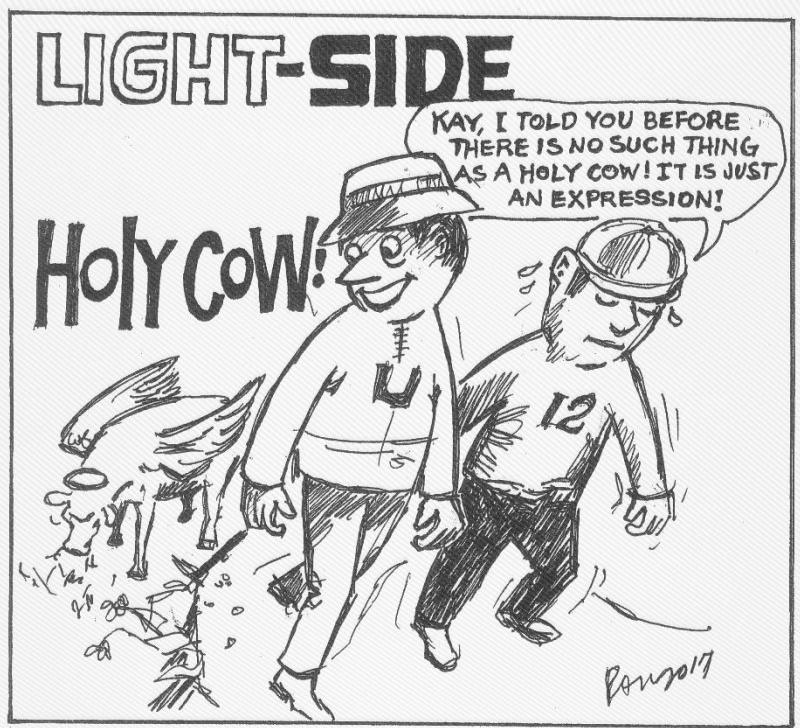
Jani Iwamoto receives award.



Mas Horiuchi at ceremony.

Photo courtesy: Allyn Nakashima

Light Side



December Community Events

Saturday, December 9, 2017 – Nikkei Senior Center Holiday Luncheon, Red Maple Restaurant, 2882 West 4700 South, West Valley City, UT at noon. \$10 per person (85+ years of age free). Contact Penny Imamura (801) 265-0314 by Dec. 2 to make a reservation.

Saturday, December 16, 2017 – Mount Olympus JAACL Chapter Christmas Party at Salt Lake Buddhist Temple, 211 West 100 South, from noon to 2 p.m. (new time and place) The chapter is providing chicken, please bring a side dish to share and a dessert for auction fundraiser. Visit from Santa too! Contact Lynne Crabbe at eiggam03@yahoo.com for more information.

Sunday, December 31, 2017 – “Last Hurrah” New Year’s Eve party, Salt Lake Downtown Alliance. Gateway Mall, 8 p.m. to midnight. Free admission.

Double Check

On recent occasions, doors to the chapel and Fellowship Hall have been found unlocked when they should have been locked. If you have a key and access the building during the week or “off times”, please perform a double check and ensure that the doors are secured before leaving. Thanks!

Take the Time

As we approach the holiday season, we are faced with yet another opportunity to pause in the midst of all the excitement, decorations, and commercialization, to consider again the origin of Christmas--the One whose birth we celebrate. Let us not forget the true meaning of why we celebrate during this time of year. Celebrate the baby Jesus and trust Him as Savior today.

Peace and good tidings to all during this holiday season.



Church Women United Advent Tea

Take time out to reflect on the reason for the season and fellowship with likeminded friends.

Advent Worship Service and Tea
Friday December 8
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
1375 E Spring Lane (5150 South) SLC
1:00 p.m.

Worship led by Rev. John Norman, Tea to follow

Outreach: Open Door in Davis County and the InnBetween: a hospice for homeless individuals in SLC

Please bring:
Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towels, Dawn Dish Soap, Bath Towels & Washcloths.
Cash donations also appreciated
Checks payable to “Church Women United,” designated for Community Outreach