

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
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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.

Pastor's Message

January 2020

If you're like me, one of the things you would like to see change this next year is the level of shrill and ugly discourse in the political sphere. Unfortunately, I'm not referring only to politicians when it comes to demeaning and harmful language. The verbiage I have seen and heard coming from ordinary citizens has been in some cases utterly repugnant, with insults often taking on a highly personal tone. What's even more discouraging is the number of Christians engaging in such folly. Many of us are asking, "when will this madness end?" In fact, the late Marvin Gaye's beautiful cry for peace in his song, What's Goin' On?, is still timely: "we've got to find a way, to bring some understanding here today". One solution, I believe to this problem is a recognition of our biblical role as citizens.

The Apostle wrote to first century Christians about the importance of a godly perspective regarding a country's leaders:

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Note that Paul does not say we are to pray for some leaders, but for all. If we as followers of Jesus were to take that command more seriously, I believe the political discourse in our country would take on a much more civil tone.

What are we waiting for?

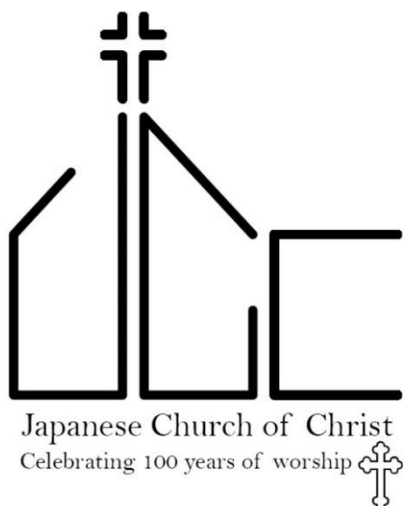
May God bless you richly this upcoming year.

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
 Greg Paige, Personnel, Education
 Pauline Vosburgh, Worship
 Keiko Ikeda, Nichigo
 Patricia Arakaki Price, Membership
 Steve Fukumitsu, Building
 Yoko DeRose
 Allyn Nakashima
 Lorraine Crouse

Deacons

Jan Aramaki, Karen Okawa, Akiko Oki,
 Misako Bowker, Wilma Kimura, Jean
 Kobayashi

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting will be held **Sunday, January 5, 2020**, immediately following worship service. New officers will be elected at this meeting.

Mount Hermon Registration Dates

The dates for 2020 JEMS is June 28-July 4. Slots go fast, so register early! <http://www.mounthermon.org/jems>

The Main/Family/Nichigo Camp Registration opens online **February 3, 2020**. The Youth Camp Registration opens **February 10, 2020**.

Here is a link for information regarding the camp:
<https://www.jems.org/mt-hermon/>

Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon

The JCC will be hosting the Nikkei Senior Center luncheon for the month of February. The date will be **Saturday, February 8, 2020** at noon. Anyone 65+ is invited to attend (suggested donation of \$2.00; those over 85 years of age are free). There will be lunch and a program. It is our community outreach and an opportunity to show off our new Fellowship Hall!

Since we are the hosts for the luncheon, that means we are preparing the food! If you are available to help with food preparation or set up, please contact Karen Okawa (klokawa@msn.com) or Suzanne Hata (suzhata@hotmail.com).

Annual Report Deadline

Reports to be included in the annual report are due on **January 25, 2020**. Please submit your articles to Betty Kubota at bmkubota@gmail.com or place a hardcopy in her mail slot by the office.

Condolences

Michiko Crysel unexpectedly passed away last month. She attended the JCC, but in recent years moved to Salina, Utah to live with family. Please keep the Crysel family in your prayers.

We are saddened at the news that Miki Harada passed away unexpectedly on December 23 of an aneurism. Miki was a devoted member of JCC and will be sincerely missed. She is now reunited with her husband Larry. Please pray for the Harada family.

Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

Toshiko Marse	Chris Miya	Kai Ronning
Yolie LaFontaine	Susan Fukushima	Marie Matsukawa
Kenta Naraoka	Steve Fukushima	Tracy Barnes
Toy Shimizu	Susan Rosvall	Nicole Kramer
Debbie Homma	Sumiko Rosvall	Misaka family
Harada family	Saeko Nakashima	Crysel family

Ninety Celebrants

During worship service on Sunday, December 15, the Deacons recognized individuals that turned 90 years of age in 2019. Those new members of the exclusive "Ninety Club" include: **Yas Iwamoto, Mary Imamura, Barbara Woody and Marie Matsukawa**. What a milestone! Happy Birthday and best wishes in 2020!



Lillian Nakamura (last year recipient), Jani Iwamoto-Fukumitsu, 90 celebrant Yas Iwamoto, and grandson Nate. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki

Fellowship Hall Update

The Fellowship Hall remodeling project continues to progress. The new accessible bathrooms are framed and tiled and work on the floors and kitchen has started. (The new flooring will now extend into the office and pastor's office as well.) The end of January is still the target for completion. Stay tuned for information on an event to commemorate the completion of this project!

Agape News

Reminder – the JCC will no longer be collecting Campbell's soup labels and box tops for education or aluminum can pop tops; so do not bring them to church. (Many of these company sponsors only accept online submissions now.)

No Ozoni

There will not be an Ozoni fundraiser in January due to the Fellowship Hall construction.

Baby News

Congratulations to Michael and Lauren Erlacher on the birth of their third child, son Kit Takaji Erlacher on December 11, 2019. Kit makes 19 great-grandchildren and 1 great, great grandchild for Betty Murakami and the third grandchild for grandparents Doug and Dani Murakami. He is a happy and healthy baby. Rowan and Hadley love to snuggle their new little brother!



Hadley, Rowan and baby bro.



Great Grandma Betty and Kit.

Photos courtesy: Lauren Erlacher and Dani Murakami.

New Year Resolutions

Ten New Year's Resolutions Every Christian Should Make:

- Resolve to stay faithful to Jesus Christ. He is the one Truth, Way and Life. There's no reason to look elsewhere.
- Resolve to not let anything – a career, a significant other, social media, a house – become an object of worship.
- Resolve to watch your language and not speak any destructive talk, especially involving the name of God.
- Resolve to prevent burnout by putting aside work one day a week. Trust God to provide for your needs that day and just enjoy the time He's given you.
- Resolve to talk to your parents on a regular basis, and show them love and respect.
- Resolve to be angry less. Channel any feelings of rage, which Jesus said are as severe as murder, into worshiping God and serving others.
- Resolve to honor your commitment to your spouse. Whether in thought or in deed, stay pure and loyal in the union God made.
- Resolve to speak about others only with truth and love, not gossip.
- Resolve to be content with what you have, and not worry about that others are amassing.

(Reprint from the Christian Post.)

December 2019 Activities

Because of the Fellowship Hall remodel, several traditional events were canceled (mochi making, holiday potluck) or done differently this year. The advent candle lighting proceeded each Sunday in December. The Agape Women held the annual Christmas luncheon at East West Connection on Sunday, December 15, bringing goodie bags to all that attended service that day (thanks to Gary and Stephanie Mori-Nakao). The Christmas Eve service was a nice gathering to celebrate the birth of Jesus and "the reason for the season."

Soon the Fellowship Hall remodeling will be completed and we will hold a special celebration in the new digs! Stay tuned!



Zach Paige, Nate Fukumitsu and Elise Mori represent the youth on the 3rd Sunday of Advent



Laura Olson assists Elizabeth and Nora Croft in a Christmas tune.

Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse, Jan Aramaki



Santa made his annual visit to JCC.



The Nichigo Choir performed and Frank Imai joined in as well!



The JCC Band on Music Sunday. The chapel was adorned for the holidays thanks to Paul DeRose!

January 2020 - Worship Service Participants

	January 5	January 12	January 19	Music Worship January 26
Liturgist	Keiko Ikeda	Ron Nishijima	Pauline Vosburgh	Allyn Nakashima
Scripture Readers	E) Zach Paige J) Akiko Oki	E) Bob Jones J) Tomiko Osaki	E) Alison Cheung J) Shigeko Ota	E) Patty Price J) Yoko Azuma
Greeter	Karla Paige	Michiko Kenmotsu	Sadie Yoshimura	Wilma Kimura
Ushers	Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner	Mary Tabata Chris Lund	Victor Homma Jan Aramaki	Lorraine Crouse Betty Kubota
Organist/Pianist	Greg Paige	Allyn Nakashima	Daniel Cheung	Grace Shiba/Keiko Ikeda
Offeratory Music				Nichigo Choir
Acolyte	---	---	---	---
Communion Servers	Al Kubota Ron Nishijima Laura Olson	---	---	---

JCC January Calendar

JCC January 2020 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Monster Jam, 7pm	4 -Parking, Monster Jam, 1pm, 7pm
5 -Congregational Meeting, after worship service	6 -Taiko practice, 6pm	7	8 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	9	10 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz, 7:00pm	11 -Parking, Sesame Street Live, 2 and 5:30pm
12 -Parking, Sesame Street Live, 2pm	13 -Taiko practice, 6pm	14	15	16	17 -Taiko practice, 6pm	18 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm
19	20 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	21 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kit, 11:15 am	22	23	24 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, SLC Stars, 7pm	25 -Parking, Jazz, 3pm
26	27 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	28	29	30	31 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Miranda Lambert, 7pm	

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 12/29/19.

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