

# The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ  
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## Worship Schedule:

Canceled until further notice  
due to COVID-19 pandemic.

## Pastor's Message

September 2020

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,  
The conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1*

Are you feeling frustrated by the state of the world today? I sure am. It's easy to get caught up in all the negative things that have descended upon us these past 6-7 months: A worldwide pandemic that has prevented us from worshipping together; rioting in our country's major cities; political turmoil; and a sense of animosity among our nation's people that appears to be getting worse by the week. When in the world will this all take a turn for the better? The short answer is, "I don't know". However, I am reminded by God's word that I don't need to have the answers to the world's problems. Instead of constantly trying to find meaning in all of this, perhaps our job as God's people is to cling to Him with an even deeper sense of trust.

Hebrews 11 is one of the most famous chapters in the Bible as it chronicles the unwavering faith of many of the Old Testament saints. In fact it is often referred to as the "Hall of Faith". These men and women of old endured unbelievably harsh treatment for the sake of the gospel. And as bad as our situation here sometimes feels, it really isn't as awful as some of the trials experienced by the saints of old – which included hideous forms of death. Nevertheless, this year has been a struggle for many of us. Where can we find encouragement? How about the first three verses of Hebrews 12? Following on the heels of the "Hall of Faith", the writer puts these things in perspective for all of us:

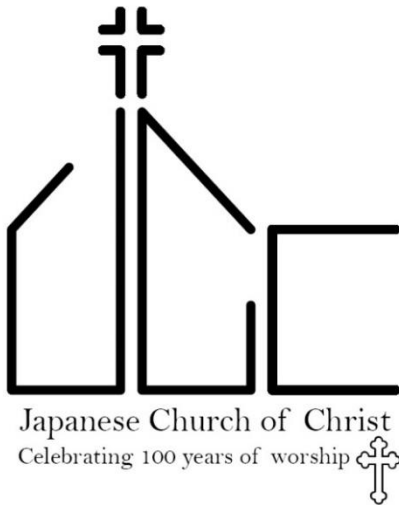
Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

May God Bless You Richly,  
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: Allyn Nakashima**

**Session**

- Pauline Vosburgh, Finance
- Lorraine Crouse, Worship
- Keiko Ikeda, Nichigo
- Patricia Arakaki Price, Membership
- Steve Fukumitsu, Building
- Yoko DeRose, Nichigo
- Daniel Cheung, Personnel

**Deacons**

Jan Aramaki, Moderator; Wilma Kimura, Karen Okawa, Akiko Oki, Misako Bowker, Julee Mori, Jean Kobayashi

Newsletter articles are due on the last Saturday of each month at **noon**. Send your articles to [jccherald \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](mailto:jccherald@gmail.com)

Website: [www.jccslc.net](http://www.jccslc.net)

**Task Force Update**

The next Zoom meeting of the JCC Task Force will be on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 and the committee will discuss how to go forth. A draft of a proposal was presented to Session at its last meeting; however, Salt Lake City is still in the "orange" phase, so any plans to reopen the JCC remain in the distant future.

If you have any concerns or ideas regarding reopening, please contact one of the task force members. We welcome your input!

**Bible Study Resumes**

The last Zoom Bible Study before the short summer break was held on Sunday, August 9. It was the 19<sup>th</sup> class on Zoom!

Adult Bible Study will resume via Zoom on **Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.** See the article on Page 3 on how to attend.

**Weekly Sermons**

Remember that the weekly sermon is posted every Sunday through a YouTube link. It is easily accessed directly from the JCC website, [jccslc.net](http://jccslc.net). The current sermon is found right on the home page. Just click on the "play" arrow. If you want to view past sermons, from the home page, click on "Sermons" and then "Sermons from 2020."

**Condolences**

Condolences go out to the Homma family upon the unexpected passing of Miko Homma on August 11, 2020 in Katy, TX. Miko was the daughter of Michael and Mary Homma and grand-daughter of Yeiko Homma.

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to family of Anitoni Ma'u who passed away on August 7, 2020. Ma'u was the choir director for the Tongan American Free Wesleyan Church, whose congregation shares our facilities. We had the opportunity to witness his talents and leadership on many occasions when the Tongan choir performed during our joint worship services and Christmas programs.

Belated condolences are extended to the family of Reverend Saburo Masada, who passed away at the age of 90 on July 20, 2020 in Fresno, CA. Rev. Masada served as a pastor at the Ogden Japanese Church of Christ for many years.

Please keep the Homma, Ma'u and Masada families and the Tongan congregation in your prayers.

**Remember in Your Prayers**

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

- |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Toshiko Marse   | Chris Miya      | Kai Ronning     |
| Kenta Naraoka   | Susan Fukushima | Marie Matsukawa |
| Toy Shimizu     | Steve Fukushima | Tracy Barnes    |
| Betty Morishita | Susan Rosvall   | Saeko Nakashima |
| Ma'u family     | Sumiko Rosvall  | Homma family    |
| Masada family   |                 |                 |

## Zoom Bible Study

As mentioned on Page 2, the Zoom Bible Study classes will resume on Sunday, September 13, 2020. Praise God! Encourage others to attend! Help older parents, grandparents, or other relatives and friends get set up and run Zoom on a PC, laptop, iPad or smart phone.

Go to the JCC website, [jccslc.net](http://jccslc.net) and click on "Online Bible Studies Instructions" from the home page. There you will find installation instructions for various devices (iPad, iPhone, Android, etc.) and browsers. Then email [jccherald\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:jccherald@gmail.com) to request an invitation to join the meeting. Also be sure to include your email address in the message.

Before Sunday, Greg Paige will send an "invitation" to you via email to join the meeting. He also sends a list of biblical references to look up. On Sunday morning at **9:30 a.m.**, click the link in the invitation or enter the Meeting ID number found in Greg's email and then you will join the bible study. The class lasts one hour.

You have the option to opt out of video, but you are encouraged to be seen! It's always nice to see smiling faces instead of a black square that is displayed when you don't select the video option. It's great to see the faces of some of our church family that are far away – Lynne Crabbe and Betty Morishita log in from the East Coast and Eileen Kasai on the West Coast are just a few that keep in touch! Thanks to Greg for his dedication in preparing the lesson each week!

## Pandemic Passages

Find peace in the Word with these encouraging passages to help us through this challenging time (NIV):

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you or forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

*Deuteronomy 31:8*

"In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe."

*Psalms 4:8*

"Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up."

*Proverbs 12:25*

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love."

*1 Corinthians 16: 13-14*

"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."

*2 Timothy 1:7*

## Flu Shot Event Cancellation

In past Septembers, Community Nursing Services (CNS) conducted a flu shot event at church after worship service, thanks to the arrangements that Stephanie Mori-Nakao made for us. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19 and because church is not physically in session, the event will not be held at JCC this year. (Flu shots will also not be available through Nikkei Senior Center this season either.)

But just because the flu vaccines will not be available at JCC, please **DO get your flu vaccination** at your local neighborhood pharmacy (insurance and Medicare accepted) or doctor's office.

You may also go to the CNS Walk In Clinic at 2820 South Redwood Road, West Valley City, UT 84119. Flu shot hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please bring your Medicare or insurance card with you. The cost otherwise is \$35.00.

According to one CDC study, the impact of increasing vaccination levels by just 5% could prevent up to 11,000 patients being admitted into the hospital with flu. While that range depends on the severity this season, the fact that flu cases will coexist with COVID-19 cases means that any reduction in the demand for healthcare providers is significant.



## Mail List Update

We have received some Herald newsletters back lately as "undeliverable." If you have moved recently, please let us know – send a message to [jccherald\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:jccherald@gmail.com) so that we can update the mailing list.

Also, if you no longer wish to receive a hardcopy of the Herald, please let us know that too, so that you can be removed from the list.

Remember, you may also receive this newsletter thru email; the eHerald is a PDF file sent at the first of the month (sent blind cc, so your email address is kept private). With the eHerald, all photos and graphics are displayed in color! Plus you will go "green", less paper, less waste.



## Happy Birthday Yeiko!

The pandemic didn't stop Yeiko Homma from celebrating her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 16 (along with her masked family)! Happy Birthday Yeiko-san; it was certainly a memorable one!



Photos courtesy of Donna Homma-Goeller

## Sheltered In Recipes

With sheltering in place, more people are cooking at home! Here are a couple of recipes to use up those tomatoes, green peppers and cucumbers in your garden that are ripening all at once! If anyone has other recipes to share during this pandemic, please send them in and they will be printed in future newsletters!

### **BEEF AND TOMATO** (Courtesy of Betty Kubota)

1 lb. tender beef, sliced thin      2 lbs. farm ripe tomatoes, cut in wedges      1 medium bell pepper, cut in chunks  
 1 large onion, cut in chunks      1 large garlic clove, minced

Fry meat and garlic in 2 Tablespoons butter or oil. Add onion and bell peppers. Cook about 2 minutes. Add tomato wedges.

### **Sauce**

1/4 c. sugar      1/4 c. shoyu      1 T cornstarch      1 T wine or sake

Combine sauce ingredients and pour evenly over the tomatoes. Do not stir. Cook uncovered over high heat, basting beef and vegetables with sauce. Tomatoes need only to be hot. Serve immediately with rice.

### **OVERNIGHT CUCUMBER TSUKEMONO** (Courtesy of Karen Okawa; mom Martha's recipe)

4 c. water      3/4 c. sugar      1/4 c. salt      1/4 c. vinegar  
 4 to 5 cucumbers, medium size

Bring water, sugar, salt and vinegar to a boil, making sure sugar and salt are dissolved. Remove from heat and cool. Peel cucumbers (do not remove all of the peel; variegate it so there are some strips of peel left on the cucumbers) and slice once lengthwise. Remove seeds. Pour cooled mixture over cucumbers in sealed container. Allow to soak in the refrigerator overnight. Cut cucumbers into thin slices.