

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

Winter Schedule

Adult Bible Study and Sunday
School at 9:30 a.m.

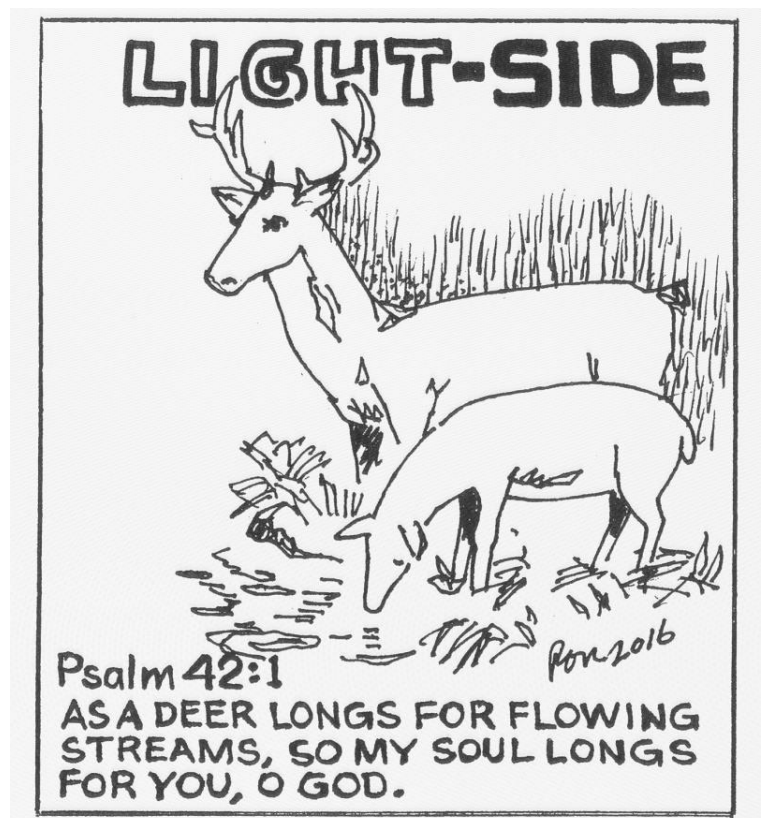
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Nihon Matsuri is Coming!

Mark your calendars; Nihon Matsuri 2016 will be on **Saturday, April 30, 2016**. As in the past, the JCC will be participating in the annual festival; the sanctuary will be used for the tea ceremony demonstrations, the Agape and Youth groups will be selling food, and the Kenshin Taiko group will be performing.

And as always, we can always use your help! If you can volunteer a few hours – either at JCC for food preparation, or with the general festival for set up, staffing, or clean up – please contact **Laura Olson** at **(801) 755-1706** or **Jan Aramaki** at **mcj25@juno.com**.

Nihon Matsuri is a great opportunity to meet and work with other volunteers in sharing the Japanese culture with the local community. An information flyer will be in the April issue of The Herald.



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

Daylight Savings

This year, Daylight Savings time begins on **Sunday, March 13, 2016**. The rule is "Spring forward", so be sure to turn your clock **AHEAD** one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

Last Call for Railroad Photos

If you have any photographs on Nikkei railroad workers in Utah, please contact **Lorraine Crouse** at Imcrouse@comcast.net or (801) 943-3863. These photographs will be featured in a display at Nihon Matsuri next month.

Congregational Meeting Report

The JCC Annual Ecclesiastical and Corporation Meeting was held on Sunday, February 21, 2016 after worship service. Pastor Brad conducted the ecclesiastical portion of the meeting. A quorum of members were in attendance and agenda approved. The 2016 budget was presented as well as cost of living compensation for Pastor Brad which were unanimously approved by the congregation.

Al Kubota, representing Cascade Corporation, presented the corporation report and update on the building upgrades. The Building Committee is awaiting a contract update from BGW Architects before proceeding further.

March Culture Class

Join us in creating Spring handicrafts for decorating or giving. **Karla Paige** will show us how! The class will be held on **Sunday, March 13, 2016** after worship service. A signup sheet is posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. (Minimal materials fee.)



Condolences

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Roxanne Hasegawa, who passed away on January 31, 2016.

Infant Clothing

If you have any new or gently used infant clothing that you would like to donate to a teen mother's program, please bring them to Alan Shino, who is setting up a collection box in the Fellowship Hall.

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 | Garin Harada | Jessie Lamb |
| Wat Misaka | Larry Harada | Mr. "C" |
| Susan Fukushima | Michael Darger | Finn Horve |
| Kevin Turner | Keri Kramer | Chris Tabata |

Easter Message

Dear Friends,

The celebration of the resurrection of our Savior on Easter Sunday is for sure, the highlight of the Christian calendar. Without Jesus’ victory over death, our faith, as the Apostle Paul informed the Corinthians, is futile. So it’s important to spend our time reflecting upon this sublime truth. But where do we put our focus once Easter has passed? How do we sustain the momentum created by Easter observance?



I believe one of the keys is in cultivating the fruit of the Spirit, listed in Galatians 5:22-23:

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

These are the marks of a person who not only has placed their trust in Jesus, but whose life is marked by an ongoing commitment to please our Lord. Believe me, I desire to be this type of person; I want to be like the psalmist who exclaimed; “As the heart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O’ God” (Psalm 42:1). Unfortunately, I often fall short in my pursuit of God. How can I find improvement in this area?

The celebration of Easter serves to remind me that Jesus died and rose again so that you and I would know His love and the joy that comes from walking in step with Him. As we take the time to pray to our Savior and open His Word, He will indeed deepen the desire within us to honor Him, enabling us to consistently exhibit the fruit of His Holy Spirit in our lives.

Let’s join together in being fruitful Christians.

Have a Blessed Easter,

Pastor Brad

Holy Week Activities

Sunday, March 20: Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 24: Maundy Thursday Communion Service and Seder Meal

The Communion Service will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the Seder Meal to follow. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper. Maundy refers to the commands that Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper – to love with humility by serving on another and to remember his sacrifice.

Friday, March 25: Good Friday (no special activities)

Sunday, March 27: Easter Sunday

- Easter Breakfast, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 a.m.
- Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.
- Easter Group Photo (in front of chapel, immediately following worship service)
- Coffee Fellowship

Easter Breakfast

Join us for the traditional Easter breakfast hosted by the Men’s Fellowship – then off to worship service!

Sunday, March 27, 2016

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Cost: \$5.00; Children 12 and under are free.



March 2016 - Worship Service Participants

	March 6	March 13	Palm Sunday March 20	EASTER March 27
Liturgist	Alan Shino	Ron Nishijima	Greg Paige	Hiro Iwasaki
Scripture Readers	E) Zach Paige J) Yoko DeRose	E) Alex Okawa J) Yeiko Homma	E) Pauline Vosburgh J) Keiko Ikeda	E) Tyler Uyeda J) Toshiko Marse
Greeter	Betty Murakami	Sadie Yoshimura	Wilma Kimura	Dorthie Conway
Ushers	Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner	Jan Aramaki Lorraine Crouse	Al Kubota Lorraine Crouse	Lynne Crabb Doug Murakami Karen Okawa
Songs of Praise	Brian Itliong	---	Brian Itliong	---
Organist/Pianist	Greg Paige	Yoko DeRose	Yas Iwamoto	Allyn Nakashima Yoko DeRose
Offeratory Music	Greg Paige	Yoko DeRose	Yas Iwamoto	JCC Choir Nichigo Choir
Acolyte	TBD	Tyler Uyeda	TBD	Tyler Uyeda
Communion Servers	Al Kubota Ron Nishijima Laura Olson	---	---	---
Ed Bldg Monitor	Tosh Nakaya	Tosh Nakaya	Tosh NAKaya	Richard Uyeda

JCC March 2016 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7 pm	3 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7 pm	4 -Taiko practice, 6 pm -Parking, Disney on Ice, 3:30 and 7 pm	5 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 11:30 am, 3:30 and 7 pm
6 -Communion Sunday -Parking, Disney on Ice, 11:30 am, 3:30 pm	7 -Taiko practice, 6 pm	8 -Parking, Jazz vs. Atlanta, 7 pm	9 -Parking, Jeff Durham, 7 pm	10	11 -Taiko practice, 6 pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Washington, 7pm	12
13 -Culture Class, Spring Crafts	14 -Taiko practice, 6 pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Cleveland, 7pm	15 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am	16 -Parking, Toby Mac, 7 pm	17 ST PAT'S DAY -Parking, Jazz vs. Phoenix, 7 pm	18 -Taiko practice, 6 pm -Parking, Brian Reagan, 8 pm	19 -Parking, Brian Regan, 8 pm
20	21 -Taiko practice, 6 pm	22	23	24 -Maundy Thursday Communion Service and Seder Meal, 6 pm -Parking, Comicon	25 -Taiko practice, 6 pm -Parking, Comicon	26 -Parking, Comicon
27 -EASTER SUNDAY -Easter Breakfast, 8 to 10 am -Easter Service, 10:30 am -Herald Deadline	28 -Taiko practice, 6 pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Lakers, 7 pm	29	30 -Parking, Jazz vs. Golden State, 7 pm	31 -Session Meeting, 6 pm		

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 2/29.

Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon Wrapup

The Nikkei Senior Center luncheon for the month of February was sponsored by the JCC on Saturday, February 6, 2016. Participants were treated to a wonderful lunch of sushi, teriyaki chicken, shrimp and sides and an entertaining program of a koto player, bamboo performers and the Nichigo Choir. Thanks to all who attended the luncheon and to those that helped with food preparation and serving. As always, the JCC luncheon is one of the most well attended and popular luncheons of the year!



Elise Mori and Yeiko Homma prepare sushi rice.



Kanako Ford plays the koto. Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

Mount Hermon Update

Seven individuals have submitted applications to attend Mount Hermon this coming summer. Please pray that everyone will be able to attend; JEMS will send confirmations later this month. Contact **Julee Mori** at **(801) 718-2727** for information.

All Hands on Deck!!

Submitted by Elise Mori

Nihon Matsuri is just around the corner and the youth is looking for help. We will be making onigiris and could use hands in the kitchen and in the tent. Nihon Matsuri is April 30th and if you are available, please contact **Elise Mori** at **(801) 631-9804** for details.

Opening Prayer

Pastor Brad gave the opening prayer at the Utah State Legislature on Wednesday, February 3.



Pastor Brad at State Capitol. Photo courtesy: Jani Iwamoto

New Officers

New officers of the JCC were installed on Sunday, February 7: Miki Harada and Dorthie Conway on Deacons, and Jani Iwamoto and Al Kubota on Board of Trustees. Kory Shino and Elise Mori will serve on the Nominating Committee. We are thankful for these individuals and their willingness to serve the JCC. Jani Iwamoto-Fukumitsu, Al Kubota, Dorthie Conway and Miki Harada installed as officers. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki



Musical Guests

On Sunday, February 21, 2016, the congregation was treated to the musical accompaniment of Greg, Barry and Carol Hotrum, friends of Pastor Brad. The three drove down from Pocatello, ID to participate in our worship service. Thank you for sharing your talents with us in singing His praises.



Brian Itliong and Pastor Kramer perform with the Hotrums.

Upcoming Community Events

Church Women United Human Rights Celebration – Friday, March 11, 2016 (see article below).

Mount Olympus JACL FundaRama – Saturday, March 19, 2016 at Hillcrest Junior High School.

Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon - Saturday, March 19, 2016, sponsored by the Salt Lake Chapter JACL at the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple.

JCC Basketball

Submitted by Doug and Dani Murakami

The JCC basketball season begins on the week of March 15, 2016. We've had a couple of practice sessions and we're ready for the season! Game schedules will be sent out and posted at JCC as well as on the website. Join us to cheer the teams on!

Right: Thomas Mori showing his defensive hustle.



Left: Nick Aoki puts the defense on Raymond Uno at practice. Photos courtesy: Dani Murakami

Church Women United

Human Rights Celebration
March 11, 2016
Cottonwood Presbyterian Church
1580 East Vine St., Salt Lake City

"Gathering at God's Table – Experiencing Blessings at the Table" Speaker: Karen McCreary Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Utah. Human Rights Award will be presented.

Registration 9:30 a.m. – Program 10:00 a.m. (followed by lunch)

Please bring items for the YWCA Women's Shelter Program: towels and washcloths, combs & brushes, feminine hygiene products, underwear (sizes small & medium) or baby lotion, diapers (sizes 4T, 5T, and 6T), wipes, bottles with nipples, and clothes.

Cash/check donations also appreciated. Please make checks payable to "Church Women United" designated for the YWCA.

Lunch \$5.00. Please RSVP to Phyllis Allen at 801-298-7197 by Monday, March 7.

For more information, contact Elaine Iwasaki.

March Birthdays

- 7 Thomas Mori
- 11 Al Kubota
- 16 Carson Kawabata
- 23 Connie Kawai
- 25 Steve Fukumitsu