

# The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ  
 268 West 100 South (Japantown Street)  
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Pastor Brad Kramer  
**info@jccslc.net**

Fall/Winter Schedule:  
 Nichigo, Adult, and Youth  
 Bible Study/Sunday School,  
 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.



## JCC December Calendar of Events



See related articles in this issue for details on each of these events.

<b>4</b>	<p><b>Holiday Crafting</b></p> <p>Karla Paige will show us some holiday make and take projects, after worship service.</p>	<b>18</b>	<p><b>Christmas Potluck and Program</b></p> <p>5:00 p.m. Bring the family and a potluck dish to share. The Kachin and Tongan congregations will also be joining us along with Santa.</p>
<b>10, 17</b>	<p><b>Mochi Tsuki</b></p> <p>9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Help make mochi for the New Year! We need volunteers; come spend time in fellowship.</p>	<b>24</b>	<p><b>Christmas Eve Service</b></p> <p>5:00 p.m. Candle lighting and carols. Stay for soup and dessert afterwards.</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Agape Women's Holiday Luncheon</b></p> <p>12:30 p.m. Tokai Restaurant, cost \$12 per person. Signup sheet in Fellowship Hall.</p>	<b>25</b>	<p><b>Christmas Service</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. Celebrate the reason for the season and join in worship to honor the birth of Jesus.</p>

**Advent Candle Lighting: November 27, December 4, 11, 18 and 24.**



**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](mailto:klokawa@msn.com)

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

**Christmas Potluck**



**Sunday, December 18, 2016, 5:00 p.m.**

**Bring the family and a potluck dish to share!**

This year we have also invited our friends in the Kachin and Tongan congregations to join us as we celebrate this season of joy with food and music. A special visitor in red will also make an appearance!

**Mochi Making Time**

Mochi will be made on two Saturdays in December - **December 10** and **17**. We 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 near the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall. There are morning shifts from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or afternoon shifts from 1 to 5 p.m. It is not hard work; but the more hands there are, the faster we get done!

**Agape Holiday Luncheon**

The Agape Holiday luncheon will be held on **Sunday, December 11, 2016** at Tokai Restaurant, 1301 East Miller Avenue (across the street from Brickyard Mall) at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$12.00 per person, choice of chicken or salmon entrée. A signup sheet is located on the bulletin board near the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall.

**Condolences**

Deepest sympathies are extended to the family of Nob Iwamoto, who passed away on November 25. Our thoughts and prayers are with Yas, Gary, Jani and the Iwamoto family.



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

## Christmas 2016

*The Gift of Christmas*, written by the late James Montgomery Boice has become a great resource over the years for me. Boice offers great insight into the significance of this event celebrated the world over time and time again each December. I admit I get caught up in the festiveness of the Christmas season; it really is, as the great Andy Williams sang, the most wonderful time of the year. But it's important to ask ourselves, "Why is it so wonderful?" *The Gift of Christmas* offers some compelling answers to this question.

In one of the final chapters, Boice tackles the issue of how to celebrate Christmas. I have reprinted a small segment of the chapter for your consideration:

*"How do you celebrate Christmas? If we are honest, we must admit that many persons, even Christians, celebrate it by watching football games on TV, decorating their houses, visiting relatives and friends, or buying presents. **By far the best and greatest way to celebrate Christmas is by becoming a Christian if you have never done so.** Anyone can understand Christmas by just three propositions: 1) I am a sinner; 2) as a sinner I need a Savior; 3) Jesus is that Savior. If you have never done that, then Christmas is a great season in which to believe in Him."*

For the Christian, Montgomery Boice offers 4 ways in which we can make the most of the Christmas celebration:

*"1) Tell others about it; 2) To wonder at the event itself; 3) To ponder its meaning; 4) To glorify and praise God for what was done at the first Christmas."*

As we come together as a church family this season, we have the opportunity to worship on back-to-back days as Christmas falls on a Sunday. I look forward to celebrating with you at our special Candlelight service at 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve, and then the following morning at 10:30 a.m. Let's join together this year as the family of God to rejoice in our Savior's birth.

May God Bless You Richly,

Pastor Brad

## Advent Season 2016

The season of Advent is the four-week period before December 25th when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. During Advent we get ready to welcome Jesus into our lives by reading Scriptures, sharing special Advent readings, lighting the candles on our Advent Wreath and praying together.

Three candles are purple to represent royalty, because Jesus is our eternal King. One candle is pink to represent the joy we feel when Jesus comes to our world. The last candle, the Christ Candle, is white to represent the holiness and purity of Jesus, our Savior. We light the Christ candle on Christmas Eve as we read the story of Jesus' birth in the Gospel of Luke.

### Advent Candle Lighting Participants

November 27	1st Week of Advent:	HOPE (Purple candle) - DeRose Family
December 4	2nd Week of Advent:	PEACE (Purple candle) - Paige Family
December 11	3rd Week of Advent:	JOY (Pink candle) – Youth: Elizabeth Ward and TBD
December 18	4th Week of Advent:	LOVE (Purple candle) – Youth: Carson Kawabata and Alex Okawa
December 24	Christmas Eve:	CHRIST (White candle) - Kramer Family



## December 2016 - Worship Service Participants

	December 4	December 11	December 18	Christmas Day December 25
<b>Liturgist</b>	Greg Paige	Ron Nishijima	Rick Aoki	Laura Olson
<b>Scripture Readers</b>	E) Zach Paige J) Toshiko Marse	E) Pauline Vosburgh J) Shigeko Ota	E) Chris Lund J) Misako Bowker	E) Hiro Iwasaki J) Yoko DeRose
<b>Greeter</b>	Dorthie Conway	Wilma Kimura	Mary Tabata	Betty Murakami
<b>Ushers</b>	Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner	Lorrain Crouse Al Kubota	Lorraine Crouse Doug Murakami	Lorraine Crouse Karen Okawa
<b>Songs of Praise</b>	---	---	Brian Itliong	---
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Allyn Nakashima	Greg Paige	Keiko Ikeda	Yoko DeRose Allyn Nakashima
<b>Offeratory Music</b>	Allyn Nakashima	Greg Paige	Keiko Ikeda	Nichigo Choir JCC Choir
<b>Acolyte</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Al Kubota  Ron Nishijima  Laura Olson	---	---	---
<b>Ed Bldg Monitor</b>	Paul DeRose	Tosh Nakaya	Paul DeRose	Tosh Nakaya

## Upcoming Community Events

- **Friday, December 2:** Mount Olympus JAACL Annual Christmas Party, Dai Ichi Ward, 2001 South 900 East, 6:00 p.m. Potluck side dishes, chapter furnishes chicken and rice. Bring a dessert/bake sale item for fundraiser.
- **Saturday, December 10:** Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon, Red Maple Restaurant, 2882 West 4700 South; \$10 per person. Seniors 85+ are free. Contact Penny Imamura to RSVP by Dec. 7 – (801) 265-0314.
- **Tuesday, December 13:** Special showing of "Allegiance" (see article on Page 5)

## JCC December 2016 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 -Parking, Jazz vs. Miami, 7pm	2 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jim Gaffigan, 8pm	3 -Parking, Jazz vs. Denver, 7pm
4 -Communion Sunday, 10:30am -Holiday Crafts Class, after service	5 -Taiko practice, 6pm	6 -Parking, Jazz vs. Phoenix	7	8 -Parking, Jazz vs. Golden State	9 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jim Gaffigan, 8pm	10 -Mochi Making, 9am -Parking, Jazz vs. Sacramento
11 -Agape Holiday Luncheon, 12:30pm	12 -Taiko practice, 6pm	13	14 -Parking, Jazz vs. Oklahoma	15	16 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Dallas, 8:30pm	17 -Mochi Making, 9am
18 -Christmas Potluck Dinner, 5pm	19 -Taiko practice, 6pm	20 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am	21 -Parking, Jazz vs. Sacramento	22	23 -Parking, Jazz vs. Toronto	24 CHRISTMAS EVE -Service, 5pm
25 CHRISTMAS DAY -Worship Service, 10:30am -Herald Deadline	26	27	28	29 -Parking, Jazz vs. Philadelphia	30	31 -Parking, Jazz vs. Phoenix, 6pm

\*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 11/28/16.

For building use information, go to [www.jccslc.net](http://www.jccslc.net), Events/Activities tab, JCC Building Usage Schedule link

**Holiday Make and Take**

Karla Paige will show us how to create Christmas favors and cards for holiday giving. Meet in the Fellowship Hall after worship service **on Sunday, December 4.** Materials fee \$5.00.



**Church Women United Advent Tea**

Make a note on your calendar and plan to attend CWU’s Advent Service and Tea.

When: Friday, December 9, 2016 (2nd Friday)

Time: Afternoon -- 1:00 p.m.

Where: Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 2500 E. 3900 South (SLC)

Worship: Rev. Geophrey Beebe

Community Outreach: Volunteers of America Utah SSC & Davis County Retired & Senior Volunteer Program: Bring Men & Women’s Socks & Underwear, Hygiene Products (Toothpaste & Toothbrush, Combs, Razors & Shaving Cream) Wash Cloths, Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant), Greeting Cards (Christmas, Get Well, Birthday), Note Cards, & Christmas Wrapping Paper.

**Allegiance**

The Broadway musical “Allegiance” starring George Takei has been taped and is playing in a special showing on **Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.** at three different theaters in the Salt Lake Valley – Century Theater on 3300 South and State, Union Park Century Theater, or the Sugarhouse Theater.

Tickets must be purchased through Fandango.

Link to the mobile web:

<http://mobile.fandango.com/linkjsp?m=196523>

Allegiance is the story of the fictional Kimura family who was incarcerated at the Heart Mountain relocation camp during World War II. The play ran on Broadway during Fall/Winter 2015-16 and received good reviews.

**Youth Group News**

*Submitted by Elise Mori*

The youth group would like to thank all those who supported its sales for the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Holiday Boutique. We would especially like to thank Ted Nagata and Carson Kawabata for the donation of their greeting cards – they were a hit! The funds raised will go towards Mount Hermon travel as well as other youth expenditures.



**December Birthdays**

- 21 Wat Misaka
- 24 Chris Miya
- 26 Sadie Yoshimura
- 27 Kory Shino

### Sunday School in Session

As mentioned last month, a Sunday School program is starting up again for toddler and pre-school children. Laura Olson, Karla Paige, and Elise Mori will take turns presenting a short lesson to the children and a play or craft activity. On Sunday, October 30, our friends from Las Vegas – Masa Naraoka and his children Eito, Lin and Kenta visited. It was so nice to see them! The children have grown so!

If you have young children or grandchildren, bring them to Sunday School!



Clockwise from L to R: Laura Olson, Yoko and Kiara DeRose, Eito, Kenta and Lin Naraoka, Karla Paige holding Hadley Erlacher, Dani Murakami, Rowan Erlacher (front). Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki

### Nichigo Retreat

The Nichigo group held their annual retreat last month. Pastor Hajimu Fujii and his wife Kayoko returned to facilitate the event. Pastor Fujii was also the guest speaker for worship service on Sunday, November 13. He spoke on his mission work in Africa, Asia, and Sri Lanka. A pot luck luncheon followed after worship service.



### Advent Lighting

The first Advent candle was lit on Sunday, November 27 by the DeRose family – Paul, Yoko and Kiara.



### Thanksgiving Dinner Wrap Up

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner was held on Sunday, November 20. Thanks to the "Turkey Crew", Alan Shino and Josh and Tyler Uyeda for preparing the delicious turkey and trimmings and to Laura Olson for arranging the bingo and prizes.

It was an evening of thankfulness for all we have received during this year.



Tyler and Josh Uyeda, Alan Shino get ready to carve the turkeys.



Tosh Nakaya waits for his winning bingo number to be called.

Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

### Pastor Swap

On Sunday, October 30, Pastor Brad swapped pulpits with Pastor Bob Nagaoka from the Ogden Christian Church. It was nice to hear from our sister church up north.

