

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
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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.

Pastor's Message

January 2017

Author, innovation consultant, and speaker Stephen Shapiro, with the help of Opinion Corporation of Princeton, New Jersey, offers a number of interesting statistics concerning New Year's resolutions.

For instance, Shapiro found that:

* The less happy you are, the more likely you are to set New Year's resolutions (this is especially true for those who set money-related resolutions: forty-one percent are not happy; thirty-four percent are moderately happy; twenty-five percent are happy).

He then concludes with this;

There is actually no correlation between happiness and resolution setting/success (people who achieve their resolutions every year are no happier than those who do not set resolutions or who are unsuccessful in achieving them).

As I sat preparing next Sunday's New Year's Day sermon, I thought about that startling fact; setting resolutions really does not bring a deep sense of joy or fulfillment. In fact, I am convinced that true happiness can only be found through an act performed by someone outside of us; that is God's Holy Spirit. The Apostle Peter tells us that God, "In his great mercy has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead". This is a life changing truth. So instead of counting on a New Year's Resolution to bring fulfillment, I need only stop and consider that all I need for joy and hope in this life was already accomplished for me when God, thru my faith in Jesus, adopted me into His royal, eternal family.

Lord's Blessings,

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
 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

Oshogatsu Ozoni

The annual Ozoni fundraiser for the Nichigo group will be held on **Sunday, January 8, 2017**. Ring in the New Year with a hot bowl of ozoni soup with mochi!



Annual Report Deadline

The deadline to submit reports for the 2016 Annual Report is Sunday, **January 22, 2016**. Please submit your reports electronically to Betty Kubota, bm Kubota@gmail.com or place your article in her mail slot in the Fellowship Hall.

Per Capita Apportionment

The annual Per Capita apportionment for each JCC baptized member is \$40.00. An envelope is included for your convenience. Please remit this amount by the end of January. Please indicate "Per Capita" on your check. The Per Capital apportionment goes to the UCC and Presbytery based on our membership.

Call for Volunteers

The JCC traditionally hosts the Nikkei Senior Center luncheon in the month of February. This year, the luncheon is tentatively set for Saturday, February 4, 2017. The menu is not set yet, but we will be making yaki manju this month and freezing them for the event. If you are available to help with making yaki manju, help prepare food for the luncheon or serve, contact Karen Okawa or Suzanne Hata. We are also looking for talent for the program. If you are interested in performing in the program, contact Laura Olson.

Condolences

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the family of Bettie Gikiu, who passed away on December 11, 2016. Bettie was a long time member of the JCC and will be remembered for her sweet disposition.

January Birthdays

- 5 Tyler Uyeda
- 7 Shigeko Ota
- 13 Frank Imai
- 14 Miya Titmus
- 15 Sumiko Rosvall
- 16 Grace Nakamura, Larry Harada
- 20 Dani Murakami
- 26 Miki Harada, Kay Nakashima
- 31 Michael Darger



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 | Don Dahl | Gikiu Family |
| Iwamoto Family | | |

Christmas Events Wrap Up

The traditional Christmas activities at JCC included Advent Season candle lighting, Agape luncheon, mochi making, the Christmas pageant and potluck, Christmas Eve service, and ending with worship service on Christmas Day.



Lighting of the 4th candle of Advent by the youth group.

The Christmas potluck and program was held on Sunday, December 18 and we were joined by the Kachin and Tongan congregations. All three congregations participated in the program, making for a truly ethnic manger scene.



Madison, Pastor Brad and Nichole Kramer light the final Advent candle on Christmas Eve.

It was truly a White Christmas with a big storm that blanketed the valley on Christmas morning; yet brave souls came to worship service that morning as we joined in fellowship and prayer to honor Jesus on his birthday.



The choir performs at Christmas Day worship service.



Photo courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

Agape Holiday Luncheon

The Agape Women's Holiday luncheon was held on Sunday, December 11, 2016 at Tokai Restaurant. Over 40 attendees enjoyed bento boxes of chicken or salmon. Thanks to Laura Olson and Suzanne Hata for organizing the event.



Jan Aramaki, Utako Aramaki, Matt Miya and Frank Imai

Holiday Crafts

On Sunday, December 4, Karla Paige showed us how to create fun Christmas cards and party favors for holiday giving.



Allyn Nakashima, Kerry Lee, Lorraine Crouse and Betty Murakami display their holiday creations.



Kay and Saeko Nakashima with Santa

More Yuletide Photos

More photos from Christmas events will be posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board this month.



Paul and Yoko DeRose with our very own Santa.

Mochi Making

Mochi was made on two consecutive Saturdays- December 10 and 17. Thanks to all who took time out of their busy holiday schedules to help with the mochi making; soaking and cooking rice, shaping cakes, then turning and cooling them. We sold out both weekends; thanks to everyone for their support of this project and again to Laura Olson and Suzanne Hata for coordinating the entire effort.



Narumi and Frank shape the perfect mochi cakes.

January 2017 - Worship Service Participants

	January 1	January 8	January 15	Music Worship January 22	January 29
Liturgist	Greg Paige	Ron Nishijima	Hiro Iwasaki	Rick Aoki	Laura Olson
Scripture Readers	E) Zach Paige J) Yeiko Homma	E) Pauline Vosburgh J) Keiko Ikeda	E) Chris Lund J) Toshiko Marse	E) Carson Kawabata J) Shigeiko Ota	E) Alex Okawa J) Misako Bowker
Greeter	Karla Paige	Dorthie Conway	Sadie Yoshimura	Wilma Kimura	Betty Morishita
Ushers	Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner	Lorraine Crouse Karen Okawa	Lorraine Crouse Doug Murakami	Lorraine Crouse Al Kubota	Lorraine Crouse Doug Murakami
Songs of Praise	---	---	Brian Itliong	JCC Worship Band	---
Organist/Pianist	Yoko DeRose	Allyn Nakashima	Greg Paige	Keiko Ikeda	Allyn Nakashima
Offeratory Music	Yoko DeRose	Allyn Nakashima	Greg Paige	Nichigo	Allyn Nakashima
Acolyte	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Communion Servers	Al Kubota Ron Nishijima Laura Olson	---	---	---	
Ed Bldg Monitor	Tosh Nakaya	TBD	Tosh Nakaya	TBD	Tosh Nakaya

JCC January 2017 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY -Communion Sunday, 10:30am	2	3	4	5 -Parking, Jazz vs. Miami, 7pm	6 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Monster Jam, 7pm	7 -Parking, Monster Jam, 1pm, 7pm
8 -Ozoni Fundraiser, after worship service	9 -Taiko practice, 6pm	10 -Parking, Jazz vs. Cavaliers, 7pm -Parking, Outdoor Retailers	11 -Parking, Outdoor Retailers	12 -Parking, Outdoor Retailers	13 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Pistons, 8:30pm	14 -Parking, Jazz vs. Magic, 7pm
15	16 -Taiko practice, 6pm	17 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am	18	19 -Session Meeting, 6pm	20 -Taiko practice, 6pm	21 -Parking, Jazz vs. Pacers, 7pm
22	23 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Thunder, 7pm	24	25	26 -Parking, Jazz vs. Lakers, 8:30pm	27 -Taiko practice, 6pm	28 -Parking, Jazz vs. Grizzlies, 7pm
29 -Herald Deadline	30 -Taiko practice, 6pm	31				

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 12/27/16.

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