

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
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Salt Lake City, UT 84101
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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

March 2017

In 2017, we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, which signaled the split in the Holy Catholic Church in the early 16th century, pioneered by Martin Luther. Some may question why I use the term "celebrate": I do so because Luther confronted and corrected the unbiblical teaching that a person requires more than just the grace of God to be saved from his sins. From the moment Luther nailed his famous 95 theses on the door of the Wittenberg chapel, calling into question the abuses that had taken hold in the church, Christianity has never been the same. (I do not wish to denigrate the Roman Catholic Church. I merely want to help us understand how far off course the church had wandered by the 16th century; and to appreciate the courage of Luther in exposing the problem).

You see, Luther spent years under the impression that he had to strive earnestly to **earn** his salvation. His belief that God was a stern taskmaster tormented Luther. When instructed by his mentor to simply love God, Luther replied; "Love him? I hate him!" Such was the anguish of Luther until one day in reading through the book of Romans, he finally came face to face with the glorious truth that rather than earning salvation, it is only by grace through a person's faith that they can truly experience the love and salvation which God gives freely.

Professor Wayne Grudem puts it well – "The doctrine of salvation by grace through faith gives us confidence that God will never make us pay the penalty for sins that have been forgiven on Christ's merits." Amen to that.

God Bless You,
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
 Hiro Iwasaki, Stewardship
 Greg Paige, Personnel, Education
 Pauline Vosburgh
 Allyn Nakashima

Deacons

Misako Bowker, Miki Harada, Dorthie Conway, Lorraine Crouse, Toshiko Marse, Elaine Iwasaki

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 Reminder

Remember to set your clock **AHEAD** (forward) one hour on Sunday, **March 12, 2017.**

“SPRING FORWARD.”

Congregational Meeting

The JCC Annual Ecclesiastical and Corporation Meeting was held on Sunday, February 19, 2017 after worship service. Pastor Brad conducted the ecclesiastical portion of the meeting. A quorum of members was in attendance and the agenda approved. Copies of the Annual Report were distributed for review. The 2017 budget was presented by Julee Mori. It was noted that income had been budgeted for Nihon Matsuri; however, the event has been cancelled for this year. The budget was unanimously approved by the congregation. Election of nominees for elders, deacons, nominating committee and board of trustees was presented by Elise Mori. (New officers’ names are listed in the article below.)

Al Kubota, representing Cascade Corporation, presented the corporation report. The chapel renovation is currently on hold, but Al reported the committee will be meeting soon. Cascade parking increased revenue last year by 14%.

New Officers

New officers of the JCC for the term 2017 to 2020:

Session: Julee Mori (2 year term), Pauline Vosburgh, Allyn Nakashima

Deacons: Elaine Iwasaki (1 year term), Toshiko Marse, Lorraine Crouse

Board of Trustees: Gary Nakao (2nd term), Karla Paige

Nominating Committee: Ron Nishijima (2nd term), Yas Iwamoto (2nd term)

We are thankful for these individuals and their willingness to serve as the JCC leadership. There are still two open positions on the Session and Deacons. If you can serve in one of these areas, contact Session.

Condolences

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Saige Aramaki, who passed away on February 2, 2017 at the age of 98.

Heartfelt condolences go out to the family of Hitoshi “Tosh” Nakaya, who passed away unexpectedly on February 8, 2017. Tosh was a faithful member of the JCC family and will be truly missed. Memorial services will be held at the JCC on Saturday, March 11, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

Prayer List Update

The Prayers of the People list reminds us to pray for those suffering illness, loss or hard times. However, there may be names on the list that no longer are in need. If there is a name you would like removed from the list, please let us know.

Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

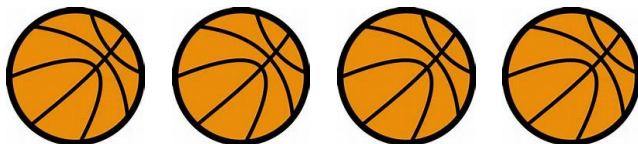
Saeko Nakashima	Shawna Johnson	Chris Miya
Susan Rosvall	Joy Hashimoto	Marie Matsukawa
Miki Harada	Betty Murakami	Grace Oshita
Yoshiko Nakagama	Grace Matsumura	Cristal Aoki
Jana Hansen	Toshiko Marse	Lillian Nakamura
Frank Imai	Utako Aramaki	Jessie Lamb
Wat Misaka	Larry Harada	Mr. “C”
Susan Fukushima	Keri Kramer	Finn Horve
Kevin Turner	Barbara Woody	Michael Darger
Steve Fukushima	Nakaya Family	Chris Tabata Lund



Basketball Season

The JCC Basketball season will begin approximately the second week in March. Game nights will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Southeast Christian Church, 1881 East Vine Street, Murray.

We will have two teams again this year; an over 30 and an under 30 team. Player fees will be \$40 per person. We will schedule a practice prior to games. If interested in playing on a team, please contact **Doug Murakami (801) 580-8404**. Spectators are always welcome!



A Year Off

As many have already heard the news, the Nihon Matsuri festival, usually held on the last Saturday of April, will not be held this year. The festival is postponed until April 2018.

A Koto Concert will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple by the performer scheduled to appear at this year's festival. The JCC will be selling food in conjunction with the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple as a fundraising event. More information on this concert will be published in next month's Herald.

Church Women United

A multi faith gathering of Christian Women
Mark your calendar and plan to attend CWU's **Human Rights Celebration 2017**

When: **Friday, March 10, 2017**

Time: 9:30 a.m. Reg; 10:00 - 1:00

Program & Lunch

Where: Centenary United Methodist Church
1740 South 500 East (Salt Lake City)

Theme: "Kindling New Fires - Kindling New Fires of Hope"

Keynote Speaker: TBA

Award Recipient: TBA

Registration: \$1 Lunch: \$5.00

Community Outreach: Please BRING items for The Road Home: Specifics to follow.
Cash Donations (Checks Payable to "Church Women United," designated for The Road Home)

Offering: Used for CWU National Programs:
Checks need to be made payable to:
"Church Women United" Lunch RSVP: To Phyllis Allen at 801-298-7197 by **Monday, March 6.**

Agape Notes

Misplaced, Lost or Missing:

1. Large acrylic beverage dispenser (empty box is in kitchen)
2. Large shamoji (Rice paddle)
3. Inari sushi molds (JCC labeled ones)

If you happen to find/see one of these missing articles, please return it to the kitchen!

Agape is collecting:

- Campbell's Soup Labels for Menaul School
- Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald House
- Box Tops for Education
- Books, DVDs, CDs for the Presbyterian Women Pakistani Library mission.
Please bring your items during the month of March and place in labeled boxes in the Ed Bldg.

Food Handlers Permit:

Since Nihon Matsuri has been cancelled for 2017, we will not be hosting a Food Handlers class until a large fundraising event such as Nihon or Aki Matsuri is planned.

March 2017 - Worship Service Participants

	March 5	March 12	March 19	Music Worship March 26
Liturgist	Alan Shino	Ron Nishijima	Greg Paige	Rick Aoki
Scripture Readers	E) Elizabeth Ward J) Shigeko Ota	E) Elise Mori J) Misako Bowker	E) Pauline Vosburgh J) Yoko DeRose	E) Zach Paige J) Yeiko Homma
Greeter	Betty Morishita	Saeko Nakashima	Mary Tabata	Wilma Kimura
Ushers	Misako Bowker Motoko Lochner	Jan Aramaki Julee Mori	Doug Murakami Karen Okawa	Al Kubota Doug Murakami
Songs of Praise	---	---	Brian Itliong	JCC Worship Band
Organist/Pianist	Yas Iwamoto	Elizabeth Ward	Allyn Nakashima	Yoko DeRose
Offeratory Music	Yas Iwamoto	Elizabeth Ward Elise Mori	Allyn Nakashima JCC Choir	Nichigo Choir
Acolyte	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Communion Servers	Al Kubota Ron Nishijima Laura Olson	---	---	---
Ed Bldg Monitor	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

JCC March 2017 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 -Parking, Jazz vs. Bucks	2	3 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Nets, 7pm	4
5 -Communion, 10:30 am	6 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Pelicans, 7pm	7	8	9 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7pm	10 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Disney on Ice, 3:30, 7pm	11 -Nakaya Memorial Service, 11am -Parking, Disney on Ice, 3:30, 7pm
12 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 1 and 4:30pm	13 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Clippers, 7pm	14	15	16 -Session Meeting, 6pm -Parking, NCAA tournament	17 -Taiko practice, 6pm	18 -Parking, NCAA tournament
19	20 -Taiko practice, 6pm	21 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, 11:15 am -Parking, Ariana Grande, 7pm	22 -Parking, Jazz vs. Knicks, 8:30pm	23	24 -Wedding rehearsal space rental -Taiko practice, 6pm	25 -Parking, Eric Church, 8pm
26 -Herald Deadline, noon	27 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz vs. Pelicans, 8:30pm	28	29 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	30	31	

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 2/27/17.

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

March Community Events

- Mount Olympus JAFL Fundarama – Saturday, March 18, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Hillcrest Junior High School, 126 East 5300 South, Murray, UT. Dinner, bingo, silent auction, raffle.
- There will be no Nikkei Senior Center luncheon in the month of March.

Guest Speaker

On Sunday, February 26, Pastor Jeff Silliman was welcomed to our pulpit, filling in for Pastor Kramer; who was attending a conference. He was guest speaker for the February Music Worship, which also featured the JCC band – Brian Itliong, Wes Kida, Dean Shiba, Rick Aoki and Elise Mori.



JCC Worship Band at February 26 service.

Kenshin Taiko Performances

Kenshin Taiko has a busy performance schedule already. Upcoming performances in March include:

- March 4 – Westminster College
- March 18 – Utah Valley University, Japanese Festival, 5 to 8 p.m. Activities for children, cultural displays, music



Kenshin Taiko performs at Nikkei Senior Center luncheon in February. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki

Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon Recap

The JCC hosted the February Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon on Saturday, February 4, 2017. A total of 130 lunches were prepared and served for attendees and shut-ins. Members of the Kenshin Taiko provided the entertainment, followed by door prize raffles. The JCC maintained its reputation for hosting a great event!

Thank you to everyone who everyone who helped in the preparation of the food and with set up and clean up. Also thank you to the Kenshin Taiko performers. We appreciate everyone’s willingness to take time from their busy schedules to help out.



Above: Nikkei Senior Center luncheon attendees enjoy food and a performance by Kenshin Taiko. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki

Left: Toshiko Marse arranges origami doll centerpieces she made for the luncheon. Photo courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

Veterans Stamp

On February 10, Utah State Senator Jani Iwamoto sponsored a resolution to urge the U.S. Postmaster General to issue a commemorative postage stamp honoring Japanese American veterans of World War II. The resolution received support from the legislature and Governor Herbert. Many members of the JA community made the trip to the Capitol to support the resolution.



Jani Iwamoto waves to supporters in balcony.