

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ
268 West 100 South (Japantown Street)
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801) 363-3251 www.jccslc.net

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
SLC, Utah
Permit No.1645



Pastor Brad Kramer
info@jccslc.net

Worship Schedule:

Adult and Nichigo Bible Study
9:30 a.m.

Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor's Message

As we look ahead to 2018 I am excited about ministering together with my brothers and sisters at JCC. I am so grateful for the blessings we enjoyed this past year and look forward to many more.

There are some encouraging and challenging opportunities on the horizon for JCC. Two of these come to mind off the bat: 1. The proposed development, which will be erected directly across the street from our chapel. 2. The need for remodeling in both the chapel and the fellowship hall. One might wonder why I list the new construction project as both encouraging and as an opportunity. Even though, this development has the potential to further marginalize our community, I prefer to see this as a chance to lean in to our Lord through prayer and faith. I confess to you that I have not been the man of prayer I should be, but I am dedicating myself to consistently lifting up the needs of our church body before our Lord. In particular, I am asking that God would accomplish His will regarding our building needs, as well as the future construction in our neighborhood. I leave you with two insightful quotes on prayer:

"Prayer is surrender – surrender to the will of God and cooperation with that will." E Stanley Jones

"You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed." John Bunyan

Let us join together this year as brothers and sisters, seeking our Lord's will through the gift of prayer.

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu.

Happy New Year,

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

Ozoni Fundraiser

The annual Nichigo New Year's Ozoni Fundraiser will be held on **Sunday, January 7, 2018**. Ring in 2018 with a hot bowl of soup for good luck for the year! \$5.00 per bowl



Per Capita Apportionment

The annual Per Capita Apportionment for each baptized member of the JCC is **\$38.00** this year. Please remit this amount by January 31, 2018 and indicate "For Per Capita" on your check. This apportionment is remitted to the UCC and Utah Presbytery based on the number in our membership.

Annual Report Deadline

The deadline to submit reports for the 2018 Annual Report is **Sunday, January 28, 2017**. Submit your reports electronically to Betty Kubota at bm Kubota@gmail.com or place it in her mail slot in the Fellowship Hall.

Centennial Update, January 2018



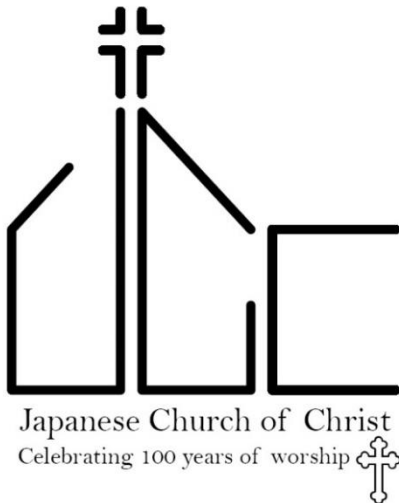
The JCC Centennial committee continues to make progress towards our big celebration in August – just 8 months away!

Watch for information on the Address/Phone directory photo shoot to be scheduled in March.

Nest month, there will be a Senbazuru project to create a picture of 1001 Cranes that will be displayed in the chapel to commemorate the anniversary. If you would like to fold a few (or more) origami cranes, please contact Karen Okawa, klokawa@msn.com. We want everyone at the JCC to be involved in folding the cranes, so that a "piece" of your effort will be represented in the picture. An origami crane folding class will be scheduled in February; stay tuned!

A Centennial book is also in the works to be published for sale; the cost will be \$50 and contain a history of the 100 years of JCC. Ted Nagata is designing the book for us, so we know it will be first class! We are taking a pre-count to see how many people would be interested in purchasing a copy, so we know how many to print. Let a committee member (Jan Aramaki, Julee Mori, Lorraine Crouse, Karen Okawa, Shar Kiuahara, Eunice Griffin, Pat Price, Jani Iwamoto, Laura Olson or Ted Nagata) know if you are interested in purchasing a copy of the book.

A section of the book will be dedicated to congratulatory greetings from JCC members and friends; \$25 and \$45 for individuals/families and \$110 for businesses or organizations. If you would like to submit a greeting to be printed in the book, please fill out the form included in this newsletter and return it to the JCC or committee member above.



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, Worship
- Keiko Ikeda, Nichigo
- Allyn Nakashima
- Patricia Arakaki Price

Deacons

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

Newsletter articles are due on the last Saturday of each month at **noon**. Send your articles to klokawa@msn.com

Website: www.jccslc.net

Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

Jana Hansen	Mas Horiuchi	Mr. "C"
Larry Harada	Chris Miya	Miki Harada
Toshiko Marse	Grace Matsumura	Wat Misaka
Pastor Hanabusa	Susan Fukushima	Kai Ronning
Amy McKennon	Bowker Family	Steve Fukushima

December Recap

As always, December was a busy month of activities for the JCC. Mochi making took place on December 9 and 16. Thank you to all who purchased mochi and to those who came to help pound, brush, turn and fill orders. Special thanks to Michael Darger for coordinating all of the mochi machines and Sherrie Garcia, Jan Aramaki and Laura Olson for feeding the volunteers.

The Agape Christmas luncheon was held on December 10 at the Ombu Grill. Thanks to Suzanne Hata and Laura Olson for making the arrangements.

On December 17, the annual Christmas program and potluck took place with our friends from the Kachin and Tongan congregations. What a great attendance to watch the Christmas story enacted by the youth of all three congregations! Thanks to Michael Darger for donating the pork roasts, Jerry Mori for assisting in the kitchen, Laura Olson for coordinating the program and Stephanie Mori Nakao for the goodie bags that Santa distributed. Thanks also to Santa for coming by to delight the children (and adults).

This year Christmas Eve fell on a Sunday, so the candle lighting was held along with the morning service. It was not as dramatic since it was daylight, but it was a great service with friends and family regardless to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Thanks to Jean Irwin and Allyn Nakashima for preparing the soup after the service.



Kramer Family lights the final Advent candle

Condolences

Our condolences go out to Michael and Misako Bowker upon the recent passing of Michael's sister, Mary Bowker Young.

New Herald Deadline

Beginning with the February 2018 Herald, the submission deadline for articles and photos will now be the **last Saturday of the month** at noon (formerly the last Sunday).

JCC Cookbooks

The Agape has 8 cookbooks available for purchase. There are also several sets of cookbook dividers. Please contact Suzanne Hata if you need a set for your cookbook.

Congratulations

On December 9, the OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates Utah Chapter awarded a "Lifetime Achievement" Award to Irene Maya Ota and a "Spirit of the Community" Award to Edith Mitko. Congratulations on these achievements!

Holiday Visitors

On Sunday, December 31, our friends from Las Vegas, Masa Naraoka and his children Eito, Lin and Kenta joined us for worship service. It was nice to see them; the children have grown so much!



Rear: Yoko and Paul DeRose, Masa Naraoka; Front: Kenta, Naraoka, Kiara DeRose, Eito and Lin Naraoka. Photo courtesy: Jan Aramaki



The Nativity Scene with JCC, Tongan and Kachin congregations.



Santa and Norah Croft



Daniel and Alison Cheung



Santa and Aidan Okawa



Betty and Al Kubota, Santa and Sadie Yoshimura



Saeko and Kay Nakashima

January 2018 - Worship Service Participants

	January 7	January 14	January 21	Music Worship January 28
Liturgist	Hiro Iwasaki	Laura Olson	Lynne Crabbe	Steve Fukumitsu
Scripture Readers	E) Nichole Kramer J) Misako Bowker	E) Daniel Cheung J) Yoko DeRose	E) Zach Paige J) Yeiko Homma	E) Elise Mori J) Toshiko Marse
Greeter	Sadie Yoshimura	Dorthie Conway	Karla Paige	Wilma Kimura
Ushers	Jan Aramaki Lorraine Crouse	Chris Lund Mary Tabata	Narumi Kanabuchi Matt Miya	Daniel Cheung Alison Cheung
Organist/Pianist	Elizabeth Ward	Allyn Nakashima	Greg Paige	Keiko Ikeda
Offeratory Music	Elizabeth Ward	Allyn Nakashima	Greg Paige	Nichigo Choir
Acolyte	---	---	---	---
Communion Servers	Al Kubota Betty Kubota Laura Olson	---	---	---
Ed Bldg Monitor	*	*	*	*

*Make sure there is someone in the Fellowship Hall during service or that the door is locked.

JCC January 2018 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY -Kachin New Year's -Tongan New Year's	2	3 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	4	5 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Monster Jam, 7pm	6 -Parking, Monster Jam, 1, 7pm
7 -Communion, 10:30 am -Nichigo Ozoni Fundraiser, 11:30am	8 -Taiko practice, 6pm	9 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	10	11	12 -Taiko practice, 6pm	13
14	15 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	16 -St. Vincent DePaul Soup, 11:15am	17	18	19 -Taiko practice, 6pm -Parking, Jazz, 8:30pm	20 -Parking, Jazz, 7:00pm
21	22 -Taiko practice, 6pm	23	24	25	26 -Taiko practice, 6pm	27
28 -Herald Deadline, noon	29 -Taiko practice, 6pm	30 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	31			

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 1/1/18.

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

Soup Kitchen Thanks

To all our volunteers and "substitute" helpers, a heartfelt thanks for your generosity of time, smiles and willingness to serve lunch once a month at the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen in 2017. Our soup kitchen team for this year included the following: David Harada, Keiko Ikeda, Wilma Kimura, Betty Murakami, Ted and Yeiko Nagata. People who substituted for our regulars included the following: Sharen Carmichael, Dorthie Conway, Jeanette Misaka, Yuri Uyeda. Again, thank you all!

The Fight to Save Japantown

Submitted by Jani Iwamoto

Throughout its past the Salt Lake City downtown area has had a rich collection of ethnic cultures represented in distinct neighborhoods. These neighborhoods represented cultural enclaves where ethnic minority populations thrived. As world headquarters for the LDS Church and its missionary program, a center for mining activities, a crossroads of the railroads and western migration routes, and the home to Japanese Americans following the closure of Topaz Japanese concentration camp, Salt Lake has attracted a diverse population.

One such neighborhood was Japan Town, home to the Japanese immigrant and Japanese American community. It was the heart of our community. Additionally, it was the center for activities related to social, religious, cultural and commercial ventures. It represented a thriving ethnic community that has added greatly to the diversity of the Salt Lake Valley.

Due to the construction of the Salt Palace Convention Center (SPCC) in 1967, businesses were obliterated and residents were dispersed --Japan Town, and the community was destroyed. The Japanese community was blindsided because they were told that the SPCC was going to be built elsewhere. Consequently, the Japanese community voted in favor of building the SLCC. When reality hit the Japanese community, it found itself almost completely isolated and defenseless. The panic that followed was compounded by the totally unexpected notice that businesses and inhabitants must vacate within a certain time. There was no plan to assist the community to move and no plan for the community to move to another Japan Town. For many, it was a grim reminder of Executive Order 9066 when the United States Government unconstitutionally and forcibly removed 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast and forced them to live in American style concentration camps.

All that remains are the two houses of worship, the Japanese Church of Christ and the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple. Because of the expansion of the SPCC these remnants of a once vibrant community are exposed to blank walls and loading docks.

2005 ushered in additional negative impact to the community through the expansion of the Salt Palace. The Japanese Community Preservation Committee was formed, comprised of members from the two churches and the Japanese community to address the impacts and to preserve and protect the last remaining vestiges of our community. The JCPC continues to serve as representatives of the Japanese Community to address concerns that threaten the community.

Through efforts working together, with the state, SLC, SL County, SMG (operators of the SPCC) and our community, we worked to address traffic and congestion, access and parking, air pollution, safety for vehicular and pedestrian traffic, noise, trash and cargo, sightline/aesthetics, and property values. Although there is no question of negative impacts and lack of notice and initial inclusion, what resulted was a spirit of working together and discussions on the real impacts to the churches and community.

Both the SLBT and JCC have been on the street, recently renamed Japantown Street for more than 100 years plus. The JCC is on the historic registry. These churches have congregants from as far north as Ogden, and well beyond SL County.

The revitalization has been an ongoing effort and supported and celebrated through legislation, resolutions, and agreements, by municipalities, including Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County mayors and councils, the state of Utah. A potential conflict and surprise came with the study of a 1000 plus room convention hotel. With years of study and discussion the plans indicate the convention hotel is slated for another block.

Now we are confronted with a new development which has stirred concern and controversy regarding its impact on the Japanese community. Due to state legislation passed in the 2017 legislative session, a restaurant/bar can be located 300 feet from a church. Previously, this distance requirement was 600 feet. This change enabled the developer to design for placement of a bar/restaurant directly across from the JCC. In addition to the design housing a restaurant and bar, the rear of the building which provides access to loading, garbage removal, service trucks, etc., will directly face the Japanese Church of Christ. It is hard to imagine a design that could be worse for a church. Not only is the "back end" to the JCC, but Japantown Street is frequently used for religious and community activities to share our culture, and also serve to financially sustain our churches and community. The community did not have a seat at the table on this development.

Ironically, on April 26, 2018, we will celebrate our inaugural Raymond Uno Legacy Speaker and Scholarship dinner, as a lead in to our Nihon Matsuri on April 28, 2018. Famed civil rights attorney Dale Minami, lead counsel for Fred Korematsu and a seminal civil rights case. This past summer we celebrated the opening of the Topaz Museum with a stirring and memorable speech by Don Tamaki. On August 25, 2018, we will celebrate the JCC's 100th year Anniversary.

Please join our efforts to preserve our community!



Japanese Church of Christ Centennial Congratulatory Greeting - Individual

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Email address:

Small Greeting: \$25.00

Overall size - 3.3" x 1" - maximum number of lines: 3, maximum number of characters per line (including spaces): 50

JAMES and STEPHANIE NAKAMURA
Best wishes on 100 years. Lyman, Allison, Sachiko
and Michael. Menlo Park, California

Large Greeting: \$45.00

Overall size - 5" x 1.7" - maximum number of lines: 4, maximum number of characters per line (including spaces): 50

JAMES and STEPHANIE NAKAMURA
Best Wishes on your 100th Anniversary
Lyman, Allison, Sachiko and Michael
Menlo Park, California

Your greeting: (Please Print Clearly)

Make checks payable to: Japanese Church of Christ.



Japanese Church of Christ Centennial Congratulatory Greeting - Commercial

Name:

Address:

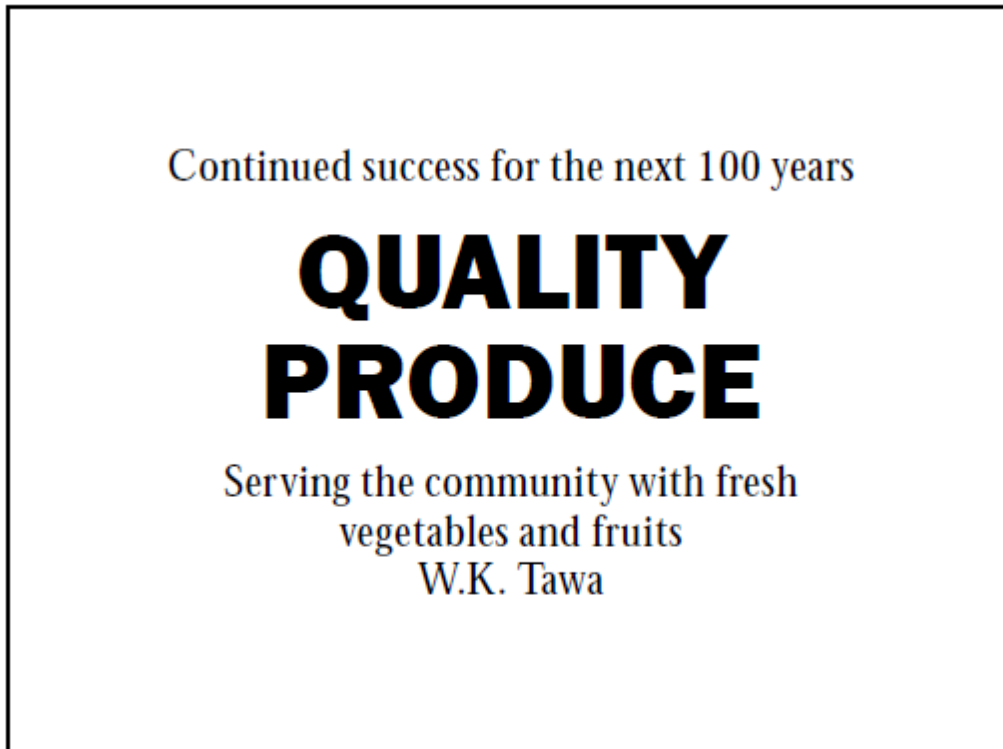
City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Email address:

Commercial/Organization Greeting: \$110.00

Overall size – 4.6" x 3.4" - maximum number of lines: 6, maximum number of characters per line (including spaces): 50. A company logo may also be included; but camera-ready art (black and white) must be furnished along with this form or submitted electronically as an attachment to jccherald@gmail.com.



Your greeting: (Please Print Clearly)

Make checks payable to: Japanese Church of Christ.