

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ

268 West 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84101

(801) 363-3251

Website: jccslc.net **Email:** info@jccslc.net

JCC in-person Sunday worship services are suspended until further notice.
Go to www.jccslc.net to view the weekly sermon.

Pastoral Message

February 2022

Last month, our wonderful guest preachers taught us so many things. It has been a real blessing to have many different voices speak to us!

Rev. Mirjam Haas-Melchior reminded us of God's faithfulness, and that He is with us yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Pastor Bob Nakaoka walked us through messages to the churches in Ephesus and Pergamum, teaching us to always remember God as our First Love and to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus no matter what goes on around us. Rev. Daniel Haas encouraged us to embrace our mission as a church: "Don't hold back!" Finally, Rev. Anthony Scott brought greetings and encouragement from the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC, urging us to Be Encouraged as we carry out God's work as a church.

All of these messages remind us that on the one hand, Jesus declared once and for all that, "It is finished" (John 19:30). We have victory over sin and death through Christ's death and resurrection. At the same time, we are reminded of the great work that lies ahead of us – "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). We are called to be disciple-makers (Matthew 28:19), truth-tellers (Ezekiel 2:5), and justice-seekers (Isaiah 1:17).

Throughout the month of February, we continue to remember the lessons of the Epiphany – the season of, "manifestation, showing forth, making clear," and the bridge between Christmas and Lent. We remember this moment where the disciples saw a Glimpse of Glory. We remember the voice of the Father reminding us: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

How will we listen to the voice of the Son? For ourselves, for our church, for our community, and for our world? As we settle into this new year, may you be encouraged by the great truth that our Savior and Friend is the God of the universe!

Message from Session

As you all know, January saw a steep rise in COVID-19 cases in Utah. We continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will continue to make plans for the slow transition back to in-person events when it is safe to do so.

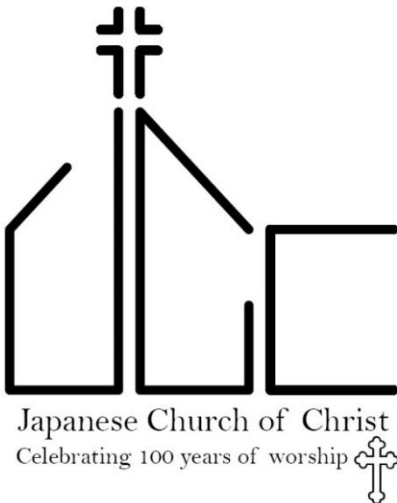
For now, we will continue to hold services virtually, including our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, February 13th at noon. We hope you will join us for this important gathering. You can find the virtual Sunday services at jccslc.net. More information about the congregational meeting is at jccslc.net/annualmeeting.

We continue to be grateful for all of the love, support, and prayers for the church from so many in the JCC community. "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink" (1 Cor 12:12-13).

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: Vacant

Clerk of Session: Daniel Cheung

Session

Lorraine Crouse - Worship
 Steve Fukumitsu - Building and Grounds
 Yoko DeRose - Nichigo
 Allyn Nakashima - Membership
 Pauline Vosburgh - Finance
 Lynne Ward (Installation Feb. 2022)
 Gary Nakao (Installation Feb. 2022)

Deacons

Karen Okawa (moderator), Jan Aramaki, Julee Mori, Laura Olson, Elaine Iwasaki, Jean Kobayashi, Akiko Oki (term expires Feb 2022), Elise Mori, Yuri Uyeda (Installation Feb. 2022)

Newsletter articles are due on the fourth Saturday of each month at noon. Send your articles to jccherald@gmail.com.

Website: www.jccslc.net

2022 Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 13 at noon**. To keep congregation members safe, we will be holding the meeting virtually. You can join the meeting on Zoom, on any telephone, or on the church YouTube page.

Please try to log in 10 minutes early. If you are having a hard time accessing the meeting, please call/text (801) 901-0876, or email hello@jccslc.net.

Every annual congregational meeting is a special time for the JCC community. This year will be especially important as the church embarks on a mission study and pastoral search. We appreciate your making time to join us.

More information, including the Annual Report, is available at www.jccslc.net/annualmeeting.

How to Join the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 13, 2022 at 12:00 PM

- Option #1 (preferred) — Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84231232176>
- Option #2 — On any phone, call (253) 215-8782, and then enter the meeting ID: 842 3123 2176
- Option #3 — We will stream the meeting on the church website and on the JCC YouTube page

New Officers

The new officers for the JCC (3 year term) are:

Session: Lynne Ward, Gary Nakao (one year term) (in addition to current members Session members Allyn Nakashima, Daniel Cheung, Yoko DeRose, Steve Fukumitsu, Pauline Vosburgh and Lorraine Crouse)

Deacons: Karen Okawa (second term), Elise Mori and Yuri Uyeda, (in addition to current Deacons Julee Mori, Laura Olson, Elaine Iwasaki and Jan Aramaki)

Board of Trustees: Rick Aoki (in addition to current Trustees Karla Paige, Victor Homma, Hiro Iwasaki, and Ron Nishijima)

Nominating Committee:

These officers will be installed during the Congregational Meeting on February 13, 2022.

We also wish to acknowledge the outgoing officers for their service to the JCC:

- Session – Greg Paige
- Deacons – Akiko Oki, Jean Kobayashi
- Trustees – Jani Iwamoto

Year-End Statements

This year the year-end offering/pledge statements for 2021 will NOT be mailed out as in the past. If you itemize your taxes and need a paper copy of the statement, please call **(801) 901-0876** and leave a message requesting a copy be sent to you; or you may also send an email request to hello@jccslc.net.

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) gives relief to those in need. Through donations, OGHS helps those affected by disaster to resume their lives again, feed people all over the world and provide empowerment. If you can give to this program, you may send check donations to the JCC mailing address. Please note on your check that it is for OGHS.

Per Capita Reminder

Thank you to those that have sent the Annual Per Capita! The one-time amount per JCC member for the year 2022 is \$41.48. Please indicate on your check that it is your Per Capita remittance.

Community News

Utah Senate Bill 58, sponsored by Senator Jani Iwamoto, designates an annual Day of Remembrance on February 19 observing the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. The bill was passed unanimously out of the Government Operations Committee. This year will have been 80 years since President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066.



Senator Jani Iwamoto and Floyd Mori, JACL, who testified in support of the bill. Photo courtesy: Jani Iwamoto

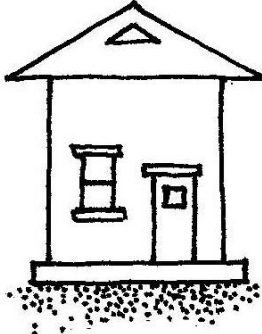
A "Topaz Stories" exhibit is on display at the Utah State Capitol third floor mezzanine. The exhibit chronicles the Issei incarcerated at the Topaz internment camp. The exhibit will remain at the Capitol until December 31.

February Parking Schedule

At Vivint Arena:
Utah Jazz games – February 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 25.
Ice Cube – February 12

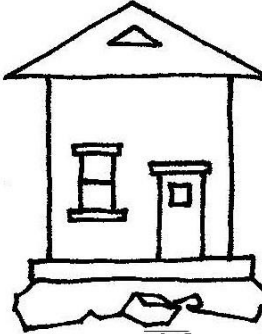
LIGHTSIDE

Which house will stand?



sand?

or



rock?

Matthew 7:24-29

Ron 2022

Remember in Your Prayers

If you wish to be added or know of someone that should be added or removed from this list, please email the JCC website, jcclc.net.

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Toshiko Marse | Saeko Nakashima | Sumi Arakaki |
| Kenta Naraoka | Susan Fukushima | Dorthie Conway |
| Betty Morishita | Steve Fukushima | Susan Rosvall |
| Mary Tabata | Robin Sueoka Puri | Sumiko Rosvall |
| Chris Miya | Kai Ronning | Lillian Nakamura |

Also remember in your prayers, the Tongan-American Free Wesleyan congregation with family and friends in Tonga, which was devastated by a volcanic eruption and tsunami two weeks ago. Pray for the people of Tonga as they deal with the aftermath and damage suffered on the islands.

Our Daily Bread – Spring 2022

The "Our Daily Bread" for Spring 2022 (March through May) is now available.

If you would like a copy sent to you, please email jccherald@gmail.com.



Wat Misaka Jersey Retirement Recap

On January 22, 2022, the University of Utah Athletics Department retired Wat Misaka's basketball jersey at the Utah/USC game. A presentation was made at halftime by University President Taylor Randall and Athletics Director Mark Harlan. Number 20 now hangs from the rafters of the Huntsman Center. A video of the ceremony is posted on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=znW-4mLkvbc



Wat's children Nancy Umemura and Hank Misaka, Swoop and Utah Athletic Director Mark Harlan. (Photo courtesy: Tim Jessop)



University President Taylor Randall; Cary, Nancy and Joel Umemura; Kennah, Hank and Erin Misaka flash the U! (Photo courtesy: Jani Iwamoto)

Living with COVID-19: Seeking appropriate medical care

Submitted by Allyn Nakashima

Because of the extreme contagiousness of the omicron variant of COVID-19, many people have or will become infected in the next several weeks. During the past week, Utah averaged 10,000 new reported cases each day. Since reported cases do not include cases that were not tested or diagnosed through home-testing, this estimate is undoubtedly an undercount.

Therefore, because the chance of being infected is so high currently, if you have any symptoms, however mild, it is important to seek testing. If you have any risk factors, such as a chronic illness (asthma, diabetes) or immunosuppression, testing is critical because if you test positive your clinician can put you on COVID-specific treatments that will help you to recover more quickly. Many of these drugs work better if started early in the course of illness. It is also important not to attempt to self-treat if you think you might have COVID or you are diagnosed in a non-clinical setting, e.g., home testing or drive thru site.

New research and COVID-specific drugs are coming out very quickly and it is important to seek care from your primary care provider to access these. Currently available treatments include monoclonal antibodies, antivirals (e.g., Remdesivir, Paxlovid, Molnupiravir), oxygen, and mechanical ventilation assistance—all of which can only be accessed when under the care of a physician.

COVID Test Kits

If you haven't already done so, you can order 4 free rapid COVID test kits per household from the federal government at [COVIDTests.gov](https://www.COVIDTests.gov). You will need to enter your name, email and residential address. You will then receive an email confirming your order and tracking information. The U.S. Postal Service will ship the tests within 7 to 12 days.

Those that do not have access to the website can call 800-232-0233 to order test kits as well.