

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ

268 West 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84101

(801) 363-3251

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

Pastoral Message

March 2022

I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ who was, is, and is to come. I also bring greetings on behalf of the whole of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ. It is our joy to stand with JCC as a partner in covenant and ministry. In this season of pandemic, pastoral transition, isolation, and ambient anxiety, I invite you to ponder grief.

Grief is sneaky. One moment, you may feel, aside from the loss you have suffered, that all is well. In the next moment, grief shows up and manifests itself in whichever ways it sees fit. Grief is an emotional process which may begin following a loss or change of any kind. The sort of change or loss commonly thought to precipitate the grieving process is the death of a relative or friend. However, any and every change in life's journey IS a loss of a sort. If by nothing else, the grief process can be brought on by a rift in our understanding of what was. David Whyte, 21st century poet mused about grief as a well. While it is true that the well is filled with life giving water, the grief process can be akin to falling into the well and finding oneself overwhelmed, overcome, drowning.

Beloved, pastoral transitions usher in a season of loss and change. The one called into your community to administer the sacraments, baptism and communion, as well as markers along life's journey such as weddings, funerals, counseling, and prayer. Pastor Kramer's departure, without regard to the surrounding circumstances, is a loss and change within community which may elicit sadness, anger, depression, joy, numbness, or a mixture of all of these feelings. This is grief. Grief is a journey, not a destination. Grief is a process to help remember and memorialize what has been lost, what might have been, so that you might move forward into what is next. In this season, journey together, as a congregation, into grief. In this season, recommit yourselves to the spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible study, and reflection. In this season, be still and know that God remains sovereign and will sustain you.

I conclude with sweet hymnody of the church;

Be not dismayed whate'er betide, God will take care of you!

Beneath His wings of love abide, God will take care of you!

God will take care of you, through every day o'er all the way;

He will take care of you; God will take care of you!

Together,

Anthony

Rev. Dr. Anthony L. D. Scott

Associate Conference Minister

Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC

Daylight Savings Time Reminder

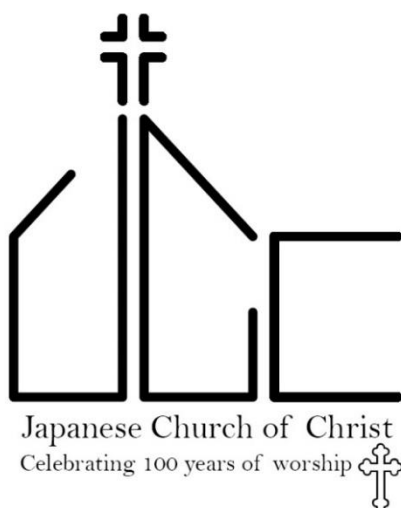
Daylight savings time will fall on Sunday, **March 13, 2022**. Remember to "Spring forward" and set your clock one hour ahead. (You lose one hour of sleep. ☹)



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
- Gary Nakao

Deacons

- Karen Okawa, Jan Aramaki, Julee Mori, Laura Olson, Elaine Iwasaki, Elise Mori, Yuri Uyeda

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 Wrap Up

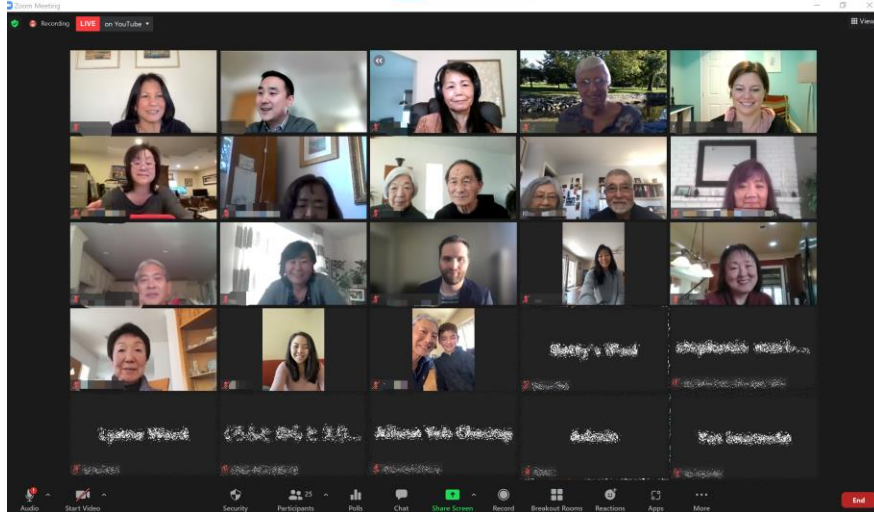
The annual congregational meeting was held on Sunday, February 13, 2022 via Zoom/YouTube. Worship service started at noon followed by the meeting, which was conducted by Rev. Mirjam Haas-Melchior, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Utah. A quorum was present.

The first order of business was to install the new officers of the church:

- Session:** Gary Nakao (one year term), Lynne Ward
- Deacons:** Karen Okawa (second term), Elise Mori, Yuri Uyeda
- Board of Trustees:** Rick Aoki

Individual reports of the annual report were reviewed and approved. The meeting was then turned over to Cascade Corporation which Al Kubota conducted. This was followed by a review of the 2022 budget.

Thank you to all of those who were able to participate in the meeting on Zoom, and a special thank you to those who volunteered to be part of the worship service. Hardcopies of the annual report will be available at the church.



JCC Task Force for Reopening

COVID-19 has drastically changed the way we live. Many of us have severely limited our social interactions to avoid becoming infected. Public health scientists are now accepting that COVID-19 is endemic, i.e., will remain with us in the foreseeable future similar to the flu. In fact, the CDC has opened a new Division to deal with COVID-19 for years to come. Since the epidemic began, science has greatly advanced what we know about the virus and its effects. New vaccines, tests, treatments, and recommendations are coming out almost daily, and things are very different now than the situation when the first cases appeared in the U.S. 2020. CDC is moving away from attempting to track individual cases to tracking hospitalizations due to COVID-19 as a better measure of true impact on the health care system. As the Omicron wave seems to be subsiding, many states are beginning to ease restrictions and masking recommendations in public settings.

Our response as a church must also evolve as time goes on. During the February meeting of the Session, the members decided to re-open the COVID-19 Task Force and ask this group to make recommendations to the Session on how to open up church activities going forward. This includes the reinstatement of in-person worship services. The current Task Force members include Lorraine Crouse, Tomoko Moses, Allyn Nakashima (chair), Karen Okawa, and Lynne Ward. *(Continued on Page 3)*

JCC Task Force (continued from page 2)

They met during this past week and based on their discussions, they will draft written recommendations for resuming in-person activities. The draft recommendations will address attendance at in-person services and activities, masking and social distancing, food service, music and singing, etc. The draft will be presented at the March Session meeting for their consideration. Hopefully, this will result in the church being able to resume in-person services and other activities soon.

Tagged!

Recently, the JCC property was tagged with graffiti in separate instances. These incidents were reported to the city and the graffiti was removed. The sooner it is reported, the better and easier to remove the paint.

If you discover any graffiti on church property, please let Steve Fukumitsu know about it (Buildings and Grounds) as soon as possible and then report it to (801) 972-7885 or email – graffiti@slcgov.com.

Fellowship and Time Connecting with God

Submitted by Jan Aramaki

Lake Tahoe Retreat

Sunday, July 24 thru Friday, July 29, 2022 Registrations are due by Friday, March 25, 2022. (There is an early bird discount if you register by March 11.) Partial scholarships are available for Agape women who are 18 years of age and older that are first time attendees to help with part of your registration fees. Contact Suzanne Hata if you qualify.

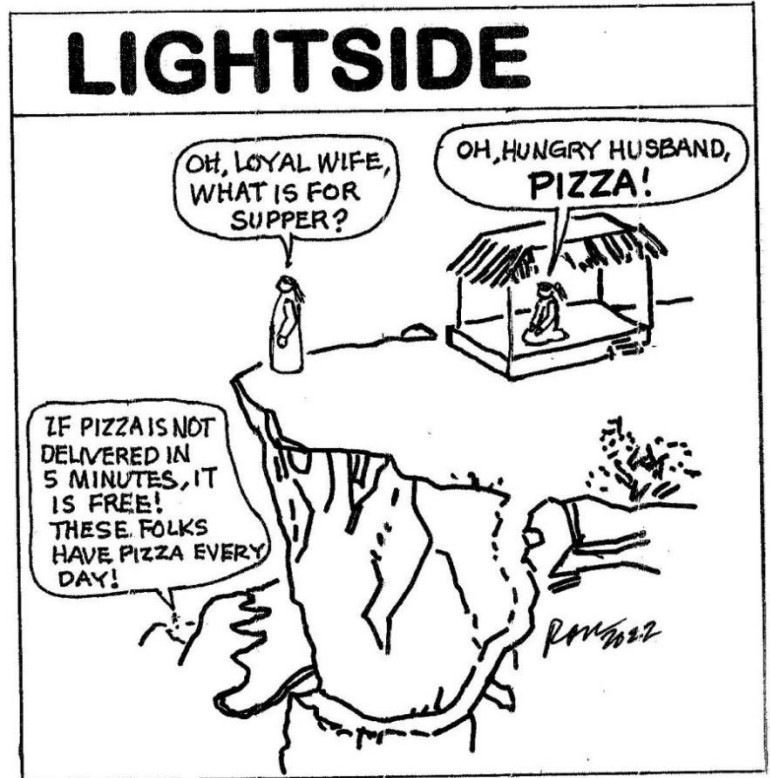
Information and pricing are found on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter.

Doc Matsukawa is encouraging you to attend from above. This is a place dear to his heart. I am filled with gratitude. Doc introduced me and my mom, Utako, to this beautiful place filled with beautiful people. You will feel welcomed and you will want to return. I am happy to help with transportation arrangements to get people there.

Contact Jan Aramaki (801) 718-2006 if you would like a registration form for the retreat sent to you.

Mount Hermon

Information on Mount Hermon can be found at the jems.org website. The main camp registration began on February 28 and youth camps begin on March 7. Both are online.



*Check out the cover of the 2003 JCC Cookbook!

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, jccslc.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 |
| Galster family | | |

A very belated condolence to the family of Richard K. Galster who passed away on December 5, 2021. Richard was the husband of Kay Greer Galster and father to son William. In past years, he and his family always faithfully volunteered to help during the annual mochi making project each December. Please keep Kay, William and family in your prayers.

JACL Scholarships

The JACL has been helping students achieve their educational dreams with the National Scholarship and Awards Program since 1946. The program offers scholarships to students who are entering freshman, undergraduate, graduate, law, in the creative and performing arts, and those with financial need. All scholarships are one-time awards. Scholarship applications for 2022 are now open. Go to <https://jacl.org/scholarships>.

Church Women United Human Rights Celebration

Friday, March 11

9:30 a.m. - Registration (\$1.00)

10:00 a.m. - Program (followed by lunch \$5.00)

Theme – It’s up to You in 2022 – a call to act!

Location: Christ United Methodist Church

2375 East 3300 South, Salt Lake City, UT

Human Rights Award Recipient will be Barbara Kimball

Outreach – The Inn Between (The INN Between is ending the tragic history of people dying on the streets of our community, by providing end-of-life care and medical respite for people experiencing homelessness.)

Please bring 2-blade razors; colored bath towels and wash cloths (no white); 50 gallon black trash bags or a cash donation—make checks payable to Church Women United and designated The Inn Between.

Offering for CWU National Programs – make checks payable to Church Women United and designate ‘offering’.

RSVP for lunch to Mary Ann Allison at 801-278-9223 by Monday, March 7.

Topaz Stories Exhibit

Thirty one stories of the WWII Japanese American incarceration at Topaz Relocation Center will be on display in the Utah State Capitol Building in 2022. The exhibit opened on January 18 and will be on display through December 31, 2022 on the third floor mezzanine of the Capitol. Hours at the Capitol are from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday. A reception will be held on April 22. More information on this reception will appear in the April Herald.

Senate Bill 58

On Thursday, February 17, 2022, Governor Spencer Cox signed S.B. 58, Day of Remembrance. This bill was sponsored by Senator Jani Iwamoto and received unanimous support from the House and Senate. S.B. 58 designates February 19th as an annual Day of Remembrance observing the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.



Lieutenant Governor Deidre Henderson, Senator Jani Iwamoto and Sophia DiCaro, Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget watch Governor Spencer Cox sign S.B. 58.

JCC March 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 -Deacons Meeting (Zoom), 7pm	3 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7pm	4 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7pm	5 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 11am,3pm,7pm
6 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 11am,3pm,7pm	7	8	9 -Parking, Jazz, 8pm -Session Meeting (Zoom), 6pm	10	11 -Parking, Celine Dion, 7:30pm	12 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm
13 -Parking, Justin Bieber, 7:30pm	14 -Parking, Jazz, 8pm	15	16 -Parking, Jazz	17 -Parking, Dr. Jordon Peterson, 7:30pm	18 -Parking, Jazz	19
20	21 -Parking, Billie Eilish, 7:30pm	22	23	24 -Parking, Freedom Tour 22, 7:30pm	25 -Parking, John Mayer, 7:30pm	26 -Herald Deadline -Parking, Hillsong United, 7:00pm
26	27	28	29	30 -Parking, Jazz, 8pm		

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 3/26/2022.

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



**Lake Tahoe Fellowship Retreat
Northern California Japanese Christian Church Fellowship (NCJCCF)
Sunday, July 24 - Friday, July 29, 2022**

Greetings from the Lake Tahoe Fellowship (LTF) Board!

2019 was our last retreat and then came Covid-19. We're hoping you are healthy and ready to come back. We have missed you.

The dates of the retreat are Sunday, July 24 through Friday, July 29, 2022.

The LTF Board has met several times via zoom since the conclusion of the 2019 retreat. We have compiled thoughtful suggestions from prior evaluations. We would like this to be a safe and great experience.

The Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center has mandated the following: *In an effort to protect the health and safety of staff and guests, face coverings are required in the front office and dining services lines, regardless of vaccination status. In all other indoor spaces masks are highly recommended but not required. Guest groups may choose to require masks for their own events in privately rented meeting areas, per the discretion of group leadership. Zephyr Point Staff continue to wear masks in all public and working areas, especially when in proximity of guests.*

The fees will include meals and gratuity for kitchen staff for the entire conference, comfortable rooms, snacks, most workshops, other amenities, great fun and fellowship.

There are ways to cut costs if you wish: Volunteer, run a workshop, share your faith journey and/or ensure your registration forms are postmarked by 3/11/22. Our volunteers are truly indispensable! We appreciate their willingness to share their expertise, creativity and invaluable service! You may take one discount, in addition to the early bird discount.

Please consider being a "Faith Journey" speaker. Each individual has their own story and the conference participants always have their faith renewed after hearing these journeys. If you would like to share your journey please email Lori at shoppinglori@sbcglobal.net or include a note with your registration.

If you have a talent and would like to run a workshop, please do! We are looking especially for those geared to our male conferees and arts and crafts as this is always mentioned in our evaluations.

The Board also approved a \$50 late registration fee (forms and check postmarked after 3/25/22). Please get your paperwork in on time; this assists us with planning and making our commitments to Zephyr Point.

Cancellation refunds will be prorated depending on when the cancellation is made. No refunds will be given after 7/10/22.

Our keynote speaker this year will be Reverend John Oda. His theme is, "Life Lessons from the Parable of the Prodigal Son". John has been a past speaker, is dynamic and has a story to tell!

Reverend John Oda is a third-generation Japanese American pastor and ordained elder in the California-Nevada Conference who directs the Asian American Language Ministry Plan for The United Methodist Church. He is responsible for supporting and strengthening Asian American churches in the United States. He is currently the Director of the Asian American Language Ministry Program, Global Ministries. He resides in Atlanta, Georgia and took this position in July, 2019 after 21+ years of being a Minister in Northern California.

At each retreat, we designate one evening to install new Officers and have a Memorial Service to remember our loved ones that have passed away in the past year or since our last conference in 2019. If you would like to light a candle in their memory, list your loved ones in the designated area on the registration form.

Please consider taking the bus transportation with United Coach Tours as parking spaces are very limited. The cost of the bus is approximately \$3,000 Round Trip from San Jose to Zephyr Point with stops to and from Berkeley United Methodist Church and Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church. Cost per person is \$125 from the bay area and \$100 from Sacramento. Maximum on the bus is 48 riders. Any shortfall in riders will cause the excess cost to be funded by the LTF fund (reserves).

Invite a friend or relative to experience this awesome time of fellowship!

Looking forward to seeing you!

In Christ,

LTF Board members:

Jim Mar – Wesley, San Jose, Barbara Mulford – Wesley, San Jose, Jill Kanemasu – Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church, Roy Takeuchi – Wesley, San Jose, Philip Yuki – Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church, Reverend Barbara Horikoshi-Firebaugh – Retired Clergy, Sacramento, Its Yokota - Wesley, San Jose, Lori Lee – Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church

Lake Tahoe Fellowship 2022 Pricing & Discounts:	Cost per person: (Clergy 50% discount, ROOM & Food ONLY) Not transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Single (1 person in room)	\$850
<input type="checkbox"/> Double (2 people in room)	\$525
<input type="checkbox"/> Triple (3 people in room, 3 beds) There is a possibility these rooms may not be available.	\$430 Please pay for a "double" and if a triple is available, a refund will be issued.
<input type="checkbox"/> Quadruple (4 people in room, 2 beds)	\$375
TRANSPORTATION (BUS)	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Way	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Round Trip from San Jose/Berkeley	\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Round Trip from Sacramento	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Discount – all paperwork in and postmarked by 03/11/22	-\$20
1. <input type="checkbox"/> First-time Attendee (per person)	-\$50
2. <input type="checkbox"/> First-time Round-trip Bus-rider (per person)	-\$20
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Special Senior (over 80 as of 7/15/22)	-\$100
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Board member; Board Advisor; DVD producer	-\$50
5. <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Volunteers*: (check box & circle position) <input type="checkbox"/> Faith Journey speaker <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Breaker leader <input type="checkbox"/> Convener of the Day <input type="checkbox"/> Pianist/Musician <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop leader <input type="checkbox"/> Evening snack host <input type="checkbox"/> Bookstore manager/helper <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise leader <input type="checkbox"/> Showtime coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Morning coffee host <input type="checkbox"/> Name tag maker	-\$50