

## The HERALD Newsletter

### Japanese Church of Christ

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**In-person worship services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m.**

The weekly sermons may also be viewed at [www.jccslc.net](http://www.jccslc.net).

## Pastoral Message

## “Leaning Forward”

August 2022

As a pastor with standing in the United Church of Christ, I am able to remind JCC of its dual personality - there is beauty in both the Presbyterian and UCC traditions. Today I want to showcase the UCC Firsts – a list of items, where our church has been ahead of its time. This is just an excerpt. You can see the whole thing at: <https://www.ucc.org/ucc-firsts/>.

### UCC Firsts

#### **1620 | Pilgrims seek spiritual freedom**

Seeking spiritual freedom, forebears of the United Church of Christ prepare to leave Europe for the New World. Later generations know them as the Pilgrims. Their pastor, John Robinson, urges them as they depart to keep their minds and hearts open to new ways.

#### **1700 | An early stand against slavery**

Congregationalists are among the first Americans to take a stand against slavery. The Rev. Samuel Sewall writes the first anti-slavery pamphlet in America, "The Selling of Joseph." Sewall lays the foundation for the abolitionist movement that comes more than a century later.

#### **1785 | First ordained African American pastor**

Lemuel Haynes is the first African American ordained by a Protestant denomination. In 1776, in the midst of the fight for liberty in which he enlists as a soldier, he writes a defense of the liberation of African Americans from slavery: "Liberty, Further Extended."

#### **1810 | First foreign mission society**

America's first foreign mission society, the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions (ABCFM) is formed by Congregationalists in Massachusetts.

#### **1853 | First woman pastor**

Antoinette Brown is the first woman since New Testament times ordained as a Christian minister, and perhaps the first woman in history elected to serve a Christian congregation as pastor. At her ordination a friend, Methodist minister Luther Lee, defends "a woman's right to preach the Gospel."

#### **1957 | Spiritual and ethnic traditions unite**

The United Church of Christ is born when the Evangelical and Reformed Church unites with the Congregational Christian Churches. The new community embraces a rich variety of spiritual traditions and welcomes believers of African, Asian, Pacific, Latin American, Native American and European descent.

#### **1972 | Ordination of first openly gay minister**

The UCC's Golden Gate Association ordains the first openly gay person as a minister in an historic Protestant denomination: the Rev. William R. Johnson. In the following three decades, the UCC's General Synod urges equal rights for homosexual citizens.

#### **2005 | Marriage equality**

On July 4, the General Synod overwhelmingly passes a resolution supporting same-gender marriage equality. UCC General Minister and President John Thomas says that the Synod "has acted courageously to declare freedom, affirming marriage equality, affirming the civil rights of same gender couples."

Blessings,  
Rev. Daniel Haas, BCC  
Cell 801-368-1180

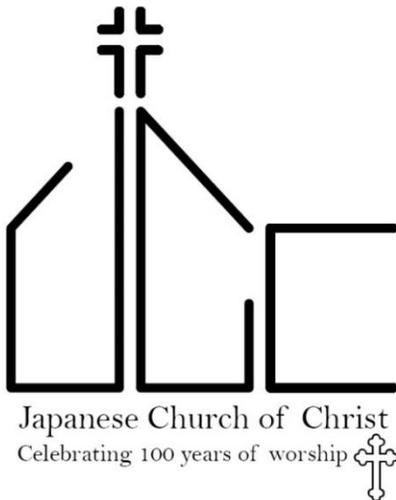
## Reminder

Don't forget the Deacons Crossroads Urban Center project of collecting non-perishable food items through the month of August. Top needs are peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit, canned tomatoes and soups. Bringing in just one jar of peanut butter or a canned item will make a difference collectively! The collection box will be in the Fellowship Hall.

**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.

**Interim Pastor: Rev. Daniel Haas**  
**Clerk of Session: Daniel Cheung**

**Session**

- Lorraine Crouse - Worship
- Steve Fukumitsu - Building and Grounds
- Yoko DeRose - Nichigo
- Allyn Nakashima - Education
- Pauline Vosburgh - Finance
- Lynne Ward - Personnel
- Gary Nakao - Membership, Stewardship

**Deacons**

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

Newsletter articles are due on the fourth Saturday of each month at noon. Send your articles to [jccherald@gmail.com](mailto:jccherald@gmail.com).

Website: [www.jccslc.net](http://www.jccslc.net)

**Summer Celebration Luncheon**

Our Fellowship Hall underwent renovation during the beginning of the pandemic and a celebration was in the planning stages just when COVID shut everything down. So now after more than 2 years, we want to finally use the Fellowship Hall as it was intended for and also have a formal



welcome for Pastor Daniel Haas as our interim pastor and his family.

The celebration will take place after worship service on **Sunday, August 21, 2022**. The Deacons will provide the main entree, but otherwise, it will be a potluck. So bring your favorite side dish – including chips/dips, appetizers, salads and desserts to share with everyone. (To avoid having everyone handling all of the serving utensils, the Deacons and volunteers will assist in serving portions.)

Worship service will begin at the regular time, **10:30 a.m.** and lunch will follow. Take this opportunity to attend an inspiring service, meet our interim pastor and visit with those you haven't seen in a while. Spend some time at JCC with food, friends and fellowship before school and fall come around!

**Job Announcement – JCC Office Administrator**

Liz Arizmendi our new Office Administrator was tasked with additional responsibilities at her full-time job with the Army. It's validation that she very competent. Unfortunately, due to the added workload, she resigned from the JCC position.

So, we are again seeking an Office Administrator to manage the administrative workings of the church. We have high hopes for an individual who is: organized, responsive, pays attention to detail, is a self-starter, works well with people and is familiar with basic office practices and word processing. Weekly hours are approximately 4 to 5 hours. Additional annual and occasional tasks will require additional time as necessary. A hybrid schedule of working at the church located at 268 W 100 S, Salt Lake City, and remotely is possible. Salary depends on qualifications. Contact Lynne Ward, Elder for Personnel at [lynnenward \[at\] yahoo \[dot\] com](mailto:lynnenward@yahoo.com) to apply. The position will be filled as soon as possible.

**Condolences**

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Dorthie Conway, who passed away on July 19, 2022. Dorthie will be remembered for her generosity, kindness and always smiling face. One of her talents was creating beautiful bows that graced the sanctuary pews and Easter lily and Christmas poinsettia planters for many years.

**Remember in Your Prayers**

Remember the new Prayer List practice – names will appear on the list for one month, so we can keep it updated. To respect individual privacy, if there is a name to be added to this prayer list, the person must first give permission to have his/her own name published. Email the JCC website, [jccslc.net](http://jccslc.net).

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

- Saeko Nakashima      Family of Dorthie Conway      Jason L. Moses
- Debbie Homma      Ute Melchior- Giovannini

## Japantown Update

Submitted by Jani Iwamoto

Preservation of Japantown has been a long time effort. Since the early 2000's our community has been in a reactionary position, i.e. partial closure of 100 South by SLC, Expansion of the Salt Palace (SL County), possibility of a convention hotel (SL County), and the most recent development by the Ritchie Group (enabled by our state, county and city) across the street on what is known as "Block 67". The effort to preserve what is left has been ongoing. A study done by GBS resulted in a plan for the design of "Japantown" - we wanted to unveil this plan at Nihon Matsuri but due to COVID concerns, the festival was cancelled. A simple unveiling was done at the recent Obon Festival and we will continue to highlight this at future events at our church and next year's Nihon Matsuri.

Many related issues have continued to be worked on including the garden just east of our church. The garden was to act as a buffer zone from the ingress and egress of vehicles at the Salt Palace, as well as to honor our Issei and Nisei pioneers. SMG is hired by Salt Lake County. Last year I met with Dan Hayes, who heads SMG to gov over the garden which had become overgrown and the structures like the bridge and lanterns, were falling apart. Over the winter months, these were redone and the lanterns have changed from wood to a more permanent, metal fixture. Greg Matsuura met with myself and a team at SMG to decide what will be done to the garden - an underground watering system, replacement of trees that have died, control of the bamboo, etc.

Plaques - In a meeting with Raymond Uno, we discussed a donation to have installed a permanent plaque at this garden to honor our Nisei veterans, specifically those that were awarded, as a group, the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor. Paul Seo will be working on this plaque, fashioned after the plaque, permanently installed at Camp Williams. Paul Seo, SMG team and myself located a place at the garden for this plaque. Monies for this plaque will come from a fund donated by Raymond Uno in memory of his parents, Clarence Hachiro and Teraoka Uno. Thank you to SMG for their time and donation for the base and frame, Paul Seo for his donation for his work "at cost", Retd. Judge Raymond Uno for his donation on behalf of his parents which was donated initially to the JCC. Also - to Karen Okawa, Dr. Jeanette Misaka and Lorraine Crouse for helping with the proofreading of the plaque. The original list was compiled with our Congressional Gold Medal Committee.

Also - with regard to the mention of other plaques, we will also honor Mitsugi Murakami Kasai for his generous donation to our church and for his advocacy for the rights of Japanese Americans, a plaque in loving memory of Franklin "Frankie" Imai, and a plaque dedicated for the JCC cross which was installed during our 100th Anniversary celebration, to Rev. Paul & Nobuko Kato by their daughter Eunice Kato Griffin. We hope to celebrate the installation in the near future.



## Deacons Report – July Meeting

The Deacons met on Sunday, July 3, 2022 in Pastor Haas' office. The following items were discussed:

- Gideons bibles were purchased in memory of Jane Sugihara, Sumi Arakaki and Ken Shiozaki.
- Father's Day Event feedback – Everyone thought the event went well; the worship service, the JCC Worship Band, opportunity to see the Chase Museum, fellowship.
- An event will be planned for Sunday, August 21 to invite everyone to see the Fellowship Hall and meet Pastor Haas. It will be a potluck luncheon after worship service. The Deacons will provide the main entrée and ask the congregation to bring sides, salads, desserts.
- Visitations – Pastor Haas is making visitations to shut ins.
- There is concern that Deacons service time is being stretched to the limit. Focus on bringing others in to share some responsibilities.

The next Deacons meeting is scheduled for August 7.

## Women in the Money Conference

Women of all ages, cultures and financial situations are invited to grow their financial capability together. Join Lt. Gov. Deidre Henderson, State Treasurer Marlo Oaks and personal and family finance experts for a day of learning and growth on **Friday, September 16, 2022** from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The conference will be held in person at the Salt Lake Sheraton, \$25 registration fee. It will also be held virtually at no cost, but registration is required. Go to the website to sign up: [womeninthemoney.org](http://womeninthemoney.org).

**Asian Association Award**

*Submitted by Tomoko Moses*

When Vietnam fell to the communist regime in 1975, millions of southeast Asian refugees fled their countries. Hundreds of them reached Utah. Our own Jimi (attorney) and Barbara Mitsunaga, Judge Raymond and Yoshiko Uno as well as Alice Kasai formed the 501c3, a private, non-profit organization, Asian Association of Utah in a small classroom in Salt Lake City. Those leaders remembered the struggle their Issei parents faced, and they did not want the newcomers to have same experience. Young Shu Cheng was the executive director who throughout the years, submitted a number of grant applications which supported financial needs to develop the organization for 45 years.

I was assigned to teach English to junior high age refugees in Logan, UT and came to Salt Lake City to meet the AAU leaders for the first time. Forty five years later, I was awarded a plaque by the Utah Asian Festival Committee that reads:

*Tomoko Moses, for your service, passion, and leadership on the planning committee of our historic, ever-growing, and longest-running, festival of its kind uniting Utah's diverse Asian communities for the last 45 years.*  
 Dated: July 9, 2022

Yes, 45 years ago, I saw and heard human beings who looked like me had to escape through jungles in the night. They were afraid their babies might cry, so they rubbed their lips with opium; but sometimes it was too much and babies died. This is only one of the incidents they expressed to me in English that I taught. But years later, the grandchildren of the refugees hosted the 45th Utah Asian Festival and presented their proud cultures.

The young committee utilized all the available technology to make this year's festival so successful. As a public school teacher, I proudly declare that Asian students are doing very well in school and leading the next generation to more inclusive communities.



The photo from left: myself, Dr. Shu Cheng, AAU executive director and Mrs. Margaret Yee, Utah Asian Festival advisor. (We were 45 years younger than in this photo, though.)

**Session Report**

The Session did not meet in July. Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 10, 2022. If you have any items for the Session to discuss, please contact Daniel Cheung at clerk [at] jccslc [dot] net.

JCC August 2022 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 -Communion, 10:30am -Deacons Mtg, 11:45am -Nihongo Gakko, noon	8	9	10 -Session Mtg, 6pm	11 -Parking, Brandi Carlile, 7pm	12	13 -R. Kasai memorial
14 -Nihongo Gakko, noon	15	16	17	18	19 -Presbytery of Utah Missional Summit	20 -Presbytery of Utah Missional Summit -Parking, UFC Ultimate Fighting, 5:15pm
21 -Summer Potluck luncheon	22	23	24 -Parking, Kendrick Lamar, 7:30pm	25	26	27 -Herald Deadline, noon
28 -Nihongo Gakko, noon	29	30 -Parking, The Killers, 7:30pm	31			

\*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 7/25/2022.

For up to date building use information, go to [www.jccslc.net](http://www.jccslc.net), Events/Activities tab, JCC Building Usage Schedule link