

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

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

Pastor's Message

May 2023

Two Asias

In March, we took a great family trip to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Dumaguete, Philippines. You see both of our stops in the pictures on this page. They represent two very distinct Asias that we got to experience. The Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur are a symbol for modern, high tech, and frankly rich Asia.



In the other picture you see my wife Mirjam with Rachnel at Kalauman Development Center in Dumaguete. He was one of the slum kids Mirjam worked with in 1996/97.

These are the two Asias we got to experience. Desperate poverty where chickens, goats, and toddlers share the same dusty patch between tiny shacks. And then polished skyscrapers where people earn millions and live a life as

depicted in the movie "Crazy Rich Asians." Both are true and they coexist with just a very thin veil separating them.



I am presenting this analogy first to share our great trip with you; but secondly, as a reflection on what the church needs to be. Church need to be like the Petronas Twin Towers. We do that well on Sundays: a polished liturgy in a well maintained facility offering a refined service of worship. Then there also need to be the Kalauman Development Center piece: uplifting slum kids into a situation to better the lives of their community. That's the other six days of Christian life where our service needs to happen. Where can we get our hands dirty?

Blessings

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

Remember in Your Prayers

Names will appear on the prayer list for one month, so we can keep it updated and current.

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 or contact Pastor Haas or any of the Deacons.

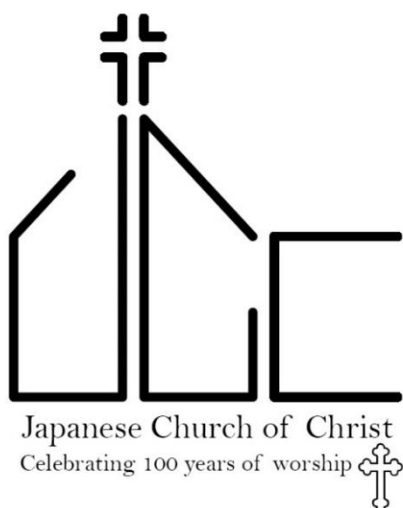
Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

Saeko Nakashima Jan Vosburgh

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: Karen Okawa

Session

Lorraine Crouse - Worship
 Steve Fukumitsu - Buildings and Grounds
 Lynne Ward - Personnel
 Julee Mori - Finance/Kenshin Taiko Liaison
 Elise Mori - Membership/Stewardship/Deacons Liaison
 Karen Okawa - Membership/Stewardship
 Greg Paige - Education/Nichigo

Deacons

Jan Aramaki - moderator, Elaine Iwasaki, Stephanie Mori-Nakao, Allyn Nakashima, Akiko Oki, Laura Olson, Nancy Umemura, Yuri Uyeda

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

Mother's Day Breakfast

Mother's Day is on **Sunday, May 14, 2023**.

The Men's Group is once again putting on their aprons to provide a delicious breakfast to honor mom!

Breakfast will begin at **9:00 a.m.** (There is no charge.) Bring the family to celebrate Mom's special day and then attend worship service!

**Memorial Day Services**

On **Sunday, May 28, 2023**, we will have our traditional Memorial candle lighting service to remember our friends and family that have passed away. Worship service will begin at **10:30 a.m.** Come light a candle in memory of your loved ones.

Also on that Sunday, the Utah JACL Chapters will be holding its annual Veterans' Memorial Service at the Salt Lake City Cemetery at **8:30 a.m.**, honoring local Japanese American soldiers killed in action during WWII. It will be held in the Japanese section of the cemetery, off of 10th East and 11th Avenue.

Call for Graduates – Class of 2023

If there is a High School or College Senior (or advanced degree) in our JCC family that will be graduating in the Class of 2023, submit the graduate's name by **May 29, 2023** to Greg Paige at [gepaige1\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:gepaige1[at]gmail[dot]com).

**Emergency Contact List**

As mentioned last month, we will begin updating congregation names and addresses to develop an emergency contact list. This contact could be a family member or friend that can be reached if something were to happen to you while at church. A cell phone number is preferred; this number will not be published – but kept in a list in the office, should it need to be accessed.

Please designate a person that you would like to have listed, obtain that person's contact information and get his/her permission.

Fill in the following form, cut it out and place it in the envelope on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Emergency Contact person's name and relation to you: _____

Emergency Contact phone number (preferably cell number): _____

Friendship Day Celebration – Church Women United May Event

A multi faith gathering of Christian Women

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Church Women United May Friendship Day Celebration 2023.

When: Friday, May 5, 2023 (1st Friday)

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Where: Hilltop United Methodist Church, 985 East 10600 South (Sandy)

Theme: "Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God's Work – Labor with Love – A Heart to Care"

Keynote Speaker: TBA

Registration: \$1 Lunch: \$5.00

Annual FLC: Fellowship of the Least Coin Collection / Dedication.

Potential Speakers: Esther Williams Scholarship Fund Recipients

Community Outreach: The CWU Esther Williams Scholarship Fund Make checks payable to "Church Women United" and note "Scholarship Fund"

Offering: Used for CWU State and Local Programs: Checks need to be made payable to: "Church Women United"

Lunch RSVP: To Mary Ann Allison at 801-278-9223 by Monday, May 1.

Thank You Note From CWU

We received the following thank you note from Church Women United and was asked to share it with the congregation:

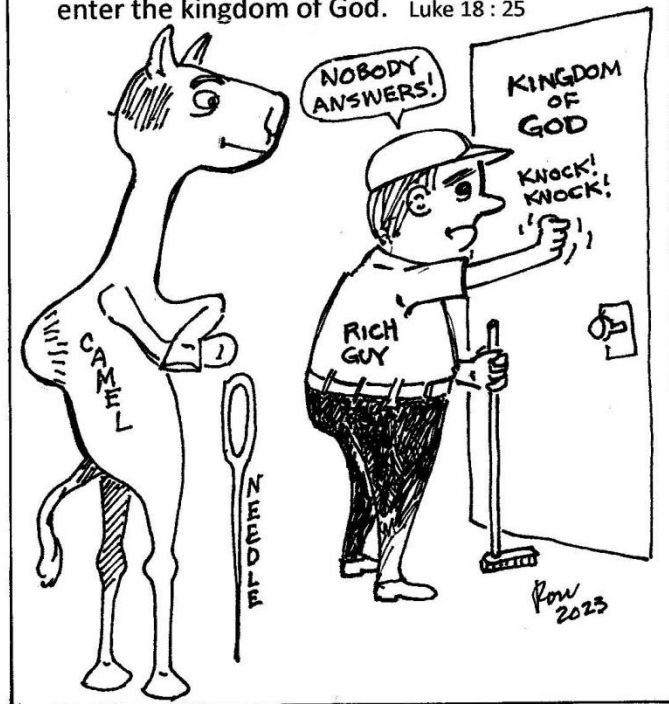
Church Women United sends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Japanese Church of Christ and ALL the people whose efforts made the 2023 Human Rights Celebration on March 10 a meaningful and most enjoyable event.

Thank you to the MANY contributors for the food, your gracious hospitality, the facilitation, and the healthy lunch. A special "thank you" to Karen Okawa, Suzanne Hata, Laura Olson, and Steve Fukumitsu (technical support), for their leadership, participation, and overall coordination. The facility, the food, and your CWU support are greatly appreciated!

With Grateful Sincerity,
Church Women United Board for
Metropolitan Salt Lake City & Bountiful

LIGHTSIDE

Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God. Luke 18:25



Old JCC Annual Reports

The scavenger hunt is working! Several old JCC Annual Reports from the 1960's have been found. But, we are still seeking 1963 and older, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, and 1981.

Please call Lynne Ward at 202.709.6889. She'll arrange to borrow the reports from you, scan and return them to you.

Spring Cleaning

Keep **Saturday, May 27** open and bring your buckets and rags to JCC for spring cleaning. We will begin at **8:00 a.m.** and plan to conclude at noon.

Easter Photos

The group Easter photo taken on Easter Sunday is now available if you would like to order a copy. There are 3 options posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board along with a signup sheet. Cost of each 8 x 10 print is \$5.00. However, if you would like a digital copy of the file only, it is free. Contact Lorraine Crouse.

Session Report – April Meeting

Submitted by Karen Okawa, Clerk of Session

The Session met on Thursday, April 13, 2023.

New business discussion included Wasatch Front JACL Chapter's request to use the JCC kitchen on Thursday, April 27 for Nihon Matsuri preparation; issues with hardcopy distribution of the Herald; The Break Sports Grill, a new restaurant/bar in proximity to the JCC; and revisiting the face mask policy. The Wasatch Front request was approved. The other items are tabled for more discussion next month after further investigation.

Reports:

Pastor's Report – Pastor Haas will be attending a retreat for the Rocky Mounting Conference (RMC) of UCC. There will be guest pastors on April 16 (Rev. Chelsea Page) and April 30 (Rev. Bob Nakaoka).

Buildings and Grounds – A spring cleaning will be scheduled in May. Looking into different options for landscaping. Chapel repairs proceeding.

Education – Meeting with Nichigo group on April 16.

Finance – A check was received for the NBA All Star weekend usage of our parking lots.

Membership – Compiling emergency contact list. Updating JCC Events Calendar.

Personnel – Council of Ministry (COM) has offered assistance to JCC.

Worship – Thanked everyone for help and participation in Holy Week events. Easter photos will be available for sale. Working on worship service participants for April and May.

Mission Study – Meeting next week. Finalizing questions for interviews to start this month.

Deacon's Report – April

The Deacons did not have a regular meeting in April. Easter lilies were delivered to shut-ins, those 90 years of age and older, and those who lost loved ones from January to April of this year.

Upcoming Community Events

- Saturday, May 7, 2023. Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon, hosted by Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Dharma School at the Temple, noon.
- Veteran's Memorial Service, sponsored by Utah JACL Chapters, City Cemetery, Japanese section (11th Avenue), see article on Page 2.
- Saturday, June 3, 2023. Asian Festival at the Utah Fairpark.

Sign up for e-Herald

Following the trend of newspapers that are now only available online, the JCC Herald may need to follow suit at some point in the future. The costs incurred in printing and distributing hardcopies is increasing as well as problems with the post office bulk mailing system - the delivery of the hardcopy version of the Herald has encountered a lot of delays and events posted in the newsletter have already passed.

Please remember that an option is to receive the Herald electronically. The benefit of the "eHerald" is that the newsletter appears with full color photos and is released promptly on the last Monday of the month for the following month's issue.

If you are able to read the Herald online, send a request to [jccherald\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:jccherald[at]gmail[dot]com) to have your name and email address added to the email distribution list. (The list is BCC'd, so your email address remains private.) Your name will be removed from the hardcopy list at this point.

Also remember that the latest Herald is uploaded to the JCC website each month and can be accessed from there as well.

We do realize there are some that cannot access an electronic version of the newsletter, but perhaps there is a family member that can print out a hardcopy for you. We are currently investigating costs and options for the hardcopy version and will keep everyone informed.

Summer/Fall Festival

This year, **August 19, 2023** has been selected as the date for the return of our annual fundraiser festival due to scheduling conflicts. (Formerly Aki Matsuri, but since August is technically still summer, it may be Natsu Matsuri!) No matter what the festival will be called, please reserve that date on your calendar to volunteer to help out!

April Guest Pastor

On Sunday, April 16, we welcomed Reverend Chelsea Page to the pulpit. Rev. Page is from the Holladay UCC.



Photo courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

Holy Week Events



The pulpit is stripped on Good Friday.



Laura Olson on Good Friday.



The sunny day was a little too bright for the Easter egg hunters!

Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse, Julee Mori



Pastor Haas describes the components of the Maundy Thursday meal.



Children adorn the cross with flowers on Easter.



Easter Sunday children's sermonette.



A joyous Easter sermon.

More Easter Photos



Frank Ujifusa directing the traditional Easter photo, with Hiro Iwasaki anchoring the ladder!

The Easter Breakfast was a welcomed tradition to bring back after three years! Thanks to the efforts of Jerry Mori, Greg Paige, Hiro Iwasaki, Bob Jones, Ron Nishijima, Doug Murakami and Gary Nakao; over 50 people were served. It was good to see so many enjoy the Easter festivities and with full stomachs!



Cooking in the kitchen; plenty of food!



Easter breakfast buffet

JCC May 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Communion Service, 10:30am	8	9	10	11 -Session Meeting, 6pm	12	13
14 -Mother's Day Breakfast, 9am -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Worship Service, 10:30am	15	16	17 -Parking, Andrea Bocelli, 8pm	18	19	20 -Herald Articles Due
21 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Worship Service, 10:30am	22	23	24	25	26	27 -Spring Clean Up, 8am
28 -Veterans Memorial Day Service at City Cemetery, 8:30am -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Worship Service and Memorial candle lighting, 10:30am	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30				

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 4/24/2023.