

## The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ

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(801) 363-3251

Website: [jccslc.net](http://jccslc.net) Email: [info@jccslc.net](mailto:info@jccslc.net)

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

### Pastor's Message

July 2023



We're on a global mission!

The Herald goes out to hundreds of people all over the world. As JCC is engaging its mission study, we are fully aware that our reach is much bigger than the lives we impact in Salt Lake City. The Herald is read from East Coast to West Coast, from Europe to Asia. That also means that JCC's mission goes well beyond our local congregation. Spiritually, we are connected with Christians of all times and place in the Body of Christ. Organizationally, we depend on you, our remote members and friends to send us your prayers and support. Our congregation is called the Japanese Church of Christ and that means whoever feels connected to a Japanese-American experience and relates to the Body of Christ, has a place here.

In the Herald we regularly print our 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

Dear Herald readers and especially remote members and friends, how are we doing? Are we living into our mission in a way that is meaningful for you? In this issue (see Page 2 and Page 6), you will find an invitation to share your thoughts on our future mission via the mission study questionnaire. Please give us five minutes of your time to fill it out. Thanks for your continued support and inspiration!

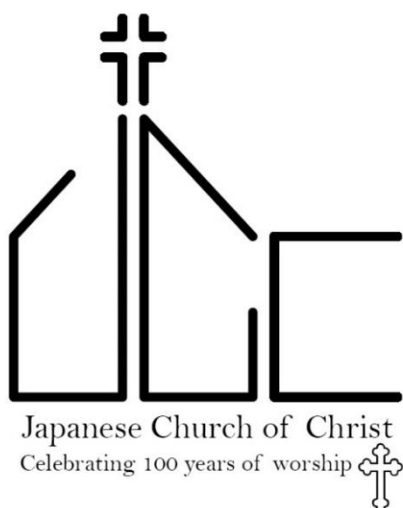
Blessings

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

**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
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**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](mailto:jccherald@gmail.com).

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

**Natsu Matsuri**

There is just one more month until Natsu Matsuri (formerly Aki Matsuri), our church fundraiser! The event will be held on **Saturday, August 19, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.** The committee has been working hard at planning food, entertainment, opportunity drawings, and more.

Check the JCC website ([jccslc.net](http://jccslc.net)) for updates on the schedule and menu. Small fliers and posters are available near the bulletin boards in the Fellowship Hall that you can pass out to family and friends.

**Opportunity Drawing:**

Tickets are now available for \$1.00 per ticket and the chance to win a theme basket – golf, religious, Hawaii, restaurant, wine, beauty, services, basketball (including Wat Misaka autographed items), children's and more! See Nancy Umemura for drawing tickets.

There's also a silent auction for a Ron Nishijima watercolor painting, a handmade quilt by Jodi Iwasaki, and a \$500 Amazon gift card.

We have participated in the community-wide Nihon Matsuri each April, but this is the first church festival we are holding since 2015 – an absence due to celebrating our Centennial, Fellowship Hall remodel and the COVID shutdown. So we are taking small steps this year to bring back this festival and share our culture and fellowship with the community. We will "Remember the Past" – remember the old Oriental Festival and the Aki Matsuri? If you can volunteer to help, see Jani Iwamoto.

**Mission Study Questionnaire**

The Mission Study committee has put together a questionnaire to help them find out what you consider important in finding a permanent minister for the JCC and the future of the JCC.

If you are able to do the survey electronically, you can use the following QR code to go directly to this link:



[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrB665-4RELcBrqAmSbQChn2kuyj1wCk3KN\\_5vxvVr6GMtig](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrB665-4RELcBrqAmSbQChn2kuyj1wCk3KN_5vxvVr6GMtig)

If you do not have access to a smartphone or PC, you can fill out the hardcopy questionnaire on Page 6 of this newsletter and return it to church by either mailing it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or placing it in the folder on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board.

**Herald Fund Drive**

As with everything these days, the cost of paper, printing and postage continue to increase. Contributions to the Herald fund will assist in covering these costs incurred in producing the monthly newsletter. To kill two birds with one stone – you may use the postage-paid envelope mentioned in the above article for Herald Fund donations as well!

If you would like to receive the Herald electronically, email [jccherald@gmail.com](mailto:jccherald@gmail.com). eHerald readers receive the newsletter earlier and the photos are in full color!

## Deacon's Report – June Meeting

Submitted by Allyn Nakashima

The Deacons met on Sunday, June 4, 2023 and discussed the following:

- The Deacons will assist with providing paper products and soda/water for the Father's Day picnic at Sugarhouse Park.
- Joint Mission Study training on June 11, Deacons will provide lunch.
- Leadership Training and Deacons' Retreat: Leadership Training on June 25 to discuss roles and responsibilities. Deacons will provide lunch. Based on the Leadership Training, the Deacons will begin their strategic planning process in two sessions, one following the Leadership Training on June 25 and the second to be held Monday, June 26 in the evening.
- Gideon's bibles ordered in memory of Grace Sato.
- Natsu Matsuri: Jan Aramaki and Nancy Umemura represent the Deacons at the planning meetings. Yuri Uyeda will put together the team for Mochiko Manju and Laura Olson will coordinate the Yakimanju.
- Visitations: Saeko Nakashima, Yeiko Homma, Karen Okabe.

The next Deacons meeting will be on Sunday, July 2.

## Session Report – June Meeting

Submitted by Karen Okawa, Clerk of Session

The June Session meeting occurred on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. The following areas were reported on:

Pastor's report: Mission Study interviewers were trained on June 11. August 1 is due date for interviews and questionnaires.

Buildings and Grounds: Working on xeriscaping front area, obtaining bids on window replacement, livestream test of Sunday worship service on YouTube working, west steps to be replaced and painted this week.

Education/Nichigo: Meeting with Keiko Ikeda on finances.

Finance: Nihon Matsuri net profit is \$2,028.00.

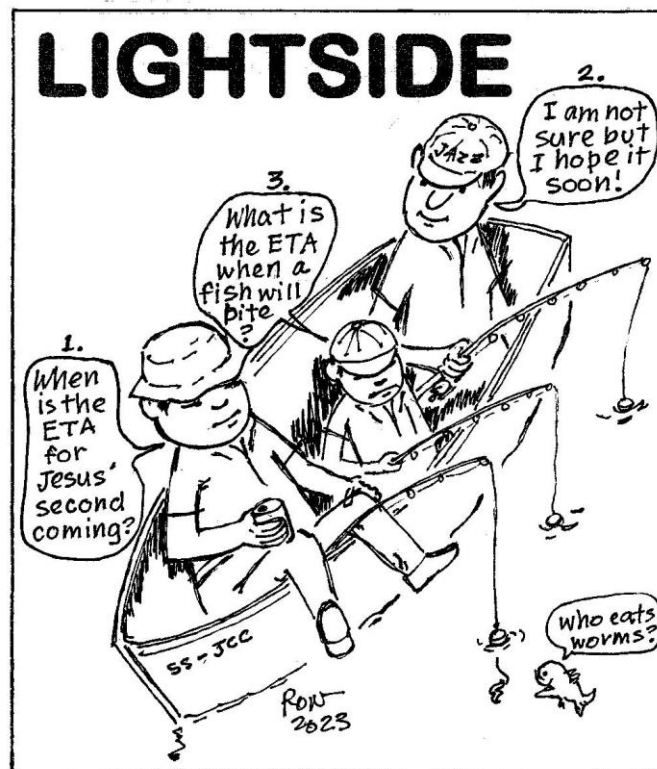
Membership: Emergency Contact list will be placed in office. We must submit a financial review to the Presbytery of Utah by the end of the year.

Personnel: Pastor's contract is finalized.

Worship: Working on Father's Day service and picnic and worship schedule for the rest of the month. Pastor Haas will be out on 7/9 and 7/30.

Taiko: Participated in several events in April and May – Hale Theater, Asian Festival, Pride Parade. They are performing at Murray Park on July 4.

Next Session meeting is on Wednesday, July 12.



## 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](http://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
Takagi family	Kawakami family
Pastor Tipiloma Pupua	

## Condolences

Our condolences go out to the family of Mary Kawakami, who passed away last month at the age of 110! (That is not a typo!) Mary was active and well-known in the Japanese American community and will truly be missed.

Condolences are also extended to the family of Nancy Takagi, who passed away on June 14 at the age of 93. Nancy supported JCC over many years.

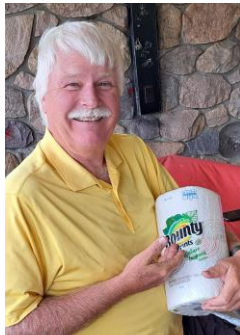
## Lake Tahoe

Pray for safe travels for Jan Aramaki and Allyn Nakashima, who will be attending the annual Lake Tahoe Retreat from July 23 to July 28. We look forward to hearing of their spiritual experiences upon their return.



## Father's Day Picnic Wrap Up

The Father's Day worship service and potluck picnic was held on Sunday, June 18, 2023 at Sugarhouse Park. "Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD" was the sermon topic, as the JCC Worship Band performed as well as Victor Homma with his annual tribute to his parents. Despite some breezy weather, it didn't rain and the congregation enjoyed a plentiful buffet of pot luck foods! Bingo followed and everyone went home with a prize! We are grateful for all Fathers!



Bingo prize winning dads!



JCC Worship Band



Food was plentiful and delicious!  
Photos courtesy: Karen Okawa and Lorraine Crouse

## Memorial Day Services Wrap Up

The annual Memorial Day services were held on Sunday, May 28, 2023 to honor and remember those family and friends that had passed on.

A service was held at the City Cemetery in the Japanese section to honor the veterans of the Japanese American community of Utah who served in the U.S. military. The program included participation from the three local Japanese churches and JACL chapters in Salt Lake.

Afterwards, the traditional Memorial Day candle lighting service was held at JCC; a joint service on Pentecost Sunday with the Tongan and Kachin congregations. It also commemorated Asian American and Pacific Islander month in May.



Pastor Haas at Veterans' Memorial service.



Standing in line to light a floating candle in remembrance of family and friends that have passed.

Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse and Allyn Nakashima



## Pride Parade Support

The SLC Pride Parade was held on Sunday, June 4, 2023. The parade began at 10 a.m., but since worship service started at 10:30 a.m., we could not march in the parade. But to show our support, the JCC set up a table in front of the church with bottled water for participants. The Kenshin Taiko performed and created a festive environment for participants.



Kenshin Taiko, poised and ready to perform.



Jani and Yas show their support.  
Photos courtesy Suzanne Hata.

## Lost and Found

The walking cane pictured here was found at church. If it belongs to you, please contact either Suzanne Hata or Laura Olson.



## July Community Events

**Saturday, July 9, 2023** – Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Obon Festival.  
Taiko 7:00 p.m.; Dancing at 8:00 p.m.

**Monday, July 24, 2023** – Matsumoto Picnic, sponsored by the three local JACL chapters, Jordan Park Peace Gardens.

JCC July 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 -Communion Service, 10:30am -Deacons meeting, noon	3 -Parking, SLC Summer League	4 -Parking, SLC Summer League	5 -Parking, SLC Summer League	6 -Parking, SLC Summer League	7	8
9 -Worship Service, 10:30am	10	11	12 -Session Meeting, 6pm	13 -Parking, Bert Kreischer, 7pm	14	15
16 -Worship Service, 10:30am	17	18	19	20 -Parking, Dude Perfect, 7pm	21	22 -Herald Articles Due
23 -Worship Service, 10:30am	24	25	26	27 -Parking, Paramore, 8pm	28	29 -Parking, UFC 291, 8pm
30 -Worship Service, 10:30am	31					

\*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 6/24/2023.

## JCC 2023 Mission Study Questionnaire

Thank you for helping us shape the future of the Japanese Church of Christ in Salt Lake City. Your input will be reviewed by the Mission Study Committee and help us determine our future ministries. This survey closes on **August 1, 2023**. Place this form in the envelope posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board or mail it in the addressed, postage-paid envelope enclosed. (Or you may also submit this survey electronically, see Page 2 of this newsletter.)

Effective proclamation and preaching.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Maintaining a bilingual worship service.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Finding a pastor who has a solid understanding of the norms, values, and common behaviors of the Japanese American Community

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Personal visits by pastors, leaders, and JCC members.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

More activities (Special Speakers, Weekend Retreats).

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Equal outreach to seniors, adults, nichigo, young adults, youth, and children.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Maintaining cultural activities and Japanese traditions.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Opportunities to participate in missions, both locally and globally.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Offering Sunday School.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Offering Youth Activities.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Offering Service Opportunities.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Offering Social Events.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All

Maintaining the current facilities.

- ☐ Essential
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ Of Average Importance
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Not Important at All