

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.

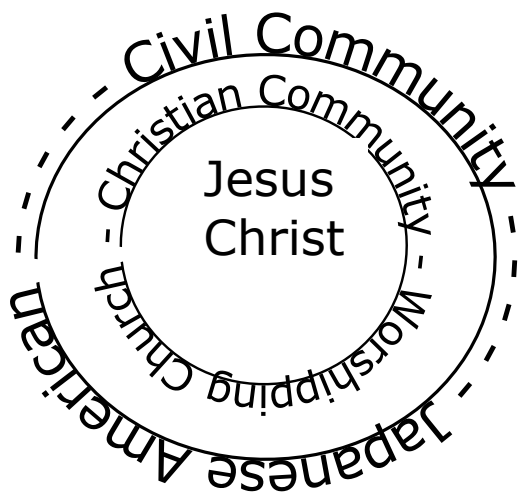
Pastor's Message

October 2023

The Japanese Church of Christ is not just a church. It is equally a Japanese American cultural center. When the church hosts Natsu Matsuri, co-hosts Nihon Matsuri, sends a delegation to the Japanese memorial ceremonies at the Veterans' cemetery or in Topaz, when the church participates in the Nikkei Senior Center luncheons and other JACL sponsored events, we are not doing church work. And that is okay.

Our mission study team has heard over and over again of the utmost importance of worship and the proclamation of the Word of God. And we have heard just as strongly that activities supporting Japanese American identity are crucial. JCC has a rich worship experience and provides plenty of opportunities for friendship. The challenge is that we have to be okay with the fact that we have a dual mission and a lot of times, people interested in the cultural connection and friendship that gets fostered at community events do not show up for Sunday worship. And that is okay.

Here is how I make this line of thinking work:



In 1946, Karl Barth reflected on the relationship of Christian Community and Civil Community. He shows how both have their center in Jesus Christ. He also clearly shows that they have distinct yet related missions. "The polis has walls" means that in the civil community we are distinct from one another, separated by cultural identity, primary language, and many other factors. Positively speaking, it is okay for JCC to celebrate its heritage. In the Christian Community, those earthly distinctions do not count, "but our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." (Philippians 3:20).

Let's continue to do both, let's celebrate friendship and worship!

Rev. Daniel Haas,

BCC-SP, 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:

Yeiko Homma

Debbie Homma

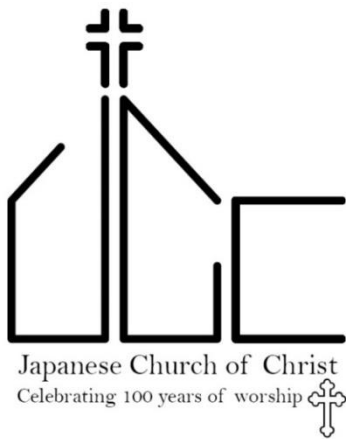
Jason L. Moses

Tom Reed Jr.

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 and Trustees 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

Trustees

Rick Aoki, Daniel Cheung, Jani Iwamoto, Ron Nishijima, Karla Paige, Pauline Vosburgh

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

Joint Worship Service

On **Sunday, October 8, 2023**, we will hold a joint worship service with the Tongan Free Wesleyan Church. Service will begin at the usual time, **10:30 a.m.** It is always a special time to be able to share in worship with our friends from the Tongan congregation.

**Harvest Party – Treats, no Tricks!**

The annual Harvest Party will be held on **Sunday, October 29, 2023**. Bring the children to worship service and Sunday School dressed in their favorite Halloween costumes (but no scary costumes, please!). After worship service, everyone at church (young and old) is invited to have lunch and treats!



Please spread the word to those with young children and grandchildren and bring them to service on the 29th!

Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service in remembrance of Chiyoko Chiba, a long-time JCC member, who passed away in 2021. The graveside service will take place on **Saturday, October 7, 2023 at 11 a.m.** at the Salt Lake City Cemetery in the Japanese section of the cemetery (on 11th Avenue, off 10th East).

Stewardship Campaign 2023

In the past, the JCC traditionally sent out a Stewardship brochure that members could pledge their giving for the next calendar year. But in recent years, the response has dropped and last year it was decided to save the expense of printing and postage resulting in a low turnout.

This year, **the pledge form is found on page 4 of this newsletter**. Also, the same form will be available on the Fellowship Hall bulletin table. Please fill out the form and either turn it in to Karen Okawa or Elise Mori at worship service or mail it to church. The form will be collected and given to the finance and budget committee to include in next year's budget. Due date **October 31, 2023**.

Your pledge to the JCC is a promise to share your resources within the faith community. This pledge allows the Session to budget for programs, staff, worship, outreach and facility maintenance throughout the year.

Current optional ways to give include the weekly offering during worship service or direct payment from your financial institution. We are in the process of setting up a PayPal account as an online donation option. If you would prefer this option, please respond to jccherald@gmail.com.

Stewardship involves our time, talent and treasure. Being a good steward in this world is one way of expressing our love for God and our gratitude to Him.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

1 Peter 4:10

Presbytery General Assembly

The 226th General Assembly (GA) of PCUSA will be held in Salt Lake City next year from **June 25 to July 4, 2024**. The theme is "Live into Hope." The GA will be meeting at the Salt Palace Convention Center, so will be in close proximity to the JCC.

Rick Jones, Communications Director, Office of the General Assembly met with Session on September 19, 2023 in preparation for this event. He and a photographer conducted an interview with Pastor Haas and took photos of our facilities.

Click on this link: [On the Road to GA - Issue 2 - September 2023 by PCUSA OGA - Issuu](#) to read the latest information on the General Assembly's activities to date.



One More Photo

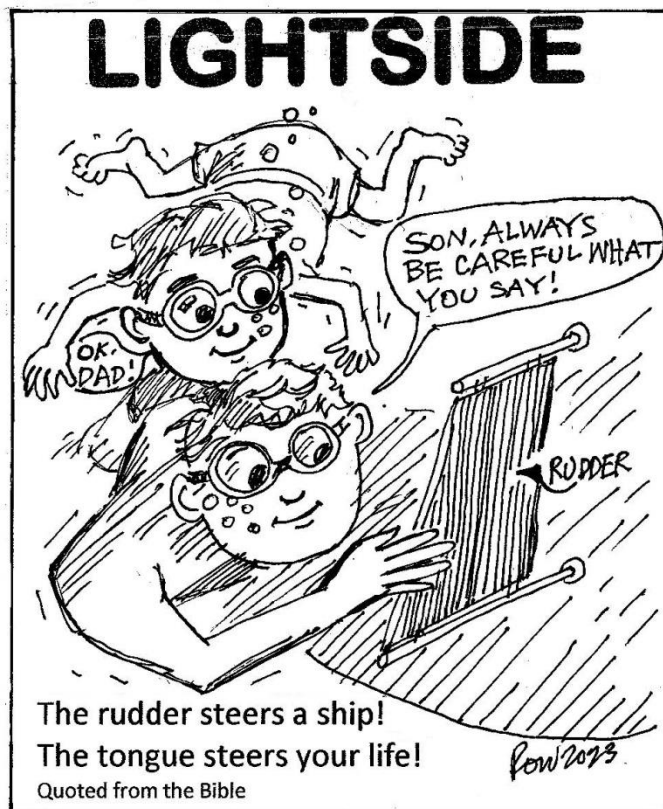
The Kenshin Taiko group gathered at Yeiko Homma's 98th birthday party last month and wanted to share this group photo. (Yeiko is in the back row with the pineapple framed glasses!)



Kenshin Taiko members and the Golden Girl

Street Parking Reminder

Now that the construction of the hotel complex on 1st South and 300 West is completed, Salt Lake City Corporation has resumed policing street parking on First South and ticketing violators. Posted parking time on the block is 2 hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.



If You are Last

If you are the last person to leave the church premises on any given day, there are several things to check on before leaving the building(s). A checklist is now posted on the back of the Fellowship Hall entrance door.

Check to see that all lights in the buildings are turned OFF:

- Fellowship Hall - Basement classrooms, restrooms, hallway, Stage, Kitchen, Upstairs main hall, restrooms
- Sanctuary - All lights

Fellowship Hall

In the kitchen:

- Ensure the fan and air conditioner are turned off. Fan switch is located on right side of gas stove hood. Use the A/C remote control to turn off air. Overhead vents in ceiling will close once remote is activated.
- Ensure the stove burner dials (both gas and electric ranges) are in off position. (Except the gas for the oven; switch is labeled to leave on.)
- Ensure the office door and side entrance door are closed and locked.
- Ensure the main doors to the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary are locked.

Finally, close and lock the two gates to the premises with padlocks – ADA accessible gate next to Sanctuary and double door gate next to Fellowship Hall.

JCC Pledge Form 2023

Your pledge to the JCC is a promise to share your resources within the faith community. This pledge allows the Session to budget for programs, staff, worship, outreach and facility maintenance throughout the year.

God has blessed us! Our pledges help us to share His blessings with others in our community.

Your pledge is a promise to yourself, the faith community at JCC, and the community at large.

Cut out and fill out the form below and either bring it to worship service on a Sunday or mail it to JCC, 268 West 100 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84101 by October 31, 2023.

Pledge 2023

This pledge is my/our commitment to the Japanese Church of Christ in its call to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and to make a difference in my (our) life and in the life of the community.

I (we) pledge:

_____ per week
 _____ per month
 _____ per year
 _____ per one time gift

Name:

Street Address:

City/State/Zip:

Deacon's Report – September Meeting

Submitted by Allyn Nakashima

The Deacons met on Sunday, September 3, 2023 and discussed the following:

- The role and revitalization of the Women's Agape Group. Should the group continue?
- Follow-up action items for the main activities selected through the strategic planning process lead by Nancy Umemura.

The next Deacons' meeting will be on Sunday, October 1, 2023.

Session Report – September Meeting

Submitted by Karen Okawa, Clerk of Session

The September Session meeting was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Pastor Haas opened the meeting with prayer and gave a devotional based on 1 Corinthians 12.

Discussion included participation in local community holiday giving, retention of face mask policy, and conducting a joint meeting between Session and Trustees.

Individual reports:

Pastor: Will perform graveside memorial service for Chiyoko Chiba. Reported on upcoming calendar: Rev. Nakaoka will be guest speaker on October 15. Nancy Cormack-Hughes on November 5. Veterans Sunday on November 12 and Joint Thanksgiving service on November 19.

Building and Grounds: The new Fellowship Hall windows were installed and Namba Construction finished most work on the Sanctuary kitchen in time for Natsu Matsuri. Namba is also updating cost estimates for an ADA compliant ramp off the back entrance.

Mission Study Committee: Committee met on 9/18. Collating information from questionnaires and interviews. Once these responses are summarized, they will be presented to the congregation.

Education: New adult bible study format with use of a study guide of the book of Romans.

Nominating Committee: No action this month.

Finance: All Natsu Matsuri expenses must be turned in by September 30. Will have a better picture of the finances from the event after that.

Membership/Stewardship: Continuing update to the church record book. Preparing for review of accounting. Investigating options for pledges, such as PayPal.

Personnel: Working with Mike Flemming on system to sort incoming mail and working on file structure for documents placed in Google shared drive.

Worship: Our regular pianists will all be out of town for periods of time in the next month, so pre-recorded music may have to be used. JCC Worship Band will perform on October 29.

Deacons: Discussed future of Agape Women's Group; should it continue as a separate entity? Clarified Deacons' role in funeral planning.

The next Session meeting will be a joint meeting with the Trustees in October. Date is October 16.

Upcoming Community Events

Saturday, October 7 – Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Fall Food Festival Drive Up, 211 West 100 South. Pre-orders only – go to Slbuddhist.org/new-events to order online.

Saturday, October 14 – Nikkei Senior Center luncheon, sponsored by the Mount Olympus JACL Chapter at the Japanese Church of Christ, noon.

Calling All Crafters

The Salt Lake Buddhist Temple will be holding its annual Holiday Boutique on November 18 and 19, 2023. As a non-profit, the JCC is invited to participate in this event with a crafts table free of charge. If you would like to make and/or donate items to be sold on our table, please contact jccherald@gmail.com.

Daylight Savings Reminder – Nov.

Daylight savings ends on **Sunday, November 5, 2023**. It is time to “Fall Back” or turn your clocks back one hour. You will gain an extra hour of sleep!

Church Women United

World Community Day Celebration

Friday, November 3

9:30 Registration (\$2.00) – 10:00 Program

Christ United Methodist Church

2375 East 3300 South

Salt Lake City, UT

Theme: Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God's Work
Labor with Love—Hands to Heal

Community Outreach

Please bring items for the International Rescue Committee:

- Basic Hygiene – tooth brush, toothpaste, shampoo & conditioner, body wash, lotion—
- Basic Cleaning Supplies – bleach, soap, washcloths, towels, paper towels, toilet paper—
- Winter supplies – gloves, socks, scarves, underwear for all ages

Cash donations – make checks payable to Church Women United (designate IRC). Offering to benefit CWU National Programs.

Checks may also be mailed to:

Desta Aure; 10227 Hickory Point Dr; Sandy, UT 84092

Lunch (\$6.00) RSVP to Mary Ann Allison at 801-278-9223 by Monday, October 30.

JCC October 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Communion Service, 10:30am. -Deacons Meeting, noon	2	3	4	5 -Parking, Frozen Fury, 7pm	6	7 -Memorial service for Chiyoko Chiba, 11:00am
8 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Joint Worship Service, 10:30am	9	10	11 -Parking, Tool, 7:30pm	12	13 -Parking, Christian Nodal, 8pm	14 -Nikkei Senior Center luncheon, noon -Parking, Jazz vs Trailblazers, 7pm
15 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Worship Service, 10:30am	16 -Parking, Jazz pre-season, 7pm	17	18	19 -Parking, SZA, 8:00pm	20	21
22 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Worship Service, 10:30am -Parking, Grey Day Tour, 6:30pm	23	24 -Parking, Guns n Roses, 6:30pm	25 -Parking, Jazz vs Kings, 7:30pm	26	27 -Parking, Jazz vs Clippers, 7:30pm	28
29 -Adult Bible Study, 9:30am -Worship Service, 10:30am -HARVEST PARTY, noon	30	31				

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 9/25/2023.

September Event Recaps

September was a busy month at JCC! After a busy Natsu Matsuri, it was nice to open our doors to the local community with other event offerings as well.

An Evening of Taiko

This event took place on Friday, September 1 in the Fellowship Hall. Taiko drummer Takumi Kato and his 3 sons from Gifu, Japan, gave a short concert. Over 120 people attended the performance. Kato's goal is to introduce taiko to everyone and to perform 1000 times in all 50 states in 5 years. The JCC was stop number 267. A teriyaki dinner was served before the concert. Thanks to all who contributed to the success. The Kato family even attended worship service on Sunday.



Kato Family



Takumi Kato and shakuhachi



JCC was performance number 267.
Photos courtesy Allyn Nakashima, Karen Okawa

Flu Shots

On Sunday, September 17, the annual Flu Shot Clinic was held. Thanks to Stephanie Mori-Nakao for organizing this event through Community Nursing Services and for providing lunch as a reward for getting your preventative flu shot before the winter season!

Learn to Fall Workshop

On Sunday, September 24, Pastor Haas conducted an on-hands (and on- back!) clinic on learning to fall safely. Falls cannot always be prevented, but knowing the safe way to fall can avoid serious injury.



Pastor Haas explains the importance of falling correctly.

Participants learned and practiced how to fall. Thanks to Pastor Haas for conducting the clinic. With winter approaching, the chance of a fall increase and knowing how to fall safely will help!



Yoga Fundraiser

On Saturday, September 23, Bob Matsueda, a licensed yoga and wellness instructor, gave an introductory lecture in the Fellowship Hall. He stressed that yoga is not exercise or a workout and you do not need to be flexible! Over 60 people, young and old, participated. Bob donated his time for this workshop as a fundraiser for the Maui Strong Fund, supporting Maui residents affected by the wildfires in August.



Bob resides in the Bay Area, but his yoga classes can be attended virtually. If there is interest, a regular class can possibly be conducted for JCC attendees. See Jani Iwamoto if you are interested.



Participants learn to be a tree!