

The HERALD Newsletter

Japanese Church of Christ

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

Pastor's Message

November 2024

Hello, Japanese Church of Christ!

Thank you so much for the warm welcome you have given me! It is an absolute joy to be here with you at JCC, and I am genuinely excited about all that God is doing and will continue to do at JCC. Your kindness and support have already made such a difference as I start this journey with you. There are moments in life when you come face to face with the goodness of God in very tangible ways and JCC has abundantly ushered that goodness into my life. I am in awe and am filled with deep gratitude.

As I get to know each of you, I sincerely appreciate your grace as I learn names, histories, and the hopes we share for our church. I aim to serve you with all my heart and ability, and I am blessed by the foundation you've already provided. It is truly one of the greatest honors of my life to be a part of this family.

Looking ahead, we have many wonderful opportunities before us, as well as many challenges to face. I am certain that God will be with us for each step of our process, but I encourage us to pray boldly for a common vision as we move forward. I pray that we can articulate our needs with clarity and remain bound together through God's Holy Spirit. As the unified Body of Christ, we are a mighty force in this world, proclaiming the deep wonder and love of our Creator. I ask for your prayers as we embark on this faith journey together.

Please know I am here for you, and I can't express how thankful I am to be your pastor. Let's continue to seek God's guidance and support one another as we grow in faith and love. The beauty of God is revealed through intentional presence with each other and our world, and JCC is glorious to behold. Thank you for everything you are.

God's grace and peace to you.

-Pastor Andrew

Remember in Your Prayers

Our deepest condolences are extended to the family of Joe Sueoka, father of Greg Sueoka, who passed away on September 26, 2024. Please keep Mary Louise, Greg, Theresa, Maxwell and Josef in your prayers.

Condolences are also extended to the family of Michael Ryan, step-father of Paul DeRose, who passed away on September 29, 2024. Our prayers are extended to Paul and Kiara.

Also our sympathy goes out to the family of Kazuko Yakumo, who passed away on September 28, 2024. Mrs. Yakumo was the wife of a former minister of the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple.

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 in this newsletter. Contact any of the Deacons or Pastor Andrew.

Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

Tom Reed Jr.

Susan Fukushima

Sueoka family

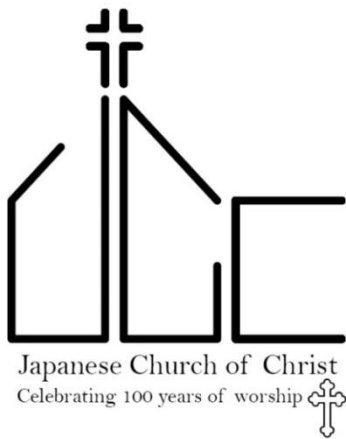
Yakumo family

DeRose and Ryan families

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: Rev. Andrew Fleishman
Clerk of Session: Nancy Umemura
Office Administrator: Patty Price

Session

Lynne Ward, Personnel/Trustees
 Julee Mori, Finance/Kenshin Taiko
 Elise Mori, Worship
 Alan Shino, Building and Grounds
 Nancy Umemura, Membership/Nichigo/
 Deacons

Deacons

Jan Aramaki, moderator; Stephanie Mori-Nakao, Allyn Nakashima, Akiko Oki, Laura Olson, Marc Stillman, Yuri Uyeda

Trustees

Jani Iwamoto – President; Pauline Vosburgh – Vice President, Rick Aoki – Treasurer, Daniel Cheung – Secretary, Ron Nishijima, Lorraine Crouse

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

Daylight Savings Reminder

Remember that **Sunday, November 3, 2024** is “fall back” from daylight savings time to standard time. Be sure to turn your clock **BACK** one hour.

Adult Bible Study Resumes



Pastor Andrew will be conducting Bible Study classes beginning on **Sunday, November 10, 2024** starting at **9:30 a.m.**

Come and learn more about the Bible!

Thanksgiving Celebration

The annual Thanksgiving worship service will be held on **Sunday, November 24, 2024**. We have so much to be thankful for! Following worship service, there will be a pot luck. Bring a salad, side or dessert to share with everyone!



A Thank You Note

Dear JCC family,

Thank you for all of the kind and heartfelt words you have said and written to me and my family over the last few weeks.

Thanks for the time we shared and thanks for the gifts you gave. (The sake is really good, kanpai!)

Blessings,

Rev. Daniel Haas, BCC-SP

(See related story on Page 5.)



Reverend Daniel Haas

CWU Advent Tea

The JCC Agape Women will be hosting the annual Church Women United (CWU) Advent Tea this year on **Friday, December 6, 2024** at **1:00 p.m.** The Advent service will be performed by Pastor Andrew and an “afternoon tea” will follow with light appetizers, sweets and beverages.



Community Outreach: Fourth Street Clinic – Please **BRING**: Travel-size Hygiene Items (shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, hand sanitizer, gel/wipes), Menstrual Hygiene Products, Refillable Water Bottles, Winter Gloves, Heavy Socks, Hand Warmers. Cash Donations. Checks Payable to: Church Women United, designated for Fourth Street Clinic.

Church Women United is always excited when JCC volunteers to host one of its events. There is a sign up sheet on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board to RSVP for this tea. If you would like to help with preparation or serving, please contact Suzanne Hata or Karen Okawa.

More Chapel Renovation

The chapel roof was re-shingled this month and construction of a new ramp to the back entrance is underway. Worship services will temporarily move back to the Fellowship Hall this month. Please use caution walking near the construction zone.

Roof replacement of the Fellowship Hall will start soon as well; hopefully before winter weather sets in!

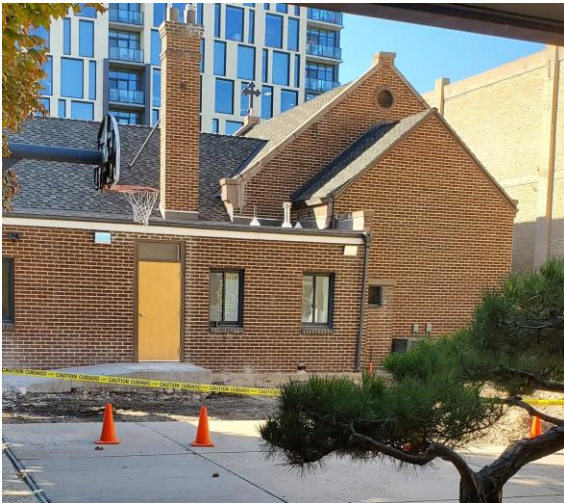


Photo courtesy: Suzanne Hata

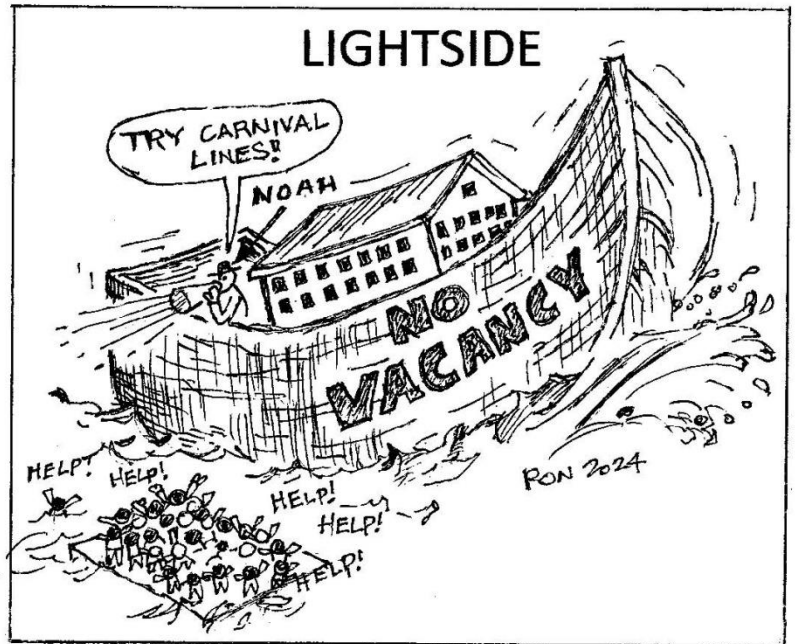
Our Daily Bread – Winter Edition

The Winter 2024 edition of “Our Daily Bread” is available – covering December 2024, January and February 2025. Copies are found on the table near the bulletin boards in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like a copy sent to you, email jccherald@gmail.com.

Reminders

Remember to fill out the 2025 pledge form (found in the October Herald) and turn it in during 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.

Also, if you have a budget request for next year, please submit it to Julee Mori as soon as possible. The budget committee will be meeting and appreciates any input which will affect next year’s annual budget.



Worship Program Participation Needed!

We need more faces to participate in the regular Sunday worship services in any capacity: liturgist/leader, scripture reader, greeter/usher, and/or pianist/organist. The tasks are not difficult; reading a passage from the Bible or greeting and handing out hymnals to congregants are tasks anyone can do.

Currently, a handful of JCC members are rotating roles during Sunday worship; but due to vacations, illness, and other weekend commitments that arise, we could really use additional volunteers. You don’t need to commit to the rotating schedule (however, that would be nice), but whenever you could volunteer to perform one of the tasks on a Sunday or two would be great!

Active participation in worship service helps us deepen our relationship with God and creates a sense of unity and belonging.

If you can serve as a participant in any of the roles mentioned above, please contact Elise Mori, Elder over Worship.

Deacons October Meeting Summary

Submitted by Allyn Nakashima

The Board of Deacons met on October 6th to discuss the upcoming events that will need their support: the farewell service for Rev. Haas on October 13; the harvest party and welcome service for Rev. Fleishman on Oct 27th; JCC hosting luncheon for European Presbyterian visitors on Nov 2nd; and the Thanksgiving potluck on Nov 24th luncheon.

The Board of Deacons is looking for 3 people who would be willing to serve as Deacons beginning in 2025. Please let Allyn Nakashima know if you would consider becoming a Deacon. (email: allyn.nakashima05@gmail.com or cell: 404-323-4583)

Upcoming Community Events

Saturday, November 2: Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon, at Salt Lake Buddhist Temple, noon. Sponsored by National JAACL Credit Union.

Saturday, November 23-24: Holiday Boutique, at Salt Lake Buddhist Temple. Saturday hours – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday hours – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Handcrafted gifts for your Christmas list! Food both days too! The Agape Women will have some handcraft and vintage items for sale. Come start your Christmas shopping early!

October Session Meeting Report

Submitted by Nancy Umemura, Clerk of Session

The October Session meeting is scheduled for Oct. 30, after the publish date of this Herald edition.

Some of the items that Session has been addressing include: coordinating transition activities for Rev. Andrew Fleishman, continuing chapel building renovations, reviewing requests for rental of the Fellowship Hall and updating the rental policy, accepting Rev. Daniel Haas as a JCC member (now that he is no longer the interim pastor), and getting the pianos and organ tuned.

CWU - World Community Day

Friday, Nov 1, 2024
 9:30 Registration (\$2.00) – 10:00 Meeting
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 8575 South 700 East, Salt Lake City, UT

“What does the Lord Require of CW-You? Walk humbly with God”

Keynote Speaker – Toni Ragsdale—Fill the Pot Ministry to unsheltered individuals

This ministry serves hundreds of hot meals every Sunday morning. They also provide clothing, hygiene items, employment & education assistance, and addiction & mental health support.

Their goal is to bring hope to those in need, let them know they matter, and help them get back on their feet.

Outreach – Items for Fill the Pot Ministry – New and gently used winter clothing and other cold weather items for men as well as new socks and underwear. Monetary donations appreciated too.

Offering to support CWU National Programs. Please make checks payable to Church Women United.

Designate offering and/or Fill the Pot Ministry.

Lunch (\$6.00) RSVP to Mary Ann Allison at 801-278-9223 by Monday, October 28.

Note: Fair Trade Coffee, Tea and Chocolate will be available for sale. Get your Christmas shopping done early. Everyone loves these products and growers and workers are paid a fair wage.

JCC November 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Eastern European Network at JCC -Bento prep, 8am	2 Eastern European Network at JCC
3 -Communion Service, 10:30am -Deacons Meeting, noon -Parking, Ana Gabriel, 8pm	4	5	6	7 -Kenshin Taiko workshop, 6pm -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7pm	8 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 7pm	9 -Parking, Disney on Ice, 11am, 3 and 7pm
10 -Worship Service, 10:30am -Parking, Disney on Ice, 1pm	11	12 -Parking, Jazz vs Suns, 7pm	13 -Parking, Hockey vs Hurricanes, 7pm	14 -Parking, Jazz vs Mavericks, 7pm	15 -Parking, Hockey vs Golden Knights, 7pm	16 -Parking, Alan Jackson, 7pm
17 -Worship Service, 10:30am	18 -Parking, Hockey vs Capitals, 7pm	19 -Tea Ceremony class, 10am	20 -Parking, Transiberian Orch, 3 and 7pm	21	22 -Parking, WWE, 5:45pm	23 -Parking, Jazz vs Knicks, 3pm
24 -Worship Service, 10:30am -Thanksgiving Potluck, noon -Parking, Christian Nodal, 8pm	25 -Parking, Hockey vs. Sharks, 7pm	26 -Parking, Jazz vs Kings, 7pm	27 -Parking, Jazz vs Nuggets, 7pm	28 THANKSGIVING	29 -Parking, Hockey vs Edmonton, 7pm	30 -Parking, Jazz vs Mavericks, 7pm

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 10/28/2024.

Pastor Haas' Farewell Party

On Sunday, October 13, interim pastor, Reverend Daniel Haas, gave his final sermon at a joint worship service with the Anchored in Christ Tongan American Free Wesleyan Church congregation to celebrate World Communion Sunday.

After the Communion service, Clerk of Session Nancy Umemura presented Pastor Haas with a sake set for serving as interim pastor for the last 2.5 years.

A luncheon of Chinese food followed. Thanks to the Deacons for coordinating this.

We will miss Pastor Haas' exuberant "Ohayo Gozaimasu" on Sundays, but he will continue to be a member of the JCC as he will transfer his membership through our UCC affiliation. As Reverend Dr. Mirjam Haas-Melchior serves as Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of Utah, we will still have a connection with the Haas family in that way too!



The rest of the Haas family: Ben, Phoebe, Marie and Rev. Dr. Mirjam.



The Tongan choir performed "Battle Hymn of the Republic" in Tongan, dedicating it to Pastor Haas.



Rev. Dr. Mirjam Haas-Melchior releases Reverend Daniel Haas as interim pastor of the JCC.



Clerk of Session Nancy Umemura presents a farewell gift to Pastor Haas.



Rev. Haas and Rev. Tipi Loma Pupu'a became good friends during this tenure.

Photos courtesy: Suzanne Hata, Julee Mori, Jani Iwamoto

Harvest Party/Welcome Party for Pastor Andrew Fleishman Wrap Up

The annual Harvest Party was held on **Sunday, October 27, 2024**. It was also a welcome party for Pastor Andrew Fleishman.

The Deacons served chili dogs, sloppy joes and treats for both young and old – thanks Stephanie and Marc. Thanks also to LuAnne Nakamura who prepared various Halloween treats!



Cowboy Marc, Elise, Allison, Luigi Aidan and Akemi enjoy Harvest treats!



Some Halloween guests



Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse



Bobbing for donuts



As always, there was plenty of food!

Japantown Update

Submitted by Jani Iwamoto

On Monday, October 21, 2024, the Smith Entertainment Group invited members of the Japanese Community Preservation Committee (“JCPC”) who had written an initial letter to all stakeholders, in this most recent development involving the creation of an entertainment district. This district includes the area of the last remnants of historic Japantown — the Japanese Church of Christ (“JCC”) and the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple (“SLBT”). Members of our younger generation were also included in this meeting.

The main purpose of this meeting was for us to ask any and all questions we had pertaining to the new entertainment district. To summarize, the Smith Entertainment Group, represented by Mike Maughan and Lincoln Shurtz, stated that they will keep the JCC, SLBT, and community, through their designated representatives, informed of any new developments, to obtain our input prior to any decisions being made. This was a positive move forward for open and transparent communication as the project moves forward, reinforcing and furthering their commitment in the Participation Agreement.