

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 2025

Dear Beloved JCC Family,

As I sit down to write this, my heart is filled with immense gratitude. It's hard to believe that October 15th will mark one full year since I began my journey as your pastor here at the Japanese Church of Christ. This past year has been nothing short of an incredible adventure, and I am so deeply thankful to have walked it with each and every one of you.

I'll be honest, when I first arrived, there were definitely some nerves and a sense of the unknown. Like anyone starting a new chapter, there was that initial feeling of being a visitor, of needing to find my way. But those feelings have been completely replaced. Now, when I walk through the doors, I feel a powerful sense of mission, a clear purpose, and a truly overwhelming, joyous gratitude. It is one of the biggest honors of my life to serve as your pastor in the heart of Salt Lake City, and I feel so at home here with you.

Having a full church year under my belt now gives me a wonderful sense of rhythm. It's nice to know what to expect and to see the familiar patterns of our shared life together. But even with that comfort, there is still so much that remains a beautiful and exciting unknown for all of us. What will our church look like in a year from now? How will our worship evolve? How will we discover new ways to serve our community and deepen our faith, particularly as we navigate change and growth?

Through all of this, we are not walking alone. Our purpose and our guide remain the same: God. As the scripture reminds us in Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Let's continue to wholeheartedly seek God for direction, refreshment, and new life in the year ahead. And as we do, may we all be in awe of the marvelous things God will do for us and through us.

With a heart full of love,

Pastor Andrew

Remember in Your Prayers

Names will appear on the prayer list for one month, so we can keep it updated and current. Contact any of the Deacons or Pastor Andrew to add a person. Please remember the following friends and family in your prayers:

Steve Fukushima Susan Fukushima Miyake Family O'Dowd Family

Condolences

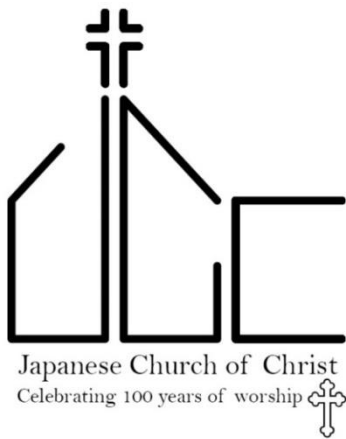
Our sympathy goes out to the family of Yoshiko Miyake, who passed away on August 30, 2025 at the age of 103! Funeral services were held in September. Please remember her daughters Darlene Fox and Debbie Ginn and families in your prayers.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of Rachel O'Dowd. Rachel was the wife of Reverend Andy O'Dowd, our Committee on Ministry representative at the Presbytery of Utah. Reverend O'Dowd has been a guest speaker at the JCC on a few Sundays. Keep Reverend Andy and family in prayer as well.

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

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

Deacons

Allyn Nakashima, moderator; Teresa Aramaki, Stephanie Mori-Nakao, Akiko Oki, Laura Olson, Kory Shino, Marc Stillman

Trustees

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

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

Website: www.jccslc.net

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 5 is World Communion Sunday and will be a joint service with the Tongan American Free Wesleyan and Kachin Trinity congregations. Service will begin at the usual Sunday time of 10:30 a.m.

Harvest Party

The annual Harvest Party will be held on **Sunday, October 26, 2025**. Kids of all ages (including adults), are invited to come to worship service in costume (nothing too scary though!). After service, there will be lunch, games and goodies!



Save the Date! JCC Chapel Time Capsule Reveal

Submitted by Lorraine Crouse, chair of committee

One hundred and one years ago, members of the Japanese Church of Christ created a time capsule that was sealed behind the cornerstone when their newly completed chapel was dedicated on November 2, 1924. We are excited to announce the time capsule has been retrieved! Join us for two celebratory events. (A special keepsake is being created to commemorate this important milestone.)

Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. - Time Capsule Public Reveal Celebration

Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. - Joint Worship Service and Time Capsule Celebration with the Japanese Church of Christ, Kachin Trinity Church and the Tongan-American Free Wesleyan Church congregations.

More details to follow in next month’s Herald and announcements during worship service! In the meantime, save this date!

New JCC Officers

On Sunday, September 28, 2025, a Congregational Meeting was held to elect officers for the 2026-2028 term. The following candidates were nominated and voted on by members, with unanimous approval:

Session: Julee Mori (second term), Patty Price

Deacons: Akiko Oki (second term), Abi Shino, Joel Umemura

Trustees: Pauline Vosburgh (second term), Elizabeth Ward

Treasurer: Rick Aoki

The term of service will begin on January 1, 2026. Baptism, ordination and installation will take place in January.

Thank you to all for your willingness to serve as an officer of the JCC!

Church Clean Up

Mark **Saturday, October 25, 2025** from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a church clean up to prepare for the Time Capsule Reveal event. Let’s make our facilities shine!

Stewardship/Pledge

It is that time of the year for the annual Stewardship Campaign. Please fill out the form below and turn it in with your Sunday offering or mail it in. The forms will be collected and given to the finance and budget committee to help plan next year's budget. **Due date October 31, 2025.**

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

JCC Pledge Form 2026

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, 2025.

Pledge 2026

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:

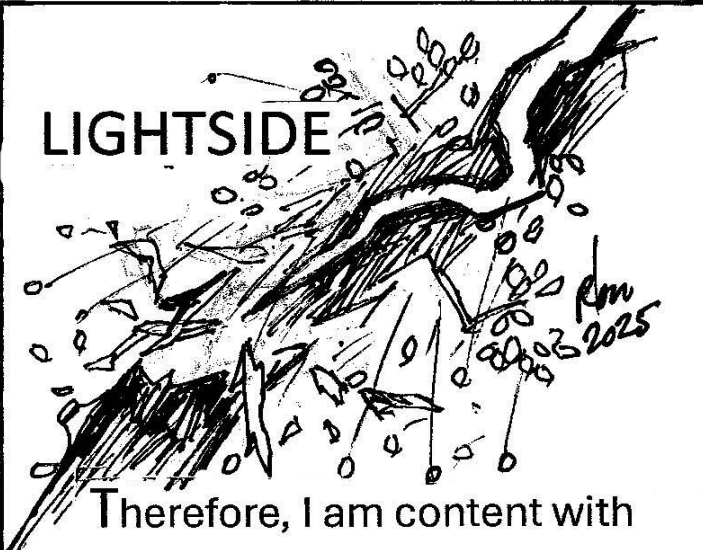
- _____ per week
- _____ per month
- _____ per year
- _____ per one time gift

Name:

Street Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email:



LIGHTSIDE

Therefore, I am content with
 weaknesses, insults, hardships,
 persecutions and calamities
 for whenever I am weak, then
 I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12: 10

Call for Rocky Mountain Times Newspapers

Please check your parents' and grandparents' files for old issues of the *Rocky Mountain Times*, the first intermountain Japanese newspaper. It was founded in Salt Lake City by Shiro Iida and Saburo Ichimura. The first issue was published on September 16, 1907 and continued until 1929 when the newspaper was sold and merged with the *Utah Nippo*. The University of Utah's Marriott Library will scan and add them the online Utah Digital Newspapers Collection. Contact Lorraine Crouse at lmcrouse@comcast.net for more information.

Be Cautious

The JCC email address (info@jccslc.net) has received some spam email. They have all asked for copies of the church directory and look like they come from someone at church. Please be cautious when opening email messages and be aware of this. Don't respond if you see one of these kinds of emails.

Upcoming Community Events

Saturday, October 4, 2025 – Salt Lake Buddhist Temple Food Bazaar, 211 West 100 South, 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 11, 2025 – Nikkei Senior Center Luncheon, sponsored by Mount Olympus JAACL chapter. Location - Dai Ichi Ward, 2200 South 900 East, noon.

Save the Date

Advent already? Make a note on your calendar and plan to attend CWU’s annual Advent Service and Tea. More information to follow in the next month!

When: Friday, December 5, 2025 (1st Friday)

Time: Afternoon - 1:00 p.m.

Where: Cottonwood Presbyterian Church

Community Outreach: TBA



Church Women United

Mark your calendar and plan to attend CWU’s World Community Day Celebration 2025.

When: Friday, November 7, 2025 (1st Friday)

Time: 9:30 a.m. – approx. 1:00 p.m. with lunch

Where: Cottonwood Presbyterian Church
1580 East Vince St. (Murray)

Theme: “God’s Daughters Living Powerful Lives – Be kind at All Times”

Keynote Speaker: TBA from Guadalupe Center

Registration: \$2 Lunch: \$6.00

Community Outreach: Please BRING items for the “Guadalupe Center:” Details TBA. Cash Donations: Checks Payable to “Church Women United,” designated for Guadalupe Center

NOTE: Fair Trade Coffee/ & Tea will be available for sale

Free-will Offering: Used for CWU National Programs

Checks need to be made payable to: “Church Women United”

Checks can also be mailed to our Treasurer:
Desta Aure, 10227 Hickory Pt. Dr., Sandy, UT 84092

Lunch RSVP: To Connee Schoon at 801-942-7675 by Monday, November 3.

JCC October 2025 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 -Parking, Utah Mammoth, 7pm	3 -Parking, Paybol Carti concert, 7pm	4 -Parking, NHL Preseason, 7pm
5 -Prayer Meeting, 9:45am -World Communion Service, 10:30am -Deacons Meeting, noon	6 -Parking, Laufey concert, 7:30pm	7 -Parking, Tate McRae, 7pm	8 -Parking, Benson Boone, 8pm	9 -Parking, Benson Boone, 8pm	10	11 -Parking, Benson Boone, 8pm
12 -Prayer Meeting, 9:45am -Worship Service, 10:30am	13 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	14	15 -Parking, Utah Mammoth, 7:30pm	16 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	17 -Parking, Utah Mammoth, 7pm	18 -JCC Strategic Planning Meeting, 8am
19 -Prayer Meeting, 9:45am -Worship Service, 10:30am -Parking, Utah Mammoth, 5pm	20	21 -Parking, Utah Mammoth, 8pm	22 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	23 -Parking, Eric Church, 7:30pm	24	25 -Parking, Maroon 5, 8pm
26 -Prayer Meeting, 9:45am -Worship Service, 10:30am -Harvest Party, 11:30am -Parking, Adam Sandler, 7:30pm	27 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	28	29 -Parking, Jazz, 7pm	30	31 HALLOWEEN -Parking, WWE Shakedown	

*Calendar current as of Herald printing, 9/29/2025.

Our Daily Bread

Copies of the Winter edition of Our Daily Bread for the months of December 2025 and January and February 2026 are now available.

If you would like a copy sent to you, send an email to jccherald@gmail.com and provide your mailing address.



Japantown Update

Submitted by Lynne Ward, Elder

Tours of Japantown

In an effort to educate and gain support for the protection and revitalization of Japantown, members of JCC and the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple have been giving tours of the two churches and Japantown Street. Since earlier this year, nearly 90 elected officials and staff, community leaders, businesspeople, historical preservation enthusiasts and members of the JA community have participated.

300 West

On September 9, UDOT issued the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the design and construction of the pedestrian plaza or bridge over 300 West. The 2025 Legislature allocated \$300 million for the project. The structure will be in approximately the middle area of 300 West between South Temple and 100 South. It is intended to give pedestrians direct access to and from the Delta Center to the mid-block of JCC's block. The plaza or structure will likely be immediately behind JCC's north parking lot.

The general timeline:

- Early October 2025 Proposals by bidders due
- Spring 2026 Contract signed by UDOT and winning bidder
- Through Spring 2026 Utility assessment and permitting
- Mid-2026 Demolition begins
- Early 2027 Construction begins
- Late 2028 Construction completed

Because of the proximity to JCC's property and the certain disruption, UDOT considers JCC to be a stakeholder and will hold regular meetings with us to give us updates on the project and to consider our concerns. It is anticipated that some of the concerns will be access to the north parking lot from 300 West, dust, debris and noise during demolition and construction.

Session Report – September 2025

Here are highlights from the Sept. 24 Session meeting.

Information:

- Time-capsule: The contents have been turned over to the University of Utah Preservation Department to process for preservation and display. A public event to reveal the contents will be held Saturday, Nov. 1 at 3:00 pm, with invited dignitaries from Presbytery, community and government representatives, and the media. A joint congregational event will be held Sunday, Nov. 2 during and after worship service.
- Elise Yokoyama and Julee Mori will coordinate our Sub for Santa for the three congregations, with donations beginning in November.
- UDOT has released the 300 West tunnel & pedestrian plaza construction Request for Proposal. Bids are expected from 3 consortiums and are due Oct. 4. They expect to negotiate in 4-6 months.
- The property north of our parking lot, where the beehives are, was sold to SEG.
- Session approved the slate of candidates to be voted on at the Congregational Meeting Sept. 28.

Trustees Report – September 2025

Submitted by Pauline Vosburgh, VP Trustees

The rebuild of the ADA ramp is finally completed, but we are still waiting for Namba Construction to re-install the handrails along the interior of the ramp. We continue to push them to complete this soon along with the replacement of the front door closers and finish painting of the breezeway. The soffits along the breezeway and Fellowship Hall roof have now been replaced, resulting in a more finished look for those areas.

As an FYI, we are in process of hiring a "handyman" recommended by Blake Nakamura to help us with the on-going maintenance and up-keep of our property. A "To Do" list will be created to record items that need to be fixed/replaced which should help ensure that these items are better tracked and completed in a timely manner.

The Trustees have also been meeting with various contractors to evaluate and investigate upgrading our HVAC and security systems to enhance the comfort, safety, and protection of everyone using our facilities and attending our services.

Finally, the Trustees, along with the Session and members of the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple, have been meeting regularly to discuss Japantown and explore various options which we hope will preserve the long-term viability of our property and keep us relevant as part of the larger Sports/Entertainment District that will soon be built next to, and around the JCC. We pledge to continue to keep you all informed about the progress of the renovation and Japantown projects.

Youth Sunday

On Sunday, September 14, 2025, Youth Sunday was held with several children participating in worship service and Sunday School.

Thanks to Laura Olson, Karla Paige and Elaine Iwasaki for conducting Sunday School and to the JCC Worship Band for their musical performance.

Bring your children and grandchildren to Sunday School! Pastor Andrew gives a brief sermonette and children are excused to attend class. Afterwards, everyone enjoys Coffee Fellowship together.



Pastor Andrew introduces his bunny friend. Photos courtesy: Lorraine Crouse

Flu Vaccinations

On Sunday, September 21, 2025, worship attendees rolled up their sleeves after service to receive the latest Flu vaccine. Thanks to Stephanie Mori-Nakao for making the arrangements for this annual event and to Robin Mayetani of Smith's Pharmacy and her team for administering the vaccinations.

Let's all stay healthy during this winter!



Laura leads children in "Jesus Loves Me" while the JCC Worship Band looks on.

Happy Belated, Betty!

Betty Murakami celebrated her 97th birthday in August and her family celebrated the occasion at church with a cake. The photo was too late for the last Herald deadline, so here it is now! It was too nice not to include!



Happy 97th, Betty! Photo courtesy: Kristine Aramaki