

THE MESSENGER

Church of the Holy Cross
United Church of Christ
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March 27, 2012

FROM PASTOR TOM

ACTIVITIES FOR HOLY WEEK

April 1: Palm Sunday – Intergenerational service 10 am
April 5: Maundy Thursday – 7 pm
April 6: Good Friday – office open
April 7: Easter egg dyeing 9 am J's Café
April 8: Easter Sunrise Service – Wainaku Executive Center 6am
Easter egg hunt – 9 am
Easter Service – 10 am

FROM PASTOR JIM

The Annunciation of Our Lord - What's This?

Right in the middle of Lent comes one of the so-called "Lesser Festivals", the major ones, of course, being Christmas and Easter. The Festival of the Annunciation falls on March 25th, and celebrates the visit by the angel Gabriel to Mary, announcing that she would be the mother of Jesus. This comes from the Gospel according to Luke 1: 26-38. . Now, most of us in Protestantism usually do not celebrate these. Some are also known as saints' days. However, the Festival of the Annunciation proclaims the promise of a savior for the world. The angel tells Mary that nothing is impossible with God, in response to her question, "How can this be?" Mary then says, "Let it be so; I'm the servant of the Lord". This festival not only celebrates the announcement, but also Mary's quiet obedience.

Mary's son, Jesus, would also be obedient to God, which is what we remember during Lent. His journey to the cross shows that complete trust and obedience. Lent is more than a time to "give up" something (a lesser sacrifice??). It is a time to recall what our Lord has done and to renew our obedience and commitment to God.

We Protestants are quite cautious about praising Mary's piety, for fear we might mistakenly think that she was sinless or

somehow perfect. But in that caution, let's not fail to see the beauty and power of her yielding to God, as one commentator has put it. Mary gave herself to God; and we are called to do the same, in whatever way God calls us. Down through the ages, all sorts of women and men have heeded that call. We are no different. As we continue our Lenten journeys, let us prayerfully follow whatever God's call is to us, and be obedient to that call. A needy and hurting world awaits!

Grace and peace - Pastor Jim

SENIOR MINISTRY

REMINDER.....SENIOR MINISTRY
Plan to attend our Senior Ministry session this Thursday at 10 am in the Building of Faith. We're having Lois Olcott (Pastor Tom's wife) as our speaker, and some ono grinds as well.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EASTER ACTIVITIES

EASTER EGG DYEING

Saturday, April 7, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Easter Egg Dyeing will be held in J's Cafe with Egg Salad Lunch. All Sunday School students are invited to come and join the Board of Christian Education in this fun time in preparation for the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 8. Students that will joining us for this dying, please wear junk clothes and or bring an apron.

EASTER EGG HUNT:

Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 8 during the Sunday School worship time beginning at 8:45 a.m. All students who will be participating in the hunt, please bring your own Easter basket to hunt for Eggs. The Board of Christian Education will be giving a small Easter basket with some treats in it after the hunt.

VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL

USHERS: Mae Kawahara, Moira Tanaka, Muti Selifis, Marvin Heine

FLOWERS:

- 4/1: Janet Fujioka (Mem)
- 4/8: Easter Lilies – Cindy Debus in charge
- 4/15: Roberta Chu, Alice Fujimoto
- 4/22: Michi Koizumi
- 4/29: Carolyn Lum-Bellem

CHILDCARE:

- 4/1: Margaret Torigoe
- 4/8: Lei Jack
- 4/15: Clarice Suzuki
- 4/22: Jennifer Tanouye
- 4/29: Emi Katada

LAYREADERS:

- 4/1: Bedro Enicar
- 4/8: Marvin Heine
- 4/15: Bob Smith
- 4/22: Mary Ann Katayama
- 4/29: Shizue Akiyama

APRIL PRAYER LIST: Birthday

Please pray for and send a greeting to these Birthday people

- 01 Nakamoto, Joyce
- 05 Kawachika, Kay
- 09 Johnson, Joel
- 14 Kadota, Yoshiko
- 16 Melim, Carol
- Olcott, Thomas
- Yanagihara, Sachiko
- 17 Chen, Nancy
- Kagimoto, Hideko
- 19 Kita, Jean
- 20 Shiroma, Toshiko
- Tanouye, Jonathan
- 21 Niimi, Mildred
- 23 Tanouye, Kenneth
- 27 Kusinski, Leigh
- 28 Chu, Roberta

PERSONALS:

SADAKO OKIMOTO, 95, passed away on March 15 at the Hilo Medical Center. She was a retired secretary to the Hawaii District Superintendent and served as the church secretary for many years. She is survived by two sisters on Oahu, many nieces and

nephews. Her memorial service was held at the church on March 21.

TOSHIAKI KAWASAKI, 79, passed away on March 14. Toshi was a retired elementary school teacher and served on many Boards for the church and the community. He is survived by wife: Yasue; son: Kevin (Suzanne); daughter: Kathy (Guy) Saruwatari; two sisters, a sister-in-law; three grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Service was held at Dodo Mortuary on March 23 officiated by Pastor Tom.

40 PIECES OF ADVICE

1. Walk 10-30 minutes every day. And SMILE while you walk.
2. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes everyday. Lock yourself in if necessary
3. Listen to good music every day: it is true food for the spirit.
4. When you wake up each morning, say the following: Today my goal is _____
5. Live with the 3E's:
Energy, Enthusiasm and Empathy
6. Play more games than last year.
7. Read more books than last year.
8. Look at the sky at least once a day and realize in what magnificent world we live.
9. Dream more while you are awake!
10. Eat more natural foods that manufactured ones!
11. Eat berries and nuts and drink green tea, lots of water and a glass of wine each day (make sure you toast to the bounty in your life, and do it with whose company you love.
12. Try each day to make at least three people smile.
13. Eliminate disorder in you home, your car and your desk, and let new energy flow into your life.
14. Don't waste precious time gossiping or regretting the past or in negative thoughts or in worrying about things beyond your control. Better to convert your energy in what is positive in the present.
15. Realize that life is a school and that you are here to learn. Problems are life's lessons from which you learn.
16. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.

17. Smile and laugh more.
18. Don't miss any opportunity to hug someone you appreciate.
19. Life is too short to waste by hating someone.
20. Don't take yourself too seriously – no one else does.
21. You don't have to win every argument. Just accept that you are not in agreement and that you can agree to disagree.
22. Make peace with your past so you won't ruin your present.
23. Don't compare yourself with others. For always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.
24. Only YOU are in charge of your own happiness.
25. Remember that you don't always have control over what happens, but you do have control over what you do with the experience.
26. Learn something new everyday.
27. What other people think of you is of no concern to you.
28. Love your body and respect it.
29. No matter how good or bad the situation is, it will change
30. Your work will not take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will! Stay on good terms with them.
31. Get rid of everything that is not useful, beautiful or fun.
32. Envy is a waste of time. You already have everything you will ever need.
33. The best is yet to come.
34. No matter how you feel, get up, get dressed and be there.
35. Have wonderful friends.
36. Call your family often and send them messages saying you are thinking of them.
37. Every night before going to bed, say the following:
I give thanks for _____
Today I succeeded in _____
38. Remember you too are blessed to be stressed.
39. Enjoy life – you only have one opportunity, make the best of it.
40. Share this message to someone you care for.