

FROM PASTOR TOM

*...Just One Minute of Your Time...
...On Top of Everything Else...!!*

In the little book "Walking on Water" Anthony DeMello suggests that when we are rushed to get something done (doesn't matter what it is) and want to hurry or speed along in excess of the posted or expected limits, we should slow down and give ourselves an extra minute. Perhaps one extra minute every quarter hour!

It sounds crazy. We are in a hurry – and he wants us to take longer!

That extra minute is always right there in front of us. It will give us the moment we need to catch our breath. In these sixty seconds, we can ask ourselves why we push being pressured with the hustle and bustle of what we think is so important. Is time of the essence – or is entering the experience really what counts?

Take those three deep breaths – 10-15 seconds – reflect on where you are going? What you want to achieve so quickly? What is the real purpose and value we seek?

I can only think of one or two activities I might not want to give the extra minute to. I am cooking a soft boiled egg – 3 minutes, not four! Or, I am fixing something with "crazy glue" and I don't want my finger attached to the object I am mending.

Say we are talking to friends – this extra minute may add the richness to our time together.

We are driving – a little slower – a lot safer and more caring.

Prayer – does anyone want to rush a prayer? The extra minute gives us the moment to silently wait for God – or to reach out way beyond any expectation we had for what could be included.

Reading instructions – time to double check the limits of our understanding and for being grateful someone has thought about giving the advice we need to put it all together.

Listening to the sounds of nature – one more pause to refresh our soul.

Standing in line waiting your turn, when you or I want to shout "Hurry up!" A minute

of pausing lets us bring consideration to those ahead of us, and those behind us. Yup, they are in a hurry too, but they need someone like you to grant them patience and time to get things done well instead of faster, and faster! We might even have chance for a kind and encouraging word.

All of this "one minute more" to what we are doing reminds us we are here to enjoy life – not to rush through the day

Remember Jesus, bending down to write in the sand when people were pressing him with accusations against the woman they accused of adultery. He paused wrote in the dirt, asked if any one present was innocent of error and gave "any innocent person" permission to start the persecution of the accused. But, after a minute or two – all the accusers had walked away. Jesus wasn't in a rush to point his finger. In doing so, Jesus found the time to express forgiveness and give hope for a better way of living.

Yup, sixty seconds, one minute more to whatever we are doing gives us time to transform pressure into hope, silence, tranquility, enjoyment, and mercy - even for ourselves. Give yourself one more minute! Time has already been given to you by God's grace – enjoy the moments.

Warmest Blessings,
Pastor Tom

Dear God, Memorial Day is really special. Reminds me of flags and lilacs in bloom. Reminds me of so many people who at different moments shared their lives with us and wanted to pass on to us the enthusiastic spirit of their days. Let me take a minute to mention them by name... I know I don't have to go to the graveyard to honor their memory. You and I can celebrate them every day with the respect and reverence we extend to others as it has already been extended to us. Thank you, God, for these sacred memories. Amen.

Good News Folks – Byron Toma’s surgery was completed and he was back in Hilo on Friday, May 18th, taking the needed time for his recovery.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

Your gift to Strengthen the Church builds the UCC’s future now by funding The Stillspeaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership formation – especially among women and people of color.

Stillspeaking is the shorter form of “God is still speaking” a campaign by the United Church of Christ to simply remind us that God still has a lot more to say. Since 2004, Stillspeaking has worked with the thousands of UCC churches and individuals across the country to make religion relevant again and to extend an extravagant welcome to all – because no matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you’re welcome here. Here at the United Church of Christ.

Your offerings are directed to your church’s Conference, Local Church Ministries and The Stillspeaking Ministry for church development, leader development and Stillspeaking purposes.

Barbara Iwami
Board of Stewardship and Missions

FAMILY THANK OFFERING

The CHC Women's Fellowship thanks all who participated in this year's Family Thank Offering project with your monetary gifts. Through your generosity a total of \$ 1,050 has been sent to the Woman's Board of Missions. Additional donations are still being accepted and will be sent to the WBM later.

Thank you for helping bless the lives of those with special monetary needs!

-From the CHC Women's Fellowship

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY

- USHERS:** Eric Tanouye & Family
- FLOWERS:** Lily Inouye
- CHILDCARE:** Sachie Fukuda
- LAYREADERS:** Reilly Narruhn
- REFRESHMENT:** Jennie Kondo, Emi Katada,
Anne Sadayasu

VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE

USHERS: Kenneth & Stefan Tanouye Families

FLOWERS:

- 6/3: Yasue Kawasaki, Sachie Fukuda
- 6/10: Eileen Shiraishi (Mem)
- 6/17: Mariko Hong
- 6/24: Gloria Kobayashi

CHILDCARE:

- 6/3: Mae Kawahara
- 6/10: Michi Koizumi
- 6/17: Mary Ann Katayama
- 6/24: Jane Kawazoe

LAYREADERS:

- 6/3: Barbara Iwami
- 6/10: Ruth Niino-Du Ponte
- 6/17: Carol Morioka
- 6/24: Woody Kita

REFRESHMENT:

- 6/2: Samoan Congregation

INVITATION FROM HILO TOASTMASTERS

You are invited to help celebrate

HILO TOASTMASTERS

Diamond Jubilee

1952-2012

Tuesday June 26, 2012

5:30 – 7pm

We will be celebrating our sixty years with a program and potluck.

IYAA CAR WASH

We would like to extend our special thanks to everyone for the kind and generous support we have been receiving throughout our car washes. With the car wash fundraisers, we were able to fully fund unbudgeted activities and events for our group. This month’s car wash will help the IYAA men in covering their expenses for their trip to the MOMUSA Summer Games Ministry, which will be held in San Diego, California. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you very much.

- From the IYAA

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS PRESENTS *THE SAKURA ENSEMBLE*

JAPANESE CULTURAL EXCHANGE
MUSIC – FLOWER ARRANGEMENT - SUMIE
440 LAUNIKAULA ST. HILO, HI.
MAY 30, 2012 10 A.M.



FEATURING: ANNU SHOKO SHIONOYA – KEYBOARDS
JEAN PIERRE THOMA – FLUTE & CLARINET
SPECIAL GUESTS:

CHIKAKO POWERS – IKENOBO IKEBANA DEMONSTRATION
EIKA HOSHINO - SUMIE & CALLIGRAPHY DEMONSTRATION AND ATTENDANT PARTICIPATION
CALL 896-3856 FOR INFORMATION: FREE WILL DONATIONS ACCEPTED

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2012

Vacation Bible School 2012
June 18- 22 5:30 to 8:00 PM (Dinner Served)
Church of the Holy Cross (935 -1283)



Lessons for Pre school to 8th Grade
Pre-school to grade 3 Will focus on Proverbs and Matthew.
Grades 4 to 8 Praise Worship. Each student will make their own
ukulele and creating praise songs.
Parents are welcome to stay for diner and the lessons nightly
June 22 Family Night

Registration Form for VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2012
JUNE 18 – 22 Church of the Holy Cross
440 W. Lanikaula Street Hilo 935-1283
Please mail to the address above