

# THE MESSENGER

Church of the Holy Cross  
United Church of Christ  
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January 22, 2013

## FROM PASTOR TOM

ALOHA and THANK YOU – MAHALO!

We have been blessed to have Pastor Neil Deupree as our Visiting Associate accompanied by his wife, Kay, since mid-October. They have joined us in worship, choir, Bible study, service days, visitation, IYAA activities, decorating, banner making, caroling, Senior Ministry, contributed to the Messenger, been part of the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, and extended the hospitality of the parsonage (as well as doing some needed parsonage repair and maintenance), and much more.

Most of all we celebrate their friendship and the time we have been able to spend together and learn from each other. I have been struck by the emphasis Neil has added as he reads scripture and prays as well as his preaching, and his care and compassionate concern for our members. We enjoyed their shared conversation portrayal of Mary and the “Stargazer.” On his visits, Pastor Neil has on occasion serenaded members with songs of spiritual depth and reassurance.

The day Neil and Kay arrived they immersed themselves and have been supportive, inquisitive, eager, and engaging participants in our Holy Cross ohana. We will miss their presence and will want to take special opportunity to say our personal “Thank You” and “God be with you fare wells” to them this Sunday at our all-church potluck following worship. This Sunday is “Women’s Sunday” and Kay will be our “guest” preacher, however, it will feel less like she is a guest and much more like she is solidly one of us and a very good friend.

Thank you, Neil and Kay, for coming our way so that we could share our life in Hilo with you and for the many personal blessings of ministry you have brought into our midst.

Warmest Blessings,  
PASTOR TOM

## FROM PASTOR NEIL

From your visiting associate minister

### Goodbyes are hard (partly)

October 16 seems like yesterday. But it’s time for us to go back to Wisconsin. (I was going to say “go home” – but Hilo feels like home, too.) We leave on the 10 pm flight on Wednesday, January 30. We’ll be carrying our jackets with us to put on when we get there.

It’s hard to say “Goodbye” because of all the friends we’ve made that we won’t see again – for how long? It’s hard because there are always things left undone – and things we would have done differently. It’s hard because we’ll miss the view from the parsonage living room window. It’s hard because we were hoping that Kilauea would put on a bigger show while we were here. It’s hard because we wish we had the chance to get to know you all better.

But goodbyes are also a time for appreciations. Thanks to pastor Tom for the support and encouragement to be ourselves. Thanks to the choir for taking Neil in. Thanks to the Peanut Butter Ministry for the chance to serve the community. Thanks to the IYAA for their friendship. Thanks to everyone who helped make the parsonage a comfortable place to stay. Thanks for giving us the time and the guidance to enjoy the Big Island. Thanks for being who you are – a diverse family that hosts an even greater variety of people in Hilo – the family of Jesus with a long heritage and a bright future that you are still discovering. Thanks for accepting and loving us just the way we are.

If you’re in Wisconsin, look us up: Neil & Kay Deupree, 419 S Franklin St, Janesville, 53548, phone: 608-752-8342. Otherwise, we can keep in touch by email: [deupreen@charter.net](mailto:deupreen@charter.net).

Grace, Peace & Love, Neil & Kay

## SENIOR MINISTRY

Senior Ministry lunch this Thursday, 10 to 12 noon in the Building of Faith. Pastor Neil will

be our speaker. We will have a delicious lunch too!

### SERVICE DAY

Mark your calendars! The next workday will be February 2 and we need everybody's help. Church workday will be from 8:30 am until about 1 pm. Please come and help. We will be working on the following jobs and others as they are needed:

- Cleaning windows
- Vacuuming the pews
- Weeding the yard
- Getting the parsonage ready for our next Visiting Associate
- Varnishing the hallway of the Parsonage

### CHURCH FUMIGATION JUNE 3-7

**Veteran Termite Exterminators will fumigate the whole church campus during the week of June 3-7.**

This was the week the school could close and we have no scheduled special activities for this week.

They use a non-residual gas, however all food and plants must be removed and Mundo grass may suffer some damage.

Please do not schedule any events for the Holy Cross campus during this week. It normally takes 3 days, however 5 are required in case of rain.

Please notify any groups that have regularly scheduled meetings during this time that they will have to recess during June 3-7 and not plan to be on the Holy Cross Campus, and make sure they have removed any and all food items from the church (don't leave any snacks, sugar packets, etc. at the church during this period).

Thank you for your cooperation in planning ahead to make sure there are no meetings or any other usage of our facilities during the week of June 3-7. Please bring this notice to the attention of all of members of your groups all committees.

### WHAT HATH 2012 WROUGHT

It is always a challenge as to how to approach the review of the past year. The trick is how to do it in a way seeming not too boastful or too apologetic about what had transpired over the course of the year. It is

always a challenge but here we go anyway – and we'll see what we come up with.

Here it is, a brand new year – the Snake one - and here I am trying to dream up (recollect) some juicy gems to repeat to a captive audience. You know I hear from young and old about the rapidity that the year 2012 went by. But honestly, I didn't notice it. Maybe it has to do with my lifestyle.

We made a couple of trips to California during the past year – which has been duly reported via The Messenger – our church newsletter – or handed (forced upon) to you directly. The first one in May was mainly to introduce my Micronesian friend to the city of San Diego. But unfortunately, he was not able to go due to a family emergency. My wife (Mae) took his place. So we weren't able to show-case our newly-found "favorite city" to our friend. As it turned out, it was a great experience and a learning one, too. Oh yes, Keith went along with us too and was a great help in being the assistant driver. (Actually, he drove more than I did). The long drives are becoming more of a chore as age creeps (gallops!) up on us.

The other trip was also to the Golden State – specifically to the City By the Bay – San Francisco. It was for a more serious reason – a medical visit to UCSF to gain a second (and third) opinion on my bout with Parkinson's disease. Oh, it wasn't all that serious – we had fun too – meeting with a nephew, a niece, and friends.

Speaking of trips, we have reservations set to be in Phoenix on May 7, 2013, and in Sacramento on May 17. My sister –in-law will share the driving duties with me – especially on the non –Interstate Highway portions of the trip. The trip includes stops in Sedona, Kanab, UT, Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, then west through central Nevada to Lake Tahoe and on to Sacramento, where we fly out on Hawaiian Airlines back to Honolulu. (More about this projected trip in 6 months).

But what else is there to say? As we age, we seem to live day to day - - being happy and

as well as can be as we get up to greet a new day each and every morning grateful that we are still in command of our God-given faculties. We offer our mahalo to our Akua at this point!

Meanwhile, life goes on around us – the family is intact and doing as well as could be. Our kids (Kids?? 50 years old!) are gainfully employed. The mokupuna – from about 13 to 23 years young are doing their things too. As for Mae and I, despite some of our natural frailties, we enjoy bowling (3 or 4 times a week), community service, church attendance, caring for grandchildren, working in the garden, and socializing with friends and neighbors.

We used to have a yearly mochi-pounding session hosting friends and neighbors but that proved to be too burdensome so we ceased doing it about 5 years ago. We still do the kalua thing about 6 times a year – inviting friends to put in their favorite – pork, chicken, ham, turkey, kulolo, or whatever – into the imu- topped off with a gathering where we enjoy each others company and do a couple of Kampais to top off the day’s activities. But even this sort of celebration is waning.

Now the mochi is pounded by a machine – made in Japan, no less – and more and more of the responsibility of doing the kalua is left to our son –in –law Ben. I’ve risen to the rank of Elder Statesman and have attained the stature of SK – Supervisor of Kalua. (Check this out on YouTube – Seniors Living in Paradise – I think it’s under my name.)

As we approach another new year – year, 76 of them have gone by so far – with hope, faith and love, we wish you an even greater one with hopes of seeing you in the meantime.

Aloha Ke Akua,  
\*The Kawaharas

\*The Raymonds of Hilo – Ben, Kim, Marielle @ Mahealani  
The Kawaharas of Waikele – Keith, Linda, Larissa & Brendan  
The Hilo Kawaharas – Karl & Mae

**SIGN-UP FOR HELPING TO SERVE  
REFRESHMENTS AFTER WORSHIP**

A sign-up sheet for a tentative schedule of when refreshments will be served after worship is now posted. The second and fourth Sundays are tentatively set with special events happening throughout the year. All supplies are provided including the juice for punch and cookies to serve. Servers should plan to prepare, set-up and serve the goodies; check that the tables and chairs are ready with windows open; clean up the kitchen, the main hall by wiping the tables, clean the large spills and closing the windows. Call Margaret at 935-4071 if you have questions or call the church office to sign-up by phone. Please sign-up for a good date for you to provide a venue for our time for fellowship. Thank you.



**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS  
PRESENTS  
THE SAKURA ENSEMBLE  
JAPANESE SUMIE ART PRESENTATION & LESSONS  
HOLY CROSS CHURCH 440 W LANIKAULA  
TUES, FEB 5 2PM  
FEATURING  
SUMIE ARTIST & EDUCATOR EIKA HOSHINO  
TODAY’S FOCUS IS ON ETEGAMI – ART POSTCARDS  
ANNU SHOKO SHIONOYA – KEYBOARDS  
JEAN PIERRE THOMA – FLUTE & SAXOPHONE**



**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS  
PRESENTS  
THE SAKURA ENSEMBLE  
RUDOLPH STEINER MUSICAL EDUCATION  
CHILDREN’S PROGRAM, FEATURING LYRE SOLO  
PRESENTATION**

**HOLY CROSS CHURCH 440 W LANIKAULA  
TUES, FEB 10 AM 935-1283  
FEATURING LYRE ARTIST & EDUCATOR MIYUKI  
IKESUE  
ANNU SHOKO SHIONOYA – KEYBOARDS  
JEAN PIERRE THOMA – FLUTE & SAXOPHONE**