

✠ ✠ **THE MESSENGER** ✠ ✠

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ
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June 18, 2013

Memories are made by us!

We just attended the Baccalaureate service for the all girl's high school Meghan, my granddaughter, graduated from. Her 2013 senior class wrote the flowing letter to themselves, their teachers, their fellow students, and their family and friends. They read the letter as a litany of multi-ethnic voices echoing from their whole class. They share a perspective on learning from cherished memories that can guide us all in life. Here is what they said:

"The class of 2013 has not only been shaped solely by our peers or an event that shaped us. We, as the most recent graduating class, will walk down the hill knowing we have been shaped most profoundly by our teachers, mentors, coaches and all that make up this family away from home."

"Standing before this audience, on a day that for so long seemed so far away we are expected to remember; to recall memories that may or may not stick with us for the rest of our lives."

"Such memories have empowered us to be more creative with the memories to come. These memories are the ones that made us want to relive the past."

"You are a huge part of these experiences we now call memories. Among us stand:

"The person who is there to make everyone else laugh"

"The realist who focuses on the serious issues"

"The outgoing one who naturally pulls us out of our comfort zone"

"The one who signed up for every club, every weekend activity, talked enthusiastically at every community dinner, and tried out for every sport"

"Maybe you have not. Maybe you spent most of your time in your bed watching Netflix. And that is okay."

"Whoever you are, wherever you are from, without you, our memories would not be complete. Without you, there would be nothing to look back on; nothing compared to the memories we have now."

"When we walk down that hill tomorrow in a white dress with red roses in hand, turn around as you reach the bottom. Look back at (the) Old House and close your eyes."

"When you close your eyes promise that your mind will not gravitate toward negative thoughts, but toward every good and bad moment of all the times we have shared."

"When you open your eyes, walk away and leave behind the years spent (here, and now) feeling perfectly content with what you have accomplished."

Blessings to all graduates,

Pastor Tom

WE WELCOME RUTH FARRELL TO OUR OHANA



Ruth Farrell, chaplain at Kamehameha Schools Hawaii, became a member of our church on June 2. At Kamehameha, she is responsible for many things, but focuses on overseeing the Christian Education department, teaching 9-12 Christian Education classes, and performing various ceremonial duties. One Sunday a month, she takes a team of high school students to churches around the Island where they lead worship services. She moved to Hilo last November from Lancaster, Ohio, where she was the pastor of Grace United Church of Christ for the past five years.

Ruth earned degrees in Music (piano and vocals) and English from Wheaton College in Illinois and went on to teach in Pennsylvania public schools. She also worked as a social worker at a school for female juvenile delinquents and at the Park Street Church in Boston.

Ruth began hearing her call to ministry during her Confirmation, but, because of her experiences as a Pastor's Kid, resisted the call for many years. Finally, in 2004, she began her Master of Divinity degree at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. During seminary, she served as the Worship Pastor at Dane Street United Church of Christ in Beverly, MA. Her first solo pastorate was at Zion

Blue Mountain UCC, near her Pennsylvania hometown.

Ruth's two greatest passions in ministry are designing creative, engaging worship services and helping people of all ages be transformed into disciples (particularly through Christian Education). On a more personal note, she hates lima beans and her favorite color is purple. While at Kamehameha, the most frequently asked question is "How tall are you?" (5"10"). Her favorite things about Hawai'i are the smell of the air first thing in the morning, the year-round availability of fresh/locally grown fruits/vegetables, and the incredible diversity of the people and the land. Things she misses about the mainland are her friends, family, Trader Joe's, and seasonal weather.

Her father, Bruce is now an interim minister after retiring from the Army National Guard as a chaplain. Her mother, Susan, is a certified nurse midwife. Her brother Caleb is in the U.S. Army, and sister Bethany is a PhD candidate in Art History.

Ruth preached at the morning worship at the 'Aha Pae'aina held June 6-8 at Kailua, Kona.

Phoenix to Sacramento

May 7— 17, 2013

By Karl Kawahara

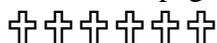
I recently ran across an article in a travel folder regarding the five best road trips in the USA. Coincidentally I had traveled on every one of them except that portion of the Highway so described as The Loneliest Road in America — a portion of Route 50 which spans Northern Nevada and literally goes across the entire USA from Maryland to California. The loneliest part is that portion which goes across Nevada and by actual count it certainly qualifies. In a 258 mile segment of the route from Ely to Fallon, Nevada I counted less than 100 cars. We made a short lunch stop in Austin (not Texas) which was at about the half-way point in our days trip.

There weren't many towns along the way either. It was a lonely trip alright but the monotony seemed to be broken by the beautiful sights of mountains and green sagebrush mostly. The sagebrush here seemed to be different than in other places in the west. They were actually green and they stood out.

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So with the completion of this trip another aspect of our association with parts of our beautiful country has been accomplished - spanning the loneliest portion of a major highway. I had read about this aspect of our trip before but to experience it was one of the highlights of the trip.

After landing safely at Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix at nearly the stroke of midnight we called for our ride to the Best Western Airport Inn. Yes. we were tuckered out after the long trip (and red eyed) but we managed to get some real rest and ready for our next day's adventure.

With a hearty breakfast tucked in our opu, we got on the airport shuttle to pick up our

car at the Airport Rental Agency. After getting all of the paper work done, we got into the car (a VW Passat) and tried to adjust the seat, the rear view mirrors. And to get the car started so we could get to our first destination, all to no avail. I had to call a guy over to show me how to make the adjustments and to actually start the car.

After we got that part of our trip squared away, we were on our way on 1-17 north to Sedona. But it wasn't to be as a truck ahead of me got in the way of the directional signs and before we knew it we passed the intended off ramp and so spent the next 1/2 hour or so trying to find our way back to 1-17 north to Sedona. So it was we spent a goodly amount of time exploring suburban Phoenix which weren't in our plans at all. A helpful guy at a service station got us on the right track with the usual, "It's straight ahead, you can't miss it" piece of advice. We didn't miss it this time and got on 1-17 North to our day's destination - Sedona, AZ.

Sedona turned out to be as beautiful as expected with its hills of vermilion red visible all over the entire area. It was everything and more than we expected. From our hotel we got a nice view of the surrounding areas which we took in with much gusto. The "red city" proved to be as beautiful as its surroundings as the city fathers (and mothers) saw fit to keep it clean and presentable.

But our short-lived stay in Sedona had to end as we headed north on Highway 89A to Flagstaff to keep a rendezvous with Logan Moniz, a student at Northern Arizona State College. He is Jeanette's grandson. We had a

nice time chatting with him about Hawaii things in general as he seemed to have missed things at home in Hawaii. He ate only a salad as he was on a self-imposed diet of a sort which showed in his slender build. We bade a brief farewell as we were going to see him again in a few weeks.

We then got on the road for a fairly long drive to Kanab, UT. The whole route was so scenic. The Vermillion Cliffs in extreme southern Utah has to be one of the most beautiful sights on any trip. The setting is typical of southern Utah. But while admiring the passing scenery we get to our destination — Kanab. We went to a local market to get some food for a hotel room meal. Having got our goodies for the night. we repaired to our room to consume what we had bought. It was typical rest stop with little to see - mostly to rest our weary minds and bodies.

The next morning we were up bright and early to make our way to the jewel of Utah's natural wonders - Bryce Canyon. After a brief souvenir stop at the entrance we drove to the very end on Highway 63 and then worked our way back. Choosing the most enticing stops. The most enjoyable stop was at the end of Highway 63.

Then you get a panoramic view of the intricate formations that gives Bryce one of the most scenic encounters of anywhere in the US. Trying to describe is beyond my ability to do justice to the subject. One must actually view the various viewpoints to really comprehend the magnificence of it all. (To think it is named after an early Mormon missionary who happened to be wandering, through the area in search of a place to feed his cattle or some such thing.) And to think his name is indelibly entrenched in the annals of history, and thanks to the National Park Service for preserving this natural phenomenon.

The night's activity was no less fun filled. We had made reservations (wisely) to see a western type show at Ebenezer's Barn & Grill. Not really knowing what was in store for us, we got there a few minutes early. (It was located across the street from our BW Ruby's Inn.) The crowd grew as we waited outside for the doors to open. Promptly at the designated time, the guy (as it turned out he was a musician, head counter, ticket collector, an all-around type) opened the doors to let us in.

The show proved to be a variety of Western music, rope tricks, gun toting tricks and a myriad of things associated in our minds with the Hollywood version of the West, I

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guess. (But like the luau entertainment on Kauai, it proved to be a winner in every way!) At the end of the show I was enticed to go and buy a few of their CDs along with chatting with members of the cast. All in all, it topped off a wonderful night and our stay at Ruby's and Bryce Canyon NP. Aloha and a hui hou to Ebenezer's and Ruby's for a great stay at a great place.

The dots along a highway on a route indicate a scenic route - that is, it is supposed to be a scenic drive by AAA standards. As I read somewhere in an AAA publication, it can be a subjective thing as different people make these judgments as they drive along a given route. Thus, what might be considered scenic to one driver may be trashy to another and so the dots or lack of them on any given route may occur. The route from Bryce Canyon to Ely, NV was a case in point. Much of it had dots alongside of it so I chose that certain route. Much of the way is in higher elevations (over 5,000 foot levels). The scenic route proved to be mostly sagebrush as I indicated earlier. It is beautiful in a sense but it can get overwhelming at times - too much of a good thing.

Anyhow, the trek was made from Bryce Canyon to Fallon, NV in two hops (days). I hadn't realized the distance we would have to travel to get across the northern part of Nevada. Both stops at Ely and Fallon, NV were relatively uneventful but necessary as Jeanette and I took turns at the wheel.

After Fallon we headed toward South Lake Tahoe which was supposed to be our next stop. By a not-too-strange coincidence we were headed toward Fernley and Reno instead of Carson City and Tahoe. (I refer to it as not-so-strange because on this and many other trips we've taken wrong roads.) After several miles of a misguided tour we were back on the "Loneliest Road in the USA" and headed toward South Lake Tahoe.

And here we need to pause for an explanation of a somewhat humorous situation. We had decided to do the Tahoe Queen cruise again. As we got to the pier to sign up for the cruise we were met by a fast-talking guy who said we could save \$100 by listening to a real estate sales pitch for about an hour. The place was right next door where we listened to a guy give a sales pitch on a time-share apartment

type deal. We were quite in a daze as to what the whole deal was about but we sat and listened to his spiel. He said that he got married in Waikoloa and was familiar with the Big Island. He then proceeded to explain in not so lay terms at times about the great deal. We listened intently while he explained the deal to us by showing us the actual rooms that we could purchase, etc.

As the time approached for the Tahoe Queen's departure, he desperately looked around for the (guy to close the deal for us. He finally located the guy to close the deal at \$20,000 down instead of \$40,000 if we waited to close the deal later. (Of course we had no intention of buying the time-share apartment but the offer of a trade-off to listen to him sounded like a good deal so we bit. Meanwhile the clock is ticking away and it's about time for the Tahoe Queen to leave. While I went out to retrieve the car from valet service - the girls waited for the guy to come up with the terms of the deal. After signing for it, Mae was handed a Reward Card for \$100. We then hurried to the pier - about 15 minutes late - to board the waiting Tahoe Queen.

All in all it was worth the trouble. I hadn't known that the deal was for us to at least listen to the man's story and it would earn us a \$100 even if we didn't buy into the scheme. As it turned out we got the hundred dollars and got to sail on the cruise for \$126 minus \$100 which was the amount of the passage for the three of us. (Sometimes it pays to be ignorant and go with the flow.)

The cruise itself was a 2 hour so-so trip not very exciting but educational as there was a visual presentation on the development of the area going on constantly through the cruise. The night life proved to be a bust. Let me explain. It was Mae's birthday and I had in mind a special celebration. We picked the wrong place for such an occasion. It looked well enough from the outside but it proved to be a bust. I had arranged for a piece of cake with a candle - to the accompaniment of the traditional Happy Birthday song. Well none of it happened as the waitress had apparently forgotten or just didn't care. In any case, it proved to be a failure - even the service was slow and the food wasn't that great either. So much for a Happy Birthday!

The next stop was Pine Grove, CA where we were to be hosted by Frank and Mary Ann Tortorich. We had a little problem finding their house (in the pine grove, no less) but after a phone call for help we got to the place in the pines. The next 18 hours or

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so were spent discussing events of the past and what might be for the future.

Frank had apparently gone through some trying times in the past few years. What with a heart procedure and all.

It proved to be a surprise to me as he seemed to be in great shape — except for a loss of a few hairs (which all of us seniors suffer). He seemed to be in top shape - despite his brush with a life-threatening situation. Mary Ann had some problems too, but she is fine and is her usual bubbly self. We spent the night there and enjoyed a scrumptious dinner prepared by Chef Frank himself. (We have to ask him to try to outdo himself when they pay us a visit in January.) It was so delicious and most of it from scratch, too.)

And so we bade aloha to our hosts for the night and headed for our final stop in Sacramento. On the way there I stopped at a AAA place on the outskirts of Sacramento. As I stepped in the office, a girl asked if I was the person written on a piece of paper. (She was not able to pronounce my name.) Seeing my name (although a little misspelled) I replied yes - wondering how in the world she would have my name. It turned out that Mary Ann had called leaving a message that I had forgotten my toiletry kit and wondered if she should mail it to my address in Hilo. After assuring her that it wasn't necessary we left the AAA office - with our faith in humankind restored after that little fiasco at Lake Tahoe.

I found out later at our next stop at BW Sandman Inn in Sacramento that the hotel is prepared for such emergencies as I inquired at the front desk about their offer of a toiletry kit - expecting to pay an exorbitant sum - but no. it was free. It was a complete kit with toothpaste, toothbrush, razor and shaving cream (Barbersol - my brand, no less). The guy behind the counter got a big mahalo and a few packets of mac nuts. I always take along a few dozens of mac nuts (Mauna Loa Brand) to give to deserving hotel people who are especially nice to us. When I offered them the packets they are so thrilled. Ninety nine per cent of them know what they are and are so delighted by the offer that they vow to visit the islands someday - after they have saved up enough for the trip.

As planned George and Juliet Katayama came to pick us up for dinner that night and what a dinner it was! It was a restaurant run by

Asiatics and called Buffet #1. It was a huge place with a huge amount of food - I would say at least a hundred different choices. There was everything - literally from soup to nuts and everything else in between - including, sushi. crab legs, fish, steak. cooked to order food - and all for 513.95 per person. There weren't el cheapo stuff either. Many of them were first rate stuff (Too bad at my advanced age I was not able to eat like the old days.) I would highly recommend Buffet #1 to anyone. There are many choices that you wouldn't leave there wanting anything more. So if you're in the Sacramento area, go and give the place a try. I guarantee that you will like the place. (Thank you, George and Juliet, for dinner and introducing us to a wonderful place.)

The next day we had lunch with Evelyn Riggs. She prepared a meal for us which was great. Evelyn has a lovely home in a senior complex in Roseville. Her son-in-law and grandson joined us for lunch. We hope to see her on her next trip to Hawaii.

The next day we were up bright and early to get our rental car back to the airport. It was a good thing that I had rehearsed the routine the previous day as I found out I had to return the car to a different dealer. Thank God for the pre-return dry run.

So, that's our trip in a nutshell. It was great trip! Thank God for my sister-in-law's help in driving parts of the way. I no longer can drive more than 200 miles at a stretch because of age and the effects of PD.

So with your prayers and the guidance of the Divine Power we have concluded another road trip - safely. A hui hou, malama pono.

*Aloha Ke Akua,
Karl, Mae & Jeanette*

FAMILY THANK OFFERING

The Family Thank Offering (FTO) is one of the mission projects of our Church of the Holy Cross Women's Fellowship and the Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands. Requests for financial assistance made by churches, the community and members of the WBM are considered by the FTO Committee each year.

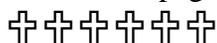
The FTO Committee made the following report for disbursements made from July 2011 – June 2012:

- Pay for a cell phone account, bus pass expenses and lodging for a woman in crisis at the YWCA.

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- *Defray costs for a woman who received medical treatment for breast cancer as well as earlier medical needs.*
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- *Help pay for utility bills for a struggling family on the Big Island who was facing a disconnection of service.*
-
- *Help for a 74-year old widow confined to a wheelchair whose deceased husband's pension benefits were suspended while her claim was being reviewed. The WBM had been contacted by the Department of Veteran Affairs on Kauai about offering support for her. She was able to use the monetary gift for food and needed medication.*
- *Supplement expenses for a roof repair, after receiving word that the roof on a home on the Big Island had caved in. The family was able to complete the roof repair and prevent further damage to the home.*

Our church members and friends have always been compassionate to the plight of those in need and have, over the years, given generously to this annual Family Thank Offering. We pray that you will continue to open your hearts and share God's love through this special offering which will be received and dedicated on Sunday, June 23rd.

A special FTO envelope will be enclosed in this week's newsletter mailing. Checks should be made out to: Church of the Holy Cross with the notation for Family Thank Offering. All monies received will be forwarded to the Woman's Board of Missions.

"...Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."
(NRSV)

-Mahalo from the CHC Women's Fellowship

SENIOR MINISTRY

Our senior ministry session will be on Thursday, June 27th, 10 to 12 noon in the Building of Faith. Come, join the group for an interesting session, good company and a delicious lunch Sign up on the senior ministry bulletin board or call the church office (ph: 935-1283) if you're able to attend .If you haven't been able to attend, you really don't know what you're missing!!

***Vacation
Bible School
at the
Church of the Holy Cross
Tuesday, Wednesday, and
Thursday
June 18, 19, and 20
5:00 to 8:00 PM***

(VBS is free, but please let the office know you plan to attend so we can be sure to be ready for you!)

Vacation Bible School & YOU

Let's "Hop" to It!

Church of the Holy Cross' Vacation Bible School is going to teach you how to Fully Rely on God. Explore how stories like David and Goliath and Daniel and the Lion teach us how to F.R.O.G.!

Come and join us:

June 18, 19, 20

5:00 - 7:45pm (dinner included)

For ages Preschool - 6th grade

Worship & Scripture for June

Ushers: Stefan and Jennifer Tanouye,
Ken and Lois Tanouye

Sunday June 23: Luke 8:26-39

Sermon: "Present With God"

Lay Reader: Carol Morioka

Flowers: Betty Pacheco, Blanche Maeda,
and Jenny Kondo

Child Care: Jean Kita

Sunday June 30: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Sermon: "In Your Working Clothes"

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Woody Kita

Flowers: Gloria Kobayashi

Child Care: Saeko Hayashi

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JULY PRAYER LIST: Birthdays

Please pray for and send a greeting to these
 Birthday people

01	Miyahira, Michael Sagawa, Ryan
05	Kondo, Sueo
06	Smith, Suzanne
09	Kawazoe, Jane
10	Shiroma, Thomas Saito, Amy
11	Yoshimasu, Ethel
13	Okabe, Wilfred
19	Jack, Grillena Maeda, Toshio
21	Miyazono, Florence
25	Mishina, Reynold
29	Inouye, Mieke
30	Fujioka, Janet Kobayashi, Gloria Kubo, Natsuko

July Events

- **While Pastor Tom is away on vacation in July**, Pastor Cliff will provide pastoral ministry for our members, lead Bible Study, will preach, conduct worship on Sundays, and be on call as needed. **The Parsonage phone number remains as (808)-315-7181.**

-**July 4**, Office Closed

-**Peanut Butter Ministry**, July 9 and 11

-**Refreshments** on July 14 and 28

-**Service Day on July 20**

- **Choir Rehearsal** Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

- **Sunday School** on break until August

- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** meets in the sanctuary on Sunday at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei – Hilo** worships in the BF meeting room Sundays.
- **The Samoan Church** worships in the sanctuary at 3 pm Sundays.
- **Bible Study** Monday 6:30-8:00 PM
- **Gentle Yoga** Monday 9:30-10:30am (BF Meeting Room)
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class** meets Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. (BF)
- **Bible Study** Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. (Pastor's office)
- **IYAA Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. (Lounge)
- **Qi Goong exercise class** meets Friday morning 9-10:30 a.m. (BF)