

✠ ✠ **THE MESSENGER** ✠ ✠

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ
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August 20, 2013

IT IS ALL AROUND US!

Someone once told me, "To explore the world, just step out into your own backyard!" Here, you and I will find the great diversity of nature - large and small. Winding growing vines persistently grabbing hold of any idea of available space that they can reach out and pull themselves higher every day always branching out in new directions.

In the space around us, other plants blossom and the flowers pass away day after day. New buds, new color, new beauty, wonderful fragrances! Some take days and weeks and months to bud and show their beauty and then hang on to the bevy of their color for weeks on end. There is contrast and there is surprise!

Critters climb and crawl and leave slimy ghost like tracks across the stones and side walks. Surely these have devoured vegetation and left holes in giant broad leaves.

Then, in the early morning hours a chorus of birds serenade us into wakefulness, and again just before supper time they chatter in cacophonous harmony. It sounds like each bird has a notebook full of adventures to tell their mates about how the day unfolded.

Oh, I know there are the red ants that crawl across my ankles in silence, and then suddenly announce with biting stings that I myself have stepped into their space and safety zones.

Along with this, there are the bananas and pineapples that I watch come to the fullness of their fruitfulness over long and patient months. Here, I learn to wait and observe. Add on the avocados that drop when ripe.

We don't want to forget the coquies who chirp. Nor, shall I forget the vermilion green geckoes that dance over the walls – some as tiny as inch worms, others as bold and huge as a felt tip marker.

The entertainment, the growth, the beauty, the relaxing patter of the rain, and the warmth of the sun – all remind me I am not alone, we are not alone! God has given us the world to see running helter-skelter in joy and color, sound, and wonder.

Marvelous isn't it! Something new and amazing every day! Change and everyday creation are constantly announcing new life!

Warmest Blessings,

Pastor Tom

Moderator's Message

Aloha,

As we walk on our journey of transition we see our goals but we do not know all the roads we will travel. This will be a journey of discovery and spiritual growth.

A meeting was held with Hawaii Conference Minister, Reverend Charles Buck, on August 6. He gave us a commitment of support from the Conference and information on UCC processes for transition. We are blessed that the UCC has a clearly defined process with guidelines and resources. At that meeting Reverend Buck also told us that Associate Conference Minister Diane Weible will be our mentor providing support and guidance. The church council and pastoral relations committee will be meeting with Rev. Weible the first week of September.

The period of transition has some distinct phases. Below are brief descriptions.

The first phase is pastoral resignation and farewell which is about 3 months. It is when we celebrate Pastor Tom's time with us and say our good byes. During this phase the church council and pastoral relations committee also begins the interim pastor search process.

The second phase is securing our transitional pastor(s). We may have a supply pastor for a time prior to our interim pastor coming on board. The church council and pastoral relations committee will bring recommendations for the interim pastor to the congregation for approval. In our last transition 10 years ago, Reverend Choo Lak Yeow was with us for about 18 months.

During the interim ministry, the search and call process occurs. A Search Committee is appointed and begins the search process. This is a time of discernment and prayer for the Search Committee and the congregation. Out of this discernment a church profile is developed. The profile is the foundation for pastoral search and selection.

The final phase is the Call to our new pastor. From the acceptance of the call to the arrival time for our new Senior Minister it can be 1 to 3 months until the new pastor is installed.

As we progress through the transition let us be mindful that there will be ups and downs. But with prayer, patience and respect for the ideas and feeling of others, we will emerge as a Church of the Holy Cross ready to face the joys and challenges to come.

Peace be with you,
Sue

WELCOME JASON CHU

Jason Chu, our next Visiting Associate will be arriving on August 20, 2013.

Please join us for refreshments and a reception for Jason after our August 25 service.

Jason Chu to perform at Praise Jam Aug. 23, 2013 at

Church of the Holy Cross

The Hawaii Island Mokupuni will present a Praise Jam from 6 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 23, at the Church of the Holy Cross Building of Faith. The event will feature Los Angeles Christian hip hop artist Jason Chu.

Come and sing your praises to the lord. All music styles and languages are welcome. The event is hosted by Holy Cross and Kalapana Mauna Kea Congregations.

**Chinese Civic Association of Hawaii
Moon Festival Dinner,
Annual Membership**

&

**Election of 2014 Officers
Meeting**

Sunday, September 22, 2013

At

**Church of the Holy Cross
Building of Faith
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, HI
Registration: 5:00 p.m.**

Cost & Reservation

12 & UP: \$8.00

5 – 12: \$5.00

Under 5: FREE

**Reservations Must Be Made with
Newton Chu's Office at
961-0406 by September 15, 2013 for
head count!**

Two New Books in the Church Library

Cliff Cain has donated his two latest books on religion and ecology/environmental theology to the library at the church. They are entitled "**Many Heavens, One Earth**" (2012) and "**Down to Earth**" (2009) and address environmental concerns from a Christian and other world religions' point-of-view.

Church Picnic

Our annual church picnic held on Aug. 11th was enjoyed by all who attended. They enjoyed our Hilo style bento and the guessing games and bingo. The children were excited going down the giant water slide. Everyone enjoyed the cold watermelon and shaved ice. Our thanks to all who donated gift cards to KTA, Zippy's and Don's Grill and monetary donations. Thank you also to all the volunteers who helped prepare the bentos and plan for the activities. It was a fun time for all.

Electronic Messenger

If you would prefer to receive the Messenger via email please contact the Church office at holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com

**Dynamic duo to join
Rock County Hall of Honor**

Kay along with Neil Deupree, our Visiting Associate last winter, were honored in their home town.

"However you put it, the phrase—even without their last name—means service.

Neil and Kay Deupree were inducted into the Rock County Hall of Honor at the James L. Wells Cultural Center at the UWRock County.

Every year, the Rock County Board of Supervisors Hall of Honor Committee asks for nominations to the Hall of Honor. Inductees are residents who have contributed in significant ways to their communities through service, volunteerism or leadership.

In her statement about Kay Deupree, Sandra Kraft wrote, "Kay is part of the 'Neil and Kay' famous duo that has made our county a better place. She is an activist, educator, volunteer extraordinaire, leader, environmentalist and mentor. She is committed to women's equality, social and racial justice, underprivileged children, criminal justice initiative and neighborhood improvement activities." Kay worked at UW Extension as a nutrition educator.

Neil moved his family from Cleveland in 1990 to be pastor of First Christian Church in Janesville. In 1997, he retired from those duties to commit himself full time to better race relations in the county.

Neil has led and been involved with a variety of community groups including the Diversity Action Team, the Janesville Action Council, Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, the Janesville Ministerial Association, Justice Overcoming Borders and Beloit Community Ministers Fellowship.

"Together (Neil and Kay) walk the talk. They purchased an older house in the diverse Fourth Ward of Janesville and remodeled it into a warm, welcoming home and are actively involved in their neighborhood's activities," Kraft wrote.

The Rock County Hall of Honor was established in 1982 to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the people of Rock County."

**Fall Youth Camp
Camp Mokule'ia
Waialua, Oahu
October 6-8, 2013**

Real-World Faith

Using the arts such as media, drama, and music, camp participants will express what they experience in life and how their faith can best help them with any challenges.

Space is limited. Deadline to register is September 6, or until camp spaces are filled. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis, so get you forms and payment in as soon as possible.

Cost:

\$100 for Oahu Youth
\$150 for Neighbor Island Youth
(includes airfare)

Download the registration forms from
www.hcucc.org.

Pastors: Remember, your signature is required.

Mail registration forms and payment to:
HCUCC-Youth Camp
Attention: Lee Henry-Chang
1848 Nu'uanu Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96817

Travel Information will be provided after registration has been received.

Questions?

Call Lee Henry-Chang at 791-5640 or 800-734-7610 x640

Senior Ministry

Senior Ministry will be THIS THURSDAY, August 22, 2013 from 10am to noon in the Building of Faith. Our speaker will be Debra Lee. Debra was responsible for bringing HENRY OPUKAHAIA'S remains back to Hawaii. Henry O was one of the first native Hawaiian to become a Christian, inspiring American Protestant missionaries to come to the islands in the 19th century.

Need TVs

The Church of the Holy Cross is requesting donations for working old flat screen TVs to replace our old TVs. If you have a TV that you would like to donate, please contact the Church office at 808-935-1283.

SAVE CANCELLED STAMPS!

The Women's Fellowship continues to collect cancelled postage stamps. These stamps are sent to a village in Germany and to New York. The stamps help to support disabled persons in the communities. Just leave a little margin around the stamp and bring them to church. There is a box for these stamps in the back of the church.

Worship & Scripture for August

Ushers: Kay Kawachika, Jane Kawazoe, Newton Chu, Cindy Debus

Sunday August 25:

**Jason Chu's First Sunday
with us as Visiting Associate**

Luke 13:10-17

Sermon: "Let the Healing Wholeness Begin"

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Newton Chu

Flowers: Herbert Watanabe

Child Care: Millie Daikawa

Sunday September 1:

COMMUNION

Labor Day Sunday

Luke 14:1, and 7-14

Sermon: "Open Table-Food for Everyone"

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Reilly Narruhn

Flowers: Carol Morioka

Child Care: Eric Tanouye

AUGUST PRAYER LIST: Birthday

Please pray for and send a greeting to these Birthday people

- | | |
|----|--|
| 22 | Kawata, Teruo
Smith, G. Robert |
| 25 | Yamauchi, Kay |
| 27 | Kurohara, Randall
Shiraishi, Eileen
Shiroma, Amy |
| 28 | Akim Seu, Susan
Sadayasu, Anne |
| 29 | Okabe, Merle
Watanabe, Herbert |
| 31 | Hayano, Hajime |