

✠ ✠ **THE MESSENGER** ✠ ✠

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ  
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September 4, 2013

## *LET'S GO FISHING*

*(John 21)*

Following Pentecost, in the *good news* Gospel of John, Peter and at least four other disciples decided to *go fishing*. They wanted to do something ordinary, hands on, resume the old pattern of the business of life – something their families had raised them for – some might even say something they were born for. Was it in their blood? Was it part of how their bodies exercised and worked out and through any anxieties of change, grief, or loss? *Going fishing* takes us to a place on the open water, a place of work where one can patiently think more clearly? It could have been all of these.

"Let's Go fishing?" "OK, I'm up for it! Who knows what we catch?" And while we are at it, we will spend time together working off our excess energy. We will have the quiet kind of un-interrupted time on the water, the slap of the waves on the hull, to remind us we always, after all is said, do live in a bond of trusting mutual shared relationships. It will be *good for us to go fishing* – and share time together - waiting for the catch which, when it comes, will be a gift from the sea – a gift of God's grace – something to sustain and nourish us – reminding us we are connected to the creatures of God.

Is this what you think of ***when you go fishing?***

This is what happens to me ***when I go fishing***. Once, my family and I went with commercial haulers in the wee-dark hours of the morning. We chugged through the fog and the mist. We came to where the trap net lay in a cove like channel between two small islands. The four dory's lined up on each side of the net, and we all began to haul – back bent

over, pulling up-wards hand-over-hand, slowly the hauled net settled back into the water and the dories came closer and closer together. Then, the water began to boil. Boil with fish, that is! As the catch came over the side of the dory, the weight became harder and heavier. How amazing! From the depths came life! From the sea came the bounty!

So now, in a smaller boat, ***you and I - we go out to fish***. We bait our hooks and cast our lines. We slowly reel in the lines. Perhaps it will be better on the other side? So we try. You hook one, and then another strikes on the third cast! We are finding food for tomorrow – or dinner for tonight. If we go out again in the morning, we can have breakfast by the shore.

***Jesus disciples went out to go fishing***. They didn't catch much at first. Then, a stranger on the beach called to them to try the other side and their nets filled with 153 big fish! They recognized from the depths of life that God was blessing them with a bounty to be shared. When they realized this, they also recognized ***Jesus was still with them in the work they had to do***. It was time for them to leave the lake side and take their ministry to ***people who need to be fed with the love of God. Jesus had called them to be fishers of people!***

***Let's go fishing*** so we can remind ourselves the bounty of our lives is for the ***feeding of people with the love God has given us to share...to draw from the depths of God's grace***.

*Warmest Blessings,*

*Pastor Tom*

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The Church of the Holy Cross, UCC  
440 West Lanikaula St., Hilo, 96720

## **LET US LISTEN**

Two weeks into my stay at Holy Cross, I'm still just starting to get used to the sights and sounds of the island. A chorus of frogs at night – the swell and fade of a downpour – cars roaring past the parsonage on Lanikaula Street.

In such fresh surroundings, my ears seem alive in a never-before-seen way, basking in the colorful variety of new (to me, at least!) input.

For contrast, when I'm at home in California, I never make the 45-minute drive to the beach – only when out-of-town friends come to visit. And I have many friends in New York, London, Beijing, and around the world who only remember how much they love their city when they see it from the eyes of a newcomer.

Isn't that true of our whole lives? In so many ways, it is when we are out of our comfort zone, in a new element, that we find ourselves "listening up" and actually taking in all the people, events, and experiences around us. So often, when we find ourselves in a familiar place – a place of comfort and even convenience – it is so much harder to actually take in what is around us!

God is at work in our lives, through both the old and the new; the familiar and the fresh. His Spirit is the wind and the water that nourishes our everyday existence. Psalm 139 assures us that he is in the heights and the pits of our lives; from the bright mornings to the dark depths.

Whether we are in a time of undisturbed peace or a season of change and transition, let us all remember to take time to listen – there is likely something we are supposed to hear.

Much love,

-Jason Chu

### **Care Givers Meeting**

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday,  
September 10, 2013.

\*We meet on the second Tuesday of each  
month.

10 a.m. to 12 noon

Building of Faith

Church of the Holy Cross, 440 West Lanikaula  
Street, Hilo

## **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!**

### **Give Aloha in September**

During the month of September, you can donate up to \$249 to each non-profit organization participating in Foodland's Give Aloha campaign. Foodland will then pass on your gift to the organization along with an additional donation. Listed below is the donation number for:

Church of the Holy Cross 77840

#### **SENIOR MINISTRY**

The September Senior Ministry session will be held on Thursday the 26th, at 10am. In addition to ono grinds, Woody Kita will be our speaker. He will share information about the UCC General Synod that he recently attended. A sign up sheet will be posted on the Senior Ministry bulletin board. It is a MUST COME session as you would not want to miss what Woody has to share.

### **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.

**Hawai'i Island Association  
United Church of Christ  
`Aha Mokuuni**

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2013 Time: 10:00  
a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Place: Hilo Coast United  
Church of Christ 28-1630 Old Mamalahoa

Highway, Honomu

Agenda includes worship and reports

Driving Directions: From Hilo, head North on  
Hawaii Belt Road (HI-19). Turn left on Honomu  
Road and go up the hill. Turn left at the stop  
sign and go past the community center. The  
church will be on the left.

For more information contact Association  
President Keola Downing at keola@hilobay.com  
or 808-965-9008

**Request for Participants and Donors**

The Board of Stewardship and Mission is  
inviting members and friends to join us in the  
**Walk to End Alzheimer's**. Sponsored by the  
Alzheimer's Association, it will be held on  
Saturday, October 12, 2013 at the Prince Kuhio  
Plaza. Registration is from 9-10 am, the Walk  
is from 10-11 am, and Awards will be at 11 am.  
All funds raised stay on the Big Island to help  
provide free assistance to those who need help  
and for their family members year-round. Over  
3,000 people on the Island of Hawaii are  
diagnosed with some form of dementia. This  
year, included with the walk will be a health fair  
with displays and other health information at the  
mall.

Registration forms will be available at the  
back of our sanctuary. Our Team's name is  
"Church of the Holy Cross". Please join us for  
the walk, which will be a leisurely walk – our  
own speed and distance, or sign up to be a  
sponsor for one of the team members. (More  
information will be available on whom you may  
sponsor.) Last year our team came in third in  
the most money raised. We used the  
certificates we won to help buy materials for the  
pillowcase dresses our church members made  
for young girls in foreign countries. We want  
to continue to help out our community, so  
please join us in this very worthy activity.  
Thank you very much!

**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.

**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](http://www.hcucc.org).

Pastors: Remember, your signature is required.

Mail registration forms and payment to:

HCUC-C 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

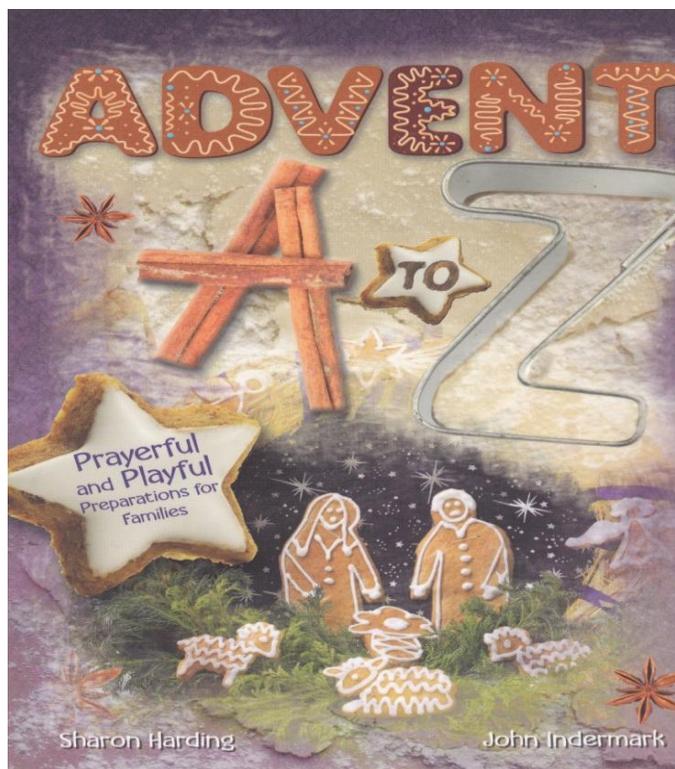
**Investor's Workshop**

Attend Investors Workshop on September  
21 The Hawai'i Conference and Hawai'i  
Conference Foundation will host an Investors  
Workshop on Saturday, September 21, from 9  
a.m. to 1 p.m., at Kawaiaha'o Plaza (567 South  
King Street). Presenters include HCF investment  
advisors Karen Yasukawa and Ron Kikawa of  
UBS Financial Services, discussing market trends  
and outlook; and Don Hart and Katie McCloskey  
of United Church Funds talking about socially  
responsible investing. Cost is \$25, which  
includes lunch. Deadline to register is September  
13.

**Electronic Messenger**

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

## A NEW ADVENT RESOURCE FOR THE CHURCH



Scripture and tradition fill the season of Advent with an abundance of characters, themes, and symbols. Each casts a slightly different perspective on the meaning of Jesus' birth and God's promised realm, the two chief components for which this season bids our preparation.

*Advent A to Z* offers a resource that provides daily engagements of this season for families, individuals, and groups. Beginning December 1 and running through December 26, each day explores an Advent-related word that begins with a successive letter of the alphabet. This reading is followed by suggestions for activities ranging from games to discussions, crafts to outreach projects, journaling to devotions. "Prayerful and playful" captures the spirit of how this book invites you, whatever your age, to journey through the days of Advent.

### The Authors of "A to Z"

Sharon Harding is a Christian educator and writer who has worked in ministries for children and youth at churches in Quebec and Alberta, Canada. Her extensive writing of curriculum materials for children of all ages have included *Feasting on the Word*, *Seasons of the Spirit*, and *Whole People of God*. Sharon has also written and published children's sermons in the *Minister's Annual Manual*.

John Indermark is a writer and ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. He is the author of a number of books, most recently *Way Words*, *The Greatest of These*, and *Gospeled Lives*. John has also written on a number of curriculum projects, including *Feasting on the*

*Word*, *New International Lesson Annual*, *The Present Word*, and *Seasons of the Spirit*. John has been a clergy member of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the U.C.C. since 1976. John was our Visiting Associate in the Spring of 2013.

*Advent A to Z* is published by Abingdon Press, and is available online and can be ordered through your local bookstore. For pricing and other information: [www.abingdonpress.com](http://www.abingdonpress.com)

### New Book By Norman Osumi

Norman Osumi writes that a new book about his father has been printed and will be in the retail stores around the third week of September. I have copies of the new book and will be mailing you one.

The book is "Today's Thought" Rev Paul Osumi: the Man and His Message. It is a 6" x 9" softcover book and contains three parts. The first part is a biography of my father from a son's perspective; the second part is selected and edited "inspirational messages" from his sermons at the various churches he served for all people to read and enjoy; and the last part is a collection of over 300 daily inspirational sayings that were printed in the Honolulu Advertiser for over 35+ years. Included are sermons from the Hilo Japanese Christian Church in the 1930's.

The retail cost of the book is \$17.95. What I am doing for the churches on Oahu is selling the book for \$7.95 to them and they can collect \$10.00 for their church fund. I can offer the same arrangement to your church except I am not sure how much it will cost me to ship the books to your church. If you are interested, please let me know. I should have the bulk of the shipment by September 6th according to the publisher.

It has been a long and difficult project for me to put this book together but I believe my father is happy. I hope this book can give people some insight to live a happy and meaningful life.

Mahalo for your support in getting the picture of the church in the 1930's to me.

Norman

**"Building Community" Expo and Walk**

**Saturday, September 21, 2013**

**Prince Kuhio Plaza**

**10:00am-2:00pm**

**“Learn from 50 experts on how to  
 BUY, BUILD, BUDGET.**

Hilo Habitat for Humanity, the Hawai'i Island Realtors and Prince Kuhio Plaza have teamed up to create Super Saturday Home Ownership Expo and “FUN”draiser to support Hilo’s Habitat for Humanity. Participation in the Walk does not require sponsorships or have timed laps to complete, instead it will be more like a scavenger hunt.

Walkers pay a \$10 registration fee to participate.

Participants can collect stamps by visiting various booths at their leisure. The more stamps collected, the bigger the prizes will be. Stamps will be given out by designated booths representing experts in home inspection, building, insurance, alternative energy, lending and more, before the walk ends at 1:30pm.

For more details and to pre-register visit:  
[www.HiloHabitat.org](http://www.HiloHabitat.org)

### **Sakura Ensemble**

The Sakura Ensemble will be making their 4th ecumenical tour to Japan this Sept and Oct. Annu Shionoya and Jean Pierre Thoma will be accompanied by Miyeko Yamane and her husband, Reverend Susumu Yamane, Minister Emeritus of The Church of the Holy Cross in Hilo.

The concert presentations will include good will concerts throughout the country:

1. OZU UCC Church in Aso, Kyushu
2. Budo No Ki - Grape Tree - Life Care Center in Aso
3. Kobe UCC Lutheran Seminary Chapel
4. Reverend Kagawa UCC Kansai Gaquin Church celebrating the Oct 6 World Communion Day of Prayer in Kobe
- 5, 6 & 7.

Several presentations of combined music and sumie art with renowned artist Eika Hoshinob in Ofunato and Soma in the Fukushima / Tohouku region at churches, schools and government housing which have be arranged through the assistance of the good-will organization TOHOUKU HELP which has done so much in the aftermath of the quake, tsunami and radiation disaster.

8. West Tokyo Union Church service

Please keep these travelers in your prayers throughout their journey.

**September PRAYER LIST: Birthdays**

Please pray for and send a greeting to these Birthday people

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 05 | Tadaki, Gary  |
| 08 | Johnson, Jr. Rhonda E                                 |
| 09 | Mishina, Faith<br>Uchima, Mildred                     |
| 12 | Yoshiyama, James<br>Debus, Cynthia                    |
| 13 | Katayama, Mary Ann                                    |
| 14 | Okabe, Jolie  |
| 17 | Tanouye, Sumiko                                       |
| 18 | Kusinski, Joy   |
| 19 | Chin, John  |
| 21 | Kondo, Jennie<br>Matsui, Dorothy<br>Tanouye, Lolita   |
| 22 | Mathews, Travis<br>Murai, Emily                       |
| 24 | Jacobson, Florence<br>Nakamura, Greg<br>Sagawa, Kevin |
| 25 | Torigoe, Margaret<br>Robert, Sabrino                  |
| 28 | Okada, Irene  |
| 29 | Masutomi, Benjamin                                    |
| 30 | Miyasato, Ronald<br>Miyake, Shirley                   |

### **Weekly activities at your Church of the Holy Cross**

- **Choir Practice** is at 8:30am in the Sanctuary on Sundays.
- **Sunday School** at 8:45am.
- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** meets in the sanctuary on Sunday at 3 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- **Samoan Church** worships at 1pm on Sundays.
- **Chuukese Church** worships in BF meeting room at 1pm today.
- **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.
- **IYAA Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m.
- **Qi Goong exercise class** meets Friday morning 9-10:30 a.m. (BF)