

✠ ✠ **THE MESSENGER** ✠ ✠

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ  
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October 3, 2013

## *Departing and Arriving*

*(Adapted from William Martin)*

When we travel with children we are always answering the question, "Are we there yet?" We are told by people with sage advice, "It is not the destination, but the journey itself that has value!"

It seems to me like Jason Chu just arrived and now he has left. Jason shared himself well with younger people in our community. And, I think we shared ourselves well with Jason. He knows our "Aloha" is both a goodbye and a welcome greeting for the next time our paths cross. "Mahalo, well done, Jason!"

As I get closer to retirement, it seems like life has entered some full throttle speed zone. What I thought as a long time off is now coming around the corner toward me. When I started here 9 years ago the years ahead of me seemed like a distant place, now they seem to have whizzed by – **zooooooooom!**

But the journey and our relationships have been enriching – *Thank you* for letting me be your Pastor. Our journey has been a real value plus in my life. *Mahalo.*

William Martin wrote a little book about sage wisdom in the second half of life. I have adapted one of his poems about letting go and embracing what is before us as follows:

*"Our world wants life without death,  
wants arrival with out departing!  
We desire change without letting go.  
Wise people know this is foolishness  
And are always ready to depart  
And ever ready to arrive.*

*Things that used to define us  
Are no longer adequate to do so.  
There is no need to cling to them.  
The "closets of our minds and  
hearts" can be cleaned of ideas  
as we shed habits no longer needed.  
When the time to depart is at hand,  
You and I will be ready.  
When something new arrives,  
We will have room for acceptance.*

*We emerge able to offer our  
hospitality,  
As newness fills us with  
awesome surprise.  
Embrace transformation in your soul -  
Emerge now refreshed to receive  
each and every awakening moment of  
blessing with grace."*

*Warmest Blessings,  
Pastor Tom*

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

## Moderator's Message

Aloha!

As we move through this time of transition, I feel it may be helpful to explain the process we are going through. We are following the UCC transition process manual, which is available online at [www.ucc.org/ministers/search-and-call/section-2-transition-time.pdf](http://www.ucc.org/ministers/search-and-call/section-2-transition-time.pdf). In addition, I have placed two notebooks (one pink and one green) containing all of the same documents on the book rack at the back of the church sanctuary.

The manual provides guidance, suggested resources and recommended procedures to carry out the process. Unless a congregation's bylaws specify differently, which ours do not, the UCC recommends that the Interim Search Committee consist of the church's governing body (the CHC Council) and pastoral relations committee. Council members are Sue Smith, moderator; Stefan Tanouye, past moderator; Margaret Torigoe, secretary; Roberta Chu, treasurer; Peter Tadaki, auditor; and board representatives Carolyn Lum-Bellem, Bob Smith, Joyce Nakamoto, Eric Tanouye, and Moira Tanaka. Pastoral relations committee members who are not also on the council are Woody Kita and Reiko Masutomi.

The committee met three times during September to review resumes that we received from Reverend Diane Weible, the Associate Conference Minister who provides guidance to Hawaii Conference churches in transition. All of these resumes have been pre-reviewed by the conference and are UCC approved ministers. Resumes come from Hawaii as well as the mainland. As a matter of confidentiality, committee members may not reveal the names of candidates or discuss them with other members of the congregation until the interim minister is selected.

One important consideration is that the person who is chosen to serve as our interim minister cannot be a candidate to become the permanent pastor. All candidates for the interim minister position must sign a statement agreeing to that policy.

The process for selection of a permanent pastor will not begin until the interim is on board. The Permanent Search Committee will consist of no less than 5 and no more than 8 people representing all aspects of our congregation. When we are closer to beginning this process, the criteria for the search committee will be circulated.

Please continue to support the Interim Search Committee in your prayers and we will continue to keep you up to date on our progress.

Christ's peace be with you  
Sue

## *To End Is To Grow*

Early on Monday, I touched down at Los Angeles International Airport, half an ocean away from the lush splendor of Hilo. As I've resumed life in California, I carry close at hand the memories and lessons gained during my time in community with the men and women of Holy Cross. During our time together, I learned so much from you all, guiding me through the rhythms of life on the Big Island. Mahalo.

It is an old adage that "all good things must come to an end". This is true; but perhaps it's equally true, and even more accurate, that "all good things grow and change". Nothing that is truly good stagnates but rather, even when superficially inactive, the best things in life are like Mauna Loa: stirring deep within, preparing for seasons of fresh growth.

Sometimes, if viewed from a myopic perspective, this fresh growth looks disastrous. Comfortable at rest, we grow upset at the intrusion into our happy *status quo*. Change – movement – is uncomfortable. Volcanic eruptions seem to presage destruction, not creation.

But a little discomfort is a powerful reminder of the reality of continual growth, prompting us to see clearly the shifting needs of the hour, and locating stability in the promises of God rather than the strength of man or woman. And so, even as I mourn the end of a beautiful time of rest, service, and community, I look forward – as I know you too can – to a new era of purposefulness, friendship, and closeness with our Lord.

Mahalo;

-jason

## **To Holy Cross**

*There is a quiet dignity in the islands,  
Hidden as they are -  
Enfolded in the blue  
Beyond the reach of time*

*There is strength in the small and slow  
In labor of long years -  
In the way that we creep but do not bend  
to the windward gust*

*We were young, and still are  
Long as mauka we look and see the  
ageless peaks  
Grave is no burden -*

*We tire, and we sleep, but we rise.*

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
OCTOBER 13, 2013**

**After worship**

The next General Membership Meeting of Church of the Holy Cross will be held after worship on Sunday October 13, 2013. We will be discussing and adopting the annual budget for 2014. It is included in the messenger for your review. Please review and ask questions to me or any of the board chairs or the treasurer. We welcome your questions and input.

I requested all chairs and members of the boards to serve one more year to aid in the transition process. Some members may not continue but most have accepted to stay on. If you feel that you would like to join a board please see me, Pastor Tom or any of the board chairs. All boards welcome new members and would appreciate your service.

Since our slate of officers and board members will be remaining stable we will also be approving this slate at the General Membership meeting. The slate will be sent in the next messenger.

Please plan to stay for the meeting as all inputs are important to the life of our church.

Grace and Blessings,  
Suzanne Smith  
Moderator  
Church of the Holy Cross

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**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS  
OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9am-4:30pm

OUT OF OFFICE: 11am-12pm  
CLOSED

Tuesday, Thursday

**Caregivers Meeting**

Our next meeting will be on  
Tuesday, October 8, 2013.

10 a.m. to 12 noon  
Building of Faith

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

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

**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.

**Electronic Messenger**

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

**2014 BUDGET**

In an effort to communicate the changes to the Church's budget over the years, this year's 2014 budget includes actual results for 2011, actual versus budget for 2012, and 8-months ending August 2013 along with estimated year-end 2013 versus budget.

The footnotes at the bottom of the budget refer to the estimated total 2013 income and expenses.

I hope this information and my comments below will help you understand trends and changes which are reflected in the 2014 budget.

Additional comments about 2014 budget:

- Actual pledge income has been consistently less than budget therefore the 2014 pledge income budget has been reduced from historic \$250,000 to more realistic \$225,000.
- Line #6200 – New Income Generating Opportunity of \$10,355 for 2014 is the additional income needed to cover projected expenses. Hopefully the church will find another income source to eliminate the annual losses in 2011 (\$15,362), 2012 (\$13,779) and projected 2013 (\$12,950).
- Ministry and Pastoral Care expenses for 2014 are lumped to one line item of \$97,000 which will be allocated depending on pastoral search.
- OCWM-HCUCU expense equals 10% of pledges, loose and gifts
- Building and Equipment expense for 2014 includes BOF floor maintenance of \$8,000, parking lot maintenance of \$10,000, termite repair of \$5,000 and re-key expense of \$1,000
- Custodial Services are now provided by an outside service, not employees
- Insurance premiums increased about \$6,000 and includes workers comp
- Office Manager position continues at part-time.

The Church Council, Board members and I are committed to managing the fiscal condition of the Church of the Holy Cross as best we can. Carolyn Lum-Bellem (987-5310), Sue Smith (969-3729), Eric Tanouye and I (Roberta 937-8315) are available to answer questions and discuss any of the information above so feel free to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Roberta Chu, Treasurer

### **Neighbors in Need Special Offering**

Neighbors in Need is the annual offering to support the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). This offering, which we will receive on October 6th supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two thirds of the offering is used to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects. One third supports the Council for American Indian Ministries.

Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM which is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

Neighbors in Need helps you make another world possible.

### **From the Board of Stewardship and Mission**

Did you see the picture of the group from our church in the newspaper on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>? We participated in the 2012 Alzheimer's Walk and we would like to invite you all to join our Church of the Holy Cross team on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Prince Kuhio Mall for the 2013 "Walk to End Alzheimer's". Registration is from 9-10 am, with the walk starting at 10 to 11 am. The Walk will include walking in the plaza, attending the School of Pharmacy Health Fair, and shopping, or just walking outside around the plaza. At 11 am, there will be an awards ceremony and lottery prizes.

Woody is the leader of our team and others joining the team so far are Eileen, Esther, Gloria, Margaret, Amy S., Barbara, Connie, James, and Bob. We have had some trouble registering our team online, so if you are able to join us, please pick up a registration form in the back of the sanctuary and join the group at the Mall. If you are unable to join us and would like to make a contribution to the Alzheimer's Association, please give your check to one of our walkers. All funds raised will stay on the Big Island to be used for work in our community with those suffering from dementia and their caregivers.

### **Japanese Culture Day**

The Japanese Community Association of Hawaii (JCAH) will once again present the Japanese Culture Day in Hawaii Festival (Bunka No Hi) on Saturday, November 16, 2013. The biennial event will be held at the Honpa Hongwanii Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This year's event will be dedicated to Mr. Yasuo Kuwaye who passed away earlier this year. He was one of the early organizers of the Association and was committed to the preservation and perpetuation of Japanese culture and arts and was recognized by the Japanese government with an imperial decoration.

### **SAEKO HAYASHI IS GOING TO JAIL FOR A GOOD CAUSE - YOU CAN HELP**

Yep, she's a Jailbird. And pretty proud of it.

Saeko Hayashi is taking part in the **Hilo Lock-Up 2013 benefiting the Muscular Dystrophy Association to be held Thursday, Oct 3**. As a Jailbird, "I'm working to raise my bail via donations from my friends and family, all of which go to help MDA."

MDA is dedicated to curing muscular dystrophy, ALS and other neuromuscular diseases. At the same time, the Association provides health care and support services for people living with these diseases — right here in our community.

Please consider supporting her fundraising efforts with a tax-deductible donation. It's easy!

Thanks in advance for joining the fight against muscle disease. Remember, every breakout means more breakthroughs for MDA. She'll keep you posted on her progress.

P.S.: Please help spread the word to your friends and colleagues.

### **Sacred Memories**

We will celebrate All Saints Sunday and Homecoming on Sunday, October 27, at our 10:00 AM Worship Service with the lighting of candles of remembrance followed by a pot-luck lunch in our Building of Faith. If you have had a loved friend or relative die within the last year (since October 28, 2012) and would like to have their name remembered in the Sunday Bulletin and read during the lighting of the candles, please call the church office 808-935-1283 on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday during office hours and provide the Office Manager (Dennis Lin) with the spelling of their name and the month in which they died. "Mahalo" for your cooperation as our prayers reach out to you as

you recall the sacred memories of your loved ones.

**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Domestic Violence  
Family Peace Walk & Vigil**

Please join us for the 25th Annual Domestic Violence Family Peace Walk & Vigil "Lost, Live, Love" on Friday, October 25, 2013, at the Aupuni Center in Hilo. This event unites the community to recognize those who lost their lives due to domestic violence and to raise community awareness and advocacy during October — the National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

This year's "family peace walk" will commence @ 4:15pm at the Kamehameha statue. We will then progress up Pauahi Street around Hale Kaulike Court House, and meeting up with sign waivers on Kilauea Ave. The vigil will then take place at 5:15pm at Aupuni Center with the Lighting of the Candle ceremony, and being that it is the 25th anniversary of this community event we will be recognizing four individuals from the community for the Purple Ribbon awards in recognition of those who dedicated their time and support to victims of domestic violence. Information tables will be available.

**OCTOBER PRAYER LIST: Birthday**

Please pray for and send a greeting to these Birthday people

02	Pacheco, Irene Betty
03	Akiyama, Shizue Leonard-Osterwalder, Christine
06	Hayashi, Wataru Ushijima, Margaret
07	Niino-DuPonte, Ruth Kimura, Johanna
08	Kusano, Sadako
09	Sakumoto, Mark
10	Chen, Christopher
11	Kita, Erin
12	Enomoto, Michiko Nakamoto, Jordon Tanouye, Eric
14	Kita, Jennifer
17	Ushijima, Andi
21	Nakamura, Chiyoko Nakasone, Laura Tanaka, Moira
22	Suzuki, Theone
25	Mortemore, Avis

**\*October Calendar on Back of Messenger\***

**RETIREMENT CELEBRATION  
FOR  
PASTOR TOM OLCOTT**

Saturday, October 26, 2013

5:00PM

Building of Faith

Catered Dinner

Call Dennis Lin at the Church Office  
808-935-1283 or sign up sheet at church by  
**October 16, 2013.**

**Please sign up so we can have a head count.**