

✠ ✠ **THE MESSENGER** ✠ ✠

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ
440 West Lanikaula St., Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone 808-935-1283 E-mail: holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com

WEBSITE: www.holycrosshilo.com

January 8, 2014

A Message from Interim Pastor Mary

Thank you for the warm welcome at Church of the Holy Cross! Gary and I are excited to be in your midst. I want to get to know you as persons and get acquainted with your church. We feel royally welcomed by all of you! We are grateful for your kind words on Sunday. The Interim Search Committee and Sue and Bob Smith all have made us feel welcome. We are grateful for the leis, the greetings, how you have prepared the parsonage for us, and the good food you have shared with us.

Mary Claire Olney-Loyd is my full name. I was ordained in October of 1982 in the United Church of Christ and have served both UCC churches and Christian Church, Disciple of Christ congregations in Oregon, Illinois, Michigan and Washington. Gary and I moved here from Seattle. My father was a UCC pastor and my grandfather a Methodist pastor. I am named for my father as his first name was Clare.

Gary Loyd and I have been married for 9½ years. He hails from NW Colorado where he was a member of the United Church of Christ in Craig, near Steamboat Springs. Gary and I met when I was in a search process. He was on the search committee at the UCC church in Craig. His

first wife had died and he was "looking." I was interviewing for a position as minister at his church. Before the interview Gary met me for lunch and took me cross country skiing. During lunch I thought to myself – "this feels more like a date than lunch with a search committee member." That weekend, it was clear the congregation and I were not a great match. However, God was at work! I received a phone call from Gary saying he was interested in me. What a surprise! Sixteen months later we were married in Olympia, WA at the church where I had become pastor.

New beginnings can be full of surprises – I look forward to the surprises, meeting new persons, the opportunities for ministry and mission that lay ahead of us in our time together. Please call me or stop by at the church so we can get to know each other. The Parsonage number is 808-315-7181. I especially look forward to visiting with you in your homes as this is a wonderful way to get acquainted. Please share your hopes and dreams for Church of the Holy Cross with me when we meet – I long to hear your ideas.

Mahalo for all the ways you have prepared for our arrival! Blessings abound!

Peace & Joy,

Mary

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

Why should people of faith care about the environment?

This article is from the UCC web site (<http://www.ucc.org/environmental-ministries/>) It reminded me of the books and focus of Cliff Cain who was our visiting associate last summer. If you would like to read more on this topic there are many resources on the web site covering issues that affect our island or read some any of Cliff's books in our library.

God's Gift and Call To Us

As people of faith, we look to the scriptures for guidance for the choices we make in our lives. Genesis 1 says that when God created the heavens and the earth, God saw that everything was "very good." We learn in Genesis 2 that as humankind has the freedom to make moral choices, and that each of us lives with the responsibility for our personal actions or inactions. With the freedom of God's gift, the prophet Micah guides us towards moral and responsible lifestyle choices: we are to do justice, love kindness and mercy, and walk humbly with our God [Mic.6:6-8].

Our Response To God

We understand scriptures compel us to act on our faith grounded in wonder, reverence, love, and respect for all of God's creation. But clearly, God's creation is groaning under the burden of injustice, greed, and arrogance. Our choices have resulted in vanishing and degraded farmland, air unfit to breathe and water unfit to drink, unsustainable energy processes and consumption, and the perilous immediate and long-term worldwide consequences of global warming and climate change. Poor communities and communities of color will disproportionately suffer the unjust consequences of our choices. And now, we realize more every day that our choices threaten the voiceless natural systems that sustain all of life itself.

Our Choices Now

When confronted with environmental responsibility, people of faith now face an additional choice: to live in despair or to live with hope. We in the United Church of Christ are called to live with hope. We are called to go beyond lifestyle adjustment. We are called to spiritual and lifestyle transformation based on justice and reverence for all of God's creatures and creation. We are called by Jesus to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. With God's grace, we invite individuals to transform their lives and their communities to become hopeful, restorative, and just.

We invite you to tell others of your concern and to work in your congregation for environmental justice. We invite you to sign up to attend a workshop or retreat that will expand your awareness and deepen your faith.

The Search for our Settled Pastor

I confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion....
Philippians 1:6a

We are blessed that our interim Pastor Mary Olney-Loyd will soon be on staff to support, guide, encourage and keep us always focused on God during the work ahead.

Just as the local church is not "our" church but rather God's, so too the Search Committee is really God's committee. The search for a new pastor is one of the most spiritual missions of the church. The selection of Search Committee members is a task to be approached with prayer, wisdom, sensitivity, and awareness that God may be calling certain church members to consider serving in this capacity.

We will soon have forms available to nominate candidates or to volunteer as a candidate for the Search Committee. The nominations will be submitted to the church council, and from these candidates the permanent search committee members will be selected. The committee will consist of 5 - 8 members, and not all who are nominated or who volunteer will serve on the committee. The committee will also reflect the diversity in our congregation. The church council's recommended Search Committee will be presented to the congregation for ratification. Once ratified, the permanent Search Committee will be commissioned during a worship service and begin their work.

Some of the attributes that a permanent search committee member should possess are:

- a passionate commitment to Christ's church;
- a positive attitude (no grudges!);
- a capacity to approach the task with openness and without a pre-determined agenda;
- a sense of integrity and respect for others;
- an ability to maintain absolute confidentiality;
- a capacity to listen, to participate in a group, and to come to consensus.
- a willingness and ability to make this responsibility a very high priority.

There will be more in the coming weeks on the attributes and the nomination form. The attributes listed here should help in understanding the commitment, dedication and openness to the Holy Spirit that we will all need, as members of the congregation or as search committee members, during our search for a settled pastor.

The Way of Life

Written by Susan Sayers Written in reponse to the
crisis in Syria

I am the way, and the truth, and the life
John 14:6

Lord, wherever our attention
Has wandered from your calling,
Wherever we have fallen short of your will for us,
And failed to keep the spirit of your law of love,
Forgive us and transform us,

Wherever the Church is asked
To give leadership on sensitive issues;
Whenever the current world expectations of behavior
Need to be challenged in the light of God's love,
Give us the wisdom and guidance we need

**Show us the way of life
And help us to walk in it.**

Whenever our homes are lacking
In love and mutual respect,
Wherever destructive relationships
Cause distress and heartache
And wherever people are made to feel they don't
matter,
Give a new realization of your ways
And your hopes for us, so that your kingdom may
come
And your will be done

Wherever there is illness, unhappiness, injustice or
fear;
Wherever people feel frustrated, imprisoned or
trapped;
Give us a greater sense of loving community, a heart
to put right whatever we can
And the willingness to stand alongside one another in
our sorrows

**Show us the way of life
And help us to walk in it**

**Merciful Lord
Accept these prayers
Amen**

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
OFFICE HOURS
Starting January 1, 2014
Monday-Friday
9am-4:30pm
Lunch
12pm-1pm**

The Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be
celebrated January 18-25. It is a time when as
Christians we appreciate the great diversity of our
Christian traditions and ways of expressing our
love for God. Congregations all over the world
participate.

Attached is the scripture chosen this year to be
the focus for prayer and study during that week.
There are some questions for reflection and
prayer

1 Corinthians 1:1-17

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by
the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
To the church of God in Corinth, to those
sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy
people, together with all those everywhere who
call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their
Lord and ours: Grace and peace to you from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I always thank my God for you because of his
grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you
have been enriched in every way—with all kinds
of speech and with all knowledge— God thus
confirming our testimony about Christ among
you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift
as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to
be revealed. He will also keep you firm to the
end, so that you will be blameless on the day of
our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has
called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name
of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with
one another in what you say and that there be no
divisions among you, but that you be perfectly
united in mind and thought. My brothers and
sisters, some from Chloe's household have
informed me that there are quarrels among you.
What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow
Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I
follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you?
Were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank
God that I did not baptize any of you except
Crispus and Gaius, so no one can say that you
were baptized in my name. (Yes, I also baptized
the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't
remember if I baptized anyone else.) For Christ
did not send me to baptize, but to preach the
gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the
cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

- Where do you see God's grace and peace at our church, in Hilo, in Hawaii and around the world?
- What do you give thanks for here at the Church of the Holy Cross, in Hilo, in Hawaii and the world?
- How have you experienced the spiritual gifts of God in our church and community?

Electronic Messenger

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

Caregivers Meeting

Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday, January 14, 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

Thank you!

Thank you very much for everyone for bring refreshments for all of our Christmas Carolers. Special thanks to Herb Watanabe for his delicious soup! It was a joyous time.

Mahalo,
Lei Jack
Board of Christian Education

Chapel Decoration Schedule

Chapel Decoration Schedule is attached. PLEASE check the schedule for 2014 to 2015. There are 5 Sundays open that are available for anyone who would like to provide an arrangement. If you can provide an arrangement for any of the open dates OR If you are unable to help anymore, please call Margaret at 945-4071. Thank you.

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.

Messenger Articles

If you would like to submit an article for The Messenger, please send it via email or physically bring it into the Church office. The next Messenger will be January 22, 2014.

Senior Ministry

Our next Senior Ministry gathering will be Thursday, January 23rd, in the Building of Faith. Woody Kita will be our speaker and we'll be serving salmon which we acquired through our KTA tapes.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

- The toiletries which we collected thru our Giving Tree will be given to Hope Services (program for homeless), and the Salvation Army.
- The food which we collected will be given to the Food Basket.
- The KTA tapes/receipts. Through the Thanksgiving save a tape program we were able to collect enough to obtain 11 items. (3 hams 4 turkeys for Senior Ministry) and shared 4 sets of tapes with members of our church ohana.
- We have already collected 15 sets of tapes for the Christmas save a tape program.
- The cancelled stamps will be forwarded to the Woman's Board of Missions to be sent to Germany and New York. These stamps help support disabled individuals. Collection of cancelled stamps is an ongoing program of the Women's Fellowship.

January Volunteers

January 12

Chapel Decorations:

Kay Kawachika, Mary Ann Katayama

Childcare:

Millie Uchima

Layreader:

Jean Pierre Thoma

January 19

Chapel Decorations:

Saeko Hayashi

Childcare:

Esther Kodani

Layreader:

Barbara Iwami

January 26

Chapel Decorations:

Ethel Yoshimasu, Ichiko Hisanaga, Teddi Mukai

Childcare:

Lois Jean Tanouye

Layreader:

Millie Daikawa

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Rev. 1.4.14	CHAPEL DECORATIONS 2014-2015			Call Margaret at 935-4071 to make any changes.
JANUARY			AUGUST	
5	Lillian Tanouye, Eric Tanouye, Kyle Nakayama families		3	Ichiko Hisanaga (Mem.) Anne Sadayasu (Mem.)
12	Kay Kawachika (Mem.) Mary Ann Katayama		10	
19	Saeko Hayashi		17	Barbara Iwami (Mem.) Dr/M Bill Chen (Mem.)
26	Ethel Yoshimasu (Mem.) Ichiko Hisanaga (Mem.) Teddi Mukai (Mem.)		24	Herbert Watanabe (Mem.)
FEBRUARY			31	Carol Morioka
2	Margaret Torigoe		SEPTEMBER	
9	Lily Inouye (Mem.)			
16	Else Ushijima (Mem)		7	Katada & Tadaki families (Mem.)
23	Hats Kamimura		14	Amy Shiroma Clarice Suzuki
MARCH			21	Joyce Nakamoto
3	Tokie Fujimoto (Mem.) Miyo Tanita (Mem.) Lynn Del Rosario (Mem.)		28	
9	Dorothy Matsui Amy Saito		OCTOBER	
16	Carolyn Lum-Bellem		5	Michi Enomoto (Mem.)
23	Goya Family (Mem.)		12	Miyeko Yamane
30	Michi Koizumi		19	M/M Mark Sakumoto (Mem.)
APRIL			26	M/M Richard Miyake
6	Janet Fujioka (Mem.)		NOVEMBER	
13	Roberta Chu Alice Fujimoto		2	Irene Okada
20	EASTER LILIES Cindy Debus in-charge		9	Ken Tanouye, Stefan Tanouye, Joel Santo families (Mem.)
27	Millie Daikawa		16	Karl Kawahara (Mem.) Moiria Tanaka
MAY			23	Connie Yoshiyama
4	Malia Mattos		30	Sachi Ohata Ruth Ohata
11	Millie Kataoka		DECEMBER	
18	Millie Uchima(Mem)		7	Jean Kita (Mem.)
25	Lily Inouye (Mem.)		14	Beverly Dodo
JUNE			21/24	POINSETTIAS Cindy Debus in-charge
1			28	Laura Ota
8	Eileen Shiraishi(Mem)		JANUARY 2015	
15			4	Lillian Tanouye, Eric Tanouye, Kyle Nakayama families
22	Jennie Kondo		11	Kay Kawachika(Mem.) Mary Ann Katayama
29	Gloria Kobayashi Blanche Maeda Betty Pacheco		18	Saeko Hayashi
JULY			25	Ethel Yoshimasu (Mem.) Ichiko Hisanaga (Mem.) Teddi Mukai (Mem.)
6			FEBRUARY 2015	
13	Lily Inouye (Mem.)		2	Margaret Torigoe
20	Reiko Masutomi		9	Lily Inouye (Mem.)
27	Toki Fujimoto		16	Else Ushijima (Mem)
			23	Hats Kamimura

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Church of the Holy Cross
Childcare Volunteers 2014-2015

January

12 Millie Uchima
 19 Esther Kodani
 26 Lois Jean Tanouye

February

2 Carol Morioka
 9 Joyce Nakamoto
 16 Lei Jack
 23 Irene Okada

March

2 Moira Tanaka
 9 Eileen Shiraishi
 16 Cindy Debus
 23 Yoko Hayano
 30 Joyce Nakamoto

April

6 Margaret Torigoe
 13 Lei Jack
 20 Jennifer Tanouye
 27 Clarice Suzuki

May

4 Emi Katada
 11 Woody Kita
 18 Dorothy Matsui
 25 Gail Wung

June

1 Michi Koizumi
 8 Jane Kawazoe
 15 Jean Kita
 22 Saeko Hayashi
 29 Malia Mattos

July

6 Mary Ann Katayama
 13 James Yoshiyama
 20 Kay Kawachika
 27 Ruth Niino-Duponte

August

3 Roberta Chu
 10 Molina Pitiot
 17 Millie Daikawa
 24 Reiko Masutomi
 31 Anne Sadayasu

September

7 Eric Tanouye
 14 Eileen Shiraishi
 21 Moira Tanaka
 28 Merle Okabe

October

5 Lolita Tanouye
 12 Yoko Hayano
 19 Carolyn Lum-Bellem
 26 Jeanne Hernandez

November

2 Gloria Kobayashi
 9 Stefan Tanouye
 16 Malia Mattos
 25 Tricia Kimura
 30 Connie Yoshiyama

December

7 Joyce Nakamoto
 14 Jennie Kondo
 21 Lei Jack
 28 Ethel Yoshimasu

2015

January

4 Shirley Miyake
 11 Millie Uchima
 18 Esther Kodani
 25 Lois Jean Tanouye

February

1 Carol Morioka
 8 Irene Okada
 15 Jeanne Hernandez
 22 Lei Jack

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January 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
8:30am Choir Practice 9am Pohnpeian 10am Worship 1pm Chuukese 1:30pm Tongan 3pm Samoan		9am Musicfun 12pm Toastmasters 3:30pm Rhythm of Life	6:30pm Ballroom Dance 7pm Tongan Church 7:30pm IYAA Bible Study		9am Qigong	9am Musicfun 3pm Bell Choir
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30am Choir Practice 9am Pohnpeian 10am Worship 1pm Chuukese 1:30pm Tongan 12pm Samoan		PB Ministry 9am Musicfun 12pm Toastmasters 3:30pm Rhythm of Life	7pm Tongan Church 7:30pm IYAA Bible Study	PB Ministry 12pm Prostate Support Group 5pm Toastmasters	9am Qigong	SERVICE DAY Eagle Scout Project Pt.1 9am Musicfun 3pm Bell Choir
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Church Council Mtg 8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Choir Practice 9am Pohnpeian 10am Worship 1pm Chuukese 1:30pm Tongan 12pm Samoan	3T Cleaning Waxing of BF 7pm M. Torigoe Lounge	9am Musicfun 10am Caregivers 12pm Toastmasters 3:30pm Rhythm of Life	7pm Tongan Church 7:30pm IYAA Bible Study		9am Qigong	Eagle Scout Project Pt.2 9am Musicfun 3pm Bell Choir
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Trustees Mtg Deacons Mtg 8:30am Choir Practice 9am Pohnpeian 10am Worship 1pm Chuukese 1:30pm Tongan 12pm Samoan	2pm M. Torigoe Lounge	9am Musicfun 12pm Toastmasters 3:30pm Rhythm of Life	7pm Tongan Church 7:30pm IYAA Bible Study	Senior Ministry 5pm Toastmasters 6pm M. Torigoe Lounge	9am Qigong	9am Musicfun 3pm Bell Choir
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Choir Practice 9am Pohnpeian 10am Worship 1pm Chuukese 1:30pm Tongan 12pm Samoan J's Minimart		9am Musicfun 12pm Toastmasters 3:30pm Rhythm of Life	7pm Tongan Church 7:30pm IYAA Bible Study		9am Qigong	