

✠ ✠ THE MESSENGER ✠ ✠

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ
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June 4, 2014

A Message from Interim Pastor Mary

This coming Friday and Saturday I'll be with the Hawai'i Conference 'Aha Makua meeting in Honolulu at the First Chinese Church of Christ. This annual gathering is a time for fellowship, learning, business, meeting other delegates and a great keynote speaker: Rita Nakashima Brock. Rita is a theologian, scholar, and author. I've been challenged by her addresses previously and look forward to hearing her speak! I will return on Saturday to celebrate Pentecost with you on Sunday, June 8. **Please wear RED.**

Last year at this gathering Church of the Holy Cross was recognized for being "5 for 5." This means we share our gifts generously in 5 special offerings that United Church Christ receives. Thank you! Please note that Sunday, June 8, we receive the **Strengthen the Church** Offering. (see the article on page 4). Thank you to the Stewardship and Mission Committee for their leadership! Mahalo for your generous spirit!

Besides volunteering at CHC, *Sue Smith* will be nominated for the Justice & Witness Missional Team Chair. She is currently serving in this capacity. And *Woody Kita* will be nominated as the Stewardship Missional Team Chair. Mahalo for your service in our Hawai'i Conference!

On Sunday, June 15, we say goodbye to Pedro Ka'awaloa! We give thanks for Pedro's music leadership and celebrate with him as he begins a new adventure! If you'd like to share a message of thanksgiving, please contact Gloria Kobayashi. We give thanks for the choir's music this past year!

Also on Sunday, June 15, we welcome Rev. Donald Schmidt, our newest Associate Conference Minister, to the pulpit. I'll of course be here – since Donald is here for the worship workshop, he'll share his gift of preaching with us! He's a dynamic speaker.

As it happens the day after our previous Messenger was published, we had a date change: Dr. Allan Boesak will be with us Tuesday, July 22, 7 pm and Wednesday, July 23 9 am. On Tuesday evening Allan will speak at the Interfaith Community in Action gathering. On Wednesday clergy and laity are gathering. YOU are welcome to attend BOTH events in the Building of Faith. Allan is a noted author and peace and justice advocate. Please change the dates on your calendar!

May the Spirit bring you blessings, strength for the journey and inspire you!

Mary

From the Settled Pastor Search Committee

The first working meeting of the Committee was held and we are now working on completing the "Local Church Profile" which when completed will be sent to the Hawaii Conference UCC staff to be sent to ministers who might be interested in filling our Settled Pastor position. We are doing research to include information about our church and our community to help introduce candidates to who we are and what we have to offer.

Church information includes membership data, a profile of the congregation, information on our church's finances, our mission and a history of our financial support of ministerial leaders. Congregational life questions need to be completed which include describing the educational program of our church, information on our major boards, committees and small groups, what our worship is like and what our mission projects are. Community information includes a general description including trends and problem areas confronting the community, our population, and economic factors. After our research is completed, we will be asking the congregation to assist us in describing what our long term goals are for the church and what our leadership expectations might be. All of this will help candidates decide if this position is what he/she might be interested in applying for.

Please continue to pray for the Search Committee as we do this work and when we ask for your help, please respond as it is important that we get as much input/ideas as possible so we may provide candidates with helpful information.

Alan Boesak Returns to Hawaii

Change of Date! **Dr. Allan Boesak will be with us on Tuesday, July 22 at 7 pm and Wednesday, July 23 at 9 am** for his presentation. Please note this change!

Caregivers Meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 10, 2014.**

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

Choir Director/Music Coordinator Position Open

Pedro Ka'awaloa, our choir director/music coordinator since 2008, will be leaving for New York on June 17. His last day with us will be Sunday, June 15. Our church has been blessed as the recipient of Pedro's musical talents in voice and piano. At every rehearsal, choir members get voice and performance pointers and have learned spirituals and contemporary music pieces in addition to traditional sacred music. Pedro's friends have energized the choir with their youth and talent. We will celebrate Pedro's tenure with us at a reception after church service on June 15.

The Church of the Holy Cross is now seeking a new choir director/music coordinator who, working with the Interim Pastor, is the person responsible for providing appropriate music for Sunday worship services. The person will conduct rehearsals of the choir on Sunday morning and during worship service three or more Sundays a month. On the Sundays that the choir does not sing, the music coordinator will contact and schedule soloists or performers. This position is considered a part-time employee of the church. There is currently a choir accompanist, which is a fee-for-service position. Interested applicants should send their resume to Deacons Music committee chairperson, Gloria Kobayashi at rkbuild@gmail.com or drop off or mail their resume to the Church at 440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo. The application deadline is Friday, June 20, with the first rehearsal by the new choir director scheduled for July 27.

Senior Ministry

Everyone's invited to the June senior ministry luncheon and program on Thursday June 26th, 10 to 12 noon. Lunch will be free, courtesy of Lily Inouye. Chefs Woody & Kay will be preparing Chicken Ala King Peanut Butter Ministry style. Free good food, great company and an interesting and informative program....can't ask for a better bargain anywhere else in town!!! Sign up on the senior ministry bulletin board or call the church office you're able to attend.

Pedro's Farewell Concert

This Saturday, June 7th, Pedro Ka'awaloa will be giving a musical theater concert entitled Broadway Bound. This will be his last performance before he heads off to the east coast. The renowned Quack Moore is accompanying, and he is joined by a cast of his friends. There will be two shows: a matinee at 2:00PM and an evening performance at 7:00PM. The concert is FREE, so come one and all and share with us!

“Two to L.A.”
February 18-26, 2014
Part 2

Continued from May 21, Messenger.

Up bright and early we headed for the tramway-8,000 feet plus- up the slopes of San Jacinto Mountain. The ride up was spectacular as we were afforded views of both the mountain side and the valley below. The cabin actually spun 360 degrees as we ascended the mountain. Viewing the city below (Palm Springs and environs) was a captivating experience. One could view other mountain ranges way in the distance and we could also see the demarcation line between Palm Springs and the surrounding desert. (Lush Palm Springs was the result of the diversion of the Colorado River and the formation of what now is Palm Springs.) In fact much of the reasons for the development of Southern California is the result of the diversion of the waters of the Colorado River. By the time that it reaches the Pacific Ocean in Baja California, it is but a mere trickle.)

After some spectacular views from the mountain we headed toward the Modjeska Canyon in order to visit long-lost friends-Jeff Talbott and his wife Jennie. Jeff was former student of mine many years ago. Although I had visited Jeff some time ago, we had a hard time locating the exact place where the house was as they had moved across the street. Once we got to see them and started to chat with them it was hard to leave them as there was so much to talk about. (Woody is a year older than Jeff but they were familiar with the same people.)

We got to visit their garden which is somewhat like a Hawaiian garden with a few local type plants. (I guess once a Hawaiian: one is always one.) Jennie made some sushi for us to take home!, with us which were delicious even in a foreign land. After the customary photos were taken, we reluctantly bade them aloha and left them to try find our way to Westminster — our next stop. We moved on to Westminster where Russell Nakaishi was to be our host. He is a former HHS grad although not my former student. We had dinner with him and the stories ran from HHS days to the military to food and everything else in between. It was his interests in the military and the AJAs that I got to know him. (It is a long, long story about how I got to know him and someday I'll tell you about it.) Suffice it to say that he is a good person to know as he very knowledgeable about various subjects.

We stayed at the Airport Plaza Best Western Hotel in Inglewood the next and final night of our visit to LA. The main reason for stay there was for the free shuttle to the airport the next day and of course the free Continental Breakfast was major factor also. (All of the places we stayed at with the exception of the Miyako had free Continental Breakfasts or better.)

Sandra met us at our next stop and took us to dinner at a Mexican-type place. (Here a small world type story unfolds. Woody and Sandra although 3 years apart in high school seemed to have known or at least seen each other somewhere. Voila! it turned out that they were on the same tour group in Korea some time ago. I was in the Men's Room at the time that the revelations were made so I don't know the full impact of the revelations.) Anyway we had a lot of fun chatting about old time tales. We were joined for dinner by Woody's daughter (a WHS graduate by the way) and friend which made it more interesting and fun.

Oh, yes- I forgot to mention the fact that we visited The Universal Studios that day which turned out to be a blast. We thoroughly enjoyed the trolley ride through the sets where actual movies are or were made--where in one episode the trolley is "attacked" by prehistoric animals with real water getting us kinda wet. It's hard to believe how realistic the sets seem to be. We sat through a routine which was quite amazing considering that they were pros who had done this routine perhaps a thousand times or more. Just looking around was fun and amusing to see the human reactions to real and make-believe situations. Luckily, we chose to splurge that day by spending a few extra bucks so we could park closer to the scenes of action. I was hushed after the performances and was in no mood to walk anymore than absolutely necessary. Oh, yes I handed out my whole complement of mac nuts that I took with me for the sole purpose of rewarding people for exemplary behavior. Most of it was given to hotel employees. Believe it or not it was the first encounter with the world-famous nuts for some of them. All of them were grateful recipients of the same, though. I think that through this small gesture I've spread the spirit of aloha. One strange thing that happened on this trip was that of the people we saw and met, not one asked us if we were going to or coming from Vegas. (Usually, that's the first question asked by someone we know and meet). Per usual it was a great week of fun and social interactions. My next trip will be to the land of the rising sun my first visit there after 50 years had elapsed. It should be a blast so stay tuned for another episode of "Kawahara on the Road."

Aloha ke Akua. Karl and Woody

Strengthen the Church Offering Received, Sunday, June 8, 2014

Imagine God delighting in the sounds of worship.. a mighty Bach prelude, an Islamic call to prayer, a chanted mantra, slapping hands on a djembe drum. This is what happened when Rock Spring Congregational UCC joined hands with the Dar Al-Hijrah Islamic Center to observe a Day for World Peace in Arlington, VA.

The interfaith service built on a relationship forged on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The theme, “Two Faith, One Creation”, was a way to tie aspects of multiple faiths serving the same God, and humanity’s responsibility for earthly care. After the service, congregants from both houses of worship shared a meal and then joined thousands in a 9/11 Unity Walk in Washington, D.C.

A genuine friendship has developed from these interfaith services. That is the vision of the Strengthen the Church offering...growing churches of extravagant welcome seeking to transform lives. Thank you for your generous support.

Enhancing Worship Workshop

Saturday, June 14, 9- noon, we host the “**Enhancing Worship Workshop**” featuring **Rev. Donald Schmidt**, Associate Conference Minister and **Ken Makuakane**, Program Associate for Church Vitality.

Both are on our Hawai’i Conference UCC staff and they’re great! Donald and Ken will help us think about making worship more meaningful on Saturday morning. From 9 am – 11 am we’ll reflect on enhancing our worship. At 11 am there will be two groups to choose from: Layreaders improve your skills, with Donald, and music enthusiasts with Ken. We’ll finish by noon. Call the church office to register today! For more information speak to Pastor Mary.

Sunday, June 15, Rev. Donald Schmidt will bring the message. He’s an engaging speaker! Your OCWM (**O**ur **C**hurches **W**ider **M**ission) contributions to our Hawai’i Conference help make these experiences possible. Mahalo!

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

10am-4:30pm

Lunch

12pm-1pm

Friday

10am-12pm

Church Volunteers

June 8, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Eileen Shiraishi (Memorial)

Childcare:

Jane Kawazoe

Layreader:

Carol Morioka

June 15, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Rick and Pat Tanimoto, Laura Nakasone

Childcare:

Jean Kita

Layreader:

Ruth Niino-Duponte

Refreshments:

Stefan Tanouye and Family

June 22, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Jennie Kondo

Childcare:

Saeko Hayashi

Layreader:

Barbara Iwami

June 29, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Gloria Kobayashi

Childcare:

Malia Mattos

Layreader:

Woody Kita



We invite your child to experience the wonders of God at our Vacation Bible School, WORKSHOP OF WONDERS: IMAGINE AND BUILD WITH GOD! The children will become Visioneers at the WORKSHOP OF WONDERS as they explore how the ordinary becomes extraordinary with God and experience the love of Jesus. The VBS will include worship, Bible stories, and share in crafts, music and science activities, and a snack. Of course we begin with supper! Bring a friend. Please call the church ASAP so we can prepare for YOU!

Let's Gear Up!

VBS at Church of the Holy Cross

440 West Lanikaula Street

June 8, 9 and 10, 2014

Preschool - Grade 8

5:30 - 8:00pm

Free! Dinner is included!

Please call 935-1283 to reserve your spot today.