

The Messenger

Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ
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August 6, 2014

**CHURCH
OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Wednesday,

Thursday

10am-4:30pm

Lunch

12pm-1pm

Friday

10am-12pm

**Important Dates
to
Remember:**

August 10,

*Church Picnic 11am
in Building of Faith*

August 17,

*Sunday School
Kick-off Breakfast
8:45am in*

Building of Faith

Trustees Meeting

August 24,

*All Church Special
Discernment Session*

*“Look Back to
Look Ahead”*

Potluck to follow

August 31,

*Stewardship &
Missions Meeting*

September 14,

*Martha Mensendiek
Guest Preacher*

September 20,

Service Day

September 28,

Interim Work Day

October 5,

Interim Work Day

October 12,

Interim Work Day

October 19,

Interim Work Day

Pastor's Corner

I am grateful for the leadership and guidance of the Interim Advisory Group that I meet with regularly. They include: Jane Kawazoe, Reiko Masutomi, Ruth Nino-Du Ponte, and Eric Tanouye. We are working together on some projects that you will read more about below—as they assist me in planning congregation’s work for the Interim Time. If you have questions please contact one of us!

The congregation’s work in this Interim Time includes: 1. Coming to Terms with CHC’s History, 2. Discovering a New Identity, 3. Looking at leadership – are there changes we want to make? 4. Renewing our Denominational Linkages, and 5. Commitment to New Directions in Ministry. We begin by looking at Church of the Holy Cross’s history!



Jiro Okabe, first CHC Minister

Looking Back to Look Ahead: Sunday, August 24, following worship we’ll share a **potluck lunch**. As we gather around tables we’ll get to know how persons came to CHC and why you stayed. We’ll learn about the history of our congregation through a **timeline**. Please bring mementos from your time at CHC – photos, newspaper clippings, or bulletins for example. Please bring copies – or have Dennis Lin make copies for you in advance, so you may keep your original. Weddings, baptisms, confirmations, funerals, mission in the community and beyond, events for youth, women, men, IYAA, and more!

What has been moving for you in the life of CHC? How has your faith deepened? We will celebrate accomplishments and tell stories from the life of CHC. Table leaders will assist in our conversation. You will be invited to place your significant events on our **timeline**. We’ll share stories and learn from one another. I look forward to the learning and laughter! We plan to put the timeline in the rear of the sanctuary following this event.

Sunday, September 14, one of our missionaries to Japan, **Martha Mensendiek**, will speak in worship. She works at Doshisha University, a Christian university, with a history of being in solidarity with the poor and discriminated class in Japanese society, as well as in the wider world. It has a School of Theology as well as a Department of Social Welfare – both of which have a long history in Japan. Martha teaches and helps build awareness about the world. She appreciates working with minorities and women, including migrant workers and minorities, as well as women exploited in the sex industry. Following worship we’ll have refreshments in Building of Faith.



Save these upcoming dates for fun, food and fellowship which will follow worship. These times together will further our Interim work: **Sundays, September 28, October 5, 12, 19.** We’ll reflect on who God calls CHC to be and what God calls us to do. **What does God have in mind for the future of CHC?** Through prayer and sharing we’ll consider what God is longing for in this wonderful church! We need your help in this process! Please plan to attend!

This Sunday please return your fish and loaves we passed out on August 3. Write on them occasions when you’ve seen God working through you or others care for persons who are vulnerable or in need! We’ll put them up in the rear of the sanctuary. I’ll have blank loaves and fish if you need them. A few weeks ago I asked you about your hopes and dreams for the future of CHC. I will share your responses in the next Messenger!

Peace & Joy,
Mary

Pastor Mary on Vacation

Mary and Gary will be on vacation August 11-17. While Mary is away you may contact Ruth Farrell in case of pastoral emergency. Please see the bulletin for her phone number.

August 10, 2014 CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS "HILO OLD STYLE PICNIC"

Sunday, August 10 is the date of our annual church picnic to be held in the Building of Faith after church service. We are featuring our famous bentos and bingo game with lots of prizes. This year we are having a kendama contest and watermelon eating contest along with our guessing games and lucky number. Be sure to save the date and attend this free annual event. We are having slip and slide for the children and a smaller water slide, so be sure to bring a change of clothes. See you there! Wear your best picnic clothes!



Kahikolu Congregational Church Youth Songfest August 23, 2014

Kahikolu Congregational Church is having its 1st Annual Songfest. All youth are invited to come. James Yoshiyama is willing to carpool. If interested contact Pastor Mary or James Yoshiyama.

Buzzzz on By!

Church of the Holy Cross
Sunday School Kick-Off
August 17th
8:45 in the Building of Faith

Build your own breakfast, meet
your teachers, songs and more



SENIOR MINISTRY

Our next Senior Ministry session will be held on Thursday, August 28, 10 to 12 noon in the Building of Faith. As usual, we'll have delicious food and an enjoyable time together.

Come, and bring a friend along. Please sign up on our Senior Bulletin Board or call the church office if you're able to attend.

Request for Laptop

The Church of the Holy Cross is looking for a used, working condition laptop to replace the one we have for worship.

Please contact the church office at 935-1283.

August Volunteers

Ushers:

Kay Kawachika, Cindy Debus, Newton Chu, Jane Kawazoe

August 10, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Ichiko Hisanaga and Anne Sadayasu

(Memorial)

Childcare:

Molina Pitiol

Layreader:

Millie Daikawa

August 17, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Barbara Iwami, Dr. & Mrs. Bill Chen

(Memorial)

Childcare:

Millie Daikawa

Layreader:

Stefan Tanouye

August 24, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Herbert Watanabe

(Memorial)

Childcare:

Reiko Masutomi

Layreader:

Newton Chu

August 31, 2014

Chapel Decorations:

Roberta Chu,

Alice Fujimoto

Childcare:

Anne Sadayasu

Layreader:



CRANE PEACE PROJECT

WHY are we doing this? Our inspiration for the "Cranes for Peace". Lily Inouye, received a link about WHY we are doing this. It is a powerful story – excerpts from a book by Akiko Mikamo about the devastation caused by the atomic bomb to father's family, home and "everything else" but we learn about a forgiving heart, so generous that it is indescribable.

Lily said that she "was so touched and had difficulty breathing while reading this and praised God for the light we draw from darkness. I am grateful for receiving this as we are participants in the midst of folding origami cranes for the 199,000 Cranes Project to be sent – in remembrance of those who were affected by the atomic bomb dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Again, thank you. We live by faith, Pastor Mary."

Shinji Mikamo lost everything when the nuclear bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, except his father's watch. He did not blame the Americans for the cataclysm though – and later, when the watch was stolen, he showed his daughter once again his powers of forgiveness.

As a child, when the family bathed together, in the Japanese way, Akiko Mikamo never asked about her father's missing ear or the scars on her parents bodies. "I didn't think about it," she says. "It was very natural."

Her mother never spoke about the bomb – as a traditional Japanese woman she "learned to swallow her pain so as not to burden others". But Akiko grew up listening to her father's stories of that day, which she has now collected in a book. Above all, he always taught her it was wrong to hate:

"Americans are not to blame, the war is to blame. People's unwillingness to understand those with different values – that's to blame."

The pilot of the Enola Gay had only been following orders, he pointed out, and risking his own life in the process.

Go to http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/special/2014/newsspec_8079/index.html for the whole story.

THANK YOU to those who have folded and still folding the cranes.... We have over 5,000 cranes!!! More paper is available at the church office or at the back of the sanctuary. No deadline so if you need to, take a break!

Choir Practice begins August 24



Katherine Wilson, who has been the choir's accompanist for the past two years, will now serve as the interim Music Coordinator/Choir Director for the Church of the Holy Cross. Choir practice will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 24. Na Leo Ni'o Lani will sing their first song on Sunday, August 31. Please join us in this important music ministry of our church!

Kait is a Performing Arts Major with Music Concentration at the UH Hilo. She plans to graduate in Spring 2015. She was the vocal director for UHH's spring 2014 production of *Miss Saigon* as well as their rehearsal accompanist. She has been in KDEN's summer production of *Ruddigore* and *Beauty and the Beast* and the UHH's production of *Spoon River* and *Every Day's a Musical*. Besides teaching private vocal lessons and playing the piano, she plays the French horn.

Recognizing that music is an integral part of the Church's worship service and ministry, the Board of Deacons drafted a new comprehensive music ministry that was just approved by the Church Council. Kait says that from the first time she came to the Church of the Holy Cross and was told 'You are welcome here!' she has always felt welcomed and desires to serve the church through her musical talents.

The Messenger

The Messenger is a bimonthly newsletter distributed by the Church of the Holy Cross in Hilo. If you have an article please either send it via email in word format to holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com or via post. The next issue will be August 20, 2014. All articles should be sent in no later than the Tuesday before.