

# The Messenger

March 4, 2015

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday  
9:30 am-01:30pm

Wednesday & Friday  
09:30 am—12:20 pm

## Important Dates to Remember:

**Thursday, March 12th**

*Peanut Butter Ministry*  
2—4 pm  
Every 2nd Thursday

**Friday, March 13th**

*Interfaith Communities in Action*  
7:00 to 9:00 pm  
Honpa Hongwangi Hilo Betsuin  
398 Kilauea Ave.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21st SERVICE DAY**

*Please come by and help beautify our campus.*

**Sunday, March 15th**

*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Received*

**Sunday, March 22nd**

*J's MiniMart Every 4th Sunday*

**Sunday, March 29th**

*Palm Sunday Celebrate with a parade of palms and hear the story of the final days of Jesus' life*

**Thursday, April 2nd at 7 pm**  
*Maundy Thursday*

**Sunday, April 12th**

*Pastor Mary's Final Sunday with us. Potluck in Building of Faith following worship.*

**Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ**  
440 West Lanikaula St., Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
(808) 935-1283 [holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com)



## Interfaith Communities in Action

Friday, March 13th from 7—9 pm  
Honpa Hongwangi Hilo Betsuin  
Located at 398 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo

**Panel Discussion: Tolerance & Understanding with other Faiths**

Leading these events:

**Dale Bishop**, A Middle East scholar. Member of World Council of Churches delegations in dialogue with Iranian Muslim.

**Damayanthi Niles**, Professor of Theology at Eden Theological Seminary (a UCC Seminary) teaching of interfaith studies.

**David Greenhaw**, President of Eden Theological Seminary. Professor of Preaching and Worship. He has taught and lectured around the world.

*These scholars appear through the courtesy of the Armin and Shirley Limper Program in Christianity & World Religions of Eden Theological Seminary. Armin Limper, a Hawai'i resident, is a retired United Church of Christ minister and Professor of Emeritus of Theology and Religion at Elmhurst College in Illinois, UCC college.*



**Sunday, March 15**  
**One Great Hour of Sharing**  
**Offering Received.**

Envelopes are enclosed with the Messenger and on Sunday in the Sanctuary.

**SERVICE DAY**  
**Saturday, March 14th**  
Meet in the Morning

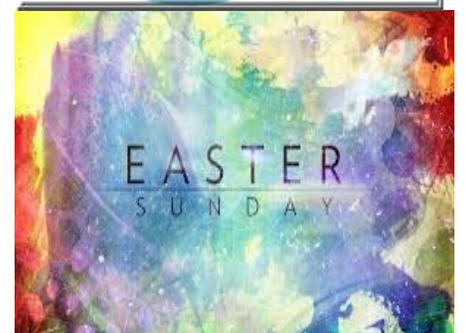
**Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, March 29th.**

That day we'll celebrate with a parade of palms and hear the story of the final days of Jesus' life.

**Maundy Thursday, April 2nd at 7 pm**  
Service of Holy Communion in the evening. This quiet, reflective, service commemorates when Jesus shared the bread and cup with his disciples at the Passover. The choir will sing. Other congregations who worship on our campus will worship with us.

**Easter Sunday April 5th**

Festive worship celebrating Christ's Resurrection. Special Refreshments follow.



## Pastor's Corner

On Sunday, March 1st we experienced a thunder and lightning storm in Hilo. The thunder shook the parsonage! Our church fire alarm system sounded, possibly because of the storm. We are having it repaired as I write. Living in Hilo, we know about the damage water can do!

In 2004 a tsunami hit India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Somalia. The UCC was present providing emergency shelter, food, water, medical care and more. Later we helped rebuild homes. Your gifts helped people recover. Although many will never forget December 26, 2004 – there are signs of hope today in those lands.

In August 2005 Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast of the USA causing major damage. Our UCC mission partner, the Back Bay Mission, was damaged. It was rebuilt by 2009. Rev. Douglas Anders, UCC South Central Conference Minister wrote: “Our church, the United Church of Christ, responded in tangible ways to the rebuilding of New Orleans. This work would not be possible without the outpouring of love of the whole UCC. Let this out pouring of life-changing generosity and love be your example.” Gifts from the UCC as well as volunteers bring hope and renewal, rebuilding homes and churches in the Gulf Coast area following Katrina.

My favorite UCC special offering is ***One Great Hour of Sharing***. Thank you for your 2014 gifts of \$1,982 for this offering. Because you were generous in 2014, there has been money to care for refugees, provide vocational training for persons who need work, help farmers learn better farming methods and more.

We will receive ***One Great Hour of Sharing*** offering on Sunday, March 15. Your gifts transform lives! Please Google OGHS, UCC for more information.

It is my blessing to be in ministry with you at Church of the Holy Cross, UCC! I appreciate the generous spirit here. Thank you so much for the many ways you give – your time, your gift of your talents and your treasure – your gifts of money.

Peace & Joy,

*Pastor Mary*



### Adult Education - Bible Study—*Mark's Gospel*

Bible study Monday's 6:30 pm Wednesdays 9:30 am

Throughout the ages, even since 70 A.D. Christians have pondered “How can we live faithfully in challenging times”. During Lent we'll look at Mark's Gospel: the first written down and the shortest! And it helps us consider this question -- for the audience of Mark's Gospel grappled with this too!



### Easter Lilies for Chapel Decorations

Please sign up to order an Easter Lily for our chapel decorations this year.

Each plant is \$14.05 including the pot cover. Checks may be made out to Cynthia Debus and the last day to order is Sunday, March 15th!

This poem came in an e-mail from an organization in Seattle. When we look back we see all the things we have accomplished. May this be a Lenten blessing for you! *Pastor Mary*

### Think Not How Far by Harold Macdonald

*Think not how far we have to go,  
how far we've come; it saps the strength,  
melts the will. It's better not to know  
the breadth and height and length  
of all that's still ahead.  
Who wants to learn one's end?  
What will be, what would have been -  
weigh like lead.  
Past offenses change not, cannot mend.  
Better to proceed by little steps  
within your range; no sweat, regret, no  
strain;  
blinking out dramatic heights and depths  
the thought of chasms, rough terrain.  
Time then to see God's downward bending  
to share the journey and the ending.*

## ALL BOARDS & COMMITTEES



### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Give and change the world.... It really is that simple. All of us have the power to give and the gifts we give make the world more the way God intended it to be—a place where everyone has what they need.

When the Apostle Paul visited the early churches in Macedonia, they became excited about the ministry opportunities he laid before them. They would be part of an offering received for the poor and suffering in Jerusalem, due to a devastating famine. This offering or ministry was a way for Paul to model the unity of all believers and provide a mechanism for showing their care and concern for one another.

One Great Hour of Sharing continues this ministry today. We are called to care for those far and near from disaster relief, to training programs to healthcare. Your gift makes a major impact on the lives of real people.

This year the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be dedicated on March 15th. Look for the next Messenger for further information and an offering envelope to help change the world.

Barbara Iwami



### HELP WANTED TO SERVE REFRESHMENTS

This is an invitation for groups of at least 3 persons to serve refreshments after worship on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday most months. Punch supplies and cookies will be provided

so the group needs to set up the punch and arrange the cookies, serve and clean up after. Gifted members may share their favorite dessert or other food, if desired.

A potluck luncheon will be held on April 12th as we bid aloha to Pastor Mary.

August 9<sup>th</sup> is the Church Picnic and in December, we ask for goodies for the social after the Christmas Eve candlelight service.

Please sign up on the bulletin board, call the church office or Margaret at 895-0994. Thank you! Margaret Torigoe



### Diane Weible

Associate Conference Minister, Diane Weible, was nominated to be the next conference minister of the Northern California Nevada Conference. She will stand for election on April 11, 2015. If elected, the Rev. Weible will be resigning from her current position on the Hawaii Conference staff to relocate and begin the duties of her new call in early June.



### 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](mailto:holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com) or via post by March 13th. The next scheduled Messenger will be March 18, 2015.



### Sacrament of Baptism & New Members

The Sacrament of Baptism will be offered on Easter Sunday or a day that works for your family.

Please contact Pastor Mary.

Those who are interested in church membership are invited to contact her as well.



### March 2015

- 04 Katada, Emi
- 06 Maeda, Margaret
- 07 Sato, Thelma
- 14 Olcott, Meghan
- 15 Miyake, Richard
- 16 Nishida, Chizuko
- 17 Olcott, Brenda
- 18 Maeda, Blanche
- 18 Robinson,  
Lei Jack
- 19 Tanaka, Shuichi
- 21 Hisanaga, Ichiko
- 22 Nagami, Tamayo  
Suzuki, Clarice
- 25 Okabe, Gavin
- 28 Kurohara, Martha
- 29 Yamane, Jon
- 31 Murai, Molly

### March Ushers:

IYAA & Jayson Rekis

### March 1, 2015

#### Chapel Decorations

Miyo Tanita (Memorial)

#### Layreader:

Jayson Rekis

### March 8, 2015

#### Chapel Decoration

Dorothy Matsui

#### Layreader:

Bob Smith

### March 15, 2015

#### Chapel Decoration

Carolyn Lum-Bellem

#### Layreader:

Jane Kawazoe

### March 22, 2015

#### Chapel Decoration

Goya Family (Memorial)

#### Layreader:

Ruth Niino-DuPonte

### March 29, 2015

#### Chapel Decoration

Memory of

Tokie Fujimoto

#### Layreader:

Anne Sadayasu