

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
09:30 am-2:00 pm

Wednesday
09:30 am—12:20 pm

Friday
08:00 am—10:00 am

Important Dates to Remember:

Thursday, May 7th
Stuart & Charity Mori
Invites all for Yoshiro's first birthday party in the Building of Faith at 4 pm

Sunday, May 10th
Council Meeting
at 8am & Christian Ed
After worship

Tuesday, May 12th
Care Partners Group
Building of Faith
10:00 am to Noon
East Hawaii Clergy
Pastor's Study
11:30 am to 1 pm

Sunday, May 17th
Board of Trustees meeting & Christian Ed Graduation

Sunday, May 20th
Messenger
Family Thank Offering envelopes to be sent out

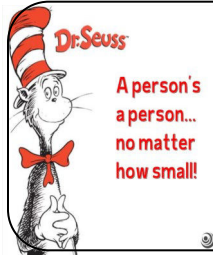
Sunday, May 24th
Board of Deacons meeting and receive Strengthen the Church offering

Sunday, May 31st
Board of Stewardship & Missions 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in Lounge
Christian Ed—Teacher Appreciation

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



Thursday, May 7th
Stuart and Charity Mori
Invites all for Yoshiro's first birthday party in the Building of Faith at 4 pm



Tuesday, May 12th
Care Partners Support Group
Building of Faith
10:00 am to 12 noon



BOARD MEETINGS

Sunday, May 10th
Council Meeting 8 am
Christian Ed after worship

Sunday, May 17th
Board of Trustees (Lounge)
Christian Ed Graduation

Sunday, May 24th
Board of Deacons

Sunday, May 31st
Board of Stewardship & Missions
11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Lounge
Christian Ed
Teacher Appreciation

SERVICE DAY Saturday, May 23rd



Please gather family and friends and come and help beautify our campus. Meet at 9:00 am



Strengthen the Church
Offering will be received on Sunday, May 24th



Monday, May 25th
MEMORIAL DAY
CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED



Monday, May 25th

You can sign up with The Blood Bank of Hawaii by calling (800) 372-9911. There are sign in sheets at the back of the Sanctuary. There are basically four (4) requirements for one to donate blood.

1. You must be at least 18 years of age—17 with parents permission.
2. Weight at least 110 lbs.
3. Be in good health.
4. Have waited at least eight (8) weeks since last donation of blood.



Pastor's Corner

Remembering our saints

Time flies! I have been with you for nearly two weeks now. You have so graciously welcomed me with your famed, extravagant hospitality and overwhelmed me with the way you care for and love one another. You have also taken me with you to visit our dear friends who are home-bound or in facilities. Mahalo nui loa!!! Praise God that our Church of the Holy Cross is so well laity-driven. My heart overflows with joy to see you exercise your ministry and leadership role as you so capably lead our beloved Church of the Holy Cross. This speaks very well for the future of our beloved Church of the Holy Cross.

Praise God, too, that you have allowed me to use my first few weeks to see, recall, emphasize, and give thanks to God on how much we owe to our beloved ancestors' sacrifices when they established this beautiful church in small town beauty Hilo. Quite often, my mind goes back to how a 1950s evergreen describes our ancestors: *I love those dear hearts and gentle people who live in my home-town.* These 'dear hearts and gentle people' are people we call 'our saints.' Duty and affection bound, **we thank God as we remember our saints in whose footsteps we so gratefully follow and so gingerly tread.**

As mentioned in my April 26, 2015 sermon, *I left you in Crete for this purpose, that you should set in order the things that are wanting* [waiting to be done!] Titus 1: 5 is a verse and statement that we can apply to ourselves today. God has left you in the Church of the Holy Cross *for this purpose.* In your case, what is your *for this purpose?*

To follow-up on perpetuating our saints' legacy to us and to find our own answer to 'what is your *for this purpose?*,' the sermons in May intend to encourage you to explore your *for this purpose* with the rich legacy from our revered ancestors as a backdrop. Isn't that intriguing?

For a jump-start, the sermon on May 03, 2015 [Holy Communion Sunday] invites us to recall the Philip in our lives. St Philip was the one who enabled the Ethiopian eunuch to understand the passage from Isaiah. Acts 8: 26 – 40

Who's the **Philip in your life** who was the **voice** God used to get to you?

We are who we are today because in our past there was one special person [may be more than one person] who was our inspiration, mentor, 'mother or father in God.' Many people have a hand in our success. At the height of our success, we stay humble precisely because, at least humanly speaking, we remember our source. As the Chinese say: when you drink the water of success, **remember your source!**

The May 10, 2015 sermon on Mother's Day explores how and what the Early Church has experienced the **church as our mother.**

I eagerly look forward to doing with you the *Liturgy on aging: God with us as we vintage!* on May 17, 2015. As we vintage, we gleefully embrace 'your old [women and] men shall dream dreams.' Joel 2: 28, Acts 2: 17 The old shall dream dreams and give legs to their dreams and make them walk! This prepares us for Pentecost Sunday.

On May 24, 2015 [Pentecost Sunday], we go Pentecostal, of course!

On May 31, 2015, it is my joy to share with you words of wisdom from an ancient Hawaiian creation chant [part of our saints' legacy to us] which is so 'modern' that it is truly awesome. How grateful we are that the five sermons in May remind us of how God had blessed our revered ancestors as they set out to do God's mission in their time and place, with God's good grace, of course. We dutifully follow in their train and joyfully perpetuate their labor of love as we do God's mission **in our time and place**, with God's good grace, of course. Amen. Let it be! Kahu Choo Lak



SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee is diligently working on looking for our new Pastor. We are now interviewing candidates via the internet (skype). Please keep us in your prayers as we continue the search for our new settled pastor.

Blessings, Stefan Tanouye, Committee Chair

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP & MISSIONS



On Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2013, we packed 14 “Emergency Preparedness Buckets” to be used in case of a disaster. The resealable five-gallon buckets were donated by HPM Building Supply and were filled with items such as scouring pads, a scrub brush, disinfectant wipes, liquid concentrated household cleaner, liquid disinfectant dish soap, a tarp, 100 feet of clothesline, latex gloves and work gloves, dust masks, and a 28 bag roll of heavy duty trash bags. All of these items were donated by our members. The buckets were stored in the Building of Faith storeroom for use when the need arose. On August 7, 2014, Tropical Storm Iselle hit the Paho-side of the Big Island. These buckets were distributed to friends and neighbors who were affected by the storm, and were very much appreciated. One recipient told us that the items included were very appropriate and were well used. She could not believe how thoughtful we were and how glad they were to get a bucket. This summer, we will be preparing 12 more buckets. The date has not been set, but we are letting you know early so you can watch for specials and start collecting the items for these buckets. We will let you know as soon as a date is selected! Thank you very much for your help with this project. * Anne Sadayasu



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

“Invest in the Vision” is the theme for this Year’s Strengthen the Church special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. Each day visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. The funds received from this offering are used to make these dreams a reality by funding new churches, developing spiritual life in our youth and young adults and nurturing current and future leaders. Half of the money received stays in Hawai’i to support Christian Investment Grants to churches for new ministries. Grants have been given to churches in Hawaii to support a summer college intern program and to events that exposed youth to the wider church. This year we will dedicate this offering on May 24th. Strengthen the Church envelopes are enclosed in the mailed messengers. For those of us who receive messenger by email you will receive a copy of this article with an offering envelope. Thank you for your generous support. * Barbara Iwami, Board of Stewardship & Missions



GOT GRADUATES?

It's that time of year when well deserving students will be receiving their diplomas! If you know of anyone from our church who will be graduating from high school or college, please let Yoko Hayano know (yokohayano@gmail.com). You may also leave message for her with Jodi in the office.

Deacons words of worship

Aloha, this is the first of regular monthly articles from the deacons where we explore questions on what we do, say, see, read, etc. for worship. Every 4th Sunday as part of the worship service and in the next messenger we will share the topic of the month. We hope to all grow in knowledge, understanding and meaning of worship and to answer some of those “Why do we do this? What does that mean? or Where did this come from? questions.

This installment looks at the Cross, the most familiar symbol of our faith. The cross is a representation that Jesus Christ gave us life by dying on a cross and rising from the dead.

Long before the time of Christ people used the cross as symbol of life so it follows that early Christians saw the cross not only a symbol of how Christ died but also a symbol of the life that he gave us.

When the cross has Christ hanging on it, it is called a crucifix reminding the viewer of Jesus’ suffering and death. The most common cross in most churches is an empty cross. The empty cross reminds us that Christ died for our sins, is no longer on the cross but our risen Lord.

The empty cross has many forms. Here are a few of the most common.



Latin Cross represents the cross of the crucifixion a symbol of Jesus’ victory over death and redemption for our sins. Sometimes this is also referred to as the Protestant cross



The Budded Cross with Trefoil (three buds on the ends) symbolizes Life and the Trinity (God the father, Son and Holy Spirit) . Some users of this cross see the three buds as Faith, Hope and Love.



The Greek Cross Four arms of equal length and predates the latin cross. It was not used to represent the cross of the crucifixion, but the four directions of the earth to show the spread of the gospel



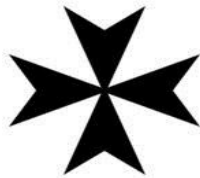
Saint Andrew’s cross represents the cross on which St. Andrew died in Patras Greece.



Jerusalem Cross sometimes called Crusaders' cross or the "Five-fold Cross, represents the spread of the gospel to the four corners of the world or Christ and the four evangelists. The design originates with the coat of arms worn by Godfrey of Bouillon during the First Crusade.



Celtic Cross, the circle symbolizes eternity, the sun or the halo of the Risen Christ and is commonly found in Ireland, Scotland and Iceland. Researchers feel that the circle may have been a way to make the cross familiar to non-Christians who were worshipers of the sun.



Maltese Cross the eight points symbolize the eight Beatitudes. In Italy it is also known as the Amalfi cross. This cross was associated with the Knights Hospitaller, the Knights of Malta, and the 8 points also represent the 8 aspirations of the knights.

Above are a few of the many forms of the cross used throughout the world. In future articles we will cover more on the Cross and other topics. If you have any questions on what is done as a part of worship, symbols, or other topics please contact a member of deacons and we will share the answers with the congregation. You can also send your questions to the church's e-mail holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com and put "worship questions for deacons" in the subject line. We look forward to your questions and growing together in our knowledge and faith.



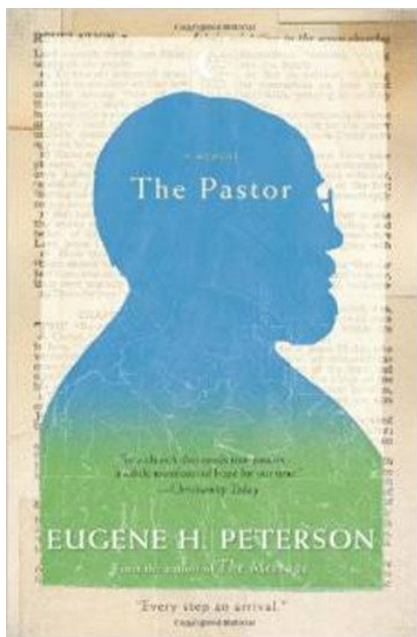
BREAD FOR THE WORLD

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for a successful Bake Sale for Bread For The World. All of you did listen and **BAKED, BAKED, BAKED, and COOKED, COOKED, COOKED** for our annual bake sale. We sold \$837.50 worth of cookies, pies, cupcakes, sushi rice, pickled vegetables, fish and more. Thank you to all of you who participated in the sale, whether donating baked goods or buying the items. We can always depend on our Church of the Holy Cross members to help those in need. We also sent 70 letters to our Congressional Delegates regarding the need for changes in our laws to help those in poverty in the United States and the world. Thank you for helping to send these letters so that they know that we are concerned about our community and the world regarding poverty.

Beverly Dodo

**SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT BY EUGENE PETERSON
in his book,
THE PASTOR.**

(Part One)



You may recognize the name Eugene Peterson because he is the author of *The Message: the Bible in Contemporary Language*, which he published in 2002 after working on the translation for ten years. I wanted to learn more about this remarkable man, and stumbled upon his autobiography, *The Pastor: a Memoir*, written in 2011. The book, with twenty short chapters, recalls his fifty years of pastoral experience. In it, he offers insights about the vocation of Pastor, which I believe our congregation could learn from. He begins by telling us that being a pastor is a vocation, a calling, not a job. Peterson is now 84 years old.

He was born and raised in Kalispell, Montana, the son of a butcher and a Pentecostal preacher mother. He graduated from the New York Theological Seminary and went on to Johns Hopkins University, where he studied Semitic languages with the intent of teaching university courses on the Old Testament. However, while a student there, he got a part-time job working with young adults at a Presbyterian church. So, instead of being a professor, he became a pastor. In 1962, he became the founding pastor of Christ Our King Presbyterian Church in Bel Air, Maryland, where he served for 29 years.

He established this church in three years, going house to house in the suburbs, organizing a congregation, building a sanctuary and establishing a self-sufficient church in three years. His church originally met in the basement of his residence and the excitement and achievements of his congregation are shared in the beginning chapters of his book. But, then six years of “Badlands” occurred, when there was apathy among his congregation and he didn’t know what to do. His congregation felt that they had created a church and seemed satisfied with their achievement.

This caused him to question his calling and to reevaluate his relationship with God. Among his realizations are these: “I can be hired to do a job and get paid for it. But, I can’t be hired to be a Pastor, for my primary responsibility is not to the people I serve, but to the God I serve.” He says that America’s commercial definition of a successful pastor is being the pastor of a Mega-church, but the church is not a business. A pastor should truly know his congregation. A Pastor should greet people by who they are, just as they are, not by what is wrong with them. He should not “fix” people, but lead them to worship God and to lead them to live a holy life. “Fixing problems, fixing people is about us. Worship, becoming whole, opening our lives to what we cannot control or understand, is about God.”

(More from *The Pastor* in the next Messenger). Gloria Kobayashi.

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 by May 11th.

The next scheduled Messenger will be May 20th, 2015.

May Ushers:
Woody, Jean & Erin Kita
Mary Ann Katayama
Saeko Hayashi

**May 10th
Chapel Decorations**
Jill Suzuki &
Theone Albano
Layreader
Millie Daikawa
Childcare
Woody Kita

**May 17th
Chapel Decorations**
Millie Uchima (memorial)
&
Millie Kataoka
Layreader
Millie Daikawa
Childcare
Dorothy Matsui

**May 24th
Chapel Decorations**
Lily Inouye (Memorial)
Layreader
Eric Tanouye
Childcare
Gail Wung

**May 31st
Chapel Decorations**
Anita Matthews
Layreader
Reilly Narruhn
Childcare
Mary Anne Katayama



May Birthdays

- 01 Higashi, M.
Michiyo
Robert, Mary Ann
- 05 Tanouye, Lillian
- 16 Lum-Bellem,
Carolyn
- 17 Ouye, Andrew
- 21 Kawasaki, Toshiaki
- 22 Siderhurst, Noah
- 24 Yamauchi, Joe
- 26 Enomoto, Yasuo
- 27 Matayoshi, Mary
Ushijima, Joy
Yamane, Miyeko
- 29 Chow, LeAnne
- 30 Mitipok, Sakae