

May 20, 2015

The Messenger

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

Wednesday
09:30 am—12:30 pm

Friday
08:00 am—11:00 am

Important Dates to Remember:

Sunday, May 20th
Messenger

Family Thank Offering envelopes to be sent out

Sunday, May 24th
Board of Deacons meeting & Strengthen the Church offering received

Monday, May 25th
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, May 25th
Blood Bank of HI Blood Drive
Building of Faith

Sunday, May 31st
Board of Stewardship & Missions
11:30 am to 1:30 pm in Lounge

Tuesday, June 2nd
Board of Christian Ed Meeting in J's Café

Tuesday, June 9th
Care Partner Support Group
Building of Faith
10 am to 12 noon

Sunday, June 14th
Family Thank Offering received

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

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



BOARD MEETINGS

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

Tuesday, June 2nd
Board of Christian Ed. Meeting in J's Cafe



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



Blood Bank of Hawaii

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



Ode to A Popular Bench In Chinatown: Benchmark for observing God's people?

It is a not-so-old and not-so-new bench among other benches in a park in Chinatown. Somehow, this bench is more popular than the other benches. It doesn't look out on expensive palatial mansions or fanciful manicured gardens. It is also not secluded or quiet which makes it the perfect spot to sit and unwind. Refreshingly, a welcomed curious tourist-free bench where people can idle without fear of the police bugging them.

The supreme appeal is more than simply an absence of the curious tourists. Sitting here early mornings allows me to appreciate the little details of everyday life: the face of a mother rushing her toddler to the toddlers care center, the face of a homeless looking for a spot to sit and still maintain some normalcy and dignity, the face of a vendor hurrying to his fruit and vegetable stand to earn an honest living, and a face [mine] only a mother can love enjoying people-watching.

The popularity of the bench is seen in its almost 100% occupancy. Every time a person leaves, invariably another comes to take the empty space, suggesting that it is a comfy spot to sit and slouch. Unlike new benches, it is free of slipperiness. No one gives you a 'dagger' look when you munch on a noisy bag of crisps or noisily slurp up your saimin bought in a nearby shop that used to be some one's residence.

The nearby early 20th century buildings were once used as residences, but are now used as shops inviting people to unload their wallets and also inviting comparison to similar nearby buildings that have endearing architectural charms like the ersatz Victorian ironwork balconies and shuttered windows.

At this time of the year [cusp of spring], the air is refreshingly crisp in the morning. Curiously enough, the still air reminds the regulars as well as casual passers-by of the bench's own dignified stillness. A perfect time and spot to enjoy my warm manapua and piping hot coffee. A perfect location to read *Star Advertiser*, starting with the Obituaries, of course, and only then by enjoying the Sports pages. A perfect spot to start 'today is the beginning of the rest of my life,' and gratefully make a petitionary mantra:

**Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me,
for in thee my soul takes refuge;
in the shadow of thy wings I will take refuge,
till the storms of destruction pass by.**

Psalm 57: 1

Kahu Choo Lak Yeow
Interim Pastor, Church of the Holy Cross



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 have already received an offering envelope with the last Messenger, May 6th. Envelopes are also available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Thank you for your generous support. * Barbara Iwami, Board of Stewardship & Missions

FAMILY THANK OFFERING – June 3, 2015

The **Family Thank Offering** is an outreach ministry of the Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands. This ministry is supported by individuals, WBM members and a few UCC churches. Up to \$500 grants are allowable and are made to women who are on the verge of becoming homeless, escaping violent family situations, or without food or basic necessities. Requests for emergency assistance are received from ministers, community advocates and our members. Checks are sent directly to a landlord, attorney, utility company or made payable to the recipient.

This is a partial list of some of the mission grants made in 2014:

A 3-year old girl underwent major surgery to correct a leg what was a bit shorter than the other. Her parents were without an income for one month while they were with their daughter on Oahu.

A young woman, survivor of domestic violence, recently graduated from college and lost two of her family members in a matter of months. She needed assistance with food and utilities. She also cared for her grandmother.

A woman lost her job and was facing homelessness. She needed help with rent for herself and her children.

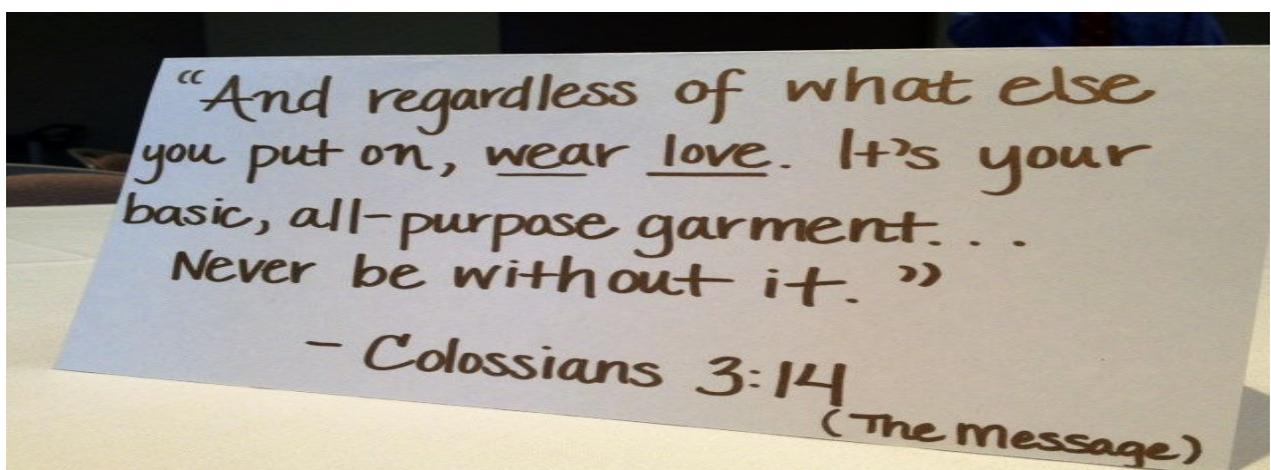
A mother escaping domestic violence and fighting for custody of her children needed assistance for attorney fees. She was successfully able to secure legal representation in her fight with her ex-husband who wanted to avoid paying child support.

Relief assistance was sent to Kalapana Maunakea Church to help replenish spoiled food during Hurricane Iselle.

A woman was in need of clothing and basic necessities for herself and her 5 children after being released from the Women's Community Correctional Center.

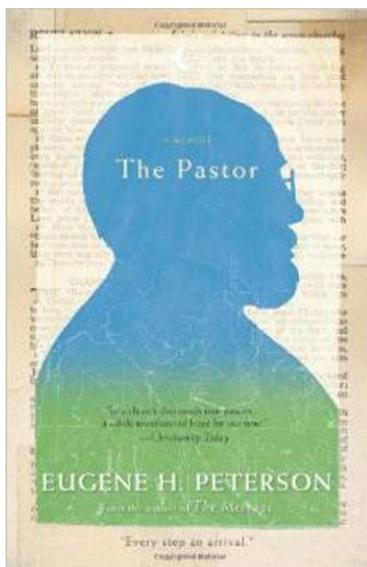
For many, many years our members and friends have shared their love and resources with those with special monetary needs. Please support this outreach ministry with an open heart. FTO envelopes are enclosed in this week's newsletter mailings and extra envelopes will be on the table near the sanctuary entrance. If you unable to attend church on dedication Sunday, you may mail your contribution to the church. Checks should be made out to Church of the Holy Cross with the notation **Family Thank Offering**.

CHC Women's Fellowship ~ Carol Morioka



The Pastor: a Memoir by Eugene Peterson.

Part Two of the book,



Eugene Peterson offers a lot of wisdom to congregations searching for a new settled pastor. Like his neighbor, who told him that it was nice that he had “a one-day workweek”, I often used to think that a pastor’s main work was done on Sunday because Sunday worship is the main part of his job that we see. However, much of what the pastor does, including conducting Bible study, visiting the sick, preparing sermons and helping to administer the operations of the church are not visible to those who only come to church on Sunday. In other words, he says, the Pastor is “invisible six days a week and incomprehensible on the seventh.”

He speaks of “a long obedience in the same direction,” (a term from Nietzsche) concluding that a Pastor’s main job is to help us live our Christian life patiently, locally and personally. A Pastor must be patient, realizing the varied conditions of his church members and must always treat his congregation with dignity. A Pastor knows his members, but does not pry or treat them as projects to be completed. A Pastor prays, gives direction and encourages us to live the gospel. We, in turn, should not expect quick results with a new pastor.

Peterson knows what he’s talking about because he spent 29 years at Christ Our King Presbyterian Church which he established and built in three years. But, after that he spent the next six years trying to get them “out of the Badlands.” He felt his congregation was not growing and began working harder and harder going to meetings and creating more and more programs, until he realized that his own personal relationships with his young family and with God were in danger. He decided to resign, but the elders told him to let them run the church. He then attended fewer committee meetings and began keeping a Monday Sabbath, where he and his wife prayed, went on silent Emmaus walks, then shared their observations about what was happening at their church during the week. He began meeting regularly with other pastors in his community and found his own personal pastor. To keep his academic interests alive, he taught a course on theology at the nearby St. Mary’s Seminary one night a week and eventually wrote thirty books on individual books of the Bible and pastoral and spiritual theology. He is, indeed, a remarkable man of God. He has become a Pastor’s pastor, keeping many pastors from leaving the pastorate.

After retiring from his pastorate, Peterson joined the faculty of Regent College in Vancouver, Canada teaching spiritual theology. He became a pastor to both the faculty and students at the college. It’s interesting to note that he called Canada multi-ethnic, but also “godless.” It took me a month of careful reading and note taking to complete this book. I learned so much about the pastorate by reading this book, I felt called to share some of these nuggets with you. ---Gloria Kobayashi

A copy of The Pastor: A Memoir by Eugene Peterson was purchased for our library by the Board of Christian Education. You may find it and some other newer titles on the library cart in the sanctuary. Please write your name on the borrower’s card and leave it in the black box.

THANK YOU

Spring is here and the flowers flourish in our courtyard. It is definitely time to thank all who willingly helped develop the planting area to the north of the sanctuary. The idea for the area was to keep it simple, easy to maintain but pretty to see. Lantana was chosen for its long bloom, spreading quality, and low maintenance. Plastic mulch under the decorative rock was used for weed control.



Thank You in particular to Connie Yoshiyama, Eric Tanouye, Woody Kita, Karl Kawahara, Saeko Hayashi, Carolyn Lum-Bellem and in general to all congregation members who have encouraged, watched and waited with us for the starts and sprigs to grow and flourish. Spring is wonderful and so are all of you.

Thanks Anna Kennedy



CONGRATULATIONS

GRADUATES!!!

Those who attended worship service on May 17th were able to help the Board of Christian Ed celebrate two very deserving graduates. Mark Tanouye who will graduate from Christian Liberty School and Kate Wilson who received her degree from UH Hilo on Saturday. Well done, Graduates! Here's wishing you all the best as you embark on your next adventure.



Thursday, May 28th SENIOR MINISTRY

Senior Ministry session will be on Thursday, May 28th, 10 - 12 noon. Our speaker will be Debbie Nakaji from Services for Seniors. Her presentation will cover services offered thru the agency and how to access the services. Sign up on the 'SENIOR' bulletin board or call the church office (935-1283) if you're able to attend.



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 29th.

The next scheduled Messenger will be June 3rd, 2015.

May Ushers:

Woody, Jean & Erin Kita
Mary Ann Katayama
Saeko Hayashi

May 24th Chapel Decorations

Lily Inouye (Memorial)

Layreader

Eric Tanouye

Childcare

Gail Wung

May 31st Chapel Decorations

Anita Matthews

Layreader

Reilly Narrubn

Childcare

Mary Anne Katayama

June Ushers

Stefan & Jennifer Tanouye

Ken & Lois Tanouye

June 7

Chapel Decoration

Eileen Shiraishi (memorial)

Layreader

Roberta Chu

Childcare

Jane Kawazoe

June 14

Chapel Decorations

Rick & Pat Tanimoto

Layreader

Ruth Niino-DuPonte

Childcare

Jean Kita

June 21

Chapel Decorations

Jennie Kondo

Layreader

Carol Morioka

Childcare

Saeko Hayashi

June 28

Chapel Decorations

Gloria Kobayashi

Layreader

Margaret Torigoe

Childcare

Malia Mattos



- 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