

Church of the Holy Cross—UCC

440 West Lanilaula Street

Hilo, HI 96720

(808) 935-1283

holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com

www.holycrosshilo.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship Service begins at 10:00 am
Interim Pastor: Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

This week at the Church of the Holy Cross

Bible Study, Sunday at 8:30 am, Monday at 6:30 pm & Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Pastor's Study
Choir Practice, 8:30 a.m. Sunday in the Sanctuary & 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Tuesday in the Sanctuary
IYAA Bible Study Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Lounge. Mark Ch. 14
Rhythm & Life exercise class, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Building of Faith
Ballroom Dance class meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Building of Faith
Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho'opakele meets every Thursday at 9:00 am in the Lounge
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) meets every Thursday at 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm in the Library.
Qigong meets every Friday at 9:00 am to 10:30 am in the Building of Faith.
Bell Choir every Saturday at 1:00 pm in J's Café
Muslim Community Group meets every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in the Building of Faith Meeting Room

Other Congregations that Worship here Today

The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei – worships 10 am to 1pm in the Building of Faith.

Rev. Ichiro Annes

Bedesta Church worships at 1:30 pm in the Building of Faith.

Pastor Edmes Edwin

Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa, Hilo [CCCAS] worships at 12pm in Sanctuary.

Rev. Take Sunia

The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga meets in the Sanctuary on Sunday from 2 pm to 4 pm and Wednesday from 6 pm to 7 pm

Rev. Stiven Pousima; Assistant to Pastor: Tevita Talanoa

First Marshallese Assembly of God, worships 4 pm in the Sanctuary.

Rev. Brandy Karben

“No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.”

CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Tues, & Thurs
08:30am-1:30 pm,
Wed. 09:30 am—12:30 pm
Fri. 8:30 am —10:00 am

Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ

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Important Dates to Remember:

*Sunday, Feb. 7th
Refreshments Provided
After worship
Women's Fellowship*

*Tuesday, Feb. 9th
Care Partner Support Mtg.
10 am to 12 noon
Building of Faith*

*Wednesday, Feb. 10th
Ash Wednesday
First Day of Lent*

*Sunday, Feb. 14th
Happy Valentines Day
First Sunday in Lent
Council Meeting
After worship*

*Monday, Feb. 15th
CHC Office Closed
Presidents' Day*

*Wednesday, Feb. 17th
Messenger*

*Sunday, Feb. 21st
Refreshments Provided
Suzuki Family/
Amy Shiroma*

*Sunday, Feb. 21st
Second Sunday in Lent
Trustees Meeting
After worship*

*Sunday, Feb. 28th
Third Sunday in Lent
J's Mini Mart
Before Worship*

*Sunday, Feb. 28th
Deacons Meeting
After worship*

BOARD MEETINGS

Sunday, Feb. 14th
Council Meeting
After worship

Sunday, Feb. 21st
Trustees Meeting
After worship

Sunday, Feb. 28th
Deacons Meeting
After worship



Care Partners Support Meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 9th
10 am to 12 noon @ BOF

After Children's Word
during worship

Happy Valentines Day
Sunday, February 14th
First Sunday in Lent



**Feb. 15th
Monday, CHC
Office Closed**

**Wednesday, Feb. 17th
Messenger**
Please submit articles by Feb. 12th



**Sunday, Feb. 21st
Refreshments
Provided
Suzuki Family/
Amy Shiroma**



**Sunday,
Feb. 28th
J's Mini Mart
Before
Worship**



**Sunday, Feb. 7th
Refreshments provided
by CHC Women's'
Fellowship
after worship**



After Children's
Word during
worship



**Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday, Feb. 10th
Ash Wednesday
Lent Begins

Pastor's Corner

Last month we talked of epiphany as the moment we see truth in ordinary things. What are the chances of churches experiencing moment[s] of truth? That depends very much on how open churches are to God's intent to visit us which brings me to a matter close to my heart.

I'd dearly love to dwell on a concern of some significance, to wit, how open are churches to learning new hymns instead of enjoying staying stuck in the rut. To cite an example, I can't say I enjoy or endorse a tendency to stay only with familiar hymns/tunes. Far too many churches fall into that category. The far too obvious resistance to opening ourselves to learning new things in spiritual formation is detrimental to spiritual growth, doing no one any good. Our spiritual heritage is precious far too deep to be stonewalled by shallow habits of staying with familiarity which breeds contempt, so goes the proverb.

I must confess that I've been bitterly disappointed by the regular and even normative decisions to use only familiar hymns in many churches. Our *The New Century Hymnal* has 617 hymns. I dare say that a cursory examination of hymns used in 2015 in any UCC church wouldn't amount to more than 100 hymns. If that is fairly close to truth, then that suggests how closed we are to being spiritually nurtured by new hymns/tunes.

If churches are so closed to or even resistant to learning anything new, how can churches expect to experience any Epiphany?

Give me that old time religion is open to learning new things! We cannot be catalysts for change if we unchangingly remain the same. If we stubbornly and deliberately close all windows of opportunity we stay put at the threshold of the door of destiny. Then, we are not surprised to know *'things feel fragile right now. The landscape of violence and conflicts is spreading, the politics of fear is rising, we're decimating our only planet earth, and climate change threatens our very survival.'*

When we opt for change, it feels like we are poised on the edge between our deepest dreams and oldest fears. We face a choice – to rise to the occasion, or to let it fall.

Will humanity rise? That depends in part on you and me being ready and happy to change for the better, making possible

*'Hope has hands
Freedom has feet
Truth will stand
The Word will speak
And God is still speaking*

*Love has a heart beat and grace has a face
Compassion has a tear
Joy has laughter
And here ever-after peace has a smile.'*

Russell Mauldin

Pastor Choo Lak



On January 24, 2016 at the Deacons Meeting, the Deacons have decided to **admit new Members by baptism or by transfer on Easter Sunday [March 27, 2016] during our normal Easter Sunday Service.**

If you wish to be baptized or to transfer your membership or you want your child[ren] baptized on that day, please see, telephone, or email Pastor Choo Lak [church tel number: (808) 935-1283, email: kahuchoolak@gmail.com]. Mahalo



Church of the Holy Cross 125th Anniversary (2016)

A planning committee to celebrate our 125th anniversary is reviewing ideas for activities and requests suggestions from members. We also plan to use the timeline currently posted in the Building of Faith but want to update it with members' personal remembrance or important activities you recollect about the church. We will be planning for activities to happen up to January 18, 2017.

Paper and a box to receive time line remembrances or ideas and suggestions for the anniversary will be available in the back of the church up to February 14, 2016 (Valentine's Day!)

You can also share your ideas with committee members: Kay Kawachika, Amy Shiroma, Connie Yoshiyama, Gail Wung and Woody Kita.



Pastor Choo Lak will be encouraging members who are new to the Bible to join a group to do an introductory walkabout of the Bible for six (6) weeks on Sunday starting at 8:30 am. This is a good time to ask questions about the Bible with fellow beginners in studying the Bible. Praise God for the five (5) participants who turned up on January 03, 2016. Four (4) more joined on January 10, 2016. You are cordially invited to join the happy band. Every one is welcomed!

Bible Study

Every Sunday at 8:30 am, Monday at 6:30 pm and Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Pastor's Study.
Every one is welcomed!

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 Feb. 12th.
The next scheduled Messenger will be February 17, 2016.

February Ushers

Christian Albano, Theone Albano, Clarice Suzuki, Wayne Suzuki & Amy Shiroma

Sunday, Feb. 7th

Layreader

Janet Fujioka

Chapel Decoration

Lily Inouye (Mem)

Childcare

Carol Morioka

Sunday, Feb. 14th

Layreader

Millie Daikawa

Chapel Decoration

Else Ushijima (Mem)

Childcare

Irene Okada

Sunday, Feb. 21st

Layreader

Margaret Torigoe

Chapel Decoration

Hats Kamimura

Childcare

Jeanne Hernandez

Sunday, Feb. 28th

Layreader

Jayson Reki's

Chapel Decoration

Laura Ota

Childcare

Lei Jack



Please pray for and send a greeting to these Birthday people

February 2016

- 04 Yamauchi, Joanne
- 05 Palea, Susan
- 11 Ainsworth, Carolyn
- 15 Mathews, Anita
- 20 Tanaka, Robert
- 24 Daikawa, Mildred
- 26 Kodani, Esther