

## 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 am 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.  
**Rhythm & Life exercise class**, Tuesday at 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 unless otherwise noted  
**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.”

# The Messenger

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)

March 23, 2016

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday  
08:30am-12:30 pm

Friday  
8:30 am —12:00 pm

## *Important Dates to Remember:*

Thursday, March 24th

*Maundy Thursday  
7 pm Worship*

Friday, March 25th

*Good Friday  
12 pm service*

Sunday, March 27th

*Easter Sunday  
10 am service*

Sunday, April 3rd

*Communion*

Sunday, April 10th

*Welcome Social for  
Pastor Eric  
After worship*

Saturday, April 16

*Hawaii Island  
Association  
'Aha Mokupuni  
Time TBA*

Sunday, April 24

*Bread for the World  
Sale  
J's Mini Mart*

## EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, March 27  
Worship at 10 am

Reception of new  
members:

Ann Kanahale  
Doreen Lucas

Infant Baptism:  
Shalom Gelan

**POTLUCK  
FAREWELL  
LUNCHEON**

After worship  
honoring  
Pastor Choo Lak Yeo

## BOARD MEETINGS

Sunday, March 27

*Easter Sunday  
Deacons Meeting  
After worship*

Sunday, April 3  
Board of Christian  
Education  
After worship

Sunday, April 17  
Board of Trustees  
After worship

Sunday, April 24  
Deacons Meeting  
After worship

## CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Care Partners Support Meeting  
Every Tuesday, March 8th  
10 am to 12 noon @ BOF



**Blood Bank  
of Hawaii**

*Give Blood. It's Safe. It's Simple. It Saves Lives.*

Thursday, March 24th  
Building of Faith, 9 am to 4 pm

Saturday, March 26, 9 am  
**EGGCELLENT ADVENTURE!**  
Decorating Easter Eggs  
J's Café at 9 am

Let's keep our keiki clean and  
happy!

Please bring extra clothes for the  
children to keep them clean & dry.

Sunday, March 27th

**EASTER SUNDAY**

Easter egg hunt at 9 am  
Bring your own Easter Basket  
& prepare to laugh and have fun!

Thursday, March 31,  
10-12 noon, Building of Faith  
**Senior Ministry**

Jason Dela Cruz, Health Educator  
from the Department of Health will  
speak on Dengue Fever and Zika Vi-  
rus. Sign up on the senior ministry  
bulletin board or call the church

## A SPECIAL REQUEST Gideon's International:

Please consider giving a donation in the  
name of Church of the Holy Cross to  
help show our support of their ministry  
in printing and distributing the Bible in  
places like hotels, hospitals and any-  
where else that may bring a message of  
comfort, peace and spiritual presence.

## *Pastor's Corner*



Words fail me when it comes to thanking God and you for having blessed my ministry with you the last eleven months.

I leave you fully aware of how God has been so gracious to me in enabling me to do my level best for God.

I leave you with a glad heart because you have been so wonderful and conscientious in doing God's mission in Hilo and beyond. You have not withheld your time, talents, and treasury in being diligent workers in the Lord's Vineyard.

I also leave you with a prayer that more of you, especially your leaders, cultivate the habit and penchant to learn new things as you exercise your ministry and leadership in our church in our new age. Happily staying in the rut will do no one any good in our spiritual formation because we have chosen to foreclose any chance or intent to learn new things. This applies, for example, to learning new hymns, **a cancer afflicting far too many mainline churches.** Leaders who should know better are quite often the ones who discourage learning new hymns. Result? They stymie spiritual growth.

The challenge to learn new things is an old hat as seen in a well known hymn crafted by James Russell Lowell [1819 – 1891].

I am specially moved by the third stanza with special reference to 'toiling up new Calv'ries . . . new occasions teach new duties.' For our spiritual growth, a new duty lies in **learning hymns that have inspired millions for centuries!**

By the light of burning martyrs, Christ, Thy bleeding feet we track,  
**Toiling up new Calv'ries** ever with the cross that turns not back;  
**New occasions teach new duties**, time makes ancient good uncouth,  
**They must upward still and onward**, who would keep abreast of truth.

The usual mantra ['I have never heard of it'] said in support of refusing to learn new hymns invites a 'get thee behind me satan,' don't you think so?

I must also say that there are indeed church members in many mainline churches who do want to learn new hymns. They are the members who have ' . . . stubbornly refused to do what most people do when they die from the neck up at a young age because they have stopped dreaming [learning].' *Once To Every Man and Nation* describes them thus:

**Then it is the brave man who chooses while the coward stands aside**

Harsh words? Yes! Spot on? Yes!

(continuation)

# **Pastor's Corner**

*(Continuation)*

## **Once To Every Man and Nation**

~ James Russell Lowell, 1819-1891

Stanza 1:

Once to every man and nation, comes the moment to decide,  
In the strife of truth with falsehood, for the good or evil side;  
Some great cause, some great decision, offering each the bloom or blight,  
And the choice goes by forever, 'twixt that darkness and that light.

Stanza 2:

Then to side with truth is noble, when we share her wretched crust,  
Ere her cause bring fame and profit, and 'tis prosperous to be just;  
**Then it is the brave man chooses while the coward stands aside,**  
Till the multitude make virtue of the faith they had denied.

Stanza 3:

By the light of burning martyrs, Christ, Thy bleeding feet we track,  
**Toiling up new Calv'ries** ever with the cross that turns not back;  
**New occasions teach new duties,** time makes ancient good uncouth,  
They must upward still and onward, who would keep abreast of truth.

Stanza 4:

Though the cause of evil prosper, yet the truth alone is strong;  
Though her portion be the scaffold, and upon the throne be wrong;  
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and behind the dim unknown,  
Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above His own.

I would like to use an evergreen from the 1950s to end my last Pastor's Corner with a prayer.  
Vaya con Dios! Go with God!

Now the hacienda's dark, The town is sleeping  
Now the time has come to part, The time for weeping

Now the village mission bells are softly ringing  
If you listen with your heart, You'll hear them singing

Wherever you may be, I'll be beside you  
Although you're many million dreams away  
Each night I'll say a pray'r, A pray'r to guide you

To hasten every lonely hour, Of every lonely day  
Now the dawn is breaking through a gray tomorrow  
But the memories we share are there to borrow

Vaya con dios, [Go with God] my friends  
Vaya con dios, [Go with God] my do-gooders.  
Pastor Choo Lak

## Church of the Holy Cross: 125 Years of Ministry (1891-2016)

We, as a church are celebrating our 125<sup>th</sup> year ministering to God's world. Take notice that "*125 Years of Ministry*" is now a part of our weekly article in the Hawaii Tribune Herald. During this year the following are planned:

- Our timeline, presently in the Building of Faith, will be moved to the Sanctuary with added activities and memories.
- Brief, shared photographs of the life of our church during Sunday service and on our website every other month through January 2017:

History of Church of the Holy Cross

Community mission (Hospice, Peanut Butter Ministry, Habitat for Humanity)

Our Senior Ministry and a glimpse of the Laymen's Fellowship

Sunday School/Vacation Bible School and the Pilgrim Fellowship

International Young Adult Association (IYAA)

Visits and visitors (Visiting Associate Ministers, Jesman group from England, University choir, "Bikers")

- Interviews of long time members' memories of life at Church of the Holy Cross shared in the Messenger and our website.
- A commemorative souvenir
- 125 Year Celebration luncheon targeting October 2016.

Share ideas you may have with the Anniversary Committee:

Amy Shiroma, Kay Kawachika, Connie Yoshiyama, Gail Wung and Woody Kita.

## CHC DIRECTORY UPDATING

The CHC Directory of Members, Associate Members and Friends is being updated.

PLEASE help us with your **current information**. IF you have changed any information: added, deleted, changed address, phone number, email address from the old directory printed in 2011, call the Church office or email [matori58@msn.com](mailto:matori58@msn.com). Many corrections have been made since 2011. If you are receiving The Messenger and notices, corrections may have been made. If you do not want to include certain information like an unlisted phone number, let us know. We would like that information for the confidential membership records; helps in times of emergency. Please provide your email address if you check it regularly. To save postage, The Messenger is being sent via email in bright living color! Recent Officers' and Board members' information have been updated.

We would like to have correct current information in the new Directory. Please let us know of any changes; deadline for notification of changes is April 15, 2016. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any suggestions or questions, call Margaret at 895-0994.

Thank you!

**New church members or transfers will be *baptized* on *Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016* during our normal *Easter Sunday Service*.**

If you would like to be baptized, transfer your membership, or you want your children baptized on that day, please see, telephone, or email Pastor Choo Lak at (808) 935-1283, or email: kahu-choolak@gmail.com ]. Mahalo

**Birthday Wishes**

Please pray for and send a greeting to these birthday people

**March 2016**

04 Katada, Emi  
06 Maeda, Margaret  
07 Sato, Thelma  
13 Kuwaye, Masako  
14 Olcott, Meghan  
15 Miyake, Richard  
16 Nishida, Chizuko  
    Robinson, Lei Jack  
18 Maeda, Blanche  
21 Hisanaga, Ichiko  
22 Nagami, Tamayo  
    Suzuki, Clarice  
28 Kurohara, Martha  
29 Yamane, Jon Ski  
30 Kawahara, Karl

**April 2016**

01 Nakamoto, Joyce  
05 Kawachika, Kay  
16 Yanagihara, Sachiko  
    Olcott, Tom  
17 Chen, Nancy  
18 Chu, Roberta  
19 Kita, Jean  
20 Shiroma, Toshiko  
    Tanouye, Jonathan  
21 Niimi, Mildred  
    Thoma, Jean Pierre "JP"  
23 Tanouye, Kenneth  
27 Kusinski, Leigh

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**Welcome to Our World**

A very warm welcome for Salem/Shalom Gelan, precious infant daughter of Gibe Geneti Gelan and Tsige Mekonnen. Brother Miracle is so proud of his kid sister born on February 05, 2016 at Hilo Medical Center weighing at comfortable 7 lbs.



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**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 April 1, 2016. The next scheduled Messenger will be April 6, 2016.

**March**

**Ushers**

*IYAA—Jayson Rekis*

**Sunday, Mar. 27**

**Layreader**

*Anne Sadayasu*

**Chapel Decoration**

*Cindy Debus*

**Childcare**

*Joyce Nakamoto*

**April**

**Ushers**

*Moira Tanaka,  
Newton Chu,  
Esther Kodani,  
Margaret Torigoe*

**Sunday, Apr. 3**

**Layreader**

*Latai Loa*

**Chapel Decoration**

*Michi Koizumi*

**Childcare**

*Margaret Torigoe*

**Sunday, Apr. 10**

**Layreader**

*Lei Cruz*

**Chapel Decoration**

*Janet Fujioka*

**Childcare**

*Lei Jack*

**Sunday, Apr. 17**

**Layreader**

*Bob Smith*

**Chapel Decoration**

*Alice Fujimoto and*

*Roberta Chu*

**Childcare**

*Jennifer Tanouye*