*****A Weekly Newsletter of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church*

***NCC News***

**September 4, 2022**





Sunday School will start September 11, 2022 right after the children’s moment. The younger children will meet on the friendship lanai and the nine-year-old and older will meet outside the choir room. The curriculum for the younger children will be the continuation of the Archbishop Desmond Tutu, “Children of God Storybook Bible”. The older children will start a “Be Bold” by Group, a student guide that ask questions about of faith journey.

We will also gather the parents and grandparents of the Sunday School Children right after worship in Kosasa Hall for an overview of the upcoming year. I hope you all are looking forward to a fun year of learning more about God’s love and his open, caring, generous heart that he so freely shares with each one of us.

**Give Aloha**

**** We will be participating in this years Give Aloha program again. Give Aloha will be running from September 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 at all participating Foodland’s, Foodland Farms, and Sack-N-Saves.

 Nu‘uanu Congregational Church’s organization number is **78424**. There is a limit of up to $249.00 per Maika‘i Card number. Please make sure that you send us your receipt, either in the mail, with your donation, or email a picture of it to nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net. The receipt must have your name and the amount so that we can credit the donation to the right person/family!

**Family Promise Meals**

*By Judy Keith*

Volunteers are needed for Family Promise dinners on October 9th & 23rd. Two to three people can team up to plan a menu & deliver dinners to our Family Promise guests. Many thanks to those who have provided meals in July & August & have volunteered to do so this month.

**Altar Flowers**

****Signup on the Flower Chart on Sundays, or call Mairi at the church office, (808) 595-3935, or email her at nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net.

* + All spots have been filled!



**Week of September 4**:
Honolulu Cosmopolitan UCC (O'ahu)

Nu'uanu Congregational Church  (O'ahu)

**Week of September 11**:
Honolulu Marshallese Ministry (O'ahu)
Nu'u Lotu (O'ahu)
Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church (Kaua'i)

**Week of September 18**:
Ho'olehua Congregational Church (Moloka'i)
Nahiku Hawaiian Church (Maui)

**Week of September 25**:
Huialoha Congregational Church (Maui)
Mokuaikaua Church (Hawai'i Island)
Kanana Fou Church (O'ahu)

**Covid & Worship**

*By Judy Keith*

The Nuuanu Congregational Church leadership has worked hard to develop safe protocols to minimize the chances of Covid spread within our community.

Our hope is to return to worship as close to "normal" as possible. The health team continues to monitor the status of Covid in our community. The Diaconate is discussing options for communion. Because the latest research from the CDC suggests that surface transmission is unlikely to be a major route of Covid transmission, we feel that it is safe to resume passing the offering plate during worship. We will continue to monitor best practice recommendations to guide us in deciding when we can consider resuming the choir.

This has been a difficult 2+ years. Because of the age of our congregation we have chosen to be conservative in our recommendations. Thank you for your understanding as we continue to review the data and determine practices to keep us as safe as possible.

**As Covid counts remain high, we ask you take precautions:**

*The following information is taken from an article*

*in the Washington Post by Dr. Lena Wen.*

Three things to consider:

* Do you have optimal protection?
	+ Make sure you are up to date with your vaccines. If you have not had all your boosters, do not put off getting the next one till fall, hoping for a variant specific booster.
	+ It is time to upgrade your mask. You should have a well fitting N95 mask. Every time you put it on, pinch around your nose to get a close fit. If your glasses fog, the fit is not tight.
* Have you stocked up on tests? Home rapid tests are very good at detecting covid. Test kits are covered by insurance. You should have two kits available for each member of the family. Here are three reasons to test:
	+ You develop a cough, runny nose, sore throat, or generalized aching. If you test negative, but still feel sick, you should re-test in two to three days.
	+ Test as a method to end isolation. Start testing regularly on day five to see when it is safe to be around other people.
	+ Just before you will be visiting others in an indoor setting. This will help lower community spread.
	+ False positive results are rare with the home antigen tests. You should not need to get a PCR test to confirm that you have Covid.
* Do you have a plan for what to do if you test positive?
	+ Call your physician and see if they want to put you on medication. Do this right away, as the medication needs to be started within five days of developing symptoms.
	+ Think about your home situation. Do you have a place where you can isolate at home? You should wear a mask when you are around family members.