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

***NCC News***

**October 23, 2022**



**Special October Program**

*By Lori Yamashiro*

 **Halloween Fun:** On October 30. Come dressed to impress in your Halloween costume and you could win a prize! The Christian Nurture Board will be planning something for the keiki after the worship service.

**Covenant Ballet Theatre of Brooklyn**

Covenant Ballet Theatre of Brooklyn pays tribute to Japanese American veterans of World War II with free online viewing of *The Nisei Project*

BROOKLYN, NY – Covenant Ballet Theatre (CBT) will pay tribute to World War II Japanese-American veterans by hosting a two-week free online viewing of *The Nisei Project* in honor of Veterans’ Day. The screening begins on Friday, November 11, at 9am ET and continues through Friday, November 25, at 9pm ET at [www.niseiproject.com](http://www.niseiproject.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) and on [YouTube](https://youtu.be/LFgDVSaaNS8%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).

*The Nisei Project (Nisei)* is a narrative ballet conceived and choreographed by CBT Artistic Director and Founder, Marla Hirokawa, in honor of her late father and his comrades in the World War II Japanese American segregated units of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Together they were the most highly decorated and suffered the greatest number of casualties of any unit in American military history. *Nisei*utilizes a variety of dance forms to tell a powerful story of discrimination, separation, battle, and honor. In the final scene, veterans are brought onstage to be thanked and honored as a way of extending Nisei's message of gratitude to all veterans of U.S. wars.

The ballet was first performed in Brooklyn, NY, in 2001. In 2003, *Nisei* was presented in Ms. Hirokawa’s home state of Hawai’i in a two-week tour spanning four islands. In 2014, the ballet was restaged for the New York International Fringe Festival. The score featured a six-piece band including traditional Japanese koto and shakuhachi instruments. A recording of that performance was first streamed online in 2021 to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

“Bringing this story to the stage was extremely personal and emotional for me,” says Ms. Hirokawa. “I hope that all who view it experience and embrace the impact of this legacy. Being able to share this ballet is a way that I feel CBT can give back to the community.”

Since 1987, CBT has invested in the children and families of South Brooklyn, where cultural activities and resources are limited. Artistic Director Marla Hirokawa founded CBT on the conviction that a serious ballet education combined with maximum inclusion is needed to advance the art form, train youth, and improve the lives of those within its embrace. In an accepting yet rigorous environment, CBT fosters the love of dance through pre-professional training in its studios and educational programs in NYC schools, and through dozens of original ballet productions.

 For further information, please visit [www.covenantballet.org](http://www.covenantballet.org/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).

**Church Clean Up Day – November 19, 2022**

With COVID infections trending downwards, The Board of Trustees have decided to resume the All Church Clean Up Days.

The Clean Up Day is scheduled, **Saturday, November 19, 2022** from 8:30 to 11:30.  All those who are willing and able are welcome to come out and help clean our facilities to and make it ready for the Advent Season.  A clean up list is being put together and the list will be posted.  Lunch will be provided.

**UCC’s Global H.O.P.E.** *(Humanitarian. Opportunities. Progress. Empowerment.)*

*By Wayne Kobayashi*

The recent hurricanes, Fiona and Ian, have brought significant damages to Florida, the Carolinas, Puerto Rico, Cuba and other nearby communities. It will take years to recover.

Donations will be received over the comings weeks to help with the recovery. If you wish to donate, please make checks to Nuuanu Congregational Church, and put in the memo line “Hurricane Relief”. We thank you in advance for your contributions.

**Give Aloha**

**** Give Aloha ended on Friday, September 30. 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!



**Week of October 23**:
Kaahumanu Church (Maui)
Mānoa Valley Church (O'ahu)
Kaluaaha Congregational Church (Moloka'i)

**Week of October 30:**
Kahakuloa Hawaiian Congregational Church (Maui)
Malamalama Ole Alofa Tunoa CCC UCC (O'ahu)

**Worship During Covid**

*From The Med Team: Donna Chung, Becky Kanenaka, Judy Keith, Lori Yamashiro,*

  It is the desire of the medical team to return worship at Nu‘uanu Congregational Church to something as close to “normal” as possible, while at the same time keeping our congregation as safe as possible. In August we resumed passing the offering plate. Later this month, we will be modifying the method in which we celebrate communion. The Diaconate and the med team have put a great deal of thought into how this can be done as safely as possible. Pastor Jeannie, after washing her hands, will distribute the bread using tongs. The juice will be in disposable cups. Ushers will help to maintain distance between worshipers.

  \*Because we are an aging congregation and death rates are very much higher when contracting Covid after the age of eighty, we continue to be conservative about relaxing other precautions. Additionally, many of us have medical conditions that put us at higher risk. Our main concern is that we want everyone to feel and to be as safe as possible at church. We do not want people to stay away from worship because of concerns about the possible spread of Covid. We know that quite a few members, including our own pastor, have contracted Covid. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no transmission of illness within our church community. We feel strongly that continuing to wear masks and to socially distance are important practices to keep us as safe as possible and so are asking everyone to continue to do these things as a way of expressing our care and concern for our church ohana. Masks are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. If you choose to worship unmasked, please take one of the seats on the pad just outside.Thank you for helping to keep our church ohana safe.

**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.