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

***NCC News***

**February 27, 2022**



**Ash Wednesday**

Pastor Jeannie will be having an Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 in the lower parking lot at 6 pm. Tune in to FM 88.7 in the parking lot!

**In-Person Services**

 We will be starting In-Person Services on Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 9 am. We will continue to observe social distancing and wearing masks. However, there will be singing in worship. If you are not comfortable singing there will be an area in the back of the sanctuary for you to sit.

 Communion Sunday elements will continue to be prepackaged, and donations for the Hawaii Foodbank will be accepted.

**Lent 2022 Devotional**

**Change in time and dates:** **Thursday, March 3, the Lenten Study will be: Thursday, 6-7 pm via Zoom: Meeting ID: 823 8355 4195; Friday, 9 – 10 am, on the patio in front of Pastor’s office.**

 God is often at work through the

ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects,

ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. Very often, it is through the mundane that we hear God’s quiet voice.

In this devotion for the season of Lent,

Jill J. Duffield draws readers’ attention to ten

ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns, and stones. In each object, readers will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus’ final days. Each week, readers encounter a new object to consider through Scripture, prayer, and reflection. From Ash Wednesday to Easter, *Lent in Plain Sight* reminds Christians to open ourselves to the kingdom of God.

Please call the church office if you would like to order a copy of the book—$12.50.

## ****Pastor Jeannie will participate with Pastor Gabriel Chavez in Community Church of Honolulu’s Ash Wednesday “Ashes to Go”**** ****event:****Wednesday, March 2, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## ****Explore LGBT Inclusion in the Church****

Participate in a **free** webinar hosted by the Church of the Crossroads in Honolulu and the "All are Welcome at the Table" task force of the Justice and Witness Missional Team of the HCUCC, as we explore the extension of extravagant welcome to LGBTQ persons in our Christian churches.
     **Who should attend?** UCC church leaders and members, and other Christians, who are interested in what the Bible really says in regard to LGBTQ people. The program will be via Zoom, including local speakers, resources, and discussion.
**When Is the Webinar? Sunday, February 27 at 2 p.m.:** **Why Creating an LGBTQ Welcoming Church Matters.** LGBTQ and straight church members will share diverse perspectives on how LGBTQ welcoming churches have changed lives and enhanced the future of our churches. Learn why a clear statement of welcome and inclusion makes a difference. Presenters include Ellen Godbey Carson and MacArthur Flournoy. [Register](https://hcucc.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d09d80abc8cc6a2ef04d9acf4&id=a7b62bbf21&e=1436a0b222) to attend.

**From the Moderators Desk**

News from the YMCA and NCC Council:

NCC planned to start the YMCA KUPUNA program funded with a City Grant in early February. Several things happened. 1) The COVID-19 numbers grew exponentially and again 2) In-Person Worship services were postponed. The Ad-Hoc Medical Team were concerned about these numbers and about NCC members’ participation.

Therefore, by informing the YMCA program of our misgivings they found another site for February at Windward YMCA. We are sorry for this change but the Council felt that this would be the best for now. We will continue our discussions with the YMCA to begin the Kupuna Program in the Fall of this year.

However, this has not stopped the discussion and planning for the YMCA Spring Intersession to happen March 14 to 18, 2022. More on this as we receive the information from the YMCA advisors. We will proceed with this program if the YMCA reports that there are sufficient students to run the program.

 Keep your eyes open for the latest happenings coming your way!!

Aloha, Laurie Hamano, NCC Moderator