NU'UANU CALLER

A monthly newsletter of Nu'uanu Congregational Church
2651 Pali Highway * Honolulu, HI 96817

VOL. 62, NO. 7 JULY 2019

Wally's Window

By Rev. Wallace Ryan Kuroiwa, Interim Pastor

Let me make one thing perfectly clear: this is not a political endorsement. But if you have been keeping up with the runup to the 2020 presidential election, you surely are aware of the number of democratic candidates who are running for the highest office in our country. So, whether you wear red or blue, your head must be spinning, trying to keep up with the twenty plus politicians who are trying to occupy the Oval Office. Many of you democrats have already settled on your favorite candidates. With all these candidates, choices abound.

Again, this is not a political endorsement. But I confess to being a democrat. So I have to choose, right? How does one make one's choice? Political philosophy? Winnability? Stance on issues? Personality? Race or gender?

We make personal choices every day, as individuals, communities, and nations. Some of them are good, others not so much. In a recent sermon, I shared Walter Brueggemann's insight into the lectionary selection from the Hebrew Bible for that day, Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-30. Brueggemann interpreted that passage about Woman Wisdom, who was with the Creator at creation, in terms of the *moral coherence* of the created order. We freely make our choices, for good or ill, and we live with the consequences of our choices, good or ill.

As we live into our future as a faith community, we will be making some important choices. We have charged the search committee to make one important choice, under the guidance of God's Spirit, Wisdom. Pray for them. Make that the choice you offer to God. Daily.

Nu'uanu Caller is a monthly publication of Nu'uanu Congregational Church, founded in 1885 and organized in 1892 (United Church of Christ, a 1957 union of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Churches). Paula Yamamoto, *Administrative Coordinator*; Nelson Fujinaga, *Custodian*; Le Huynh, *Groundskeeper & Security*.

Web site: nuuanu.org • Email: nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net • Phone: (808) 595-3935 • Fax: (808) 595-2848

Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
1st Sunday of the month:
9:00 a.m. Communion Service

Wednesday Book Study

By Pastor Wally

Inspired by Rachel Held Evans is an accessible and insightful book and is the choice for the Wednesday evening study group. Evans, who died suddenly recently, was an Episcopalian priest in Texas. A former Southern Baptist, she reveals how she has come to understand the Bible, moving from a literal reading of scripture to a more open grasp of its meaning. She writes in an easy-to-understand, often funny, style that can be appreciated by both beginners and more sophisticated readers.

The Wednesday study group is open to anyone, members and friends alike. We meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. and begin the study afterwards. We will begin study of the Evans book mid-July. You may order your copy of the book online.

Town Hall Meeting Update

By Laurie Hamano, Moderator, and Wayne Kodama, Vice Moderator

NCC Oral History Project

On June 23, 2019, Mr. Paul Nishijima updated those present at the Town Hall meeting of the Obata Oral History Project. So far, he has interviewed Pauline Namiki, as well as Arthur Goto, and recently Albert Matsumoto, all long time members of Nu'uanu Congregational Church. He had scheduled to speak with Muneo Hamada, but was not able to do the interview at this time. Mr. Nishijima was introduced to Steve and Ann Ito, Helen Pierce, Ray and Shirley Miyamoto to begin the next set of interviews. We are looking forward to seeing the interviews eventually on video!

Demolition of Hale Ohana

The Trustee's report on the progress of the demolition was shared. Questions were raised as to why it is taking so long to demolish and remove Hale Ohana. The Trustee's report listed the many requirements that must be addressed before demolition can occur. There was a strong desire to have the home demolished as soon as possible. It was suggested that a contractor be hired to take care of all the permitting requirements as well as the demolition. The hope is that it will shorten the time to demolish the home and lessen the workload of the Trustees. There was no one from the Trustee at the meeting to reply to the suggestion, but we will be sure that the Trustees hear your concerns and suggestion. (See related BOT article on page 4.)

New Beginnings

A New Beginnings Vision Plan was distributed. The plan begins with the mission of our church and several missional activities that our church could be involved in to serve the needs of our community and our members. Certain programs such as children day care, or senior day care/

(Continue on page 3 - **Update**)

NCC's Vision Statement

Nu'uanu Congregational Church is a diverse, open congregation of faithful Christians who seek to:

- ***affirm all persons as children of God;***
- ***respond to the needs of the community and congregation;***
- ***respect all views and ideas;***
- ***make and nurture disciples; and***
- ***spread God's word using our talents and resources.***

(Approved September 16, 2007 at the Special Congregational Meeting.)

Christmas in July

By Velma Akinaka, Missions Committee

The Christmas Fund is one of five United Church of Christ Special Mission Offerings. This particular offering is for our UCC men and women who have jobs that serve God. The 2019 Christmas Fund will be received on **July 28, 2019**. This annual fund has helped our UCC family (active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses) by providing supplemental income for pension and health insurance premiums to those facing financial difficulties. The offering also provides monetary gift checks to hundreds of UCC employees on fixed incomes, as well as any emergency assistance, for them and their families throughout the year.

The Christmas Fund also helps second-career clergy who have shorter careers and those clergy who have changing marital status. UCC uses this Christmas Fund to benefit these two groups, as well as others, who serve God in an official capacity. It is important that clergy, spouses/ partners and lay employees know that it is there to support them. We hope to provide the highest quality of life possible for the people who work at UCC, while preserving their dignity.

Many clergy families have been overwhelmed by the sudden financial strain brought on by illness, an automobile accident, a fire etc. In the business of caring for others, many clergy feel uncomfortable asking for help for themselves and their families. The church is an institution that takes care for its people and it has been doing this throughout its whole ministry. Now is the time for us to think about them in their hour of need.

Checks may be made payable to Nu'uanu Congregational Church with Christmas Fund on the memo line.

Congratulations Graduates!

We celebrate and honor the 2019 graduates from NCC and Troop 201:

Wyatt Coke - Moanalua High School; Parents – Bill and Fenghua Coke
Trae Hashimoto - Pres. Theodore Roosevelt High School; Parents - Robin and Michelle Hashimoto
Connor Lau - Punahou Academy
Bennet Lum - Punahou Academy
Christopher Okumura - Damien Memorial High School
Matthew Takara - Maryknoll High School
Andrew Trent - Pres. William McKinley High School
Laura Young – University of Hawai'i, Manoa Campus; Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Spanish; Parents – Richard and Dawn Young
Deanna Wong – University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Bachelor of Science in Hospitality with a concentration in Restaurant Management; Parents – Ricky and Donnie Ann Wong
Kelsey Hamano – University of Hawai'i, Manoa Campus; Doctor of Nursing Practice; Parents – Wayne and Laurie Hamano.

Update - (Cont'd. from p. 2)

health program will require major investment in constructing new facilities. There seemed to be an agreement that we move cautiously and not rush into building anything without weighing the benefits and costs of any major program. There are missional activities that our facilities can accommodate such as the Scouts, Family Promise, and Samoan congregation. We are open to any suggestions of missional activities that you feel our church should consider. No one questioned why we should be missional or why we do we need to open our church to the community. Everyone should be proud, that we are continuing to perpetuate the legacy of our ancestors to help and care for those in need.

Repairs and Maintenance

By Paul Yamamoto, Board of Trustees Chair

Have you noticed many new or newly repaired things around the church campus, like a fresh coat of paint on the gym walls and the new screens and louver operators in the sanctuary? And yes, there still are more things that need repair. The Board of Trustees is entrusted with the huge task of keeping the facilities in working order. They have been working diligently trying to keep up with all of the repairs, many of them major repairs. Here are a few of the projects that have been completed or are in the works.

Sanctuary Beam

The Trustees received the report from Wiss Janny Elstner, along with a video showing ground termites inside the girder chamber. Terminex treated the ground area around the sanctuary on June 13, and the treatment inside the girder chamber is being scheduled. The report also states that there are areas on the roof and steeple where the caulking has deteriorated. The Board has received a proposal to remove and re-caulk the roof.

Kibo Kan

The gym roof is leaking. In reviewing the conditions, it was noticed that the tape at the insulation joints are coming off and portions of the insulation is being damaged by the basketballs and/or volleyballs hitting the insulation. The Board is waiting for a proposal to repair the leak, repair the damaged insulation and install a protective screen to protect the insulation from balls and to prevent the insulation from sagging.

Hale Ohana

The structure is badly damaged by termites and is in the process of being demolished. Unfortunately, obtaining the required approvals for the demolition a slow and lengthy process. So far, the asbestos and lead testing have been conducted, rodent control needs to be done, an architectural firm has been hired to do the drawings for the permit process, and three bids have been received for the demolition.

Miscellaneous

The ADA ramp railings were replaced due to major rusting.

Two large trees were removed. A mango tree that fell into Nu'uanu Stream and an ulu tree that was severely damaged by strong winds in February and damaged our neighbor's fence.

The three water valves that serve Kibo Kan, the old administration building, and the groundskeeper's house need to be replaced.

One of the parking lot light fixtures burnt out. Instead of replacing that one fixture, all of the parking lot lights will be changed to energy saving LED fixtures.

Replacing the telephone system is being researched. Our current system is so old that parts are not available to repair it. Until a new system is in place, you will receive a message when calling the church. To bypass the message and speak to a "real" person, press "1" at any time.

Several of the fathers from Scouts Troop 201 replaced the bi-pass closet doors in the old library, and **Conner Kojima's** Eagle Scout project involved replacing many of the screens and louver operators in the sanctuary and painting the gym walls. Thank you, Conner and Troop 201! The Scouts have also provided much needed "muscle" at our clean up days.

We are also blessed with the dedicated volunteers of Hui Malama who come twice a month to do minor repairs and weeding. More folks are needed, so if you would like to be part of that ministry, they meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. See **Wayne Kobayashi** for more details.

Preparedness Is Your Business

UCC Disaster Ministries

The first level in preparedness is to start with individual church member's preparedness; starting with the "GO" bag that is ready to be taken during an evacuation. The next preparedness level is to have a Congregation Plan for churches in the event of a disaster. The third level of preparedness is to have members respond to disasters for recovery operations.

Topics include: Personal preparedness, active shooter, family and congregation planning, simple first aid, and more.

Date: July 27, 2019 Time: 10:00 AM Location: Nuuanu Congregational Church

DISASTER MINISTRIES
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Remember: In the event of a major disaster, the government will not initially be there to help. You will be the first responder helping yourself and your neighbors.

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00 AM Church School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Nichigobu Support Group	1 8:00 AM Tai Chi	2	3 NCC News Deadline 9:00 AM Hui Malama 5:30 PM Book Study	4 Office Closed - 4th of July 7:30 AM Tai Chi	5 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Troop 201	6 8:30 AM Board of Trustees 8:30 AM Diaconate Board 9:00 AM Sew Fun
7 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Waterslide Activity	8 8:00 AM Tai Chi	9	10 NCC News Deadline 5:30 PM Book Study	11 7:30 AM Tai Chi	12 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Troop 201	13 9:00 AM Service for Julia Nakamura
14 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Chancel Choir 10:30 AM Movie Activity	15 8:00 AM Tai Chi	16 6:00 PM Church Council	17 NCC News Deadline 9:00 AM Hui Malama 5:30 PM Book Study	18 7:30 AM Tai Chi	19 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Troop 201	20 Caller Deadline
21 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Chancel Choir	22 8:00 AM Tai Chi	23	24 NCC News Deadline 5:30 PM Book Study	25 7:30 AM Tai Chi	26 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Troop 201	27 10:00 AM Disaster Preparedness Workshop
28 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Nichigobu Support Group 10:30 AM Snow Activity	29 8:00 AM Tai Chi	30	31 NCC News Deadline 5:30 PM Book Study	1 7:30 AM Tai Chi **Planning Ahead…..** **Aug. 16** - Office Closed	2 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Troop 201	3 8:30 AM Board of Trustees 8:30 AM Diaconate Board 9:00 AM Sew Fun

Water Slide/Water Play Day!
At Nu'uanu Congregational Church
July 7, 2019
10:30 am to 1:00 pm

Bring your swimsuits and towels.
***There will be a kiddie pool.**

Potluck- The Board of Christian Nurture will provide hamburgers and hotdogs. Bring your favorite dish to enjoy with your hamburgers and hotdogs!

Popcorn and Movies!

Come and enjoy a relaxing day at Kosasa Hall. Bring your favorite lounge chair or futon to see Director Dean DeBlois' lastest creation, "How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World." We will have popcorn!!!

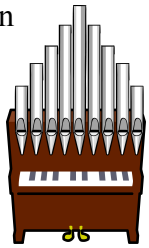
When: **Sunday, July 14, 2019**
Time: After worship at 10:45 a.m.
Where: Kosasa Hall
What to bring: snack food if popcorn is not enough, comfortable chair if you think the chairs in Kosasa Hall are not comfortable.

Shorts Sunday

Beat the heat, and come to church this summer in shorts! Moderator **Laurie Hamano** is encouraging folks to dress cool and worship in comfort!

Free Organ Concert

If you've been enjoying the beautiful organ music played on Sundays, then you'll want to attend this concert! Our fabulous organist, **Jieun Kim Newland**, will be having an organ concert on Sunday, **July 7** at 5 p.m. at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Kailua, 93 N. Kainalu Drive. Admission is free. A freewill offering will be taken. All are welcome!



Snow Day at NCC

Cool off this summer and join us on **Sunday, July 28, 2019** for Snow Day! Build your snowman or just have fun playing in the Hawaiian snow.

When: 10:00 a.m., right after worship
Where: NCC Lower Parking Lot
What to bring: gloves to keep your hands warm, change of clothes if you get wet from the snow.

We will have a potluck at 11:00 a.m. Bring your favorite dish to share.

Happy Birthday, Aunty Chic!

NCC's eldest member, **Chikako Yamashiro**, celebrated her 102nd birthday on March 15, 2019. A birthday celebration was held at 15 Craigside where she resides. Aunty Chic's mind is kept sharp by playing solitaire on her iPad every day!

Photo courtesy of Lori Yamashiro

Ohana Ministry

By Marge Honjiyo

If there are needs that Ohana Ministry can help you with, call one of the coordinators:

Ohana Ministry Coordinators

Mae Au, 988-4802
Marge Honjiyo, 550-3075
Alice Ishihara, 550-3187
Mary Ann Saito, 839-0895
Sets Takahashi, 550-3062
Joyce Uyehara, 523-3483
Lori Yamashiro, 292-5249

When you pray, remember the following and their caregivers: **Ann Akama, Kimiko Bristow-Canfield**, **Marcia Grimsley** (Sheila Knutson's sister)**, Carol Hamada, Charlene Hasegawa, Janet Kurokawa, Michael Kurokawa, Leslie Lum, Ethel Nitta, Amy Nogami, Mary Oshiro, Matthew Stucke, Glenn Yamada, and Marie Yoneshige.**

Reminder: Names are added or deleted in the Prayer Corner by individuals, family members or friend. Please inform the Ohana Ministry coordinators if you want your name included or deleted in the Prayer Corner.

Prayer Corner

By Lori Yamashiro

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Isaiah 60:1-2

God of hope and comfort, thank you for being the light during our darkest days. In times of despair, confusion and hopelessness, we lift our eyes to you. Your light gives us hope. We feel your presence. We feel your love. For this, we praise you and give you thanks. Amen.

Special Gifts

Give thanks to God whose steadfast love endures forever!

Memorial Offering

Albert & Edith Matsumoto - IMO Rev. Mineo Katagiri, Rev. Joseph & Ann Nomura, Julia Nakamura

Robert & Velma Akinaka - IMO Arthur & Misako Akinaka, Dora Yamamoto, Mary Montiel, Minnie Kosasa

Howard & Barbara Mau - IMO Michiko Takeyama

Ann & Steve Ito - IMO Dora Yamamoto, Michiko Takeyama

Lani Hirohata - IMO Dora Yamamoto, Michiko Takeyama

(Continued on p. 9 - **Special Gifts**)

Deadline for Articles

Nu'uanu Caller (monthly)
20th of each month.
NCC News (weekly)
Wednesday noon.
Articles will be edited on a space available basis.

Food Drive

In keeping with Missions Sunday, the Hawai'i Food Bank collection is held on the last Sunday of every month. For the month of May, we collected 82 lbs. of assorted food items. Our next collection will be **July 28, 2019**. Monetary donations accepted, too. Checks may be made to Nu'uanu Congregational Church with Hawai'i Food Bank on the memo line. Mahalo.

Recycling

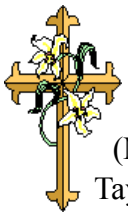
By Wayne Kobayashi

Bring your items on Sunday, July 28

Please help our volunteers by removing caps from bottles, rinsing and separating all containers. Only HI-5¢ items are accepted.

Proceeds go toward Hui Malama.

In Loving Memory



We are saddened by the death of **Julia Nakamura**, who passed away in Japan on June 14, 2019. She is survived by daughter Donnie Ann (Ricky) Wong, sons Warren (Michele) and Ross, four grandchildren Rachel, Deanna, Taylor, and Jonah, and sister May (Kay) Muranaka. A celebration of life service is scheduled for 10 a.m. on July 13, 2019 at Nu'uanu Congregational Church. Visitation begins at 9:00 a.m. Casual attire and no flowers, please.

2019 Refreshments

(Bring, Serve & Clean Up)

January - Church Council
February - Missions
March - Sew Fun
April - Board of Trustees
May - Nichigobu Support Group
June - Board of Christian Nurture
July - Board of Christian Nurture
August - Chancel Choir
September - Diaconate
October - Finance
November - Open
December - Open

Please dispose all trash into the dumpster. Mahalo!

(Special Gifts - Continued from p. 8)

Memorial Offering
Lori Takeyama-Goshi - IMO Michiko Takeyama
Terri Okada - IMO Michiko Takeyama

Birthday Offering
Frances Miyamoto
Helen Pierce
Mary M. Oshiro

Thank Offering
Paula Yamamoto
Alice Kimoto
Kimie Fujioka
Howard & Barbara Mau
Ethel Yamaguchi
Lani Hirohata

Nu'uanu Congregational Church
2651 Pali Highway ∗ Honolulu, HI 96817

Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HONOLULU HI
PERMIT NO. 354

July 2019

To discontinue receiving the *Nu 'uanu Caller,* please call the church office at 595-3935 or email: nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net.

Lectionary Readings for July

July 7 (Surprising Prophets): 2 Kings 5:1-14 and Ps 30 or Isa 66:10-14 and Ps 66:1-9 • Gal 6: (1-6), 7-16 • Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14 (Caring Neighbors): Amos 7:7-17 and Ps 82 or Deut 30:9-14 and Ps 25:1-10 • Col 1:1-14 • **Luke 10:25-37**

July 21 (Word and Work): Amos 8:1-12 and Ps 52 or Gen 18:1-10a and Ps 15 • Co 1:15-28 • **Luke 10:38-42**

July 28 (Shaped by Prayer): Has 1:2-10 and Ps 85 or Gen 18:20-32 and Ps 138 • Col 2:6-15, (16-19) • **Luke 11:1-13**