

NU‘UANU CALLER

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



VOL. 63, NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2020

Wally's Window

By Pastor Wally Ryan Kuroiwa, Transitional Pastor



When I was a seminary student in the Bay Area in the late 1960s (okay, no comments about age), I read an article in the San Francisco Chronicle about an elderly woman who lived in the city in a rooming house. Today, many would call her a bag lady. Anyway, she would dress in a dowdy, worn dress and pushed around a grocery cart throughout the city. She was a familiar face, but no one really paid any attention to this harmless, poor woman. Eventually, she died and she left all her worldly belongings to the Salvation Army, because, as she said, they treated her with dignity and respect, as well as feeding her. To everyone's surprise, her "worldly belongings" amounted to over \$200, 000! That was a lot of money back then.

I've thought of that woman over the years, especially when people tell me they have no money to contribute to the church. Believe me, I get it. But have you ever thought of leaving a legacy gift to the church upon your demise? The Nu‘uanu Congregational Church has meant a lot to many of us over the years. It is where some of us have married, baptized our children, sent them on youth missions, and, most importantly, where we found God in Christ in our journey through life. A legacy gift will go a long way toward ensuring that others may find and be nurtured in the faith in the years to come. There are many ways that such a gift could even benefit you in this life, as in a charitable remainder trust. If you have been thinking about this, or would like to know what it would look like, let me know, and I will share what I know or put you in touch with someone who could help.



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@hawaiiintel.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

2020 Altar Floral Chart

Honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion with a floral arrangement for our Sunday worship services. Sign up on the flower chart or call the church office to reserve your date. Open dates are as follows:

March 1, 15, 22, 29

April 5, 26

May 3, 17, 31

June 14

July 12, 19

October 4, 18

November 15, 22

December 13, 27



Preparing for Ash Wednesday

By Becky Kanenaka

This year, Ash Wednesday is February 26, 2020.



To prepare for Ash Wednesday, Nuʻuanu Congregational Church has the tradition of burning

the palms from the previous Palm Sunday, on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. We will burn the 2019 palms after worship on Sunday, February 23, 2020.

Reminder: Bring your palm crosses to place in the fire. If you cannot remember where you left your palm cross, don't worry, we will have a cross for you to place in the fire.

New Pastor Called

By Laurie Hamano, Moderator

Dear Members and Friends of NCC,
Thank you to those of you who attended last month's Special Congregational Meeting to vote for NCC's Pastor call. It was unanimous that **Pastor Jeannie Thompson** was called to minister at NCC. Pastor Jeannie, in discussion of the weekend, stated that she felt that she was "warmly welcomed" throughout the weekend.

The weekend started with meetings on Friday with the Christian Nurture and Council members and Saturday morning with members of the Diaconate, Missions and Sew Fun, and Nichigobu Support Group. There were others who came to meet her at the Saturday potluck lunch. On Sunday she spoke to us from the pulpit and the vote was taken immediately after the service through the Special Congregational Meeting.

Special thank you's were sent out to the faithful Search Committee at the Special Meeting – Mahalo and Aloha to - Stan Chong, Chair, Members: Ann Ito, Shirley Miyamoto, Dr. Donald Ikeda, Cheryl Chock, Carol Hamada, and Josie Ing. This committed Committee over the last two years shared their faith with our congregation by recommending Pastor Jeannie. We now can move forward to the future.

NCC's Vision Statement

Nuʻuanu 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.)



Pastor Jeannie Darlene Thompson

Basic Background Information

Born in American Samoa; grew up in Honolulu, in the Kaimuki area.

Formal Education

Undergraduate- B.A. English from the University of Hawaii, Manoa (1982). Graduate- M.Div. from Pacific School of Religion (1998-2001).

Selected Vocational History

2002-06, Full-time solo pastor at Baker Community Church (UCC) in Baker, Montana.
2006-Current, Full-time solo pastor at Kapa‘a United Church of Christ in Kapa‘a, Kauai, Hawaii.

Selected thoughts in Pastor Jeannie’s own words

[From her personal statement]

I am curious about people and like to listen deeply to people of all ages as they share stories about who they are. I am interested in learning about their gifts and how God is calling them to use them.

The vitality and well-being of the individual and the community/congregation depends on the quality and character of the relationships in which they are in. Therefore, foundational to ministry, and to life, is the cultivation and nurture of one’s relationship with God.

Our example is always Christ, and the way in which he did not hold back, but instead fully lived his life with us, walking the same roads we walk—the road of joyful friendships, of wedding

feasts, of long journeys on hot, thirsty days when it was good to sit and rest, also of disappointments, hunger, rest, prayer and worship.

[From sermon, “Out of Egypt,” based upon Exodus 16:2-15, when the bickering and complaining Israelites were wandering through the wilderness, and God provided them with quail and manna.]

The point of the story is this: God knows we are hungry, and God provides for our needs. We might want something spicier, something richer, something comforting, something different, but God is more concerned about giving us what we need so that we can keep moving toward the larger objective that God has for us.

Friends, Egypt is behind us. Ahead of us is a future where God is already striding and summoning us forward to join God. Our Good News is that God is feeding us and making us strong so that we can do just that.

The same will be true for us [as it was for the Israelites] if we stay faithful and keep following God and allowing ourselves to be fed on the food that Egypt never knew, the bread and meat of God’s future for us.

Guest Preacher - Feb. 16

On February 16, we are privileged to have **The Rev. Dr. David Popham**, Conference Minister for the Hawai‘i Conference UCC preaching at NCC. Rev. Popham was ordained by the American Baptist Church in 1992 and was granted Privilege of Call in the UCC in 1995. After pastoring two local churches for 11 years, Rev. Popham then served as Associate Conference Minister with the Rocky Mountain and Central Atlantic Conferences for the past 14 years. He holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary.

(Continued on page 4 - **Rev. Popham**)

Preparing and Saving for Green Day VII

Nu‘uanu Congregational Church’s Ulu Wai Ministry is gearing up for **GREEN DAY VII** on **April 18, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

All proceeds will go to Ulu Wai’s Missions Ministry which takes care of God’s creation through our overflowing love and care for the hungry and needy, for the earth, for our community, and for the next generation.

We need our faithful resourceful members to start looking and saving the following items to donate **in April**:

1. clean small plastic gallon size or smaller garden pots, or
2. clean 1-5 gallon size containers which can hold water for water garden plants.
3. nearly new/gently used kitchen and household items. **No clothing will be accepted.**
4. Tillandsia type small air plants which we can attach to driftwood or put in small containers – let Velma know
5. potted plants - to be delivered the week of April 15-17, **not before**, unless you have arranged it with Velma
6. water plants and grasses - to be delivered the week of April 15-17, **not before**, unless you have arranged it with Velma
7. red wiggler worms
8. clean, gently used shopping bags for our customers.

You can look forward to Green Day’s traditional offerings of waterless carwashes, ono Spam sushi, Malasada Munchies by Bo Chu & Co., plants, rummage sale, vermicomposting, and recycling of “HI-5” cans and bottles (keep label on). A new item will be delicious cool shave ice made by Kapahulu Moi‘ili‘ili Lions Club. **There will be no eWaste or shredding this year.**

Write the Green Day VII date, “April 18, 2020; 9 a.m. -2 p.m.” on your calendar right now!
Mahalo!
-Ulu Wai Ministry

2020 Church Leaders Event

By Lori Yamashiro, Diaconate Chair

The 2020 Church Leaders Event will be held on **Saturday, February 22**, at NCC. The day will focus on the nuts and bolts of church leadership and will include workshops that are relevant and useful to church leaders. David Popham, Conference Minister, will be the keynote speaker. Workshops include legal issues around renting out church property, disaster preparedness, and the Art of Appreciating the Person You are Dealing with. Registration materials are available at the Church office or online at hcucc.org. Registration deadline is **February 10, 2020**. Make plans to attend—you won’t want to miss it!

Rev. Popham - (Cont’d. from p. 3)

Rev. Popham’s experience working with culturally and theologically diverse churches in the New Jersey Association has prepared him to serve the many cultures in our Hawai‘i Conference. He has worked with a number of immigrant churches and understands that they face particular challenges. He is very aware that there are many cultural practices, values and issues that he must come to understand in Hawai‘i, and he is eager to learn.

Rev. Popham is married to Kerrie Shahan and they have two adult daughters.





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

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, Preston Iha, Howard Ishihara, Michael Kurokawa, Leslie Lum, Ethel Nitta, Amy Nogami, Mary Oshiro, Federico Pascua, Matthew Stucke, 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 Mary Ann Saito

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. -Corinthians 1:10

Dear God, we have much to be thankful for. We have voted to call the Rev. Jeannie D. Thompson to become the next settled pastor of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church. We are grateful for the Pastoral Search Committee's diligence and faithfulness. Thank you for guiding them through the long search process. Thank you for the ministries of our interim pastors, The Revs. Neal MacPherson and Wallace Ryan Kuroiwa and our church leaders who worked tirelessly with them. Help our congregation to work together to welcome Pastor Jeannie and to sincerely work with her to focus on you and Jesus' teachings and to accomplish your purpose for NCC. Amen.



Special Gifts

Give thanks to God whose steadfast love endures forever!

Memorial Offering

IMO Doris Fuchikami:

Pat Katayama

George & Marge Honjiyo

Sybil Seto

Doris Fuchikami Trust

Birthday Offering

Jo-Ann Bristow

Thanks Offering

Kimie Fujioka

Linda Kim

February 2020

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| <div>26</div> <div>Family Promise</div> <div> <div>9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>10:30 AM Annual Cong. Meeting</div> <div>10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> </div> | <div>27</div> <div>8:00 AM Tai Chi</div> <div> <div>Planning Ahead.....</div> <div>Mar. 26 - Office Closed</div> <div>Mar. 29-Apr. 5 - Family Promise</div> <div>Apr. 4 - Church Clean Up</div> </div> | <div>28</div> <div>7:00 AM Tai Chi</div> <div> <div>NCC News Deadline</div> <div>6:00 PM Lectionary Study</div> </div> | <div>29</div> <div>7:30 AM Tai Chi</div> <div> <div>NCC News Deadline</div> <div>6:00 PM Lectionary Study</div> </div> | <div>30</div> <div>7:30 AM Tai Chi</div> <div> <div>6:30 PM Scouts Troop 201</div> </div> | <div>31</div> <div>6:30 PM Scouts Troop 201</div> <div> <div>8:30 AM Board of Trustees</div> <div>9:00 AM Sew Fun</div> </div> | <div>1</div> <div>8:30 AM Board of Trustees</div> <div>9:00 AM Sew Fun</div> |
| <div>2</div> <div>9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> | <div>3</div> <div>8:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>4</div> <div>7:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>5</div> <div>NCC News Deadline</div> <div>9:00 AM Hui Malama</div> <div>6:00 PM Lectionary Study</div> | <div>6</div> <div>7:30 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>7</div> <div>6:30 PM Scouts Troop 201</div> | <div>8</div> <div>8:30 AM Diaconate Board</div> |
| <div>9</div> <div>9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> | <div>10</div> <div>8:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>11</div> <div>7:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>12</div> <div>NCC News Deadline</div> <div>6:00 PM Lectionary Study</div> | <div>13</div> <div>7:30 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>14</div> <div>6:30 PM Scouts Troop 201</div> | <div>15</div> |
| <div>16</div> <div>9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> | <div>17</div> <div>8:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>18</div> <div>7:00 AM Tai Chi</div> <div>6:00 PM Church Council</div> | <div>19</div> <div>NCC News Deadline</div> <div>9:00 AM Hui Malama</div> <div>6:00 PM Lectionary Study</div> | <div>20</div> <div>Caller Deadline</div> <div>7:30 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>21</div> <div>6:30 PM Scouts Troop 201</div> | <div>22</div> <div>9:00 AM Church Leaders Event</div> |
| <div>23</div> <div>9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> <div>10:30 AM Nichigobu Support Group</div> | <div>24</div> <div>8:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>25</div> <div>7:00 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>26</div> <div>NCC News Deadline</div> <div>6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service</div> | <div>27</div> <div>7:30 AM Tai Chi</div> | <div>28</div> <div>6:30 PM Scouts Troop 201</div> | <div>29</div> <div>6:00 PM Epenesa Fou</div> |

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

months of October, we collected 63 lbs. of assorted food items. Our next collection will be **February 23, 2019**.

Monetary donations accepted, too. Checks may be made to Nu‘uanu Congregational Church with Hawai‘i Food Bank on the memo line. Mahalo.



In Loving Memory



We want to remember the family of **Paul Osumi, Jr.** who passed away on December 29, 2019. Paul leaves behind wife Diane, daughters Lisa, Carrie, and Holly, and brother Norman Osumi. He is predeceased by parents Rev. Paul and Janet Osumi. Paul’s service is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 16, 2020 at Mililani Memorial Park, Mauka Chapel.

Our deepest condolences go out to the family of **Kiku Kawata**. Kiku passed away on January 5, 2020. She is survived by husband Rev. Teruo Kawata, sons Mark and John, daughter Ellen, five grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. Kiku’s wish was to have family and friends gather together to celebrate her life joyfully with music and song. A celebration of life party was held at NCC on January 25. Rev. Kawata served as Associate Pastor at NCC from 1954 to 1958.

We are also saddened at the passing of **Yuki Okumura**. Yuki died on January 21, 2020. Services pending.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

Recycling

By Wayne Kobayashi

Bring your items on Sunday, Feb. 23

Please help our volunteers by removing caps from bottles, rinsing and separating all containers. Keep labels on. Only HI-5¢ items are accepted. Proceeds go toward Hui Malama.



2020 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!



Nu'uano Congregational Church
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February 2020

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church office at 595-3935 or email:
nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net.

Lectionary Readings for February

February 2 (The Vision Beautiful): Mic 6:1-8 • Ps 15 • 1 Cor 1:18-31 • **Matt 5:1-12**

February 9 (Restoring Beauty): Isa 58:1-9a (9b-12) • Ps 112:1-9 (10) • 1 Cor 2:1-12 (13-16) •
Matt 5:13-20

February 16 (From the Heart): Deut 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20 • Ps 119:1-8 • 1 Cor 3:1-9 •
Matt 5:21-37

February 23 (Dazzling Reign): Ex 24:12-18 • Ps 2 or Ps 99 • 2 Peter 1:16-21 • **Matt 17:1-9**