

## **Lifted Up and Broken**

*By Pastor Jeannie Thompson, Pastor*

I love celebrating Holy Communion.

I love looking down at the bread no matter what kind of bread has been brought to the Lord's table. It is always a beautiful loaf because it is provided for us out of Christ's love for us, our love for him and our desire to remember him, and our love for one another.

I love that Christ gave us this ritual of feeding and being fed as the most important, intimate, and poignant way of remembering him.

Then, lifting up the loaf before the congregation and breaking it open—this is always such a holy moment. It is in that particular moment that we are reminded: it is only in the breaking-open of the loaf that the bread can be shared. It is only when it is broken that it is available to us in any meaningful way.

Lifted up and broken—that is the heart of Communion. It is also the heart of the whole story of Jesus Christ: his birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. It is the whole story of Easter.

When the loaf is lifted up for all to see it being broken, we are to remember how Christ was also lifted and broken. In that moment, again and again, we are meant to remember how our hearts are also meant for breaking, too—not in the sense of being injured. However, we too are meant to be lifted by the great love that God has for us. So great is this love that God sent God's only Son to live with us, to minister to us, and to show us how we should love one another.

Remembering this we are also reminded that the hearts and lives we so carefully guard are also meant to be broken open so that the love God freely pours out to us may flow in, and the love we have may flow out to our families, our neighbors, to all of God's beloved people.

(Continued on p. 4 - **Communion**)



## Worship Schedule

**9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**1st Sunday of the month:**

**9:00 a.m. Communion Service**

## Church Office Closed 4/1-4/30

Due to the risk of the rapid spread of the virus causing Covid-19, a “Stay at Home/Work from Home Order” is in effect until April 30 by Mayor Caldwell. The church office will be closed during the duration of the order. If there is any business that needs to be conducted, please email it to [nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net). The mail will be checked periodically.

## Communion - Cont’d. from p. 1

We are to remember and to “see” all of this in Holy Communion. This is what we celebrate. This is what makes a loaf of bread a window through which we see and experience the sacred love of God. It is in the taste and texture of the bread on our tongue that we are reminded of how God wants to feed our lives with God’s very being.

This is much more than sign or symbol. This is a love that wants to become a part of the very cells of our bodies; a love that wants to become the energy we need to move toward one another with gestures of compassion, caring, and peace—all in Christ’s name.

This month, Communion Sunday is also Palm/Passion Sunday...and we continue to be Scattered Pilgrims. Despite this, we will still find a way to celebrate the holy ritual of love and grace that is Holy Communion. The deacons will call you with the instructions, and they will be in the weekly email we send out.

There is so much for us to celebrate, even in these days of faithful distancing and sheltering in place. When we remember how deeply God’s love for us goes; so deep that God’s love could not remain in a grave of human making but, instead, broke open the grave so that love could come forth again...how can we help but be lifted up, our hearts broken open to receive the love and light of God.

I pray that this Communion Sunday will be just as meaningful and love-filled even as we partake of it in a new and different way.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Jeannie*

## Pledging Options

*By Garrett Iha, Treasurer*

Pledging Options: Pledges can be mailed directly to the NCC business office at 2651 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96817. Another easy way to continue to pledge is through the automatic bill payer feature available through many financial institutions. Please see your financial institution to see if this option is available to you. NCC appreciates your continued commitment to continuing our ministry at NCC.

## 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.)

## NCC's Plan in Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

By Laurie Hamano, Moderator

Dear members and friends of NCC,

We realize that we are in unprecedented times. Your Church Council has been meeting to discuss and plan next steps for NCC based on the information we are receiving from the Hawaii Conference UCC and the CDC regarding COVID-19. In order to keep our members and friends safe, we have opted to close our facilities until further notice. This means that our groups and all facility users will be affected.

We are working on providing on-line worship services, maintaining telephone and email contact with our members and friends, as well as letters to keep you all informed and aware of what is happening in the life of the church, even if we cannot physically be together for a while. This does not mean that there are no worship services to be offered, but rather alternative and creative ways to worship in a different way. We are faithful and know that if we work together to find solutions and new ways to share our faith, we all can remain healthy and spiritually connected.

Blessings to you all,  
Laurie Hamano

## Green Day Postponed



Due to the fluid Coronavirus community transmission situation on Oahu, the Missions Committee announced today, that the Green Day 2020 will be postponed until this communicable respiratory disease is under control.

For those of you that purchased Green Day's Drive Carwash tickets, please DO NOT throw them

away. The Missions Committee will announce when Green Day will be held, and we will honor your tickets.

These are unusual times, please stay home, wash your hands, and keep your social distance to at least six feet. Be safe, stay healthy, and look forward to another Green Day date!

## All-Church Clean Up Postponed

The Board of Trustees has postponed the All-Church Clean Up until further notice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



## Easter Cantata - Postponed

The Chancel Choir's gift of music, "*Were You There?*," an Easter musical created by Dave Clark, will be presented at a later date.

## Letter from Pastor Wally

Dear friends,  
I was humbled and thankful for the many signs of aloha and appreciation shown me as I concluded my interim ministry at NCC. As I said in my final sermon, I couldn't imagine a more fitting way to end my lifelong vocation that with you all. Your gifts, generously given meant so much to me. Even more, your words of love and cards meant even more. I only had one regret: with the corona virus pandemic, I couldn't have the hugs I so look forward to! I wish I could thank all of you personally, but please accept these words of love for you all. I will continue to hold you all in my heart. Prayers without ceasing as well. May the God we serve and love prosper the works of your hands as you continue in faithfulness.

Wally Ryan Kuroiwa





## 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: **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, Bertha Shinagawa, 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 may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in all ways. The Lord be with all of you.* 2 Thess 3:16

Dear God, due to the COVID-19 situation, Sunday worship services have been indefinitely cancelled, and we have not been able to welcome Pastor Jeanne personally. However, thank you for the technology that enables us to worship together online. Thank you for Pastor Jeanne and all the gifts you have given her to help her as our new settled pastor. Guide her and our Council as they determine what’s next. Be with our congregation as we practice social distancing at home. Grant us patience and wisdom as we diligently follow health practices that will keep us safe and healthy. Amen.



## Special Gifts

*Give thanks to God whose steadfast love endures forever!*

### Memorial Offering

Kimie Fujioka

Frances Miyamoto - IMO Wayne and Muriel Arakaki

Dwight and Joanne Arakaki - IMO Wayne and Muriel Arakaki’s Wedding Anniversary on 3/30

### Birthday Offering

Taichi and Katsuko Nomi

Fran Yano

Betty Morikawa

### Thanks Offering

Taichi and Katsuko Nomi

## 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 February, we  
collected 247 lbs. of  
assorted food items.  
Our next collection  
will be **April 26,  
2020**. Monetary  
donations accepted,  
too. Checks may be made to  
Nu‘uanu Congregational Church  
with Hawai‘i Food Bank on the  
memo line. Mahalo.



## William and Jean Wood 2020 Scholarship Applications - (Deadline Date Changed to May 31)

**Undergraduate** applications for the 2020 William and Jean Wood  
Scholarship are being accepted for those who will be attending a  
university, college, and/or institution of higher learning. Applicants  
must be a member, a relative, or friend of a member of Nu‘uanu  
Congregational Church. Applications may be obtained from the  
Nu‘uanu Congregational Church web site ([www.nuuanu.org](http://www.nuuanu.org)) or  
office.

**\*Note:** All applications and supporting documents (references,  
official transcripts, etc.) must be received together in **one packet** by  
**Sun., May 31, 2020 (postmarked) or (hand delivered to church  
office by 4 p.m. on May 29)** as specified in the instructions.  
**Incomplete application packets received will not be considered.**

## Prayer Request

Please pray for **Taylor Young**, son of our former Associate Pastor,  
KarenFay Ramos-Young. Taylor is 26 years old and a flight attendant.  
Evidently, one of the passengers had COVID-19, and Taylor caught it.  
He is in ICU in Los Angeles. Please keep the Ramos-Young ohana in  
your prayers.

If you have a prayer request and would like it to be added to the e-  
News, send your request to [nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net).

## Recycling

*By Wayne Kobayashi*

**Bring your items on  
Sunday, Apr. 26**

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'uaniu Congregational Church**  
**2651 Pali Highway \* Honolulu, HI 96817**

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**April 2020**

To discontinue receiving the  
*Nu'uaniu Caller*, please call the  
church office at 595-3935 or email:  
[nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net).

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### **Lectionary Readings for April**

**April 5 (Palm/Passion Sunday):** (Liturgy of the Palms) Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 • Matt 21:1-11 •  
(Liturgy of the Passion) Isa 50:4-9a • Ps 31:9-16 • Phil 2:5-11 • **Matt 26:14-27:66** or Matt  
27:11-54

**April 12 (Easter):** Acts 10:34-43 or Jer 31:1-6 • Ps 118:1-2, 14-24 • Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43 •  
**John 20:1-18** or or Matt 28:1-10

**April 19 (Holy Language):** Acts 2:14a, 22-32 • Ps 16 • 1 Peter 1:3-9 • **John 20:19-31**

**April 26 (Breaking Bread):** Acts 2:14a, 36-41 • Ps 116:1-4, 12-19 • 1 Peter 1:17-23 • **Luke**  
**24:13-35**