

# NU‘UANU CALLER

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



VOL. 63, NO. 10

OCTOBER 2020



## Always Forward!

*By Pastor Jeannie Thompson*

Last Monday, September 21, we had a morning of misty rain here in Kaimuki. For those of you who don't know where I live, I am about a mile up the mountain from Waialae Avenue, off 16<sup>th</sup>. The view from the front of the apartment overlooks much of the Kaimuki, Diamond Head, and part of Waikiki.

Last week's rainy morning, on the first day of fall, gave me some hope that cooler weather was setting in. Well, I can dream, can't I? I had hoped that the weather, at least, would co-operate and bring cooler, more refreshing days. I am, at times, impatient with the weather, the virus, with government officials, with the management of this crisis, with...the list is long. Patience is not easy, especially when so many people are suffering in so many ways—physically, spiritually, emotionally, economically.

There are so many ways in which we have had to be patient. We are keeping a safe distance from friends and even family. We wash our hands constantly and carry hand sanitizer. We have up-ended our lives and we worry. We worry about the stranger next to us in the checkout line who just sneezed—is she safely six feet away, we wonder. The masks are hot and annoying—but we are committed to wearing them.

This has been going on for more than six months, now.

I know that many of us, including me, were hoping things would be different by now. Unfortunately, we are still not worshipping in person. After one month back in our Sanctuary, this past summer's decision to go back to exclusively online worship proved to be a sound one.

It was wonderful to be able to greet many of you in person (from a safe distance) but it was unfortunate and frightening when the numbers went so high. Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many people who have lost loved ones, and those who are nursing others back to health and wholeness.

At this point, the daily infection numbers have gone down, thank goodness, but they have not declined to a point that our church leadership feels confident about resuming in-person worship but please do take heart because circumstances and conditions continue to evolve, and the NCC leadership team is keeping a close watch over it all. We are also keeping in close contact with each other and discuss the situation almost daily.

(Continued on page 3 - **Forward**)

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).  
Rev. Jeannie Thompson, *Pastor*; Paula Yamamoto, *Administrative Coordinator*; Nelson Fujinaga, *Custodian*; Le Huynh, *Groundskeeper & Security*.  
Web site: [nuuanu.org](http://nuuanu.org) • Email: [nccadmin@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiintel.net) • Phone: (808) 595-3935



## Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

1st Sunday of the month:

9:00 a.m. Communion Service

## From the Moderator's Desk

*By Laurie Hamano, Moderator*

Dear NCC Friends and Members,

We are here again, still not back at the church, due to the COVID-19 numbers increasing and now beginning to decrease. We are hoping that we will be able to reopen the church for worship services when the COVID-19 numbers have decreased significantly.

However, the on-line services have been doing well, and we are glad to see that many of you are taking advantage of these services and logging in and joining us through the Internet. All this continues as your NCC Council keeps moving forward.

We have engaged **Cynthia Scherr** to assist us with the Strategic Plan for NCC. We have sent out the questions that we need you all to think about through the Caller, and want you to begin discussing these questions as we look at what NCC will look like in the future; in 5 years, and beyond. The work continues to be done to discuss what that picture will look like. More on this soon.

For the present, we have applied and recently received the City and County Cares Act Grant of \$10,000. We are fortunate that we have friends who have told us about these grants, and we have applied and been granted these funds. We have received the PPP loan/grant and now the City and County Cares Act Grant. We are thankful for these funds that will help NCC continue to do God's work.

Please keep safe and know that your NCC Council is working hard for you.

In faith,

*Laurie Hamano*

## Neighbors in Need Offering

*By Wayne Kobayashi*

*Neighbors in Need (NIN)* is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and

communities. We will be collecting this offering starting October 4, 2020. You may write your check to Nu‘uanu Congregational Church with NIN on the memo line.

## 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.)

## Forward - Cont'd. from p. 1

We are also not letting the pandemic prevent us from making plans for the up-coming holidays. We are hoping, and working on making Advent and Christmas hopeful, fun, and joy-filled, *and I want you to consider the important part YOU have to play in all of this.*

Your part is to get yourself ready to receive the beauty and miracle that is our life with God.

Have you been able to watch the videos of worship? Would you like a short coaching session on how to do that? Would you prefer to listen to worship? There are folks in our church who can help you with both of these things and are eager to serve in this way. Availing yourself of this service will not only keep you connected, it is also a way of moving forward and enjoying some of the new gifts God has provided for us—those who would like to help, the many new voices in worship, and the technology itself.

One of my friends from seminary has been preaching on the passages from Exodus, just as I have most of the summer. As I was reading her current newsletter article, I was impressed with how she saw in the ancient Israelites' challenges a reflection of our own. This is some of what she wrote:

*The manna the people of Israel ate didn't look like the bread they had in Egypt. The life we are living doesn't look like the one we are used to, the one we had last year, or even six months ago. Yet, through it all, God is still providing for us, giving us what we need for this life, and who we need to walk through it with us.*

*The Rev. Moira Finley, Tri-Jo  
Newsletter, The Living Word, Oct. 2020*

I want to sincerely thank you for your faithfulness and patience thus far. Thank you for the masks you wear, and the social distance you keep, and the hands you wash over and over again. There is more of this road to travel, but our Good News is that we are going to travel it

together, and that leading the way will be God's Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,  
*Pastor Jeannie*

## 2020 NCC Scholarship Recipients

*By Cherie Nakamura, Scholarship Committee*

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the following 2020 William and Jean Wood Scholarship Fund recipients:

**Emily Pascua**, daughter of Fred and Leigh Pascua, Arizona State University, Junior.

**Stephanie Chung-Dakofsky**, daughter of LaDonna Chung, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Freshman.

**Preston Iha**, son of Garrett and Susan Iha, Baylor University, Junior.

**Andrew Nakatsuka**, son of Craig and Claire Nakatsuka, Southern Methodist University, Senior.

**Kyla Kobayashi**, daughter of Dwight and Liza Kobayashi, granddaughter of Wayne Kobayashi, Azusa Pacific University, Senior.

## Troop 201 Cancels 2020 Kadomatsu Sale

Due to the ongoing circumstances with COVID-19, the Kadomatsu Committee has unanimously decided to cancel this year's production. Yes, Kadomatsu is 2-1/2 months away, but being that the state and federal government still has no solid plan on how to handle the situation, we felt that this is the best decision for the health and safety of our families.



## Got Your Flu Shot?

By Judy Keith, Parish Nurse

As we enter the flu season, be sure to get your flu shot!

Maybe you think because you are hardly leaving the house, you can skip your flu shot this year? This is a year that we all need to do everything that we can to stay safe and healthy. Even a common flu strain can land you in the hospital, and we need to avoid putting any additional strain on our hospitals this year. Plus, the flu is no fun, and you just don't want to get sick. If you are 65 or older, ask your pharmacist about the enhanced flu shot. And call soon, as it is in short supply.

## Faith, Hanging By a Thread

As many of you old-timers know, Bryan and Asa Yamashita used to be active members of NCC. They attended worship regularly with their two newly adopted daughters and was actively involved with NCC's Christian Education ministry. Living in Ewa with a young family, they decided to transfer to a church closer to their home.

One afternoon, Asa's car wouldn't start, so as she innocently sat outside Ewa Town Square eating her saimin while waiting for Bryan to pick her up, she was brutally attacked and murdered. From that moment forward, the lives of Bryan, Katie, and Tori turned upside down.

In his newly published book, Faith, Hanging By a Thread, Bryan shares his reflections in three parts: The Tragedy and A Three-Legged Table, Forgiveness and Faith, and Restoration and Hope. The book is filled with emotion, anecdotes, and even some humor! Mostly, it's about their faith in God's love that got this family through the many struggles and challenges.

If you would like to purchase a copy of the book, you may find it at Logos Bookstore for \$10.

## Chutney and Jam Sale

Once again, **Donald Ikeda** has graciously prepared his popular mango chutney, lilikoi jelly, mango jam, guava jam, and calamondin marmalade. Proceeds will benefit Nuʻuanu Congregational Church. The church is still closed due to the Covid-19 situation, so please use the enclosed order form. Supplies are limited, so orders will be filled as they are received. Do not mail in your payment, in case it cannot be filled. Your order will be confirmed by phone or email. Payment will be collected at the time of pick up in front of the gym at NCC on Sunday, **November 1, 2020** between 9:00-10:00 a.m. Just drive your car up to the designated area. Face mask required.

## Blessings and Blessings— November 1<sup>st</sup> ... AT CHURCH!

November 1<sup>st</sup> is a special day in the life of our church. It is Communion Sunday, and it is All Saints Sunday. To make it a special day and memorable day, we have decided

to welcome all to come to church that day for

### **Drive Through Communion**



In addition to Communion, you are invited to bring your dog, cat, fish, or bird for a drive-through

### **Blessing of the Animals**



For those who purchased Don Ikeda's chutney or jam there will a station to pick-up.

**It's Dr. Don Ikeda's famous  
CHUTNEY AND JAM SALE**  
November 1, 2020



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Qty	Description	Unit Price	Total
	Mango Chutney – Large jar (only 36 available)	\$12.00	
	Mango Chutney – Small jar	\$8.00	
	Lilikoi Jelly	\$6.00	
	Mango Jam (only 12 available)	\$5.00	
	Calamondin Marmalade (only 24 available)	\$5.00	
	Guava Jam (only 12 available)	\$5.00	
	<b>(Do not mail payment - Payment at Pick Up)</b>		
Total			

Please note that supplies are limited therefore orders will be filled as they are received.

You may return the completed form to the Church office via  
email [nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net)  
Or mail to 2651 Pali Hwy, Honolulu 96817  
Or drop it off at the Church office

Please pick up your order and make payment on Sunday, November 1, 2020  
between 9:00am – 10:00am





## 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, Carol Hamada, Charlene Hasegawa, Preston Iha, Howard Ishihara, Michael Kurokawa, Leslie Lum, Amy Nogami, Craig Oshiro, Mary Oshiro, 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*

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you will call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.*  
Jeremiah 29:11-12

Dear God, as we yearn for a semblance of pre-pandemic normalcy in our lives, we thank you for your infinite love, presence and protection. We are thankful that after a second lock-down Hawai‘i’s positive cases have lessened. Enable our leaders to make wise decisions about reopening the state. Help us to be patient and cooperative by following best practices to help protect each other. Although we can’t worship together in person we are grateful for our virtual services and pray that you will watch over our members. Continue to guide Paster Jeannie and our church leaders as they work together on our behalf. Amen.



## Special Gifts

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

### **Memorial Offering**

Howard and Barbara Mau - IMO Chikako Yamashiro, Federico Pascua, Edith Matsumoto, Pauline Namiki, Alice Ishihara, Rev. Dr. Grant Lee

Helen Pierce - IMO Alice Ishihara, Chikako Yamashiro

Mae Au - IMO LaVerne Hokama

Wendy Tsurumaki - IMO Janet Kurokawa

Charlotte Nakamura - IMO Pauline Namiki, Federico Pascua, The Rev. Grant Lee  
Howard and Barbara Mau - IMO Ethel Nitta  
Ululani Hirohata - IMO Alice Ishihara  
Velma Akinaka - IMO Alice Ishihara  
Ann Ito - IMO Alice Ishihara

(Continued on page 7 - **Gifts**)

## Deadline for Articles

Nuʻuanu Caller (monthly)  
20th of each month.

NCC News (weekly)

Wednesday noon.

Articles will be edited on a  
space available basis.

## Food Drive

**Due to the Covid-19 pandemic,  
the Food Drive has been  
temporarily suspended.**

Monetary donations accepted.

Checks may be made to Nuʻuanu  
Congregational Church  
with Hawaiʻi Food Bank  
on the memo line.  
Mahalo.



## Recycling

*By Wayne Kobayashi*

### Bring your items on Sunday, Oct. 25

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.



## Give Aloha - Mahalo!

*By Paula Yamamoto, Administrative Coordinator*

Mahalo to all who participated in Foodland's Give Aloha Program last month. We will be receiving your contributions and Foodland's grant some time in mid-October.

Please mail your receipt with your name on it to the church office, so we may credit your giving account properly. Foodland does not provide us with any names. Also, please make sure that the date, time, and store is on the receipt. That is the only way I am able to verify your giving with the printout provided.



## Gifts - Cont'd. from p. 6

### Memorial Offering

Fred and Virginia Takara - IMO Federico Pascua

Mary Ann Saito - IMO Chikako Yamashiro

Miyoko Sasaki - IMO Edith Matsumoto, Pauline Namiki, Chikako

Yamashiro, Yuki Okumura, Federico Pascua, Alice Ishihara

### Thanks Offering

Jane Uyechi

## Wear a mask!

Cover your nose and mouth



## Wait 6 feet apart!

Avoid close contact



## Wash your hands!

Or use hand sanitizer





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

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**October 2020**

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*Nu'uano 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 October**

**October 4 (Remember, Restore, Renew): Ex 12:1-14** and Ps 149 • Ezek 33:7-11 and Ps 119:33-40 • Rom 13:8-14 • Matt 18:15-20

**October 11 (Road to Freedom): Ex 14:19-31** and Ps 114 or Ex 15:1b-11, 20-21 • Gen 50:15-21 and Ps 103:(1-7), 8-13 • Rom 14:1-12 • Matt 18:21-35

**October 18 (Tensions in the Wilderness): Ex 16:2-15** and Ps 105:1-6, 37-45 • Jon 3:10-4:11 and Ps 145:1-8 • Phil 1:21-30 • Matt 20:1-16

**October 25 (God's Sustaining Presence): Ex 17:1-7** and Ps 78:1-4, 12-16 • Ezek 18:1-4, 25-32 and Ps 25:1-9 • Phil 2:1-13 • Matt 21:23-32