



## Getting ready to celebrate Thanksgiving!

*By Pastor Jeannie Thompson*

The last few days have brought quite a bit of rain, for which I am grateful. From where I live in Kaimuki, I can see a good portion of Waikiki, Diamond Head, and the ocean beyond. Recently, I have found myself lingering at the windows, watching the rain showers moving in off the ocean towards me, or sometimes moving over me and down into the city. I look forward to this time of year and the way the weather cools off, and the way the mornings' crispness stays a little later into the day. The change in the weather always heralds the fast approaching holidays—especially Thanksgiving.

This year Thanksgiving will be a new experience for me—being back in Honolulu.

It will also be a new experience because I will be taking part in the annual Nu‘uanu Valley Interfaith Thanksgiving Service.

Thus, for several weeks, I have been meeting my clergy colleagues throughout the valley via Zoom. This year, Rev. T.J. FitzGerald, pastor of First Unitarian Church of Honolulu, is the coordinator of the event. Luckily for the rest of us, Pastor T.J. is quite adept at the technology that is needed to make this year's service a success.

As usual, it will be on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, November 24, at 7:00 PM, and as you may expect: the service will be online. You are invited to attend via *ZOOM* or on Facebook Live. (If you use *ZOOM*, you will have to download the application.)

It promises to be a wonderful evening. There will be music from all of our churches (in one form or another). We will have a combined choir that will sing "This Little Light of Mine," and there will be hula from the Hawaiian Church. There will even be a song that was written just for this service.

59<sup>th</sup> Nu‘uanu Valley Interfaith  
Thanksgiving Celebration 2020

**"BOUND IN LIGHT"**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

**at 7:00 p.m.**

**Virtual Celebration on Facebook Live**

**and ZOOM:**

**Dial-in: 1 253 215 8782**

**Meeting ID: 956 5898 7545**

**Passcode: 523922**

(Continued on page 3 - NVITS)

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*; Mairi Manley, *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

## Welcome Mairi!

*By Stan Chong, Personnel Committee Chair*

Please join me in welcoming **Mairi Manley**, our new Administrative Coordinator, to the NCC ‘Ohana. Mairi (pronounced “Ma-ri”) began her work with us on October 16. She will be “shown the ropes” by Paula for roughly a month.



Mairi earned her Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, Organizational Management, from Remington College. She has many years of work experience in various positions in the banking, air cargo transportation, and retail food industries.

Mairi is the daughter of our dear friend and former Interim Pastor, Neal MacPherson. She has literally grown up around UCC churches, notably Church of the Crossroads near UH Manoa.

Mairi is happily married and has four beautiful daughters, with ages ranging between 9-19 years old. She and her family live in Ewa Beach. Mairi’s favorite hobby is lei-making, whether by fresh flower, ribbon or crochet.

Again, welcome to NCC Mairi!

## 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.



## 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.)

## NVITS - (Cont’d. from p. 1)

The title is the same as the theme of this year’s event, “Bound in Light,” and each of the participating churches will have three minutes to share with the audience who we are and how the light is shining in our community.

The organization we will be highlighting this year is called, *We Are Oceania*, a non-profit organization advocating for the health of Micronesian individuals and families, empowering them to weave their indigenous skills, knowledge, and being/values with their newly acquired knowledge of their new community on O‘ahu. The mission of *We Are Oceania* is to empower our Micronesian community to navigate success while honoring the integrity of our diverse heritage.

I know the technology is new to many of us, but I hope many of our members will tune-in. It should be a wonderful way to start the Thanksgiving celebration.

Yes, I know this has been a difficult year for many of us. We long for the way things were just eleven months ago. We miss the fellowship and being able to sit close and just talk to one another. The thing is: life has changed a lot faster than usual. This does not mean that everything we loved is gone. It has changed. Therefore, we are going to have to adapt with these changes.

Our Good News is that we do not have to do this alone. There are so many people who are willing, able, and *eager* to help each of us make the most of what we have. If you want a little help getting connected, please call the church office. We will connect you with someone who will help you figure it out.

I can think of few better ways to give thanks than to join with others and celebrate all

that we have together. So, please come and meet us at this year’s Interfaith Thanksgiving Service!

May God deeply bless you and your family, and God always find you with a heart filled with gratitude and love.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Jeannie

## Cell Phones and the Bible

*Author Unknown*

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phones?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we turned back to get it if we forgot it?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we used it to receive messages from the “text”?

What if we treated it like we couldn’t live without it?

What if we gave it to our kids as gifts?

What if we used it as we traveled?

What if we used it in case of an emergency?

What if we upgraded it to get the latest version?

This is something to make you go...hmmm... where is my Bible?

## Mahalo and Aloha!

It was a privilege and an honor serving you and God as the Administrative Coordinator at NCC for the past 14 years and 10 months. I was blessed to have been able to get to know many of you on a deeper and more personal level than I would have if I only attended church service. But don't worry, I'm not leaving the church, and I hope to see all of you when we are able to regather for worship service in-person! There are so many of you that have volunteered to help out in the office over the years, that I'm not going to even try to name all of you for fear of missing someone! I am truly grateful for your loving support, time, energy, onolicious goodies, and love! People have been asking what I am going to do in my retirement. Wake up without an alarm clock! Relearn the game of golf. Enjoy life! See what God has in store for me next...

Blessings to all,

*Paula*

## Thank You!

(Thank you notes from Bill and Jean Wood Scholarship recipients.)

Dear Cherie Nakamura, the NCC Scholarship Committee, and members of NCC,

I would like to thank you for awarding me an academic scholarship. I am currently a senior at Southern Methodist University studying Biochemistry with a Math and Sociology minor. With your generosity, I hope to graduate this year and pursue a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Uzbekistan for the 2021-2022 academic year, before attending medical school. This year, I have been hard at work finishing up my senior year classes, studying for the MCAT, and running a club called Engaged Learning, which is dedicated to furthering entrepreneurship and research at SMU. I hope to follow NCC's

"ulu wai" ministry and in the same way, overflow into the SMU community that has given me so many opportunities to grow. Thank you again for your gift.

Yours in Christ,  
Andrew Nakatsuka

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for your continued support of my education up here in Arizona. I would not be able to do all I have done in these past 2, now 3 years without you all. I've been keeping a busy schedule, 18 credit hours, 2 internships, a job, and president of the honor society. So please know I am not fooling around and the scholarship has gone to support a very motivated student! I will most likely be graduating this year (a year early if all goes as planned. I'm doubtful that there will be a ceremony, but if there was, I would've loved for you all to watch from home! Soon, I'll be headed to PT (Physical Therapy) school! And in 3 short years, I will be Dr. Emily Pascua, DPT! I'll be home soon after to help treat everyone back on the island. Once again, thank you for your support and generosity. I can only hope that my future practice and service will be giving back to the community as you all have given me.

Love,  
Emily Pascua  
future (Dr.) Emily Pascua  
\*\*\*\*\*

NCC Scholarship Committee,

I want to express my sincere "Thank You" for awarding me a scholarship fro Nuuanu Congregational Church. this will really help me as I continue my studies at Baylor University.

I miss seeing everyone at the church and I hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

Preston Iha



### Sunday School via Zoom



The Board of Christian Nurture started Sunday School via Zoom on September 6, 2020. We are meeting every Sunday morning! The children are enjoying this new way of learning about God.

#### Sunday School Schedule till February 2021

Date	Event at Church	Sunday School
November 1	Drive by Communion Sunday, Blessing of the animals, Chutney sale	No Sunday School
November 8		Summary of the parables
November 15		Lord's prayer- sign language
November 22		Lord's prayer- sign language
November 29	Pick Advent wreath supplies, cards for shut-ins, advent devotional & advent calendars at 1:00pm to 2:00pm	Godly Play – Advent I
December 6		Godly Play – Advent II
December 13		Godly Play – Advent III
December 20		Godly Play – Advent IV&V
December 27		No Sunday School
January 3		Godly Play – Epiphany
January 10		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
January 17		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
January 24		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
January 31		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
February 7		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
February 14		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
February 21		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren
February 28		God's Big Plans for Me by Warren

## Thanksgiving Food Drive

*By Joyce Uyehara, Missions Committee Chair*

2020 has been a tumultuous year. The Covid-19 pandemic suspended in-person worship. The Missions Committee met virtually and agreed that we need to continue our Thanksgiving tradition of providing food for our less fortunate neighbors.

There will be no sukkah on Thanksgiving Sunday. Sukkah is a temporary shelter built to store food. We usually erect a sukkah in the sanctuary and place our donations in it. With more unemployed people the need for food has increased dramatically. You can help by bringing nonperishable food to the church office from November 1-29. The food will be delivered to the Hawaii Foodbank. Checks made to the Hawaii Foodbank will also be accepted. Please call the church office at 595-3935 before going there.

## White Christmas

*By Joyce Uyehara, Missions Committee Chair*

Covid-19 will not diminish the spirit of Christmas sharing. More than ever we need to lift up our homeless families. As we did last year, we ask that you donate gift cards (i.e., Target, Walmart, Longs Drugs, etc.) that we can distribute to the UCC Transition House, River of Life Mission, and Family Promise. Please indicate the amount on the card, so we can distribute them equally. Mail or deliver them to the church office. Donations will be accepted December 1-19. Mahalo and Mele Kalikimaka.

## Family Promise

*By Judy Keith, Family Promise Coordinator*

Covid 19 has changed so much of what we are able to do this year. One of the things that I am missing a lot is NCC being able to host Family Promise. Our next rotation was due on November first. Although congregations are unable to

provide housing, the needs of homeless families in our community continue. It should come as no surprise that Family Promise has received a record number of requests for help in 2020. They have needed to be creative and flexible to meet these needs.

Families are currently being housed at Camp Mokuleia on the north shore and at a hotel in Waikiki. Family Promise has asked for our help in providing meals to the families at the Waikiki hotel. The program is no contact. You are asked to:

- Prepare a main dish and a side dish that pairs well with rice. The families each have a rice cooker.
- Pack the food in containers according to family size and label containers with floor and room number. Family Promise will make containers available for your use on request.
- Meet a FPH staff member at the hotel at 5 pm so the meals can be delivered to the families.

Pastor Jeannie has very graciously offered to deliver meals for us. You can contact her at 353-1387. For open dates and additional information contact Marissa Commey at 548-7478 or email at [marissa@familypromisehawaii.org](mailto:marissa@familypromisehawaii.org).

NCC has been a strong supporter of Family Promise since 2005. Please prayerfully consider whether this is a need that you are able to meet. Despite all the difficulties that 2020 has brought our way, we still have so much to be grateful for this Thanksgiving month. Reaching out to Family Promise is a wonderful way to live out our gratitude, serve the community and serve God.





## 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*

*Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord or declare all his praise? Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times. Psalm 106:1-3*

Dear God, we thank you for the love and support of family and friends, our church, everyday blessings and most of all, your unconditional, steadfast love. As we celebrate Veterans Day, we give thanks for the sacrificial service of all veterans and our present armed forces. We are grateful for the many years of Paula Yamamoto's cheerful and efficient service as our Administrative Coordinator. Bless her in her retirement. We are thankful for and welcome Mairi Manley. Guide her as she learns her new role. We continue to pray for the COVID-19 pandemic and the wildfires in the western states. We pray for positive outcomes in our local and national elections. Amen.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**



## Special Gifts

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

### Memorial Offering

Patricia Katayama - IMO Rev. Grant Lee, Alice Ishihara

Ruth Gushiken - IMO Alice Ishihara

Howard Ishihara - IMO Federico Pascua

Betty Morikawa - IMO Chikako Yamashiro, Alice Ishihara, Federico Pascua

Paul & Paula Yamamoto - IMO Rev. Grant Lee, Pauline Namiki

Kimie Fujioka - IMO Chikako Yamashiro, Federico Pascua, Alice Ishihara, Edith

Matsumoto, Ethel Nitta

Velma Akinaka - IMO Federico Pascua, Pauline Namiki

(Continued on page 7 - **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

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

Monetary donations accepted.  
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, Nov. 29**

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  
during the month of September! We received all of your contributions,  
plus a generous grant of \$2,343.36 from Foodland and their partner,  
Western Union Foundation. We thank them for the many years of  
giving back to our church and community.

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

## Wear a mask!

Cover your nose and mouth



## Wait 6 feet apart!

Avoid close contact



## Gifts - Cont’d. from page 6

### Memorial Offering

Carol Chung - IMO Edith  
Matsumoto, Rev. Dr. Grant Lee

### Thanks Offering

Carol Hamada  
Howard and Barbara Mau

### Birthday Offering

Miyoko Sasaki  
Jane Uyechi

## Wash your hands!

Or use hand sanitizer







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**2651 Pali Highway \* Honolulu, HI 96817**

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**November 2020**

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### **Lectionary Readings for November**

**November 1 (Partners in Service):** Josh 3:7-17 and Ps 107:1-7, 33-37 • Mic 3:5-12 and Ps 43 •  
1 These 2:9-13 • **Matt 23:1-12**

**November 8 (Tending God's Light):** Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Ps 78:1-7 • Wisd of Sol 6:12-16  
or Amos 5:18-24 and Wisd of Sol 6:17-20 or Ps 70 • 1 These 4:13-18 • **Matt 25:1-13**

**November 15 (Extravagant Opportunity):** Jud 4:1-7 and Ps 123 • Zeph 1:7, 12-18 and Ps  
90:1-8 (9-11), 12 • 1 These 5:1-11 • **Matt 25:14-30**

**November 22 (Reigning Compassion):** Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24 and Ps 100 • Ezek 34:11-16,  
20-24 and Ps 100 • Eph 1:15-23 • **Matt 25:31-46**

**November 29 (Where Are You, God?):** Isa 64:1-9 • **Ps 80:1-7, 17-19** • 1 Cor 1:3-9 • Mk  
13:24-37