

# NU‘UANU CALLER

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



VOL. 64, NO. 10

OCTOBER 2021



## The Wild Beauty to Come

*By Pastor Jeannie Thompson*

One of my favorite artist/theologians is the Rev. Jan Richardson. She writes. She paints. She writes poetry. And all of her work rises out of her constant connection to her faith. Indeed, her paintings, poetry, and essays are an on-going portrait of her relationship with Spirit.

In one of her essays she talks about this time of year—the movement from summer to fall. With just a few well chosen words, she manages to convey the busyness of the spring and summer she has just been through—all of the travel, and the many people she has interacted with as teacher, artist, and preacher.

Now, at last, she is back at home and finding herself a bit depleted; energy waning, creative juices ebbed. The year has been rewarding and productive but this has only been true because she has given deeply of herself to each season and it's requirements.

This is true for all of us, I think. We may live in different areas of the country, even in different hemispheres, but our lives are moved by the same life-force. No matter where we are we receive and accommodate the same movements of the earth: the chorus of life and its fluctuations of light and energy, each year's reawakening to the new light of springtime, and the riot of color and sound that is summer. Each is invigorating in its own unique way, but each also claims its share of our time and effort.

(continued on page 3 - Wild Beauty)

### BLESSING OF SALT AND FIRE

AND SO, IN THIS  
SEASON,  
MAY WE GIVE  
OURSELVES  
TO THE FIRE  
THAT SHOWS US  
WHAT IS ELEMENTAL  
AND SACRAMENTAL,  
THAT REVEALS WHAT  
REMAINS  
AFTER ALL THAT DOES  
NOT HAVE  
SUBSTANCE OR SAVOR  
FALLS AWAY.  
MAY WE TURN  
OUR EYES  
OUR EARS  
OUR HANDS  
TO THE BEAUTY  
FOR WHICH WE WERE  
FORMED  
AND BEAR WITH GRACE  
THE PATTERNS  
THAT BLOSSOM UPON US  
WHO LIVE SALTED  
AND SINGED.

BY THE REV. JAN RICHARDSON  
THE PAINTED PRAYERBOOK, 2012

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

## Neighbors in Need (NIN)

By Wayne Kobayashi

NIN is a mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of the funds is used by The Council for American Indian Ministry and its witness among indigenous churches and people. Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries.

Grants are also awarded to churches and organizations for projects that address the rights and freedoms of all persons, environmental justice, or economic justice. During this year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

We will be receiving the offering on World Communion Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021. Envelopes are included in this Caller.

## Green Day in October



NCC Missions will have another virtual Green day this month! Pictures and prices of the plants will be loaded onto [nuuanu.org](http://nuuanu.org) by October 8, 2021.

If you like anything you see, please email Becky Kanenaka at [hiken214@gmail.com](mailto:hiken214@gmail.com) or Mairi Manley at [nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net). We will gladly put them on the side for you.

Pick up will be on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Forms of payment accepted will be cash, check (made payable to Nuuanu Congregational Church), or venmo. Please join us in supporting NCC Missions!

## All Saints Day 2021: Remembering Our Loved Ones Lost to COVID-19

by Pastor Jeannie Thompson

On Monday, November 1st, All Saints Day, Central Union Church (CUC) will host an all-day memorial event to remember those people in our Hawaii community who have died of COVID-19.

A chair for each person will be placed on the lawn in front of CUC which is located at 1660 South Beretania Street.

Throughout the day, pastors from our UCC churches will take shifts to offer a ministry of presence. All people from every faith tradition are invited to stop and pay their respects. At noon, we will begin tolling the bell for each person who has died since the pandemic began.

Says the Rev. Brandon Duran of CUC: "we will give thanks for those who died, and hope this gesture will provide a space for loved ones to remember and grieve."

The event will be open to the public starting at 8:00 AM until 6:00PM, November 1st.

## 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.)

## Wild Beauty

cont. from pg. 1

So, too, autumn arrives with its requirements. As the days lengthen we are invited, not to stop, but to allow our senses to come to rest in the deep rich jewel tones of falling leaves and golden gloamings. Now, we may take the time to breathe in the cooling air and permit ourselves our own kind of falling—into a quieter, less traveled interval, and a space wherein we may take the time to reflect and remember.

Rev. Richardson wrote the poem I have shared as she contemplated a short passage from the Gospel of Mark. The waning fires of summer reminded her of: *“For everyone will be salted with fire.” [Mark 9:49], and of ceramic artists and how they “know what happens when salt is added to the fire. Thrown into the kiln, this elemental essence alters the surface of the pot in a fashion that cannot be entirely predicted or controlled. The potter has to trust that when the salt is given to the fire, it will do its work; that, blessed by the intention and focus the potter brings, the salt will make a way for the wild beauty that will come.”*

My friends, the whole of our lives is like that moment in a potter’s life, and during this past couple of year this has been especially true. We have committed our future, as a church, to the blessing of service and faithfulness the particulars of which is still unfolding. Yet, we may be confident that the road ahead of us will not be random wandering in the wilderness. Rather, we are invited to continue on with the same Spirit that has been with Nu‘uanu Congregational Church from the beginning. We are invited to a “wild beauty” that is still ahead of us. My prayer for all of us is that with the coming on of autumn we may take this time to remember all of the souls who have traveled with us and give thanks for their lives, even as we contemplate the next phase of our journey blessed by God, centered in Christ, and led by the Spirit.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Jeannie

## State to Distribute 1 Million Free At-home COVID Tests on Oahu

From HNN News 9/20/21

With the help of a Federal pilot program, the state health department will be distributing 1 million free, at home COVID Test to eligible zip codes.

To order a test kit, go to [COVIDTestHonolulu.org](https://COVIDTestHonolulu.org). They’re available through Oct. 18 while supplies last.

Residents in the following zip codes are available to get the tests:

96701, 96706, 96707, 96712, 96717, 96730, 96731, 96734, 96744, 96762, 96782, 96786, 96789, 96791, 96792, 96795, 96797, 96813, 96814, 96815, 96816, 96817, 96818, 96819, 96821, 96822, 96825, 96826, 96844, 96850, 96853, 96854, 96857, 96858, 96859, 96860, 96861, 96863.

Officials said 125,000 Oahu residents in eligible zip codes will get eight rapid antigen tests in order to test twice a week for four weeks. Ideal candidates include those who are unvaccinated or have a high risk of COVID exposure.

Participants in the program will get rapid antigen tests that require a quick swab inside each nostril. Results are ready in about 10 minutes.

Those who test positive on self-administered tests should follow [home isolation guidelines](#) and contact their healthcare provider to seek follow-up testing.



## Ohana Ministry

*By Mae Au*

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**

**Joyce Uyehara, 523-3483**

**Sybil Seto, 550-3068**

**Lori Yamashiro, 292-5249**

When you pray, remember the following and their caregivers: **Kimiko Bristow-Canfield, Marcia Grimsley, Carol Hamada, Preston Iha, Howard Ishihara, Leslie Lum, Craig Oshiro, Matthew Stucke, Lurline Matsumoto (sister of Masa Tabe), Rick Au, Stephen Crosier, Fay Matsuura (Friend of Clifford Lum), Barbara Pierce, Nelson Fujinaga, Ethel Yamaguchi.**

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*

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.*

Hebrews 13:8

Dear God, Jesus is your image and we are thankful that you and he are the same yesterday, today and forever. Your steadfast and unconditional love never ends and your faithfulness sustains us. Thank you for your strength and help as we live in this ever-changing environment filled with crises. We pray for your guidance as we deal with personal problems and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. Continue to enable our church leaders as they faithfully carry on with their responsibilities. Watch over our NCC `ohana, especially those who are ill and those rehabilitating from medical procedures. Sustain their caregivers and keep us safe.

Amen.



## Special Gifts

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

### Memorial Offering

Howard Ishihara IMO Mary Oshiro

Glenn Umetsu IMO Marie Yoneshige

George Honjiyo IMO Mary Oshiro

Ululani Hirohata IMO Mary Oshiro

Stella Nakama IMO Lawrence Nakama

Dorothy Kusumoto IMO Ellen Nagao

### Birthday Offering

Micki Sasaki

## 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

*By Mairi Manley*



Our monthly collection for the Hawaii Foodbank will be on the first Sunday of every month. If it is not safe to have Communion Service In-Person, we will be offering drive through communion, so please bring your donations to church.

In the first year of the pandemic, the Hawaii Foodbank had to purchase more than 12.5 million dollars worth of emergency food. Their regular annual budget is \$400,000. So the need is great. Last month we collected 191 pounds of food and \$210.00 dollars.

Monetary donations are always welcome. We will no longer accept checks made payable to Nuʻuanu Congregational Church for the Hawaiʻi Foodbank. **Please make checks payable to: Hawaii Foodbank.**

## Hawaiʻi Unveils SMART Health Card

*From UCC Coconut Wireless*

Individuals who are fully vaccinated and have received vaccination in Hawaiʻi can obtain a SMART Health Card to show establishments, such as restaurants, businesses and other venues, proof of their vaccination on their digital device without carrying a physical vaccine document.

A Hawaiʻi SMART Health Card is a feature found in the Hawaiʻi Safe Travels Digital Platform and follows the format recommended by the Vaccine Credential Initiative. This format is also used by some other states such as California and some vaccination providers such as CVS.

Read more about the SMART health card at <https://hawaiiicovid19.com> and **upload** your vaccination information to receive a QR code.

## Recycling

*By Wayne Kobayashi*

### Bring your items on Sunday, Oct. 31

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.



## 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 2021**

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[nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net).

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### **Lectionary Readings for October**

**October 3 (Enfolding Love):** Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Ps 26 • Gen 2:18-24 and Ps 8 •  
Heb 1:1-4, 25:5-12 • **Mk 10:2-16**

**October 10 (What Must I Do?):** Job 23:1-9, 16-17 and Ps 22:1-15 • Amos 5:6-7,  
10-15 and Ps 90:12-17 • Heb 4:12-16 • **Mk 10:17-31**

**October 17 (Great Service):** Job 38:1-7, (34-41) and Ps 104:1-9, 24, 35c •  
Isa 53:4-12 and Ps 91:9-16 • Heb 5:1-10 • **Mk 10:35-45**

**October 24 (Take Heart):** Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and Ps 34:1-8, (19-22) •  
Jer 31:7-9 and Ps 126 • Heb 7:23-28 • **Mk 10:46-52**

**October 31 (Wherever You Go):** Ruth 1:1-18 and Ps 146 •  
Deut 6:1-9 and Ps 119:1-8 • Heb 9:11-14 • Mk 12:28-34