

NU‘UANU CALLER

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



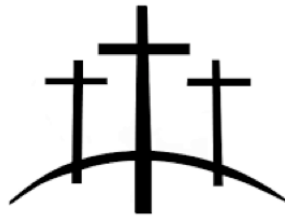
VOL. 65, NO. 4

APRIL 2022



Three Crosses

By Pastor Jeannie Thompson



Every year at this time, my mind and my computer screen tend to fill up with hymns and artwork portraying the sights and sounds of Holy Week as I plan the services for which we will gather. One of the reoccurring images is that of the three crosses.

All of us are familiar with the one cross on which Christ died. I find myself wondering how often we remember the other two crosses. They are

mentioned in all four of the Gospels. Jesus was crucified with two bandits, one on either side of him.

In Matthew and Luke's recounting of the crucifixion, the bandits speak to Jesus, although Luke is the only one who tells us what they said. One taunts him like the others—the Roman soldiers and the priests, scribes, and elders. The other, however, recognizes Jesus for who he is and asks that Jesus remember him when he enters his kingdom.

The thing that always amazes me about the story of Christ is his humanity. He never stops being fully human even while he is fully divine. He was born of Mary, which is to say, he came into the world the way all infants do. He walked the dusty roads of Palestine. Joined with all sorts of people in all sorts of places, often sharing a meal with them. He also got tired and withdrew to quiet places to rest and pray—at least he tried to. It seems the crowds always managed to find him. All of these stories depict very human needs and responses.

One of my favorite stories (I have a lot of them) is the one when he and the disciples are crossing the Sea of Galilee and a storm comes up nearly swamping the boat. The disciples are terrified. However, when they look for Jesus, they find he has fallen asleep...on a cushion. I am always glad when I read Luke's telling of this story. I like that he got some sleep and that he got what sounds like the only cushion on the boat!

One of the last and most moving stories of Jesus is, of course, the story of Jesus' last meal with the disciples. He gathers them in the upper room. There may have been other foods they shared that evening—fish, cheese, perhaps fruit—but the only food that is specifically mentioned is bread and wine. These are the two things all people—the great and the humble—would have had.

(cont'd on page 3 - Crosses)

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 • Email: 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



Lent and Easter Services

April 10 Palm/Passion Sunday Service, 9 a.m.

April 14 Maundy Thursday Service, 5 p.m.
Soup Supper @ Community Church

April 15 Good Friday Service, 6 p.m.
With Community Church & UCC Judd Street
Location: Nu'uanu Congregational Church
Tenebrae Service

April 17 Easter Festival Service, 9 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt for the children after worship

Maundy Thursday:

Jook @ Community Church



On April 14, we have been invited to observe Maundy Thursday with the members at Community Church of Honolulu (2345 Nu'uanu Avenue) at 5:00 P.M.

Together we will enjoy a homemade jook soup for supper as we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples.

Also in attendance will be members from United Church of Christ, Judd Street.

Each church's pastor will take part in leading our time together. Community Church's Pastor Gabriel also wants us all to know that the folks at Community Church have promised to have a big variety of toppings for the jook!

Please mark your calendar and join us: Thursday, April 14, at 5:00 P.M.

Sanctuary Repairs Starting on April 19, 2022

The Sanctuary Repairs are finally starting. After many rounds with Terminix's insurance company and their Authorized Contractor, Makainai Construction, the repairs to the sanctuary are finally starting. After going through the long process, the building permit was issued in early February 2022. With in-person worship starting on March 6, 2022, Makainai Construction decided to hold off starting work until after Easter.

The work will start on April 19, 2022 and will continue until the end of May 2022, pending any unforeseen conditions and inclement weather. The scope of work is replacing the termite eaten fascia, T&G decking, and painting. For safety reasons, the Sanctuary will not be accessible during the repair work.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Townhall Meeting!

From Your Moderator, Laurie Hamano

Dear Members and Friends of NCC,

There is so much happening that we can't tell you about all of it in a note in the Caller. So we scheduled our next Town Hall meeting on April 24, 2022 right after church service. So please be there so you can hear what is happening and be a part of the exciting happenings 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.)

Crosses

Cont'd from page 1

In that last supper, Jesus raised these humble, common things and made them sacred. The most ordinary of things became a window through which we are able to see him and experience his presence. Through the act of taking nourishment, we and are drawn close to Christ. Indeed, our bodies become one with his.

Finally, in the last moments of his earthly life, he is not spirited away from or out of his humanity. Instead, he draws his last breath beside two other human beings. He suffers the same way they do. He hears the cynicism and scorn of the one, and he witnesses the hope and the faith of the other. He even comes to know their feelings of loss and sorrow, the spiritual anguish that is also a part of human life. All of who we are is also all of who Jesus was, and is, too. There is not one emotion we have that he did not also experience.

During Lent, and especially during Holy Week, April 10 through April 17, we will listen again to the stories of blessing and sacredness that was Jesus' human life. We will marvel at the generosity of Christ. We will bear witness to the love of God that would not allow the tomb to have the last word about Jesus' life...nor ours, but brought Jesus back out into the blessed light of a new day so that we—all human beings—may also be guided to the way to new life, and life everlasting.

I look forward to celebrating Christ's resurrection with you. Happy Easter!

Grace and Peace,
Jeannie

Altar Flowers



We have the altar Flower sign up chart up when we worship on Sunday's If you Can't come to service and would like to sign up, please call or email Mairi in the church office.

The phone number is (808) 595-3935 and email is nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net.

The dates available in April is the following:

- April 24

The dates available for May are the following:

- May 1
- May 15
- May 29

If you need any future dates past May, please call the office and I will let you know what is available.

Emergency Contact Form

Included in this month's Caller is an emergency contact form that we are asking our worship attendees to complete. The information provided will only be used in case of an emergency while you are on the church campus. The form asks for at least one emergency contact, there is space to add a second if you'd like to have more than one person contacted.

Completion of the form is optional but would be helpful in the case of an emergency. Please leave your completed form in the box near the entrance to the sanctuary or send it to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Yamashiro.

Happy Easter





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, Ethel Yamaguchi.

Reminder: Names are added or deleted in the Prayer Corner by individuals, family members or friends. 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 God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life. John 3:16

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

Dear God, we rejoice in the good news of Jesus resurrection and thank you for your most precious gift of your son, our Savior. Help us to remember and follow his teachings. God of all creation, as we celebrate Earth Day later this month we thank you for the creation of our planet Earth. Help us to conscientiously do our part in protecting and saving our planet.

We pray for peace in Ukraine. Watch over and protect all who face danger and uncertainty from aggression and enable those who are providing aid. Guide world leaders as they work together to end the war in Ukraine. Amen



Special Gifts

Give thanks to God whose steadfast love endures forever!

Memorial Offering

Albert Matsumoto IMO Edith Matsumoto
Tazuko Miyashiro IMO Tasaku &
Roy Miyashiro
Dorothy Kusumoto IMO Alice Matsuwaki &
Mae Murabayashi

Birthday Offering

Fran Yano

Thanks Offering

Ululani Hirohata

**Nu‘uanu Congregational Church
Emergency Contact & Medical Form**

Please note that completing this form is optional. The information provided will only be used in case of an emergency.

Personal Information

Please print clearly:

Name _____

1. **In case of emergency**, notify _____

Relationship _____

Emergency Contact Phone(s) Home: (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

2. **(optional) In case of emergency**, notify _____

Relationship _____

Emergency Contact Phone(s) Home: (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Doctor's Name _____

Phone (____) _____

Office location _____
(ie Queen's, Kapiolani, Castle, Kaiser, etc.)

Health Information (optional)

Please check this box if you are on blood thinners.

List Allergies

List Any Medical Conditions

Signature _____

Date _____

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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.



Hawaii Foodbank

The collection date is the first
Sunday every month!

Recycling

By Wayne Kobayashi

Bring your items on
Sunday, Apr. 24

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.

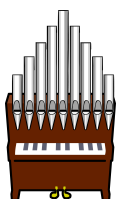


Easter Lily Sale



The Diaconate is selling potted
Asiatic lilies for Easter Sunday, April 17. After
the service, the lilies will be available for pick up. To
reserve a potted plant, please sign up with Mabel Suzuki
on the lanai on Apr. 3rd and 10th. The cost is \$12 each.

Thank You!



Thanks to everyone who came to our Bach birthday
concert, especially our friends from Nu‘uanu Congregational
Church. In case you missed it, a video of the concert is
available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/e7CGVRQMqoY>

Katherine Crosier and Jieun Kim Newland, organists

Mask Mandate



The State's mask mandate ended on March 25
however, it is strongly recommended that mask wearing
continue when attending worship service, and a must for
those who are planning to sing.

The main reason is even if you are vaccinated and boosted,
you can still get COVID. With the new Omicron BA.2 variant that is even
more contagious, the risk for people who are 65+ years of age and those
with underlying health conditions is extremely high. Regarding singing,
singing is like spraying a swath of saliva in the air. While that is kind of
graphic, that's the reason for masking when singing. While we understand
it is a choice, we also need to remember that we gather as a community to
worship on Sundays and as a community of believers, it is our
responsibility to take care of our sisters and brothers who are worshipping
with us. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Wear a mask!

Cover your nose and mouth



Wait 6 feet apart!

Avoid close contact



Wash your hands!
Or use hand sanitizer





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April 2022

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

Lectionary Readings for April

April 3 (Something New): Isa 43:16-21 • Ps 126 • Phil 3:4b-14 • Jn 12:1-8

April 10 (Into Jerusalem): (*Liturgy of the Palms*) Ps 118:1-2, 19-29 • **Luke 19:29-40**
(*Liturgy of the Passion*) Isa 50:4-9a • Ps 31:9-16 • Phil 2:5-11 • Luke 22:14-23:56 **or**
Luke 23:1-49

April 17 (Resurrection Joy): Acts 10:34-43 **or** Isa 65:17-25 • Ps 118:1-2, 14-24 • 1 Cor 15:19-26
or Acts 10:34-43 • **Jn 20:1-18 or** Luke 24:1-12

April 24 (Resurrection Witness): Acts 5:27-32 • Ps 118:14-29 **or** Ps 150 • Rev 1:4-8 •
Jn 20:19-31