



NCC News

May 24, 2015



A Weekly Newsletter of Nuʻuanu Congregational Church

Welcome and Aloha Interns!

Today is the start of another exciting summer with our College Summer Interns and the end of our two hard-working Youth Ministry Interns. Let us warmly welcome **Thomas Gomes, Jordan Kakugawa, Henry Montiel, and Sarah Weible**; and say mahalo to **Alex Montiel and Kristen Young** at the Aloha/Mahalo luncheon right after the morning worship in Kosasa Hall. All are invited!

Thomas Gomes is a freshmen at George Fox University and is majoring in Business Management and Marketing. Some of Thomas' hobbies include being active, playing sports, going to the beach, and playing music. Thomas hopes to learn how to be a role model to people of all ages, as well as to learn how to plan and conduct church events. He is most looking forward to VBS on Lana'i.

Jordan Kakugawa is a sophomore at George Fox University and is majoring in Engineering. He is passionate about reading, teaching tennis to others, and spending quality time with family and friends. Jordan hopes that through the internship he will become a better leader, a more willing servant of God, and gain experience in serving and helping others.

Henry Montiel is a freshman at Fresno City College and has yet to declare a major. Henry enjoys playing the guitar and finds immense joy in teaching both girls and boys high school volleyball. Through the internship, Henry hopes to learn how to become a strong spiritual leader, as well as deepen his faith.

Sarah Weible is a sophomore at UH Manoa and is majoring in Education with a concentration in Science. Sarah is passionate about taking care of the beauty of God's earth and deeply cares about the health of the ocean environments. During the internship, Sarah hopes to grow closer to God and learn ways to teach about God's beauty, as well as how God is displayed through nature. She is also excited to learn how to communicate her passions and relate her passions to God.

Service of Remembrance - Monday, May 25



Our Service of Remembrance will be held **tomorrow** at 3:00 p.m. to coincide with the “National Moment of Silence,” a time to pay tribute to those men and women who sacrificed their lives for our country. It has also been the tradition of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church to remember and to give thanks to God for our loved ones who have gone from this life to life eternal.

Faith-Full Feast - May 31-July 5, 10:30-12:30

Beginning **next Sunday, May 31, through July 5**, the entire congregation is invited to partake in the enrichment activities designed to deepen our relationship with God and with each other.

Keiki (ages 4-12) will gather in the sanctuary for “Godly Play,” **Youth** (grades 6-12) will gather in the Youth Lounge (room 203) with the College Summer Interns and engage in Old Testament biblical stories, and **Adults** (no age limit!) will gather in room 206 with the Rev. Dwight Morita for a time of “Experiencing the Bible Again for the First Time.” Following the learning time, all will gather in Kosasa Hall at 11:30 for a “feast” (lunch) and closing time together. Chancel Choir members are invited to join in the feast after their faith-full choir rehearsal. We invite you to a time of feasting, as we are all called to be faith-full people of God!

Guest Preacher/Musician on June 7

On Sunday, **June 7**, the Sunday before Kamehameha Day, we will worship God as we celebrate what is sacred and holy expressed through the gift of Hawai‘i. **Kenneth Makuakane**, Associate Conference Minister of the Hawai‘i Conference United Church of Christ, is the Papa Makua or head minister of the Association of Hawaiian Evangelical Churches and a Commissioned Minister for Church Vitality of Hawai‘i Conference, UCC. He will lead us in worship as we praise God, giving thanks to God for the gifts that come from Hawai‘i. Kenneth is an internationally renown artist and successful innovator of producing and recording Hawaiian music. He has over one hundred thirty albums to his producing credits, been involved with more than 350 album projects and has received a total of fourteen (14) Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards. On June 8, 2006, Kenneth was inducted into the Kamehameha Schools Alumni Gallery Hall of Fame. On May 3, 2015 Kenneth was inducted into the Hawai‘i Academy of Recording Arts Hall of Fame as its Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Come and join us for worship.

Needed

The Summer Program is looking for a pseudo (fake) pearl, 1/2”-3/4” in diameter. If anyone has one, please see **Velma Akinaka**. Mahalo.

Strengthen the Church

Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through the Strengthen the Church special UCC offering, they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be “church” in new ways, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that “God is still speaking.” Your offerings are directed to your church’s Conference, Local Church Ministries, and The Stillspeaking Ministry for these purposes. The Strengthen the Church offering will be collected **today**. Checks may be written to NCC with Strengthen the Church on the memo line. An envelope may be found in the pew racks for your convenience.

Nepal Earthquake Relief

For many Nepalese families affected by the April 25 earthquake, the situation has just become worse. On May 12, a second quake struck only 60 miles from the epicenter of the first, causing dozens of deaths and more destruction. United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries continues to partner with the ACT Alliance, responding and working hard to help stabilize the situation through provisions of food, water, medicine and temporary shelter. UCC Disaster Ministries requests financial contributions to the International Emergency Relief fund to support these essential on-the-ground efforts. You may write your check to NCC and designate your gift by noting it for the Nepal Earthquake Relief. Please give generously.

PowerPoint Operators Needed

The Diaconate is looking to expand its pool of Sunday PowerPoint operators. If you are interested in serving God in this capacity, see **Lori Takeyama-Goshi or Mabel Suzuki**.

Access Statement

(Revised 8/2/14 by the Diaconate Board)

As stated in our Vision Statement, “Nu‘uanu Congregational Church is a diverse, open congregation of faithful Christians who seek to affirm all persons as children of God.” Furthermore, our Policy on Non-discrimination clearly states that “we do not discriminate against any person, group or organization in hiring, promotion, membership, appointment, use of facility, provision of services on the basis of race, ethnicity, skin color, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, faith, nationality, marital status, or disability.”

As a part of living out our vision and commitment to an inclusive and diverse community, following accommodations are in place for worship:

- To provide communication access to worship, large print worship bulletins, assistive listening devices, Japanese Bibles and Japanese hymnals are available from the ushers.
- Members needing transportation to worship are invited to contact Ohana Ministry for access to taxi service.
- Those traveling by Handivan are requested to let the Church Office know at least 2 days in advance so that members of the Diaconate might meet the van on Sunday mornings.

Due to the age and construction of the buildings, not all areas are easily accessible to persons with mobility issues. Nu‘uanu Congregational Church will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities within these limitations.

For requesting other accommodations, please contact the Church Office.