



# *NCC News*

## **August 23, 2015**



*A Weekly Newsletter of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church*

### **Guest Preacher**

We welcome **Ms. Frances Wong** as our guest preacher this morning. Frances was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Honolulu. She retired from a full-time position as a circuit court judge in 2009, and is currently working as a per diem (part-time) judge in the Family Court at Kapolei. Frances graduated from the Pacific School of Religion in 2014 with a Masters of Divinity. The Oahu Association of the Hawai‘i Conference UCC has been determined that Frances is eligible for ordination pending a call. She is a member of Church of the Crossroads.

### **Staff Vacation**

**Pastor Mary** is on vacation from **August 21 to September 9, 2015**. For pastoral emergencies, contact **Rev. Howard Yoshida**. He may be reached at 285-2102 (cell.) or 487-8795 (home).

### **Calling all Keiki!**

Our K-8 Sunday School curriculum will begin with Feasting on the Word, a lectionary-based curriculum that we have been using for the past several years. Then beginning with Advent, we will be using “Godly Play,” a Montessori-based program which we experienced this summer. Throughout the year, we will use activities from both curricula to engage the keiki in helping them to describe their experiences of God.

We will follow a schedule similar to last year: First Sunday of the month is communion, so K-8 students will go to Sunday School first and then the students will be called to the Sanctuary for communion. On the rest of the Sundays, the K-8 students will go to church first, have a Children’s Message and then be excused to attend Sunday School, unless otherwise directed. Let’s make this a great year of learning and growing!

—Velma Akinaka

### **We Need Coupons!**

If you happen to come across any coupons for Ben Franklin Crafts Hawaii, we would greatly appreciate it if you'd cut them out and bring them to church for the youth's photo card project. You may turn them in to **Sarah** or **Kristen**. Thank you!

—Kristen Young

## Lectionary Bible Study

The Wednesday evening Lectionary Bible Study will resume, beginning **September 9** at 6 p.m. in the choir room. **Dwight Morita** and others will lead the study. A light supper will be offered at 5:30 p.m. on the lanai.

## Office Help

Paula will be taking a well-needed vacation next month - **September 19 - October 6**. If you are able to help watch the office, please sign up for a time slot. Hours are 8 a.m.-12 p.m. and 12-4 p.m. Your help is greatly appreciated! Mahalo in advance!  
—Paula Yamamoto

## Give Aloha Program - 78424 (NCC's code)

It that time of year, again! Once again, we will be participating in Foodland's Give Aloha Program for the **entire month of September**. If you are planning on giving a contribution (pledge, offering, special gift) to NCC, consider giving it through the Give Aloha Program. Foodland and Western Union Foundation will match a portion of any contribution made to NCC up to \$249 per Maika'i card. Only contributions made with a Maika'i card will receive a matching gift.

Sign up for a Maika'i card (free) at the Customer Service desk at any Foodland or Sack 'n Save store. All you need is a phone number (land line or cell phone). If you have any questions about this wonderful program, see **Paula Yamamoto**. And please turn in your receipt with your name printed on it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Also, let us know if your contribution is your monthly pledge or a special gift. Your promptness will insure that your giving statement is properly credited. Mahalo!  
—Paula Yamamoto

## Mid-Year Giving Statement

Help the church save postage by picking up your mid-year giving statement from **Howard Mau**. Please check your statement carefully, and if there are any discrepancies, please notify Howard. We thank you for your contributions and want to make sure you are credited properly. Mahalo.

## Obata Fund Applications

The deadline for the 2016 Obata Fund allocations is **October 31, 2015**. Applications may be downloaded from the Internet or picked up at the church office. They may be sent to the church office or to dothosoda@outlook.com. There is approximately \$20,000 available for distribution. If there are questions, please ask committee members: Dot Hosoda, Randy Obata or Darryl Itano.  
—Dot Hosoda

## **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.