

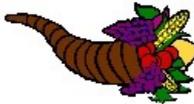


# NCC News

## November 20, 2016



*A Weekly Newsletter of Nu'uaniu Congregational Church*



# Happy Thanksgiving

## **Nu'uaniu Valley Interfaith Thanksgiving Service - November 22**

Join us at the annual Nu'uaniu Valley Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 22**. It will be held right next door to us at SGI (Soka Gakkai International). Our youth will be participating with other youth from various faith communities in Nu'uaniu. The theme of this year's service is "Living the Spirit of Aloha." All faith groups have been asked to bring "finger foods" to share with one another following the service.



## **Sukkah**

The sukkah ("booth" or tabernacle") is reminiscent of the fragile dwellings the Israelites lived in during the 40 years they wandered in the desert after they were freed from slavery in Egypt. It is also a reminder of God's provision to the Israelites during that time.

Today, we are reminded of God's provision in our lives. We invite you to place your food items in the sukkah during the hymn of praise. The collected food will be donated to the River of Life Mission. With gratitude, let us share our abundance with others!

## **Advent Preparation - Friday, Nov. 25**

The Diaconate needs your help **this Friday, November 25 at 8:30 a.m.**, in preparing the sanctuary for the "*Hanging of the Greens*" Service (Nov. 27). Help is needed to prepare the wreaths; hang the wreaths, garlands and banners; and set up the Christmas tree. See **Linda Kim** or **Stan Chong**, if you have any questions.

## **Floral Offering**

Honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion with a floral offering! Reserve your Sunday on the Flower Chart found on the Fellowship Lanai or call the church office at 595-3935.



## Chutney, Jams, and Washi Bead Jewelry - Today!

Stock up on **Donald and June Ikeda's** onolicious chutney, jams, and biscotti for the holiday season! You may find them on sale on the Fellowship Lanai! Also available are beautiful washi bead jewelry that will make great Christmas gifts! All proceeds will benefit our youth program. Thank you, Donald and June, for your generous support!

## Family Promise - Dec. 4-11

Much help is needed with this important ministry. If you are able to help prepare a dinner, showing our support church around our kitchen, sleeping over as a host, setting up/cleaning up the classrooms, or doing laundry, see **Judy Keith** (overall coordinator), **George Honjiyo** (overnight hosts), **Clifford Lum** (classroom set up/clean up), or **Sybil Seto** (meals).

## Annual Reports Due - Dec. 11



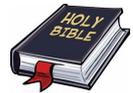
To all boards and committees, your annual reports are due by **December 11**. Email it to [nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:nccadmin@hawaiiantel.net) in Word format (Century, 12 font), if possible. Please try to keep your report within 2 pages, including any photos (prefer photos sent separately in jpeg format). Mahalo.

## 2016 Contributions

Just a reminder...in order for contributions to be credited for the 2016 tax year, they must be either mailed to the church with a USPS postmark not later than December 31, 2016 or received by the church office before 4:00 p.m., December 30, 2016. Contributions received after that will be credited to 2017.

## Adult Bible Study

The “**History of Christianity**” class led by Neal MacPherson on Sundays is on hiatus until **January 8, 2017**.



Pastor Neal continues to lead the **Wednesday night lectionary classes**, beginning with a light meal at 5:30 p.m. and class at 6:30 p.m. Please sign-up on the lanai after service for this class so that we will be able to plan the meals accordingly.

Carol Hamada

## December Refreshments

Have you been enjoying the yummy refreshments each Sunday following the morning worship service? **December** is an open month (not assigned to a group), so if you would like to help out on one of the Sundays in December, sign up on the refreshment table. Your help with preparing the tea, setting up, and cleaning up is much appreciated, too! Mahalo!

## Advent Box

We have many opportunities to help our community over the next six weeks. Today, we bring food offerings to our sukkah to be shared with the River of Life Mission. We enter the season of Advent in one week and will begin collecting items to be shared with Family Promise, River of Life, and the UCC Transition House. Consider a new family tradition. In addition to the Advent wreath with candles to be lit every Sunday, and an Advent calendar to mark the days until Christmas, consider having an Advent box, where an item can be placed each day, to be shared under our tree. We can be a blessing to others by our generosity.

—Judy Keith

## White Christmas

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and before we know it, it will be Advent. We are so very fortunate. While we may not have everything we want, chances are we have all that we need and then some. But not everyone in our community is this fortunate. The Missions Committee will continue the "White Christmas" tradition of collecting items each Sunday during Advent to be shared with Family Promise, River of Life Mission and the UCC Transition House. Please start putting aside things to be donated. Most requested items include underwear for men and women and sanitary supplies. More information will be shared as Advent approaches. Thank you for your ongoing support of the White Christmas Program.



—Missions Committee

## Nichigobu News

**Katsuko Nomi**, long time supporter of Nichigobu (Japanese speaking) Congregation, has donated 51 knitted caps and a lap blanket for residents of Avalon Care Home on Kamehameha IV Road. The caps and blanket were delivered by **Dorothy Kusumoto** on October 30, 2016. Donations of 4-ply yarn of any color may be brought on Sundays to the old library, adjacent to the lanai. For more info, call Dorothy at 230-7031.

The annual Christmas buffet lunch of the Nichigobu Support Group is 11 a.m. Thursday, **December 1** at Maple Gardens on Isenberg Street. Carpool recommended due to limited parking. Total \$15 per person, tax and tip included. Signup before November 23 with **June Nishimura** at 888-2411 or **Dorothy Kusumoto**, 230-7031.

## Outdoor Lanai Furniture Needed

The second floor lanai furniture has been used extensively after many long years and direly needs replacement. If anyone has any used ones that are still in good condition (or even new ones) and would like to donate it to the church, they will be put to good use and much appreciated. Please contact anyone on the Board of Trustees. Mahalo!

—Board of Trustees

## Turn in Give Aloha Receipts

We have about 7 outstanding receipts. Remember, Foodland does not give us the names of donors. Please turn in your Foodland receipt right away, so we may credit your giving statement properly. You may place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Mahalo for your support!



—Paula Yamamoto

## 2017 Stewardship Pledges - “Go and do the same.” Luke 10:37

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card for 2017, please place it in the Sunday offering plate or mail it to the church office. If you need another one, please see an usher. Through the ministries at NCC, let us share our love with the world in gratitude for all that God has bestowed on us.



## **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.