



NCC News

September 24, 2017



A Weekly Newsletter of Nu'uanu Congregational Church



Worship Time - 9:00 a.m. starting October 1

At last night's Council meeting, the Council was split almost evenly about whether or not to leave the worship time at 9:30. After much discussion, the Council voted to have **worship at 9:00 a.m. beginning October 1.**

Welcome Back!

We officially welcome **The Rev. Dr. David and Sandra Hirano** into the NCC ohana. The Hirano's were received into membership in absentia on June 25, 2017. They reside in Thomasville, North Carolina, but David will start his tenth interim at Pearl City Community Church on October 1. David served as our senior pastor from 1974 to 1987. Since then, he served as senior pastor at Christ Church of Chicago, Conference Minister of the Connecticut Conference UCC, Executive Vice President of United Church Board for World Ministry, and upon retirement, Interim Minister of many churches. Sandy served as our bookkeeper from 2005 to 2015. We're glad to have you back in our ohana!

Give Aloha - Month of September - NCC's Code: 78424

Just six more days to participate in Foodland's Give Aloha Program! Foodland and their partner, Western Union, will match a portion of any contribution made to NCC through the store. At any Foodland or Sack n' Save store, you may make a contribution to NCC up to \$249 per Maika'i card. Foodland does not provide us with the names of donors, so please place your receipt in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Be sure the receipt has your name, date, and type of giving (pledge, special offering), so we may credit your giving account properly.

All contributions and matching grants will be returned to NCC in October. Be good stewards and help us raise money for our ministries. The more you give through this program, the more Foodland and Western Union will give back to the community....and to our church! Mahalo for participating!



Nursery School Volunteers Needed

The Board of Christian Nurture is asking for volunteers to help out in the nursery on Sunday mornings during the 9:00 am service. Two volunteers are needed each Sunday from October 2017 to August 2018. Volunteers are asked to sign-up for four Sundays a year which need not be consecutive Sundays. One of the volunteers is asked to teach a short kindergarten level Bible lesson which will be provided. If you can help out please sign-up with **Carol Hamada or Josie Ing**.

UCC Emergency Aid Appeal - Hurricanes Harvey and Irma



The United Church of Christ has launched an emergency appeal to help with long term recovery following Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Hurricane Irma, which killed 37 people in the Caribbean and at least 22 people across three states, has left millions without power and inflicted catastrophic damage. Please continue to pray for all who have been affected by these disasters, as well as for all who are assisting with the relief and recovery efforts.

In times like this and through our generous gifts we show not only our care for one another, but also the healing and helping hand of God who is *“our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”* (Psalm 46:1). Join in the response to help by making a contribution. Checks may be written to Nu‘uanu Congregational Church with “Hurricane Relief” on the memo line. Thank you for your caring and compassion.

Are You Interested In Learning Tai Chi?

The tai chi group which meets every Monday from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in Kibo Kan is looking for anyone interested in joining us. You do not have to already know tai chi (folks are at different levels). Tai Chi has many health benefits, and we feel that tai chi at NCC would be a great service to the community. There is no charge. Anyone interested or have questions, may talk to **Barbara Mau or Paula Yamamoto**.



Office Help Needed



Paula will be on vacation **October 6 through October 23**. If you are able to volunteer in the office, please see her. Mahalo to those who have already signed up. Your help is appreciated!

Pastor's Vacation

From **September 4 until September 26**, **Neal** will be on vacation. In his absence, **Rev. Wally Ryan Kuroiwa**, our former pastor, will be preaching, leading the Wednesday evening Lectionary Study, and offering pastoral assistance if needed.

Lectionary Bible Study

The Wednesday evening Lectionary Bible Study begins with a simple supper at 5:30 p.m. on the Fellowship lanai. Following supper, participants gather to study the scripture readings for each forthcoming Sunday. All are welcome.

“Beside Still Waters” - Benefit Dinner

The UCC Transition House, a safe house for women and their children who are survivors of domestic violence, is having their annual fundraising function.

Date/Time: **Thursday October 19, 2017**; 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Central Union Church- Parish Hall

Cost: \$45.00/person (\$20.00 tax deductible}. Make checks payable to UCC Transition House. Deadline for purchase October 2, 2017.

Local entertainment, country store and silent auction. Homemade treats and handcraft donations are welcome for sale. Contact: **Joyce Uyehara** for tickets and donations. Mahalo.

New Beginnings Prayers

VERSE OF THE WEEK

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.”

John 15:4-5

MONDAY:

Father, thank You for bringing us together as “branches of Your vine”. Thank You that You desire for us to be in partnership with You as we move forward with the New Beginnings process. Thank You that with Your leading, we WILL see much fruit.

TUESDAY:

Even as we partner with God, ask Him to bind us together as individuals, as a church, and as a community to collaborate with one another with willing and open hearts and minds.

WEDNESDAY:

Father, You have said that “Apart from Me you can do nothing.” But You have also said in Luke 1:37 “For nothing will be impossible with God”. Encourage our hearts with that truth as we move forward together. Remind us that You WANT us to “bear much fruit” in our church and in our community.

THURSDAY:

As the Home Group Leaders work together to consolidate their reports to bring to the congregation, ask God to give them wisdom, insight, and vision for the future of NCC with a spirit of collaboration and unity.

FRIDAY:

Ask God to create in each of us a hunger to grow in our love for Him. Ask Him to teach us to listen to His voice as He calls us to abide in Him...in our lives as individuals and as a church.

SATURDAY:

Father, after years of serving You at NCC, we have become weary. But because we are the branches of Your vine, You have shown us that there is more work to be done. It can only be done with Your help and strength. And so we thank You for Your promise of Isaiah 40:31... “But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”