



NCC News October 1, 2017



A Weekly Newsletter of Nu'uanu Congregational Church



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

The Church Council voted to have **worship at 9:00 a.m. beginning today**. Please inform your family and friends of this change back to the regular worship time.

Blessing of the Animals

Today, being the Sunday closest to the birthday of St Francis, known as the patron saint of animals, we will have a special blessing for our own pet animals following the service. The blessing will take place near the statue of St. Francis outside the sanctuary. You are invited to bring your pets to the service so that they can be blessed along with you, their caregivers.

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**.

Mahalo!

A big Mahalo to **Nelson Fujinaga, Le Huynh, Wayne Kobayashi, Fred Takara, and Mel Uyehara** for helping to move things big and small off the ground and back in its place, so the carpets in the sanctuary, choir room, and office complex could be cleaned by Nisei Maintenance. It was a big job, and your time, effort, and muscles are greatly appreciated!

Neighbors in Need (NIN) Offering

This morning, we will receive the *Neighbors in Need* special mission offering of the UCC. *Neighbors in Need* supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. *Neighbors in Need* grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Checks may be written to NCC with NIN on the memo line.

Obata Fund Requests

The deadline for this year's Obata Endowment Fund requests is **October 31, 2017**. Please refer to the Obata Endowment Fund information and application on the NCC website: www.nuuanu.org.

Adult Education - "Church at a Crossroads"

Beginning Sunday, **October 22**, and continuing through the Sundays in November, Neal will lead six sessions in a discussion of his book, published in 2008, called "*Church at a Crossroads: Being the Church after Christendom*."

"*Church at a Crossroads*" reflects the life of Church of the Crossroads during the twenty years Neal was the pastor of the church. Although the book is about Church of the Crossroads, it is intended to foster discussion and reflection in any congregational setting. In leading these sessions, Neal will encourage participants to reflect upon the history, the present life and the ministry and mission of Nu'uano Congregational Church.

Books may be ordered by signing your name to a sign-up sheet, which will be available on Sunday mornings or at the office. The deadline for book orders will be Sunday, October 15, and the cost will be around \$17.00.

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.

15th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza

Family Promise of Hawai'i will hold its 15th Annual Chocolate Extravaganza on Saturday, **October 7**, 6:30 - 9 p.m., at Emmanuel Episcopal Church (780 Keolu Drive, Kailua). A portion of the proceeds will help homeless families with children transition to sustainable independence.

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**.



“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 Ueyhara** for tickets and donations. Mahalo.

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 greatly appreciated! Also, all worship bulletins will be pre-formatted for this time period, so if you have an article for the NCC News, please submit it by **this Wednesday morning**. Paula's last work day is Thursday. She will return to her desk on October 24. Mahalo.

Give Aloha

Thank you to all who participated in Foodland's Give Aloha program. Please turn in your receipts as soon as possible, so we can verify the list of donors. Make sure your name, date of giving, and purpose of giving are on the receipt, so we may properly credit your giving statement. Mahalo!

New Beginnings Prayers

Verse of the Week

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:2

MONDAY:

Oh Lord, You told us in Romans 12:15 that we are to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep. Thank you for the loving family of NCC who are willing and able to walk alongside of those who are hurting, as well as to celebrate life’s milestones with one another.

TUESDAY:

As LaDonna Chung so courageously shared about her concerns for her 15 year old daughter, Stephanie, the church family embraced her with love. LaDonna asked that we continue to pray for her as she seeks for God’s way of how to reach out to her precious daughter. Together, let us ask God for His wisdom for LaDonna, as well as a hedge of love around Stephanie.

WEDNESDAY:

Be praying for all of the parents of young children and teens in our church family. Ask God to give them extra measures of wisdom, patience, strength, and love. Thank God for the new little ones He has brought into our church, and ask Him to help us as a church family to nurture and love them as they grow.

THURSDAY:

Matthew 19:14 says: *“Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.”* The nursery program at NCC has a great need for the loving hearts and hands of those who would be willing to volunteer their help a few times a year. Ask God to place that willingness on the hearts of many, so that our children will be blessed and cared for as they learn about Jesus.

FRIDAY:

Even as we pray for our families with children at NCC, there are others who have become the caregivers of their loved ones. Ask God to remind us to pray for them as well. Ask Him to show us how to support them in tangible ways through meals, visits, calls, cards and notes of encouragement to let them know they are not forgotten or alone in their caregiving...they have a church family that they can lean on.

SATURDAY:

Lord, You have given us much to pray about this week, and yet what a privilege it is to bring our requests before You. Thank you that You DO hear and answer! Thank you for Your unending faithfulness as you draw us together in love and unity as we bear one another’s burdens.