



United Japanese Christian Church



136 N. Villa Avenue, Clovis, CA 93612
559-322-0701

The Focal Point December 2023



Pastors

Rev. Akiko Miyake-Stoner

Pastor Ivana Heang

Church Secretary

Stephanie Sumi

Clerical Specialist

Kathie Sakamoto

Financial Recorder

Yukiko Hijioka

Media Specialist

Nathan Nakamura

Office Hours

Mon-Thu 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

CLOSED ON FRIDAY

REV. AKIKO'S DAY OFF—TUESDAY

PASTOR IVANA'S DAY OFF—FRIDAY

NATHAN NAKAMURA'S DAY OFF—MONDAY

Email: info@ujcclife.com

Website: www.ujcclife.com

Worship Schedule

In-person Worship: 10:30 am

Online Worship at www.ujcclife.com

Pastor's Page

Greetings UJCC Family and Friends!

There is a man from history whom you have heard of before. See if you can guess who it is?

He was a pastor and bishop long ago in a Greek city in Asia Minor called Myra.

He was known as the Wonderworker because there are many miracles attributed to him.

He forever will be remembered for his generosity to the poor and the lowly.

He is known for his aggressive intervention at one of the biggest church meetings in history.

Last clue: Though he was from an area that is now modern Turkey, he is often depicted as being from somewhere much colder.

Give up?

It is Saint Nicholas!

Unlike the modern secularized myth of Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas of Myra is a real historical figure. His generosity to the poor, widow, and the fatherless is legendary. He is, in fact, the inspiration behind the myth.

Saint Nicholas Day or better known as Feast of Saint Nicholas is celebrated on December 5th or 6th in Western countries, and on December 19th in Eastern countries. In order that we would be spurred on in good works towards our neighbors and in faith toward God, I want to share a story with you about this venerated pastor.

The story goes that during discussions and debates about the meaning of scripture concerning the divinity of Jesus, Saint Nicholas got upset. The teaching of the Arians made Jesus to be less than he really is and dishonored him. Saint Nicholas lost his temper and slapped "a certain Arian" across the face!

Saint Nicholas believed in God's Word and took its teachings so seriously that an attack against the teaching of Scripture were not a laughing matter to him. Whether he should have struck this man or not is a debate for another day. The very least we can learn from this story is that Saint Nicholas had a passion for Scripture and fervently defended its teachings.

Some of the stories of Saint Nicholas do have a mythical element to them and there are historians who have called the veracity of the stories in doubt. Just how accurate are these stories? We can't really know.

That said, the stories live on and there is often a kernel of truth in these sorts of stories.

Why talk about Saint Nicholas? Why talk about the saints at all?

By remembering our brothers and sisters who have gone before us, we are reminded of a few things: 1) We aren't the first ones to read the Bible or face difficulties because we are Christians. 2) In the midst of hardships, the saint's faith in Jesus can encourage us in our faith in Jesus as we face similar hardships. 3) To encourage us to be generous in our good works toward our neighbor.

So many things are happening here at UJCC during the season of preparation and celebration. If you haven't signed up for our joint Fresno Circuit Family Craft & Movie night on December 1st from 6 pm, I highly encourage you to do so.

During the season of Advent our Advent Book Study: "Almost Christmas, A Wesleyan Advent Experience" meets on Monday evenings from 6:30 pm – 8 pm. You can find the book on Amazon or in eBook formats from your favorite online bookstore. All are welcome to join, even if you don't have a book for discussion and learning together. Our last session will end on Monday December 18th.

Please mark your calendars for December 3rd for our Hanging of the Greens after worship service along with a Potluck fundraiser for Ellen Inouye.

December 10th we will have our Choir Christmas Cantata during worship service and on the following Sunday (Dec. 17th) our Sunday School will have a Christmas production in place of worship service. I highly encourage you all to attend to show support for both these groups, who have been working hard this year to prepare for each event.

Our Blue Christmas will be on December 20th at 6:00 pm (also call the Longest Night) is a tradition during the Advent season marking the longest night of the year. On this day, we hold a service that specifically enables individuals to experience their grief, as well as express what they are feeling, so they can find a sense of calm and hope. We invite you to join us as we remember and honor those who have gone before us and recognize the loss and loneliness that can be felt during the holidays.

I know that this Christmas may not be like the traditional services we have had in the past pre-Covid. I also know that on Christmas Eve we will come together and celebrate the birth of a Christ Child. We will hear the stories of the baby born in a stable, we will sing songs of Angels singing and Shepherds watching over their flocks. We will find ways to be with our families even if it's via an electronic device. But what I do ask of you this season is if you can find a place once again in our heart for the joy of that Christ Child? And how we can serve that

Child lying in the manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes?

I pray that all of you find Joy in the season ahead!

Stay safe –

Stay healthy –

And stay in love with God!

Pastor Ivana Heang

Joys and Concerns

John 1:14 proclaims, “And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.” In this season of Advent, as we await the coming of the Christ Child, may we never forget he has come to live among us, in our hearts. In this spirit we pray for one another as we lift prayers for:

June Kishi

Aaron Smith

We pray for concerns in our church community...

- For families affected by suicide, including the Masadas; gratitude to Ed Lee and Michal Masada for sharing their story during worship on November 19: of losing Emilio, their dear son, and how God is holding them faithfully through their journey of grief;
- For all who are recuperating from surgery, including Leslie Shirakawa;
- For those who are going through a medically challenging time, including Vivian Morooka (Julie Moore’s friend), Pam (Carol Swezey’s friend), Bassem Saad’s father, Loretta Kato, and Crystal (Staci Lucio’s soul sister);
- For those with cancer, including Glenn Nakaguchi (and gratitude for his successful surgery), Kiyoko Nosker, and Emily Andersonn (Paul and Adrienne Kim’s former worship leader’s wife);

For those who grieve...

- For the family and friends of Caroline Kay Nakashima, Norma Uragami’s auntie, of Livingston, who passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 99 on October 18. Her life was remembered Nov. 18 at Livingston UMC;
- For the family and friends of Maggie Gutnick, who passed away in early November. She struggled with cancer for 11 years and was 35 years old with two small children. Maggie is a dear friend of our Maggie Pendleton;

- For the family and friends of Bill Tokumoto who passed away October 27 and whose life was remembered on November 16;
- For the loved ones of Ernestine Mendoza, who passed away October 27 after a sudden brain aneurysm while on a road trip. Ernestine is the mother of Art Mendoza, one of Julie Moore's best friends;

For our wider community and world...

- For all affected by last month's earthquake in Nepal;
- For peace in light of the war that began between Israel and Palestine: we pray collectively and individually for the situation and especially for the civilians caught in the crosshairs and for a just resolution of this decades-old conflict;
- For our siblings at Temple Beth Israel whose synagogue was vandalized last month;
- Places experiencing violence;
- For refugees all over the world;
- For our veterans and service personnel;
- For increased understanding and empathy among people with different perspectives;
- For all who experience trauma and fear due to war;
- For those who struggle with mental illness and for those who care for them;

For God's goodness in our community...

- Gratitude for the community's generous donations to the UJCC Thanksgiving offering;
- Joy for Marli, Debbie and Staci Lucio's granddaughter, who placed 3rd in the state of CA at the All-State Gymnastic Competition on November 17; she has now progressed to Level 4;
- Praises for Joyce Imai who had an EEG at the beginning of October after her episode with Transient Global Amnesia at the UJCC Luau in August. Her follow-up appointment on November 17 showed normal results and no further tests needed! She lifts gratitude for UJCC's prayers and support and for UJCC and the Ukelele group taking immediate action the night of the Luau;
- Thanksgiving and blessing for all beginning new jobs, including Debbie Lucio;
- Praises for the way we are connected as a church family: for Hannah Nii who says hello from Toronto and sends love to her UJCC family;

- Gratitude for veterans that are in our midst and veterans who have entered eternal life;
- Joy that we can worship together;
- Gratitude for Becky Messer, UJCC's former Music Minister, subbing for Joy Gaje, November 5;
- Praises for Paul, Roberta Barton's son, who turned 40 on November 5 and for the wonderful man he is;
- Gratitude for the gift that we are one Body of Christ and prayers that we will move through the Reconciling Process together in conversation and prayer; we remember that God is in control;
- Joy for John and Yolanda Cline who celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary October 29. What a blessing they are, together and as individuals;
- Gratitude for Community Care Team members Jill Damrose, Larry and Diane Honda, Stephanie Kaku, and Fay Nakaguchi for representing UJCC at the Trunk or Treats hosted by Sierra Vista Elementary and FIRM. Also gratitude for all who contributed candy for these events;
- Gratitude for the UJCC Trunk or Treat, for all who attended, and all who made it happen;
- Joy for the birth of Maddox Keiji, Ken and Kinuyo Bunden's 6th grandson, born in October;
- Thanksgiving for the recital on October 15, performed by Joy Gaje's students, and for their music that brings praise to God;
- Gratitude and blessings for Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, UCC general minister and president, installed October 20 in Lakewood, Ohio.

If we have made any errors, we apologize and would appreciate any corrections! If you have changes or additions to our prayer list, please let Akiko know (akiko@ujcclife.com or 559-322-0701).

COMMUNITY CARE TEAM

Community Care Team invites you to participate in the UJCC Angel Tree this Christmas season. The Tree will be up from Thanksgiving until the deadline Sunday, December 17.

Please sign-up on the Angel Tree sign-up sheet and take an angel from the Tree. (Or you can cut out your own angel.) Please wrap your gift(s) or put into gift bag(s) with an angel tag marked with B, G or both and the age group.

Thank you for your generous donation! Please call/text Fay 559-313-9325 if you have any questions.

Toban News

Thank you to everyone who submitted responses to the Toban survey last month. After considering your input, we would like to begin Fellowship Time after the Worship Service twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. This will begin **next month** (January 2024).

Below is the schedule:

Month (2024)	1 st Sunday	3 rd Sunday	Memorial Services
January, April, July, October	Toban A	Toban B	Toban A & B
February, May, August, November	Toban C	Toban D	Toban C & D
March, June, September, December	Toban E	Toban F	Toban E & F

Fellowship Time Duties: Toban Chairs will contact 3-5 families to bring items to share for Fellowship Time. Keep in mind that not everyone on a Toban will be called upon every assigned Sunday. The average number of Fellowship attendance is 75. The assigned Toban will be responsible for set-up and clean-up.

Food will be served on one table. Toban members are asked to take home their dirty dishes after Fellowship Time. Some of your suggestions were sandwiches, finger foods, fruit, cookies, cupcakes, crackers, senbei, etc. We strongly suggest that foods/snacks that are brought do not require utensils to eat. Please keep snacks simple.

Memorial Service Duties: When there is a Memorial Service at UJCC, the Funeral Committee will be in communication with Toban Chairs regarding reception needs, which may include set-up, serving, and clean-up. The Toban will not be responsible for bringing food for the reception.

Please contact Toban Coordinators if you have questions: Joyce Dessert (559) 960-4803 or jtdessert@yahoo.com, Joyce Imai (559) 970-0058 or jimai@att.net, or Moderator Arlene Eberly (559) 960-4044 or arleneeberly1953@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Joyce Dessert
Joyce Imai
Arlene Eberly

Community Care Team News

Trunk or Treat: The CCT participated in many Trunk or Treats this season. We had a great sign showing we represented UJCC and cheerfully gave candy to many Halloween costumed children. It was a fun event for parents, children and the CCT members.

We were at Sierra Vista Elementary on 10/25, then FIRM on 10/26 and then had two cars at the UJCC event on 10/29. Each event had special moments. The Sierra Vista event featured over 300 students that walked through with parents and teachers. It helped to introduce our church to that community. The FIRM event was part of a community event that included healthcare, food pantry and other giveaways for the needs of that community. We had flyers for our church Trunk or Treat at each event so we hoped that some of those we met found their way to UJCC on Sunday—where we had two cars! Stephanie Kaku had her car at all three events and Jill Damrose added her car to the UJCC event. Other CCT members included Larry and Diane Honda and Fay Nakaguchi. Fay provided all the decorations for the car. We are grateful to everyone who donated candy for this event.



Thanksgiving and Christmas at FIRM: Cookies were collected at church and delivered to FIRM by Larry and Fay for the FIRM's Thanksgiving Feast. The FIRM angel tree will be up right after Thanksgiving and we would like congregation members to pick up angels that instruct you on gifts that can be purchased for Christmas for the FIRM children. Gift donations will be due at church by Dec 17.

Earth Angel Mission Baby Project:

Ruri and Tina delivered knitted baby items and quilts to Community Hospital. The quilts will be used in the NICCU to cover incubators and can go home with the infants. The baby hats and booties go home with all infants.

Ruri and Hiromi are now making fleece blankets that fold into pillows for cancer treatment patients at Clovis Community Cancer Center. They will be giving 19 blankets to them in December.



Poverello House: The Community Care Team is organizing another service visit to Poverello House on Saturday, January 27, 2024. All are welcome to join us!

Here are the options to serve:

2pm-4:30pm	Kitchen and Meal Prep
3:30pm-5pm	Serve-a-Meal Dining and Hospitality

Those who have gone through online registration and orientation in the past can sign-up for either or both options online: <https://poverellohouse.org/get-involved/volunteer#volunteer-opportunities>

First-time volunteers will need to attend the orientation at 1pm, where registration also occurs.

Carpooling will be arranged depending on those needing orientation at 1pm, and those going directly to work.

Please contact Larry Honda by e-mail with your work option(s) or questions. He can be in touch with you regarding ride-sharing and other details. lhonda@comcast.net

GENEROSITY RECAP

The generosity sermon series, "Gratitude and Generosity", was one of the best we've had. Reverend Akiko's messages on the spirit of generosity and gratitude as skill and a choice were inspiring and informative. Our committee hopes that everyone found something to think and pray about in their own lives. How profound it was to know that grateful hearts are more generous hearts.

And how interesting the Gratitude Quiz was. We hope you learned something about yourself or were reassured that you are the person you thought you were! If you missed the first week and missed taking the quiz, I'm sure that the office can get a copy of it for you. Please ask Stephanie or Rev. Akiko.

And we would like to thank everyone who brought such delicious food for our all-church potluck. It reminded me of our old Toban days (but without the major clean up). If you are new to UJCC, our church has always been known for having a sumptuous spread of food after every service until COVID hit. Thankfully we are getting back to sharing this lovely tradition. And this proves that a giving and generous nature is alive and well at UJCC!

We want everyone, every day to stop and think about what you are grateful for and say a prayer of thanks to our Holy Maker.

The Stewardship (Generosity) Committee

UJCC Church Retreat 2024: **Saturday, January 20, 2024 @ UJCC; 9am-2pm**

"Following Jesus, Thriving In Community, Healing The World"

Please join us for our annual church retreat as we explore the new vision statement for our CA-NV United Methodist Conference: "Following Jesus, Thriving in Community, Healing The World." We will adopt it at UJCC as we think and explore together how to deepen and develop our walk with Christ and put some flesh on these three themes.

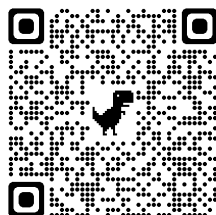
Lunch and babysitting will be provided.

Please sign up online at

<https://tinyurl.com/2uhc5xfx> or

by following the QR code.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend,
especially UJCC Board of Directors members!



Agape

Thank you to all who came out to our second reconciling process forum. As we continue to move through this process, we would like to remind everyone to continue praying throughout this process, and to continue listening and openly dialoguing with everyone.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the end goal of this process—a vote on whether or not UJCC should publicly adopt the statement found at this website: <https://rmnetwork.org/become-a-reconciling-ministry/> and to affiliate with the reconciling ministries network. The vote is not happening any time soon—we want to dialogue with everyone first about this.

Why pursue this? Because Jesus loves. With the coming of Jesus, God explicitly expressed that His chosen people are no longer just the Jews, but Gentiles as well. With the coming of Jesus, all are now able to know the love of God, accept Jesus, and be saved. By publicly adopting the statement, we are breaking down the barriers for people to know and worship God. Jesus broke down barriers too by throwing out the vendors in the temple who were preventing people from worship. By knowing this is a church that will accept all for who they are, we are inviting all people to know God too.

Our next event will be on Sunday, January 21st, 2024. The Agape ministry has invited Rev. Izzy Alvaran to come and answer all of your questions about the reconciling ministries network that we received at the first forum. More details to come—all are welcome.

David Cao

Scrip News

Need a last-minute Christmas gift for that special someone in your family? Look at purchasing a gift card from UJCC!

We have all kinds of gift cards available - restaurants, grocery stores, department stores, home-improvement stores, and more.

You can purchase cards from UJCC after service, just touch base with Kevin Watkins. Or you could come in during regular office hours at the church, and the staff will help you.

A percentage of every gift card sale goes to support the UJCC general fund. Thank you for your support!

Kevin Watkins

Tomodachi Seniors Group and Friends

**"Joy to the world,
the Lord has come!"**

Joyous Noel to you in this beautiful season of reflection and celebration of God's love for us through the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior. May your Christmas be filled with the gifts of hope, grace, joy and love.

The Joy of Christmas Box Lunch and Blessings Drive-Thru Event **Wednesday, December 13th** **12 Noon Pick Up at the UJCC**

Join us as we gather together in this joyous Christmas season to celebrate our dear Savior's birth.

We have a real treat in store for you. Our Christmas box lunch will be prepared by **Pardini's Catering**. We'll feast on Chicken Marsala, rice pilaff, green bean almonidine, tossed green salad and a ciabatta roll. A special Christmas sweet dessert will top off the meal.

The Christmas lunch is at no cost to you, compliments of donations made to the Tomodachi ministry.

Please complete the attached RSVP form and return it to the Church office by the **RSVP deadline of December 6th**, or call Janelle Saito at 313-0489 and leave a message to reserve your lunch.

We look forward to our joyous time together...please take part and enjoy!

Tomodachi Seniors Group and Friends
The Joy of Christmas Box Lunch and Blessings
Drive-Thru Pick Up at the UJCC on Wednesday, December 13th at
12:00 Noon
 (RSVP Due by December 6th)

Name: _____ **Telephone:** _____

Email: _____

of Lunches: _____

_____ Please call me regarding my request for delivery arrangements.

(Please mail this RSVP to: UJCC, 136 N. Villa Ave., Clovis, CA 93612)

SAVE THE DATE**Happy Valentine's Day Event****Wednesday, February 14th**

Be on the lookout for all of the yummy Hearts Day details in our January newsletter article.

Senior Care Response Team (SCRT) Ministry

The Church's Senior Care Response Team ministry was created to serve our seniors. Please don't hesitate to call upon us for support.

*The ministry offers assistance and support to our seniors via Church and community resources upon request and within our scope.

*The SCRT continues to purchase/deliver groceries and supplies upon request.

*Apple iPad Outreach: the ministry owns 3 iPads which can be borrowed on a first come-first served basis and utilized to access UJCC's website, online worship, Church meetings via Zoom, and to stay connected with family and friends. The ministry covers the monthly data fee for each loaned iPad.

If you would like support with any of the above outreach, please contact **Arlene Eberly** (960-4044) or **Janelle Saito** (313-0489).

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Kiku Floral (Larry and Lorrie Yamada) will once again donate 15 poinsettia plants to help decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. You may purchase one of the poinsettias for \$20.00 and dedicate the poinsettia in the memory of a loved one. Look for the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. The poinsettias will be displayed during the holiday season; you may take your plant home prior to Christmas day. The proceeds from the sale will go towards the Young Adults/Alpha Omega Group.

Thank you to Larry and Lorrie for the donation of the poinsettias.



Sunday School

Hope you all had a Great Thanksgiving. Sunday school is now preparing for our Sunday School Christmas Program on December 17. We are asking if your child will be participating in the program. Please let us know as soon as possible. Please email Kathie at kathie@ujcclife.com. We will start practicing for the program December 3, 2023 in class. On December 10, 2023: Practice for Sunday school Christmas program in class & after service. On December 17, 2023 the Sunday School will present the program and we will need Teachers and Sunday School Students at UJCC by 9:45 a.m. So we can get their costumes on and practice.

On January 14, 2024, this is a family worship day. However, Sunday School students will be decorating water bottles for **CASA**. It stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates; this is our mission project for this year. More information will be coming out in the New Year on how you can help support this mission project. The Sunday School offering also goes toward our mission project.

The following dates are Family Worship Dates.

December 24, 2023

December 31, 2023



Advent Craft & Movie Night



United Japanese Christian Church

Friday, December 1, 2023 from 6 - 8 pm

Join us for wreath crafts, kid-friendly movie, and treats for everyone. Bring the family for a festive start to the season! Questions or want to volunteer? See your pastor!

Sponsored by the UMC Fresno Creek Clergy Circuit.

RSVP

<https://tinyurl.com/zbd86brw>



A Note from the Moderator

We and people around the world are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day, December 25th. This is a day and season filled with Christmas carols, tree decorating, gift-giving, and numerous festivities. For Christians, the meaning of Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with family, friends, fellow congregants, and more.

Family traditions have been built around this day. We share the warmth and love of our family, celebrate together, and are grateful for having one another.

As we come to an end of 2023, I want to express much appreciation to the UJCC staff: Stephanie Sumi, Kathie Sakamoto, Nathan Nakamura, Yukiko Hijioka, Rev. Akiko, and Pastor Ivana. Our staff is dedicated in making UJCC a warm and welcoming place to worship.

Thank you also to the numerous volunteers and committees that continued to lend so many hours to support the mission and ministries of UJCC.

I am also very grateful for our Board of Directors who surround me with their leadership and tirelessly support UJCC. It is truly a blessing to be a part of this community.

Info, updates and more:

- **HCI (Healthy Church Initiative):** Family Advent Night is scheduled for December 1st at 6pm.
- **Reconciling Process:** This committee will continue to keep all informed of ongoing information in this process. Please join the next gathering to share information and to continue to have conversation with one another.
- **Friend's Care –** Friend's Care will be preparing and delivering meals to members of our senior community in December and January. These meals are always so delicious!!! The menu is always creative and prepared by the hands of many of our UJCC members and friends.
- **Tomodachi Drive Thru –** Did you put in your reservation for the December 13th Drive Thru? It's going to be delicious and catered by Pardinis!!!
- **Annual Charge Conference-** Thank you to all who attended the Annual Charge Conference. The annual Charge booklet is out, and available.

- **Choir Cantata**- I am so excited to see this coming up on December 10th, Sunday. This will be full of story and beautiful music as presented by our own UJCC choir!

Some Upcoming Events:

December 1 - Family Advent Night – 6pm at UJCC

December 3 – Inouye Benefit Potluck, 12 noon

December 7th and 8th - Friend's Care Food Prep and delivery

December 10th – Choir Cantata

December 13- Tomodachi Holiday Drive thru

December 20 – Blue Christmas. 6pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service 7pm

December 25 – Merry Christmas!

January 11th and 12th – Friend's Care Food Prep and Delivery

Thank you,

Arlene Eberly



BOY SCOUTS

Hello, this is Alexander Miyoshi, the Boy Scout Historian with Troop 199. Sorry for the late historian notes. This month, the troop helped celebrate Veteran's Day at both Truewood and Vintage Gardens. The first and second photos shows the Tsunami Patrol at Truewood. The rest of the photos shows the Shuriken Patrol at Vintage Gardens. The troop also helped out at the Fresno Betsuin Food Bazaar. Sadly, I do not have any photos of us helping, but we helped buss tables and stack chairs. Recently, we've gotten some new scouts, so the list of scouts are now

Life Scouts: Wyatt Iwo, Ryan Sano, Mateo Navarrette, Justin Lesser

Star Scouts: Matthew Matsumura

First Class Scouts: Alexander Miyoshi

Second Class Scouts: Tyson Tanaka, Nicholas Lopez, Felix Vaquilar,
Edward Vaquilar

Scout Rank: Odie Mo, Luke Noordmans, Diego Mendoza

No Rank Scouts: Rio & Raphael Makmur





UNITED JAPANESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
10/23/23 thru 11/26/23

Paulette Hiraoka: In Memories of Henry & Yoshiko Yasuhira
M/M Larry Honda: In Memory of Fumiye Yebisu
M/M Anthony Ishii: In Memories of Toyo & Patrick Chiamori
Rolene Shimoda: In Memories Yoshio, Chizuko, & Robert Inouye
Midori Tani: In Memory of Sally Nagata
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memory of Sonny Espino
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memories of M/M Jack Oda
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memories of M/M Yoneo Mori
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memory of Mitsutaro Kakimoto
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memory of Modesto Visitacion
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memories of D/M Henry Kazato
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memories of M/M Sakauye
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memories of M/M Hiro Isogawa
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memory of James Hanashiro
M/M Jaime Visitacion: In Memory of Mel Imai

Anna Aoki: Focus
M/M Jeff Herron: Happy 1st birthday to Granddaughter
M/M Jeff Herron: Happy Birthday to Jeff & Ben Tsunade
Charlene Kiyuna: Agape
Mine Ikeda: Healthy Church Initiative
M/M Marc Juteau: Love Offering
Yoko Nishioka: Senior Care Response Team
Gayle Oki: Christmas Offering
M/M Jaime Visitacion: Getting Well
M/M Jaime Visitacion: Harvest Potluck

Tamar & Janna Bedoyan: Donation
D/M Paul Kim: Donation
Shelley Kiritani: Donation
M/M Terry Leeds: Donation
M/M David Chung: Donation
M/M Phil Shigekuni: Donation

TOMODACHI

Tracy Kiritani
M/M David Kreller
Yoko Lund
Gayle Oki
M/M Victor Takeda: In Memory of Sueko Fukuda

IN MEMORY OF BILL TOKUMOTO

Tina Chan
Donna Chiamori
M/M Robert Chung
M/M Raoul Contreras
D/M John Damrose
Yukiko Hijioka
M/M John Howard
Joyce Imai
Hope Kawashima
D/M Ken Kurokawa
Lisle Funeral Home
Jeannie Matsumoto

Kaye Migaki
Tomoko Naito
M/M Gregg Saito
John Sato
Stephanie Sumi
M/M Victor Takeda
Bill Tokumoto family
D/M Ken Tsutsui
M/M Ron Uragami
M/M Jaime Visitacion
D/M Wallace Yang

CRAFT FAIR SPONSORSHIPS

M/M Norman Mar
Elaine Renge
Brett Runyon
Grace Shimada
Ed Shiraphande
M/M Mike Yamamoto
Evan Yamashita
D/M Paul Yamashita

EARTH ANGEL MISSION

M/M Randy Wright: In Memory of Fumiye Yebisu

FRIENDS CARE

Tim Ikeda: In Memory of Bob Sharton
Tim Ikeda: Good Health for ALL
Janet Kamada
Tracy Kiritani
Dorothy Kobashi
Dale Kuey
Eiko Kunitake
Lisle Funeral Home
Mae Matsunaga
Evelyn Mitarai
Joan Nakamura
Gayle Oki: In Memory of Mel Imai
M/M Victor Takeda: In Memory of Fumiye Yebisu
M/M Marty Trujillo
M/M William Ueki
M/M John Urabe

THANKSGIVING

Anonymous Donation	Kaye Migaki
Anna Aoki	Evelyn Mitarai
M/M Kenichi Bunden	Akiko Miyake-Stoner
Donna Chiamori	D/M Greg Miyake
M/M Robert Chung	Emiko Miyamoto
M/M Raoul Contreras	Stan Morita
M/M Tim Elliott	Haruye Nagata
Paulette Hiraoka	Tomoko Naito
Joyce Imai	Beverly Nakayama
M/M Greg Inouye	M/M Paul Nesley
M/M Donald Katayama	M/M Glenn Ogawa
M/M Yo Katayama	M/M Dennis Okamura
Joyce Kaufman	Gayle Oki
Hope Kawashima	Toshi Sakai
Dorothy Kimura	Stephanie Sumi
Amy Kiritani	M/M Lloyd Takahashi
Tracy Kiritani	D/M Lindsay Takeda
Dale Kuey	M/M Michael Tanaka
Eiko Kunitake	Wayne Tanaka
M/M Jeff Kurushima	M/M Richard Wall
Charlene Kiyuna	M/M Kevin Watkins
D/M Ken Kurokawa	M/M Brian Wong
M/M David Magoon	D/M Wallace Yang

WORLD COMMUNION

Donna Chiamori
Hanako Lord

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

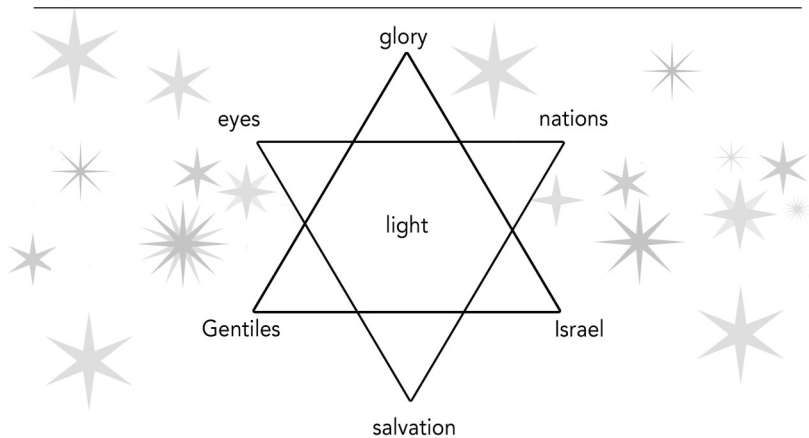
Karen Nagata-Pearce: In Memory of Sally Nagata



SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple,
they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

*Directions: Using the star key, write the words in
the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.*

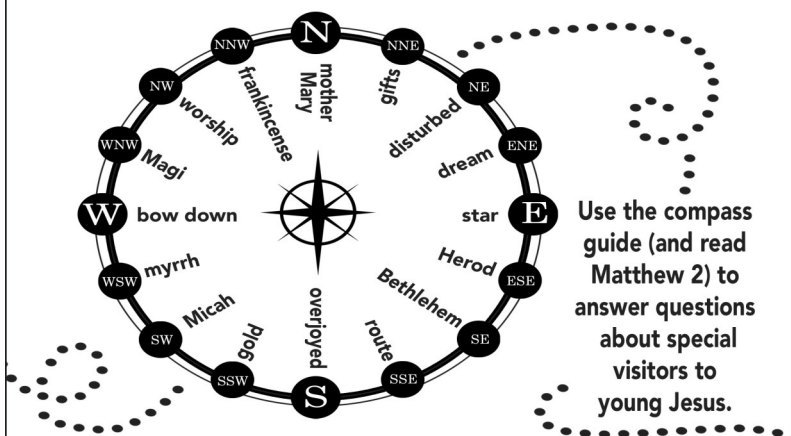


"For my _____ have seen your _____, which you have prepared
in the sight of all _____: a _____ for revelation to the
_____, and the _____ of your people _____."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

Answers: eyes, salvation, nations, light, Gentiles, glory, Israel

Puzzle!



Use the compass guide (and read Matthew 2) to answer questions about special visitors to young Jesus.

- Who was king at the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
- Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNW)
- How did King Herod feel about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
- Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
- In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
- King Herod lied to the wise men, telling them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
- What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
- When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
- Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
- Before they worshiped the child, what did the Magi do? _____ (W)
- Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus.
_____ (SSW) _____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
- These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as _____ (NNE)
- What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
- The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod; 2. Magi; 3. disturbed; 4. Micah; 5. Bethlehem; 6. worship; 7. star; 8. overjoyed; 9. mother Mary; 10. bow down; 11. gold; 12. gifts; 13. dream; 14. route.