

Highland Park United Methodist Church



TAYORI

Minister: Pulpit Supply-Congregation filling in

Ad-Council Chair: Patty Marinos

Volume 23

December 2023/January 2024

No. 11

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Welcome to Highland Park UMC
All are invited Sundays at 10:30

A Few Words from your Ad Council...

Dear Members of Highland Park UMC,

We hope that your Thanksgiving was marvelous and enjoyed the time spent with family and friends. The year is finishing up quite quickly and the holiday season is definitely upon us. As we celebrate Christ's birth and welcome the New Year, we will remember 2023 and it's happy times and trying ones.

We are still working with District Superintendent Daniel Miranda on finding us a minister to guide us through the years. It is a difficult thing to do, considering the lack of available pastors around Spokane. As for now, we will continue using people in our congregation and Pulpit Supply ministers to share the Word from the United Methodist Lectionary. We will introduce some of our Speakers on page 4.

Every year, the church Sunday school teachers helps a family, students, or organization at Christmas. This year, we have chosen The Treehouse-a WA non-profit Organization. Many of the youth that are in foster care are separated from their family, friends and community. We would like to help care for these kids by aiding them during Christmas any way we can. We will be setting up a tree in the Narthex with tags on it. The tags will have wants/needs for a child. Please take a tag or many tags to help this organization. If you are unable to shop for gifts on a tag, but still want to help, please call Patty and let her know. Donations, monetary or gifts are always welcome. Thank you for your generosity with The Treehouse Organization! (The Sunday School Teachers-Charina de Leon and Patty Marinos)

Lastly, we want to share some great news about new members, baptisms, building improvements, and other things to look forward in 2024. We are so excited to be a part of Highland Park United Methodist Church.

In God's love,

Ad-council Members

Chair-Patty Marinos Secretary-Charina de Leon Treasure-Marsha Beck

Sydnee Snowden and Marcie Laquindanum Ad Council members

Sunday Services



Welcome to Highland Park UMC! We are glad to have you come and worship with us. Our services are at 10:30 every Sunday with a bit of fellowship/coffee/tea time after our service.

COVID Updates



As new variants pop up and keep us 6 feet apart, please know we are doing our best to keep our congregation safe by wearing our masks as a precaution. It, however, is no longer mandatory, so if you would to worship mask-free, please remember:

We do have susceptible members and want to keep them safe. If you have a cough or fever, please stay home and worship with us the following week.

Not everyone feels comfortable not masking up. Please be respectful of those who would rather keep their masks on. Let's do our part in keeping Highland Park COVID free.

Stay in Touch

If you need to get connected with a Church member, please call:

Patty Marinos (Ad Council Chair) at: 509.413.3311

Marsha Beck (Interim Treasurer) at 509.467.7971

Charina De Leon (PPR chair) at: 509.720.4116

Marcie Laquindanum (Trustee Chair) at 760.936.2699

Or Email at: HPAdCouncil@gmail.com

Our phone line is working again! It is still a bit scratchy, but understandable. Messages may also be left at:

509.535.2687



WORSHIP



WITH US!

Cultural Award for Highland Park UMC

On November 5, Spokane Preservation Advocates held a dinner at the Montvale Event Center, in which Highland Park UMC member Patty Marinos and Hi Fume En Society Joanne Ferris accepted the Cultural Award for the church. After 18 months of background work on the building and preservation of the Japanese culture in Spokane, Highland Park UMC was accepted in the Historic Registry. It is a huge honor for HPUMC to be recognized for it's cultural contribution to the Spokane Community. Congratulations Highland Park!



Pastor Parish Relations As we start a new year, we will continue to ask members to share, but also we will have a few ministers and lay speakers from Spokane to share Christ's word to the Highland Park UMC congregation. Let us introduce them to you:



Ron Belisle. His professional journey in teaching English to speakers of other languages began over 40 years ago in Tokyo, where he specialized in teaching workplace English to employees at various Japanese companies. Upon returning to the USA, he pursued and obtained a master's degree in applied Linguistics, focusing on teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. This led him back to Japan, where he taught in a public high school and later at Mukogawa Women's University in Nishinomiya. For the past 33 years, he has been teaching at the Spokane campus.



Ron Baer with his friend, Tinkerbell! He has been a United Church of Christ Minister since 1980. He has pastored Churches in four parts of the Country. He has also served as a Washington State Prison Chaplain, Chicago Fire Department Chaplain and a Spiritual Life Coach for mentally disabled men. He was raised by very conservative Mennonites in Pennsylvania. His father was a Bishop in the Mennonite Church. He is also the proud single Father of 4 amazing children and one incredible grandson. He currently resides in Cheney. He retired in 2018.



Dr. Don Stone. He is a new member of Highland Park UMC and a marvelous speaker/liturgist for our congregation in a pinch. He has stepped up at our church to help out in many ways, like helping out with the audits each quarter. Don has three children: with his wife, Heather: Mark, Sarah, and Michael, all who joined our church too! We are so happy to have them in our church family, helping out when they can!



Roz Luther. She and her husband, Norm Luther, have been members of our church for many years. Roz has offered many times to share the Word through sermons she has read and issues that are dear to her heart. Roz has a large family, with one member who has finally moved back to the states, with his family, from out of country.



**Healing from
Illness/surgery**

Know anybody in need of
prayer?

- Webb family
- Chris Newton
- Eric Hirata
- Christine Toribara
- Connie Sekijima
- Kevin Dow
- Joanne Ferris
- Amie Long
- Jack Ishitani
- Gareth Oka
- David Clevenger
- Jim & Pat Kawabata

Please let us know

hpadcouncil@gmail.com

Or call: 509.535.2687 and leave a
message



December

January

- 4 Alliea Kusel
- 12 Margaret Ueda
- 14 Kazue Yamamoto
- 17 Kyle Yonago
- 22 Sumi Kransberger

- 2 Amy Furumasu
- 4 Jeanine Kusel
- 10 Paul Kessinger
- 23 Clairra Kusel



Correction for Mochi making:

Dec. 1 set up and washing mochi rice

Dec. 2 Mochi making

Dec. 3-1st Sunday of Advent

Dec. 10-2nd Sunday of Advent

Dec.17-3rd Sunday of Advent

Dec. 21-First day of Winter

Dec. 24-4th Sunday of Advent

Dec. 24-Christmas Eve

Dec. 25-Christmas Day

Dec. 31-New Year's Eve

Jan 1-First day of 2024

Jan. 6-Epiphany

Jan. 15-Martin Luther King JR Day

**If you have an event to put on our
calendar, please email us!
hpadcouncil@gmail.com**



If you have any updates or a change of address, please mail them to the church or email:
hpumctreasurer@gmail.com



PLEDGES/GENERAL
OFFERINGS

June/July/Aug/Sept

Anonymous
Care and Mary Ando
Duane and Marsha Beck
Junko & Michael Christenson
David and Hiroko Clevenger
Pat Cooper
Michiko Daly
Charina De Leon
Kevin and Elaine Dow
Phyllis Edamatsu
Pamela Fukai
Keiko Gregory
Dorothy Hashimoto
Joe Ishitani
Marcie & Erwin Laquindanum
Norman & Rosalind Luther
Chris and Patty Marinos
Anita & David Murphy
Dean Ogawa
Masako Ono
Paul Rodgers
Teiko Saggau
Eugene Sakai
Mike & Steven Saruwatari
Sydnee Snowden
Don & Heather Stone
Ellen Tanaka
Harvo Pat Tanaka
Motoko Walker
Jeanne Yamada
Hida Yonago

Thanksgiving Gifts

Anonymous
Duane & Marsha Beck
John Campbell
Dorothy Hashimoto
Riki & Sheila Hashimoto
Mary Hisayasu
Dr. Isamu & Gloria Kawabori

Ronald S Matsumoto
Harvo P Tanaka
Motoko Walker
Jeanne Yamada
Hida Yonago

MEMORIAL GIFTS/

DONATIONS

In Memory of:

Alice Tanaka

Diane & Gerald Tokugawa
Craig & Pamela Tsuchida
Hida Yonago

In Memory of:

Ada Honda

Mary Ando
Amy & Roger Bragdon
Dee-Dee & Patrick Chan-Jones
K & P Emiger
Bonnie Hamada
Gail (Akiyama) & Thomas Hanley
Kimiko & Michael Johnston
Chris & Patty Marinos
Ann & Jason Miller
Margaret & Michael Mizumoto
Mary K Morgan
Naomi Ota
Lianna L Scher
Daniel & Pamela Schierman
Sally V Sekijima
Marilyn Shimizu
Harvo P Tanaka
H. Michael & Linda Toda
Diane & Gerald Tokugawa
Craig & Pamela Tsuchida
t. Bud Warashina
Mike & Tina Winebarger
Hida Yonago

In Memory of :

Jack Hisayasu

Mary Hisayasu

In Memory of:

**Parents-Rev. & Mrs. Shigeo
Shimada**

Dr. Isamu & Gloria Kawabori

In Memory of:

**Michi Hirata Sakai- Sunday
School Superintendent**

Eugene Sakai

In Memory of:

Sumi Okamoto

Diane & Gerald Tokugawa

Thank you for Toban/After Church

Food: Hiroko Clevenger, Keiko Gregory, Norm & Roz Luther, Patty Marinos, Mark & Cheyenne, Don and Heather Stone and Michael Stone for providing food for after church snacks (usually meals!)

Thank you to Amy Bragdon for donating Panda Express for dinner for the clean up crew after senbei. It was so appreciated! Also, thank you to the Mt. Spokane and Teacher, Maureen Collins, for volunteering their Saturday to help with senbei. They we a great help. A shout out to Gareth Oka for his wood skills and making the mat cart. Set up is a bit easier with that.

Church Ground crew-Thank you to Riki Hashimoto, Dr. Ted Toribara, and Mike Christenson for all the work on the garden this summer. They also fixed anything that was broken in the parsonage and church. Their skills are endless! Thank you to Sydnee Snowden, Toribaras, and Myrna Yuasa for donating to the Endowment Fund. Dr. Ted & Christy Toribara and Sydnee Snowden for donating mochi machines. The Toribara's also donated a quilt as well. Many thanks to them.

Last but not least, thank you to Riki Hashimoto for donating a deep fat fryer for the senbei. This will be for generations to come.

Welcome to the Family!

We have been so blessed to welcome new members into our Highland Park's family. On November 12, seven people formally joined our congregation! Lucky for us, they have been coming for almost two years and have blessed us each and every Sunday they have been here. Welcome Don, Heather, Mark, Sarah, and Michael Stone and Cheyenne Dallman and Sandy McKiver!



We'd also like to welcome Nathan Ghering. He is playing the piano for our congregation once a month while he goes back to school. We welcome all of our new family!



Baptism at E.S.H.

Joseph Oka was baptized at Eastern State Hospital where he has been a part of a Bible Study for the past two years. Joe and two other members take turn sharing and leading the bible study to others at ESH. Many spiritual needs have been met through the ESH Chaplain April Ross, who baptized the members. The article shared by Joe Oka, explained how Chaplain Ross gives the patients, "...their own spiritual frame of reference,...and integrate meaning and purpose in life through connectedness with self, others, art, music, literature, nature and/or a power greater than one-self." (Employee Connections, Sept. 2019) Congratulations to all baptized at ESH and thank you Joe for sharing this with us!



The Importance of God's Word

The name the Puritans in New England gave to the devil was the "Old Diluter". This was because he loved to twist scripture and corrupt what was good. Just as he corrupted man's nature in the Garden of Eden he still seeks to corrupt God's word today. He never rests and is always at work to corrupt our view of God. He knows that corrupting faith is far easier and more effective than destroying it. This is why we as Christians who proclaim Christ is risen must study God's word and be in fellowship with each other. This is why I want to revive the Bible study group at Highland Park United Methodist Church. We meet on Thursdays in the Ellis Hall at 6:15 pm. We seek companionship with each other as we work to better understand God's word. Everyone is welcome from people who have never read the Bible to experienced Christians who have read the Bible front to back.

Our end goal is to foster the growth of strong-willed and knowledgeable Christians who can better do as Jesus commanded and make disciples of all nations. Right now we are studying the Gospel of Mark. I look forward to studying God's truth with you. God Bless.

~ Mark Stone



Warren D. Walker age 70 of Spokane, Washington, passed away on July 25, 2023. He was born on June 10, 1953, in Spokane, Washington. He graduated from Shadle Park High School and Eastern Washington University with a Bachelor of Arts. Warren achieved the rank of Major in the Army and retired honorably.

In 1987, Warren married Kiyomi Nakamoto. He was very active and was deeply involved in the [Alzheimer's Association](#), the Spokane Bicycle Club, and the Spokane Rifle Club.

Warren enjoyed all kinds of outdoor activities, especially camping and bicycling. His family and friends will always remember him as a smart, dependable, humorous, honest, straight arrow, and adventurous spirit. He was especially loved by Kiyomi's Japanese family, who are grateful to Warren and his family for their love and acceptance of Kiyomi into their lives, and the happy life that Kiyomi and Warren shared.

Warren is survived by wife Kiyomi, sister Darla Copeland Grose, brother Robert Walker, nieces Bethany (Troy) and Sharon (Kei), great nieces Ashley (Daniel), Kelly, and Sara, great nephews Nicholas, Waleed, and Aydin, and a great grand-niece Hazel. He was preceded in death by parents Betty and Ferrin Walker, and brother-in-law Gary Grose.

A visitation for Warren was held Monday, July 31, 2023, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Ball & Dodd Funeral Home. Funeral service occurred Tuesday, August 1, 2023. A graveside service followed at Fairmount Memorial Park. All are welcome to attend and honor Warren's life.

In lieu of flowers, charitable donations may be made in Warren's name to the [Alzheimer's Association](#).

Published by the Spokesman-Review



We would like to extend our deepest condolences to those who have recently lost a love one. Our hearts go out to you with our prayers for healing in this time of loss :

The family of **Haru Mukai** for the loss of their mother. Haru was a member of the Spokane Japanese Community that farmed in the Hangman Creek. She was 101.



Winter Needs

Riki Hashimoto says “with Winter fast approaching if anybody that needs help with keeping their Driveway and Sidewalks clean or a Grocery store run let him know and between the 3 Amigos one of us can take care of it”. This is from the person who asked me for a work order to do something! (what a sense of humor) So we’ll write one up for your request.





Endowment Fund

We want to thank Sydnee Snowden, Dr. Ted and Christy Toribara and Myrna Yuasa for their generous donations to the Endowment Fund. We have used almost \$3,000 from our fund to put on new gutters above the church office. We had water damage when the snow melted and leaked into the south wall.

The Trustee had difficulty obtaining a contractor to finally do the work, but it is done and when we had some hard rain. It was nice to see the run off go into the gutters. There is much work to get done next year and the Trustees are getting those jobs prioritized. Like all maintenance it is always "Pay me now or pay me later."

The Endowment Fund was set up by Hideki Sekijima and Ed Tsutakawa knowing that eventually, as time went on, members who were mechanically inclined and kept our church functioning would be fewer. The Fund is used when the Trustees find maintenance and repairs are needed, but unable to be completed even with the expertise of the three samurais plus the two amazing women, Marcie Laquindanium and Dawn Yamada. We are lucky these Members help keep our costs down, especially Mike Christenson with his "You Tube" searches. They have made our Endowment monies last longer.

Earlier In the spring, we purchased a new riding lawn mower to make it easier for Riki Hashimoto as he was bringing his mower down every week. It is fun watching him zoom around the yard. He later donated a mulcher. We appreciate the three samurais, Mike Christenson, Riki Hashimoto and Dr. Ted who have kept our yard to Japanese gardener perfection.

Fund Raisers Belated thanks to some of the people we missed for the spring senbei making. The list was misplaced and found so we would still like to thank those who worked so hard...Jun, Liam and Sophia Dwyer, Fred and Sandra Freeman, Ransie and Toby Herzinger, Harumi & Ren Norasakkunkit and Marilyn Shimizu.



We made senbei again for the fall bazaar. We would like to thank all who helped...Care and Mary Ando, Amy Bragdon, Mike Christenson, Hiroko Clevenger, Pat Cooper, Dorothy and

Riki Hashimoto, Joanne Ferris, Keiko Gregory, Lilia Ko, Marcie Laquindanium, Patty Marinos, Marilyn Shimizu, Sydnee Snowden, Dr. Ted and Christy Toribara, Dawn Yamada, Terry Johnson and DeAnn Yamamoto, Hida Yonago and last but not least Maureen Collins and the STEM Culinary Department of Mount Spokane High School with our good chef, Hayden. Again hope we haven't missed anyone. We still have senbei left and it makes a good Christmas present.

Our fall bazaar had entrees of gyudon (beef bowl), lumpia – pork or veggie, tonkatsu, inarizushi and senbei. We sold out of lumpia and sold left overs of the other entrees. Thank you to Charina de Leon, Lilia Ko, and Marcie Laquindanium for donating the ingredients for the lumpia and tonkatsu. It seems like so many of our faithful members and JA volunteers help us for every event. We cannot express enough our deep appreciation for your assistance. Thank you to the Bake Sale – Sydnee Snowden and Hida Yonago, Craft Sale – Pat Cooper, Gerri Nurre and Marilyn Shimizu, Take-Out Booths – Care and Mary Ando, Amy Bragdon, Charina DeLeon, Pam Fukai, Dorothy Hashimoto, Lilia Ko, Mount Spokane High School STEM Culinary – Maureen and Shawn Collins and Hayden, Dawn Yamada, Terry Johnson and DeAnn Yamamoto, Ticket Station – Marcie Laquindanium and Michael Stone. Other people also helped set up – Mike Christenson, Keiko Gregory, Dr. Ted and Teiko Saggu. It didn't seem like there were as many people who attended, especially the JA community, but when we talked with the Buddhist church, they said the same about their Ramen Feast. Again senbei is still for sale.



Our next event will be mochi making. If possible call in to 509-535-2687 or e-mail HpAdCouncil@gmail.com for pre-orders.

We will be setting up and washing rice December 1 at 1 pm and December 2 we will start around 8 am. Those who would like to cool and dry mochi can come later. We are still planning on doing our sukiyaki dinner in May.

As we think about sukiyaki, we congratulate Emiko Collett and the Suki-yaki Inn for 74 years. There were many HiFumi Society board meetings, JACL dinners and family/friends meals there. Thank you for the delicious food and you will be missed.

Highland Park

United Methodist Church

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