

Highland Park United Methodist Church



TAYORI

Minister: Pulpit Supply-Congregation filling in

Ad-Council Chair: Patty Marinos

Volume 24

February/March 2024

No. 1

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Published every 2 months

Next deadline: March 25, 2024
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Welcome to Highland Park UMC
All are invited Sundays at 10:30

A Few Words from your Ad Council...

Happy New Year of the Dragon!

2023 was a year of highs and lows for HPUMC but we feel we have come out stronger for having faced both extremes. The continued theme that God is with us every second of the day has never been more evident than in 2023. We lost several longtime members and, in that grief, we found comfort and encouragement to find a new balance with them in our hearts and minds as we pressed forward. For me personally, losing Ada Honda was losing my true north. After generations of the Honda -**Yamada connection I took it for granted that “Auntie Ada” would always be near to guide, mentor and love me, year after year.** Ada was the one I spoke with for hours on end about the church and its connections. Ada has always been my history keeper and it was easy to get the information I needed by just calling, texting or visiting her. She was my true confidant, encourager and prayer partner. For our 120th celebration for Highland Park it was Ada who opened up her files of addresses and helped us in a way nobody else could. **There was nothing I couldn't take to Ada. Once Ada hit 102 and she started to tell me what her expectations were of me, things changed. I knew she was ready to sit at the foot of Jesus and I knew she deserved that rest. The last year of her life was Ada who would give me marching orders where HPUMC is concerned. She reminded me of our history and made the isseis come alive every time she spoke of them. It will be difficult going forward without her, but I know I'll see her when it is my time to go.**

Losing Alice Tanaka (Ad Council member, plus she held every position within our church structure at one time or another over the years) was also a death that broke our hearts. She has so much influence in our church and kept us going through all of our activities and fundraisers. At every loss of a church family member, we were reminded of the **scripture in Revelation 21:4 “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying, nor pain anymore.” What it must be like in heaven, living eternally with Jesus, who loved us all so much and who died for us.**

(Cont'd on page 7)

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. On February 11, we will be having a Lunar New Year's Potluck. Please come and celebrate with us!

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!

Trustees Update



Wow! Can winter get any colder than -6 degrees in Spokane? Well, I am glad it didn't. Unfortunately, we got some frozen condensation pipes and a bit of leaking upstairs in the attic, which caused problems. Luckily, we have out three, awesome volunteers who figured it all out. After a week of watching and dragging out pipes for water, they cleaned it all up! Riki Hashimoto, Dr. Ted Toribara, and Mike Christenson have saved us so much headache and a lot of money on saving our church. We now call them out Three Samurais! Also, our caretaker and his father (Liam and Bruce) cleaned out some of the wet and frozen insulation so as not to damage the ceiling too much! Thank you to all these guys for their work!

(As soon as I can getting them standing still, I will take a picture of them!)

Pastor Parish Relations



We are still using Pulpit Supply (having members and ministers from other churches share the good News) every week. Unfortunately, we will be missing a few of our ministers for a few months because of "snow birding." If you would like to step in for us one or a few Sundays, we would love to have you deliver the United Methodist Lectionary to the congregation. If you feel so moved to do that, please let Charina de Leon know!

Endowment Committee

The Endowment Committee will meet on February 11, after church and the potluck. The ad council has completed the year's budget and now we can allocate the money appropriately from the Endowment to fix the church where it needs to be. Last year we spent some of these funds to fix the fascia and gutters on the southwest side of the church. This year we can tackle other needed fixes.





**Healing from
Illness/surgery**

Know anybody in need of
prayer?
Please let us know
hpadcouncil@gmail.com
Or call: 509.535.2687 and leave a
message

- 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
- Michaela Hasse



**Month of February Black History
Month**

Feb. 11-Lunar New Year Potluck

Feb. 14- Ash Wednesday

Feb. 14-Valentine's Day

Feb. 19-President's Day

March 1-Day of Prayer

Mar h 10-Daylight Savings Starts

March 17-St. Patrick's Day

March 19- first day of Spring

March 24-Palm Sunday

March 29-Good Friday

March 31-Easter Sunday

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



February

March

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 9 Tina Webb | 5 Marc Takeshita |
| 18 Sarah Stone | 10 Lili Hirata |
| 24 Jeanne Yamada | 13 Essie Webb |
| 25 Joanne Ferris | 15 Michaela Hasse |
| | 17 Brian Jackson |
| | 18 Heather Stone |



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



PLEDGES/GENERAL
OFFERINGS

October-December

George Abrams
Anonymous
Care and Mary Ando
Duane and Marsha Beck
Junko & Michael Christenson
Tim Christenson
David and Hiroko Clevenger
Charina De Leon
Linda Fjeld
Kevin and Elaine Dow
Pamela Fukai
Dorothy Hashimoto
Riki & Shiela Hashimoto
Joe Ishitani
Nicole & Todd Koyama
Marcie & Erwin Laquindanum
Norman & Rosalind Luther
Chris and Patty Marinos
Mary Ann & Russell Murata
Anita & David Murphy
Elisia & Jeffery Oka
Masako Ono
Eugene Sakai
Don & Heather Stone
Harvo Pat Tanaka
Motoko Walker
Jeanne Yamada

Thanksgiving Gifts

Anonymous
Mary Ando
Anita Murphy
DI & Susan Okamoto
Sydnee Snowden

Christmas Gifts

Care & Mary Ando
Duane & Marsha Beck
David & Hiroko Clevenger
Pat Cooper

Jerry K & Linda L Emoto
Pamela Fukai
Keiko Gregory
Dorothy Hashimoto
Beverly & Richard Hayashi
Mary Hisayasu
Laura & William Kodama
Chris & Patty Marinos
Ronald Matsumoto
Atsumi & Frank McCauley
Darrell Mihara
Sydnee Snowden
Bill Stephenson
Christine & Dr. Ted Toribara
Motoko K Walker
T Bud Warashina
Michael & Sherrie Wright
Jeanne Yamada
Michael Zukosky

MEMORIAL GIFTS/

DONATIONS

In Memory of:

Tom S Ando

Care Ando

In Memory of:

Kaz & Grace Kayahara

Laura & William Kodama

In Memory of :

George & Aiko Minata

Laura & William Kodama

In Memory of:

Haru Mukai

Masako Ono

In Memory of:

**Katsuji, Matsuye, Edward
& Kenneth Family of**

Lynda Peterson

In Memory of:

Cousin Grant & Masako

Hamada

Lynda Peterson

In Memory of:

**Rev. Shigeo & Nobuko Shi-
mada**

Dr. Isamu & Gloria Kawabori

In Memory of:

**Jinataro & Hatsuko Kawa-
bori**

Dr. Isamu & Gloria Kawabori

In Memory of:

Kazuo & Grace Kayahara

Kenneth & Geoff Kayahara

In Memory of:

Ike & Aiko Minata

Kenneth & George Kayahara

Laura & William Kodama

Sydnee Snowden

In Memory of:

**Kansuke, Haruko & Marie
Minata**

Kenneth & George Kayahara

In Memory of:

Keith & Yaeko Sanders

Bill Stephenson

Thank you for Toban/After Church

Food: Amy Bragdon, Riki & Shiela Hashimoto, Hiroko Clevenger, Jordan Gazaway, Norm & Roz Luther, Patty Marinos, Don and Heather Stone and Michael Stone for providing food after church.

Endowment Fund Donation

Thank you's:

Marsha & Duane Beck– in memory of Shirashi Family Daniel & Janice Suttner-in memory of Aiko & Tom Kadoya

Laurie Metzger

Thank you for New Year food

brought by: Care & Mary Ando, Pat Cooper, Nishimura family (fresh salmon from Alaska), the Stones, and Patty Marinos.

(Cont'd from page 2)

With those lows came many highs. DS Daniel Miranda welcoming into our church family 7 new members in November was very special. In growth there is life.

In 2023 we also learned to work even harder as a family without the guidance of a pastor. While we have DS Miranda and his wife Sheila (also a Pastor) to help on special occasions like communions, filling in for services, etc. We have also been blessed with retired Pastors, who preach and teach from the pulpit on a regular basis. The UMC lectionary has been very helpful filling in when we don't have a minister. It's been extremely helpful for our worship team to fill in the pulpit each week with We have been extremely blessed.

While DS Daniel is searching for a quarter time or halftime Pastor for us, we are not only holding our own, but we are growing closer to each other and to God. If you know of anyone who might be able to step into the pulpit on a regular basis, we'd love to hear about them, so let us know!

This year our growth has come not in numbers but in our spiritual walks, both individually and as a church. You can feel it on any given Sunday.



Welcome

You can see it in the faces of those who show up to our fundraiser workdays to folks working around the church keeping us running smoothly. Everyone seems to be falling into their areas of expertise from yard care, building maintenance, kitchen duties, administrative duties, etc. We are all puzzle pieces fitting together for our church community and we are strengthened by one another. As we welcome in this new year, we continue to pray for good health and blessings for our church family. We continue to ask God where he wants and needs us to work. We may be small, but we truly are mighty when we work together. We will continue to ask God to bring us the pastor perfect for our needs. We will continue to thank Him for our continued blessings. Please continue to reach out to any of our Ad Council members for any or your church needs.

In Christ's Love,
Ad Council Chair/Education
Chair/SS teacher: **Patty Marinos**
PPRC Chair/Sunday School
teacher: **Charina De Leon**
Interim Treasurer/Fundraiser
Chair: **Marsha Beck**
Syd Snowden
Marcie Laquindanum



Last Tayori, we shared some great news from friends from E.S.H. This is month they shared some great poetry with us. If you feel like sharing your talents with us, I would love to put them in the Tayori next issue.

Two Ways

By: Slavic the Keyboard Player

When sorrow comes
From evil oppressions
Sad feelings arise
Causing us depression

What can we do
In times when we're sad?
Where can we turn
In times that go bad?

Walking astray is
A long way to dawn,
Dark wantful roads
Of temptations of fun.

People are crippled
By feeling lost
Walking towards God
Not away is a must.

Taking the road
To do what is right,
Life has two ways
One is dark, one is bright.

If you are sad
Or feel lost today,
Come to Jesus
He's just a prayer away.

Amen





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 Tsuyoshi Ono Family. “Tsu” passed away on November 23, 2023 after a short illness. He is survived by his wife, Masako, and his two Daughters, Donna and Kathy, along with their families. Tsu, as a professional landscaper, helped take care of Highland Park UMC before they moved to Auburn to be closer to their children.

Tammy LeBlanc and her family for the loss of their daughter, Whitney LeBlanc. The family celebrated her life at the church with all of her friends and family sharing awesome stories about her. It was a truly special time organized by her mom, Tammy.

(My apologies for not putting this in December’s Tayori)



Winter Needs

Riki Hashimoto says, “With Winter here, if anybody that needs help with keeping their Driveway and Sidewalks clean or a Grocery store run let me know and between the 3 Samurais, 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.



Mochi Celebration

On December 2, we made mochi in preparation for New Year’s Ozoni or just as a treat with shoyu and sugar (yum). We received mochi machine donations from Sydnee Snowden and Christy and Ted Toribara plus the use of Amy Bragdon’s machine. Since we didn’t know how many people would show up, we only made 50 pounds. This increased to about 80 pounds of beautiful rounded mounds of mochi. We still have about ten pounds left so if you are interested in purchasing some; it is first come, first serve. \$12 a pound same price as 2022.

Thank you to Amy (Shimizu) Bragdon, Mike Christenson, Pat Cooper, Joanne (Yamamoto) Ferris, Dorothy, Riki & Sheila Hashimoto, Hayden from Mount Spokane High School, Lily Ko, Jack Ishitani, Marcie (Miyoshi) Laquindanum, Marlene (Susumi) Smick, Sydnee Snowden, Christy & Ted Toribara, Dawn Yamada and DeAnn Yamamoto for all their help in making this Japanese delicacy. (Cont’d next page)

Thank you to everyone that brought treats to keep our energy going and Sheila Hashimoto for the sandwiches and yummy chicken curry with rice for lunch. We were so full that it was hard to get back to “work.” The essential worker crews that cleaned up and got Ellis Hall ready for Sunday Toban are always there.

We really missed Alice as mochi was the last event she attended. Amy made little mochis so we could “toast” our dear friend/co-chair. It seems like it’s the same faithful always showing up to help the church out. We will try and keep our Japanese traditions going as long as we have the volunteers to do the work. It is getting harder and harder as three of our hard workers are in their 90s – one almost 100! I’m not sure most of our Sensei, Yonsei and Gosei could keep up with them. If we don’t continue our Japanese customs and culture, it will slowly disappear from our community and what is a legacy of our Japanese American church.

We appreciate the support from HiFumi Society for purchasing mochi for our 75 + seniors in appreciation for supporting the Japanese community. Thank you also for hoodies for some of our volunteers. We thank you for promoting the Japanese traditions through the years.



SAVE THE DATES (May be subject to change)
 February 11 – Lunar New Year Potluck after Church
 March 31 – Easter 10:30 = Easter Egg Hunt after Church?
 April 19 – Senbei Set-Up – 9 am – Gluten Free Senbei – 2 Batches
 April 20 Senbei – 8 am (7 am for early mix) – Only One Day Since Too Many Leftovers

April ? – Bloomsday Volunteer ?
 May 5 – Bloomsday
 May 9 – Sukiyaki Vegetable Prep – 9 am
 May 10 – Sukiyaki Tofu, Meat & Rice Prep & Set-Up – 9 am
 May 11 – Inari - Sukiyaki Take-Out – 8 am - Inari
 Cooks – 11 am
 Take-Out Noon to 4:30 pm
 May 12 – Mothers’ Day
 May 19? – Bosankai – 1 pm
 June 16 – Fathers’ Day
 September 20 – Set-Up Senbei & Possible Gluten Free Senbei – 9 am
 September 21 – Senbei – 8 am (7 for early mix)
 October 11 – Set-Up Fall Bazaar - Prep Food & Rice – 9 am
 October 12 – Inari & Fall Bazaar 8 am
 Bazaar – Noon to 4:30 pm
 November 5 – Election Day
 November 28 – Thanksgiving
 December 6 – Set-Up Mochi, Wash Rice – 10 am
 December 7 – Mochi - 8 am
 December 25 – Christmas



We understand as we are all getting older that we aren’t able to volunteer for long hours. We need people to be mentors for those who are willing to learn our traditions. Any help would always be appreciated, but even if you’re unable to help, come join us just for the fellowship we all can enjoy. We laugh a lot and have a good time.

Please join us and continue our cultural traditions.

We still have mochi (\$12 a pound) and senbei (\$9 for 3 oz.) for sale. First come, first served. If our sales start to go down, we will decrease the amount we make. Several Japanese churches have completely discontinued making these items. We hope we don’t have to do that.

Highland Park

United Methodist Church

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Spokane, WA 99202-2329



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