

Labor Day Picnic



The Annual Labor Day Picnic was held on Monday, September 4, 2017, at Nimitz Beach, with about 60 people in attendance. Due to the great coordination of Tena Ponder Thacker (who even came out when she was terribly sick) and Gordon Thacker, a good time was had by all. There were swimming, games, a fishing tournament, singing, fellowship, and lots of food. It was wonderful to spend time

with Koko and Rod Yee. This year the church provided the main dish and people brought the rest. We even had a Sushi chef as Joel Duldulao created yummy Shrimp Tempura hand rolls! Thank you to all who provided rides for the youth, to Elaine and John Wong for donating the chicken and BBQ meat, for Martha and Bill Kawai and Donna Kranz for coordinating the fishing, for Phyllis and Wayne Nakasone for the games. Darren Nako



Movie Night

On October 7th we had a family fun night. We had a light dinner and watched the featured movie, God's Not Dead 2. We had about 40 attendees and a good time. A big thank you to Darren and his crew.



Homework Assistance Program

We currently have about 30 children that come for homework assistance. Most of our children need one-on-one assistance but we do not have enough volunteers to accommodate the children. We try as best we can. If you have a few hours on Wednesday to help us with the children, we would welcome your assistance. The program is on Wednesdays from 1 pm to about 3 pm. We take breaks when the children are out of school. To come and help us once or twice a month would be a blessing to all of us. Thank you for your support and prayers.

Aloha Reception

As is our tradition, on Sunday, September 24, 2017, WOCC recognized Pastor Stan, Amy, and family for their hard work and dedication as they minister to our Congregation.



Heartfelt words of appreciation for all that they do and sacrifice, followed by the laying of hands and prayer for God's blessing on them was extended. This was followed by a wonderful potluck luncheon and fellowship. We look forward to the many great things God has in store for them and our entire church family. We praise God for Pastor Stan, Amy, and family! Darren Nako



Christian Ed Fall Incentive Program

All children up to the 6th grades will be participating in an Incentive Program from October to December (12 weeks). Each child will earn points/tokens for their performance and behavior during this period. On December 24th, they will be able to exchange their points/tokens for items in the Gift Store. Donations of appropriate toys will be greatly appreciated. Financial donations are also welcomed. For further info, please see Joyce Tanji.

The Elders have been able to fill most of the key positions regarding the re-structuring. We are still in need of a Church Secretary. Here are the positions at this time. Please pray for them as they endeavor to serve The Lord!

Elder Chairperson – Darren Nako
 Elder Vice-Chairperson - Stephen L L
 Elder Recording Secretary – Pastor Stan Miyamoto
 Elder & President – Daniel Miyamoto
 Treasurer – Toni L L

Harvest Festival



A Boo-tiful time was had by all who attended this year's Harvest Festival at the church on Saturday, October 28, 2017. Over 150 people (mostly from the community) braved the rain and partook of games, prizes, a short video on Jesus, clothes give-a-way, and dinner. Many thanks to so many of you who labored for hours to help with the set-up, running of the event, and clean-up. Thank you also to all who donated and prepared the food for



distribution. Special thanks to our Youth for all their hard work which made the event a total success! Lord willing, see you next year!! Darren Nako





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Prayer Requests

Ernest K, the grandson of one of the co-founders of our Conference, passed away after an illness. He was an inspiring man of God and a friend of WOCC. We are grateful for His exemplary service to Christ. Please pray for God's comfort for his wife Yoko as she says goodbye to her dear Ernie.

Winifred Y, Brian Y's mother -Praise the Lord for wonderful progress! Wini has experienced tremendous healing, and she is now weight-bearing on her right foot. Please continue to pray she will gain strength through therapy so she can walk again.

Jason R – continued improvement for his right side movement and motor skills.

Frank B's cancer has not been progressing. Thank the Lord! Keep praying for his overall health.

Betty A suffers from dementia and needs encouragement.

Stan and Jean S - God's strength as Stan struggles with Lewy Body dementia. Pray for Stan to be able to sleep well.

Merle M – God's Presence even through her dementia. Pray for her husband George as he cares for her.

Renee K needs the right combination of medications to treat cancer and pain. Pray for strength and healing.

Katherine N – Praise the Lord for successful intestinal surgery. Pray for strength.

Government leaders - God's guidance to deal with a host of state, national, and international issues.

Terroristic threats in the U.S. and the world - Pray that God would thwart the efforts of terrorists and open their eyes to Jesus Christ.

WOCC Building improvement – Pray for God's guidance for, 1) two converted shipping containers for classrooms, and 2) building addition so that WOCC will be better able to fulfill Christ's mission.

Eric and Sue T and family ministering in Ishinomaki, Japan.

John and Pen L are preparing as missionaries to Japan.

Smooth transition to a new church organizational structure as we implement new bylaws.

*"Come and see the works of God,
 Who is awesome in His deeds...
 Psalm 66:5*

Worship Services:

Japanese Ministry
 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

English Worship
 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Sunday School:

Adult Bible Classes
 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM

Children's Ministry:

Breakfast Program
 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM

Children's Church
 9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

Children's Activities
 Program (CAP):
 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, Nov. 19
 Thanksgiving Luncheon

Saturday, Dec. 16
 Children's Church
 Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 24
 Christmas Service
 & Luncheon



KOINONIA

West Oahu Christian Church Thanksgiving 2017 Volume 16, Issue 5

Pastor's Corner

*"This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it."
 ~ Psalm 118:24*

The story, as told by Dr. Joseph Mercola, goes like this ... A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said, "I am blind. Please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized the man's footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way. I wrote: 'Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it.'"

If we pause to think about it, we realize that we are often like the boy who was unable to see the beautiful day. We may not be physically blind, but we can be blind just the same to the beauty of this day. How often do we miss the trees because we are watching the car in front of us in the bumper to bumper traffic? How often do we fail to appreciate the air we breathe because deadlines consume our conscious mind? How many times are we unable to enjoy human relationships because we are stressed, hurt, and insecure?

If we pause again to think about it, we realize that when God created the world He pronounced it good. Though man brought sin into the world, God continues to sustain the world and its beauty! We realize that because this is the day the Lord has made, we are fully able to rejoice and be glad in it (Psalm 118:24). Let's not let the ugliness of sin blind us to the lavish overflow of God's goodness and beauty all around us. As we do, may our hearts also overflow with thanksgiving to God for His surpassing love in providing us this beautiful day!

"Lord, please touch our eyes to see the beautiful day You have made, so that we cannot help but return thanks to You! In the blessed name of Jesus, Amen."

With Thanksgiving,

Pastor Stan