

# HEART-TO-HEART

*We are reminded that Christ is in our hearts and we are in His and that love connects us all in unity.*

*Do everything in love.*  
*1 Corinthians 16:14*



## *The "Love Month"*

February is known for Valentine's Day, a day that we profess our love to those we are closest to. As we think about our love for others this month, we are also reminded of God's love for us.

When we know and feel God's love for us, we are rejuvenated to love God, to love ourselves, and to love others. We can be assured that God's love for us is constant.

Love is about relationships. We begin relationships by getting to know the other person. And how do we do that? By "talking story" with one another.

In this month of February, find ways to show love to others, to deepen current relationships and to begin new friendships.



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# Angels Among Us

by Joan Doi

“Quiet and Effective.” Remember who ran for Governor of Hawaii\* professing these attributes? If you don’t, that’s okay because that slogan is more personally applicable to one among us – Charles Nako, more affectionally known as “Charlie”. It is amazing how one can drop a hint about something that needs doing or fixing, and before you know it, it’s done!

The list is endless: the air conditioners in the classrooms that have switches that are now within reach, locks on doors that no longer malfunction, leaky toilets that stop leaking, the much needed instant hot water heater installed in our kitchen, glass paneling on classroom doors to comply with Safe Church Policy, replacing aging pipes from bathroom to sewer, and - here’s a BIG one - readjusting the 11 downspouts around our building from a precarious position on a makeshift scaffolding!

At the end of one’s career most would consider retiring to a more sedentary life style. But not Charlie.

Most recently he installed a mailbox with added security and a guard rail

to safely access the elevated platform in the sanctuary. Yup! That’s Charlie.

But that’s not all. Teaching the Bible from Genesis to Revelations was his passion and his students enjoyed the journey!

Another perhaps little-known fact; Charlie could take a child from its mother’s arms and keep the little infant pacified and contented during our worship service. Believe me, I was a happy recipient of such loving service a long time ago 😊.

Most noteworthy is that everything attributed to Charlie (and there’s more I’m sure) was done with a servant’s heart, not seeking recognition or praise. The next time you sit down on the benches outside the sanctuary to “talk story” and enjoy the fellowship they provide...you guessed it! He built and installed those too.

So, to Charlie – an electrician, plumber, carpenter and teacher all rolled into one; “Well done good and faithful servant! As we experience the blessings of New Beginnings in 2023, Arigato and May Your Blessings Abound!”

\*Governor George Ariyoshi 1974-1986



*"Therefore I glory  
in Christ Jesus in  
my service to God."*

ROMANS 15:17

## *A Memoir to Tickle Your Funny Bone*

by Linda Kunimitsu

A few years after we were married, I was feeling a bit romantic so I snuggled over and told Nori, “Will you whisper sweet nothings in my ear?”

He immediately leaned over and whispered, “Nothing... nothing... nothing.”

For a brief moment, I thought, should I get mad or laugh? I’m happy to say I decided on the latter.

Occasionally, now nearly 56 years later, we repeat this performance. It never fails to give us a chuckle.

Laughter is good medicine!

Happy Valentines to all!



*Do you have a tidbit to share?  
Submit to your editors by the  
15th of the month. We will edit it  
and put it in print.*

*Linda Kunimitsu*



## *Calendar of Events at WOCC*

- February 5 - Stan Hankins speaking (Leadership)
  - Pastor Stan in CA - OMS Pastor's Retreat
- February 12 - Stan Hankins speaking (Leadership)
  - After Church Fellowship - BYOL, Kunimitsu's, 1-4 PM
  - Pastor Stan in CA - visiting Pastors
- February 19 - Pastor Stan speaking
- March 5 - Pastor Stan speaking
- March 12, 19, 26 - Gary Lau speaking (Lessons from Joseph)
  - 3/19-29: Pastor Stan on Vacation; Japan Christian History Tour with Evidence and Answers
- April 2 - Pastor Stan speaking (Palm Sunday)
- April 9 - Pastor Stan speaking (Easter Sunday)

## *CHURCH SCHEDULE*

English Worship Service  
Sundays  
10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Japanese Worship Service  
Sundays  
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.



*"May my prayer  
come before you;  
turn your ear to  
my cry."*

PSALM 88:2

## *Prayer List*

**Loving Others** - Pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to show love to others to glorify God.

**WOCC Strengthening** - Pray for God's direction on how we can serve at WOCC.

**Our Missionaries** - Pray for our missionaries as they may be facing challenges in their own lives.

**Heal Our Congregants** - Pray for those in our congregation who need God's healing power to restore their health and spirit.

## *Sunday Fellowship*

Norio & Linda Kunimitsu have generously opened their home for fellowship once a month on Sundays after church. The next fellowship session is scheduled for **February 12, 2023 from 1-4 p.m.** at their home. Beverages and paper goods will be provided.

Bring your own lunch or you can place an order with Linda for a bento from Mamaya.



94-420 Farrington Hwy.  
Waipahu, HI 96797  
Office: (808) 671-0699  
Email: [info@westoahuchristian.org](mailto:info@westoahuchristian.org)  
Website: <http://www.westoahuchristian.org>

Pastor - Stan Miyamoto  
Editorial Staff - Linda Kunimitsu & Julie Morita

*Please feel free to contact:  
Linda Kunimitsu or Julie  
Morita about this newsletter  
or to submit an article.*