

# 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.*



*Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurances about what we do not see.  
Hebrews 11:1*

## *God's Birthstone?*

October's birthstone is a dazzling stone - the opal. It was valued by the Ancient Romans as the most priceless of all. The opal comes in a myriad of striking colors that often seem to swirl together and is a symbol of faithfulness, purity, and hope.

If God had a birthstone, this would be it! It reflects the many aspects of God. Sometimes the colors are soft which mirrors God's quiet

nature, and sometimes the colors are bold mirroring God's strength and power. In either case, the many different colors are awe-inspiring - just like Jesus.

The opal serves as a reminder for us to be faithful in all ways to Christ, to be pure in thought and speech, and to have hope in eternal life with our Savior.

*We prove ourselves by our purity,  
our understanding, our patience,  
our kindness, by the Holy Spirit  
within us, and by our sincere love.  
2 Corinthians 6:6 (NLT)*

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## *Joy In the Break Room at Family Court*

by Linda Kunimitsu

It was about 1965 or '66. I was one of 13 women ranging in age from early 20s to 40s employed in the clerical section of Family Court. Ten of us were stenographers. It was an extremely pleasant working environment.

A tiny break room was provided for 15-minute breaks twice a day. It was a place of much laughter. It was also a place to vent occasional frustrations. Each steno was usually sent to a probation officer to take dictation twice daily on the average of one to two hours. The other working hours were spent transcribing these notes. We were hard workers, busy as bees.

One day, we learned that the officers would be taking all of us out for lunch in appreciation during Secretaries Week.

We found this absolutely exciting! As far as we knew, it had never happened before. The place chosen was a very popular Japanese restaurant at the time, Suehiro's.

One day, when a probation officer walked into the coffee room, one of the stenos expressed her appreciation. With cup now filled with coffee, he walked out, but only after saying, "It's also Be Kind to Animals Week."

We gals looked at each other, our jaws hanging, before we burst out in laughter.

I might add, it really was Be Kind to Animals Week!



*"If a story is in you,  
it has to come out.."*  
William Faulkner



## *LIFE LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF AMOS*

by Jeanne Nagatani

While studying the Book of Amos, I found two life lessons that is applicable to my life.

The first lesson was on blessings and benefits in my life. I was reminded that all that I have in my life is from God. I didn't acquire the benefits that I have by myself and my life is meaningless without Him. A self-sufficient attitude is my downfall.

The second lesson was on accountability. Everyone will have to account for their sins when they

come face to face with God. The Book of Amos has taught me that all of us must answer to God for how we live, so we must live life according to how God wants us to live. This is where TRUST in God starts. What trust is:

T = True

R = Revelations

U= Using

S = Savior's

T = Teachings

# *A Court Reporter's Testimony*

by Linda Kunimitsu

It was in 1965 that I entered the steno pool at Family Court, First Circuit Court, in downtown Honolulu.

For you young 'uns who may not know what a steno pool is, there were no computers back then so many young women attended business school to become trained in taking shorthand and typing to transcribe these notes. We were stenographers.

At Family Court, there were ten of us hired to take shorthand from probation officers. The supervisor encouraged us to take up machine shorthand to advance to court reporting. By the end of 1966, one of the women and I decided we'd go for it. However, my future husband, Nori, got in the way. I fell in love and my desire to go to night school to learn machine shorthand went out the window.

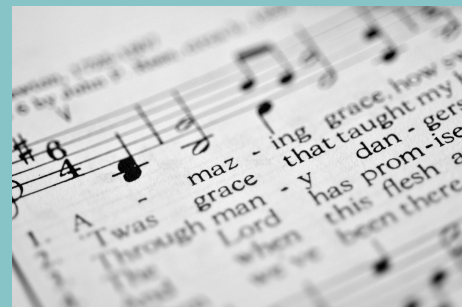
I'll call my friend Alice. Alice decided to continue her plan. She enrolled in night school and she had a difficult time getting into it so almost gave up, but her Mom encouraged her to continue. She became a court reporter, she says, in 1969. It was at District Court four years later when a new reporter got hired and sat next to her. She realized it was the same gal who had taken night classes with her. Alice was struggling in the class, whereas this gal seemed to be handling it with ease.

One day, Alice was humming Amazing Grace when this reporter said she loved that song and continued to share Jesus with her. About five years after meeting this friend at night school, she was instrumental in Alice's conversion to Christianity.

Unbeknownst to Alice, I had said the sinner's prayer at the young age of 11 or 12. I had never shared this with Alice because I had no personal relationship with Jesus. It had little effect on me. Hence, Alice started praying for my salvation. She claims she prayed 12 years for my conversion.

To both of us, it is simply amazing that God would not give up on us and sends people throughout the years to water and fertilize us until we would finally say, "Yes, Lord; I am yours!"

Do not give up on a loved one!



*"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."*

ROMANS 1:16



# October 2 - International Day of Non-Violence

From the United Nations' website:

"The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.

On June 15, 2007, a resolution established the commemoration reaffirming 'the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence' and the desire 'to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence'."

Also noted is that "The #KindnessMatters Campaign' was launched on the International Day of Non-Violence in 2018 and so far nearly 1.5 million people have shared acts of kindness across the world! #KindnessMatters Campaign aims to mobilize young people to carry out transformative acts of kindness to tackle the (Sustainable Development Goal) SDGs and create a positive culture of kindness."

For more information, visit the United Nations website:  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/non-violence-day>



*"Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace  
You may say I'm a  
dreamer  
But I'm not the only one  
I hope someday you'll join  
us  
And the world will be as  
one"*

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