



MĀNOA VALLEY
CHURCH

Mānoa Connection

Connecting our 'ohana

e-Newsletter

Date: July 1, 2020

● MVC Plans to Restart Live Worship on July 26th

As the Church moves toward reopening, many people have been working hard on our behalf. **Ruth Komatsu** and **Karen Hamada** have been cleaning the sanctuary, the custodians have been doing deep cleaning, and **Nancy Yamamoto** washed all our pew cushion covers. We thank them and also the Worship Committee, chaired by **Dawn Hamada**, Trustees, and Deacons chaired by **Mae Saito**, who have been conscientiously researching guidelines and creating a strategy that will ensure safe practices.




During the pandemic, Ruth and the Worship Video Team of 13 people have been providing an awesome Worship video. They have contributed considerable time and talent so that we can worship God. Thankfully, they will be continuing to do so even after the church reopens so members can worship at home if they prefer not to attend the live service at this time.


Links

[Online Donations](#)

[Lectionary](#)

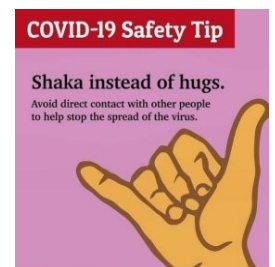
[Thought For The Day](#)

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These are the changes you will see if you attend Worship:

- 1) A waiver form entitled "Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19" will be sent to you prior to Worship reopening. Please fill out the form and bring it to the service. This form will be kept on file.
- 2) Due to physical distancing, we can only allow a certain number of worshippers in our sanctuary. This means that *you will be invited to Worship* and may only be attending every other week, depending on the number of people interested in live worship.
- 3) Face masks are required. If you have a medical condition that requires you not to wear a face mask, we kindly ask you *to stay safe at home*. Your health and everyone's safety are our top priorities.
- 4) Please remember that there will be no touching and physical distance is required. Despite our excitement in seeing our MVC family, use a *wave hello, shaka sign, Namaste greeting (bow with both hands pressed together), or a simple bow*.
- 5) Upon arrival and before entering the sanctuary, your temperature will be taken in the breezeway and questions regarding COVID-19 will be asked.
- 6) As part of the guidelines that require documented attendance, you will head to a table to sign in and turn in your waiver form.
- 7) We ask that you do the above tasks before entering the sanctuary. Enter through the front door only. Hand sanitizer will be available for you at the entrance, but there will be no bulletins.
- 8) Due to guidelines of physical distancing, pews will be marked "Sit here" and reminders "Thank you for social distancing" posted throughout.



9) Most of the Worship service will be pre-recorded. There will be no Passing of the Peace. We will ask the congregation to stand and face the opposite pews and say, "Peace of Christ be with you."

10) Congregational singing won't be part of the service but you can hum, sing the song in your head, or clap along. Pastor Abraham Han will be doing his sermon live in the pulpit.

11) At the end of Worship, you will be excused gradually by row to leave through specific doors. As you exit, you can drop your offering in the bowls which are located at these doors.

12) Pastor Han will be in the breezeway as you exit. There will be no Aloha Snacks.

13) Communion Sunday: Upon entering the sanctuary, each person will receive one communion cup that contains juice and wafer. When you take a seat, place the communion cup in cup holders which are located on the back of the pew in front of you. After service, please dispose of your cup in the trash cans located at the exit doors.



Please pray for all those involved as they prepare for you to have a safe worship service. Pray that all those who attend service stay healthy and safe. Pray for Pastor Abe and his family as they make the transition to Hawaii.

Your Worship Committee,

Dawn Hamada—Worship Chair Karen Hamada Ruth Komatsu Inga Park-Okuna
Susan Shiraki Leah Young Mae Saito—Deacon Chair

● The Many Ways of Giving

In this age of COVID-19 we find many opportunities to help and make a difference for those in need. Here are some ways that you can support our Church and community.

- **Donate:** Because we do not have in-person worship yet, *support MVC by mailing in/dropping off your pledges and offerings to the Church or donating online at manoavalleychurch.org/wp-test/donations/*. Although the Church is closed, our Preschool is open and our staff is teaching and caring for our children. Our Church accountant is working at home using technology to carry out her responsibilities. In early July we will welcome **Pastor Abraham Han**, his wife **Soo**, and their two children to Mānoa Valley Church. Pastor Abe has been attending Council and committee meetings via Zoom for several weeks and has been delivering his sermons on our video worship since June 7. The Church facility may not be fully opened but our ministry is alive and well. We need your continued support!
- **Shop:** If you shop online at AmazonSmile, the company will donate a percentage of your sale to a charity so *be sure to designate MVC to receive a portion of your shopping dollars*. So far, we have received a total of \$1,060.07 in donations from Amazon for our Building Fund.
- **Volunteer:** In our Church family there are many people who give their time and talents to our ministry. **Earl Yonehara** is quick to make needed repairs or take care of yardwork around the Church. Treasurer **David Shimabukuro** spends hours poring over budgets and financial data to keep MVC on steady ground financially. **Alissa Au** and her family sewed 100 face masks for our Preschool children and staff. **Alvin Fujioka**, **Ted Isekawa**, and **Earl** deliver boxes of food to seniors in need. You can be part of this network of caring by offering your time, talent, and skills. We encourage you to respond when a request for help goes out to our Church family.



● The Han Family Arrives!

Please pray for **Pastor Abe** and his family as they make their way from Vancouver to Honolulu this week. After they arrive on July 2, they will need to be in quarantine for 14 days at their new home in Manoa. The Pastoral Relations Committee, headed by **Ron Lee**, has been working hard to prepare for their arrival. The committee has been gathering furniture, household items, and groceries to help set up their home and has worked out a schedule of meal preparation for their first few days. If you would like to help in any way, contact Ron at aloharon@hawaii.rr.com. We look forward to welcoming the Hans to our Church family!



Pastor Abe, Soo Miles & Rory

● Happy Birthday Fumie!

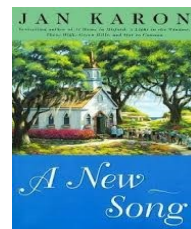


Congratulations to church member **Fumie Yamasaki**, mother of **Bette Uyeda**, who celebrated her 100th birthday on June 23. We now have three centenarians in our church family: **Aunt Jane**, **Ken Chun**, and **Fumie**. We wish them continued good health and many blessings!

Daughter Jean Toyama (right) and relatives cheer Fumie on.

● Book Club's New Selection

The MVC Book Club has chosen *A New Song* by Jan Karon for their next discussion slated for Sunday, August 30, 2020. The 5th novel in the popular Mitford series, this one focuses on the retired Lutheran Minister Tim Kavanaugh who journeys with his wife to a church on Whitecap Island, off the coast of North Carolina, to serve as its interim pastor. Sound familiar? Book Club member **Dianne Ishida** said she opted to read it since it echoed the situation of our own **Pastor Tom Fujita**. However, Father Tim's new assignment brings up a range of characters and issues very different from those at MVC!



We'd Love to Hear From You!

Mānoa Connection is asking for your response to this question:

What have you learned during the pandemic?

COVID-19 shocked the world with its severe threat and the unprecedented adjustments it brought. We are inviting you to examine what effect this has had on your thinking and behaviors. Perhaps the experience has influenced your views of the world, health, beliefs, or day-to-day existence. We hope you will share your insights with us, to be included in our next issue. We encourage you to email **Richelle Fujioka** at rfujioka@punahou.edu by Saturday, July 11 with a response to the question and your name. We ask that you explain what you have learned, how it became apparent to you, and how it has made a difference in your life. (An example: "I focus more on the necessary aspects of life and appreciate everyday things like food, shelter, and good health....")

