

The Connecting Point

Vol. 3, Number 1

December, 2008

Preschool Christmas Program



Hale Aloha Nazarene School puts on two performances every school year. The first production is the Christmas Program and the second is the Graduation Program. Both are a lot of fun.



This year the Christmas Program is on Friday, December 12 at 7:00 PM.

The production titled "Jesus: Light of the World" is being produced by Joy Sever. She has been working with both the Children and the Teachers since the beginning of November. They have been learning songs and dance routines. If you are a parent of one of these children, then at home you are experiencing the wonderful sounds of singing.



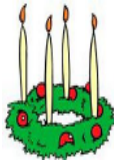
See Page 2

Collection of Nonperishables

The Preschool Teachers have started a drive to collect nonperishable food items. They are asking for donations in the form of can goods and nonperishables items (stuffing mixes, rice, scalloped potatoes, etc...). Bring in your donations to the school. They will collect these items until December 24. All donations will be given to the Hawaii Food Bank. If you require further information, please see Stacia Burton.



Advent Season



Advent is celebrated in most Christian churches in America, as well as in European countries. Most people remember Advent as the lighting of the 4 candles positioned around the wreath.

However, the meaning of each candle has actually changed during the years. Advent was originally associated with Lent. It was to be a time of fasting and praying. In fact this is still practiced in the Orthodox Churches. Nowadays Advent is celebrated as a joyous occasion.

Why do we celebrate this season of Advent? Well Advent means "coming" or "arrival". For this is the reason that we focus on the arrival, birth of Jesus and his second coming. It is in this spirit, that Advent is marked by a sense of expectation, of

See page 2

HANS and Church Board Christmas Dinner



On Friday, December 19, 2008, both the School and Church Board will get together for a potluck dinner at the Rables. It will be a time for the board members to connect with each other.

It has been a very busy year for both Boards. There have been many changes and decisions that were made for the Church and the School. So if you are on one of the boards remember to save the date.

Hale Aloha's Teacher Feature



Meet Jane Kurosawa!

The path of teaching children was not a thought in Jane's mind when she had graduated from High School. She loved numbers and the written word. In fact she was at an in-decision, she was not sure whether to be an accountant or a journalist. She ended up deciding to be an accountant (journalism majors have to do public speaking).



As Jane's life progressed, she was not able to complete her degree. However, she ended up working for HANS as their After School Care Program Coordinator and then worked in the Office for the Federal Lunch Program. She was then asked to assist in Mrs. Loebel's class when the amount of children exceeded 12. Jane found that she loved working with children of all ages. She especially enjoyed the preschool children.



Rita (Principal of HANS at the time) saw how wonderful Jane was with the children and informed her of an opportunity to go back to school, through a scholarship program offered by Good Begin-

See FEATURE Page 2

Inside This Issue

| | |
|---|--------|
| Our Favorite Recipe | p. 2 |
| Birthdays and Anniversaries | p. 3 |
| From the Pastor | p. 3 |
| From the Editor | p. 3 |
| Calendar and Events | Insert |
| Announcements and Upcoming Events | p. 4 |

Our Favorite Recipes

This recipe is Mrs. Jane Kurosawa's favorite recipe to use for Meatloaf. It is sure to be a big hit at your next casual get-together!

Louise's Meat Loaf

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 2 lbs ground beef | 1 sm onion, chopped or 2 tsp onion juice |
| 1 lb Farmer John pork sausage | 2 c cornflakes, softened in 1/2 c milk |
| 1 tsp salt | 1/3 c Heinz tomato ketchup |
| Pepper | 1 tsp Heinz Worcestershire sauce |
| 2 eggs | 1/2 c hot water for basting |

Mix ingredients well and shape into a loaf. Roast at 400 degrees for 1 1/2 hours, basting frequently with 1/2 Cup water.

We will feature a different recipe with each newsletter publication. **You can collect them one by one or get all 235 in a single volume for our printing cost of only \$7.** That's less than 3 cents per recipe! What a deal! All cookbooks come with a durable plastic stand to keep your book off the counter while you make your culinary creations.

Also featured in the cookbook are sections on *Cooking Tips and Terms, Herbs and Spices, Hints for Baking Breads and Desserts, Creative ways of Napkin Folding, a Calorie Counter and more!* Makes a great gift! Contact the church office to get yours now!

FEATURE From front page



ning Alliance. She went back to school and within 2 1/2 years she graduated with an Associates Degree in Early Childhood.

Jane has been one of HANS 4 year old teacher for the past 12 years. She currently is married to Eric Kurosawa. She has 3 children Paige her eldest daughter, Ryan her middle child and Shaun her youngest.

She believes that preschool children are like sponges. When you do not think that they are listening, they have actually absorbed it. These children keep her young at heart, for they look at life with such innocence and joy. Even when they are naughty, she finds that it is one of the spices of life. Jane truly enjoys teaching this age. She does not see herself doing anything else.

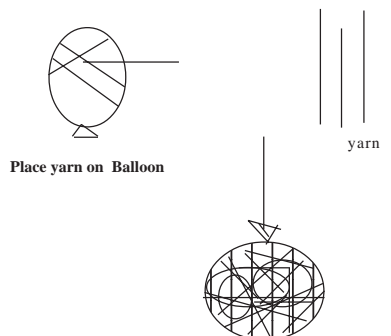
Preschool Program From Front Page

You will not want to miss this performance. The seats fill up very fast and parking is at a premium. There will also be treats served after the program. So come early to experience the joyful sounds of little children's voices.

Arts and Crafts Mrs. Kurosawa's ornament art project:

- 8 oz. Fabric Stiffener (purchase at craft store)
- 1 medium Bowl
- 1 Balloon
- Ball of yarn (any color)
- 1 String

Pour the Fabric Stiffener into the Bowl. Then blow the Balloon up to a small size and knot the end. Cover the Balloon with the yarn. You may layer the string on top of each other, or form a pattern with the yarn over the Balloon. Then take the Balloon layered with the yard and dip it into the bowl with the fabric stiffener. Make sure that that the solution is soaked on the yarn. Hang the Balloon up to dry. Once the yarn is dry, pop the Balloon and remove. Take the string and tie it to the end of the hardened yarn. Hang it on the Tree. (You may also place bells within the balloon, prior to blowing it up. That way when you pop the Balloon the bells remain within the ornament.)



Advent From front page

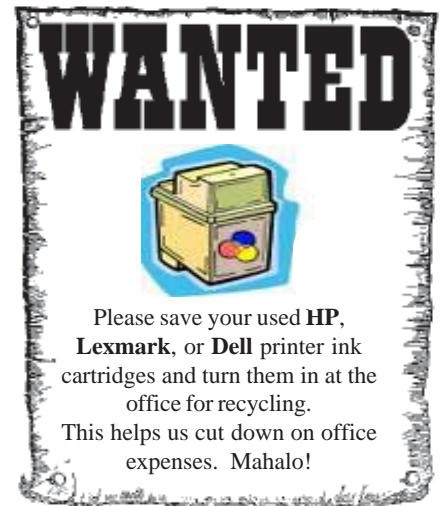
anticipation, of preparation, and of long-ing. It is a time where we not only celebrate the birth of Jesus, but a time where our hope is renewed.



This year the first Sunday of Advent is on November 30th. We as a church will continue this Advent tradition. We will celebrate it with the lighting of the candles the subsequent Sundays before Christmas.



This is a great way to support Hale Aloha Nazarene School. A certain percentage of the money that you spend either at Safeway or Macy's will go directly to HANS. All you have to do is register your Safeway Club Card and your Macy's Card at www.escrip.com. If you require some assistance, Iwaloa Chilson will be more than happy to assist you.



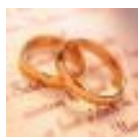
December ...



| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Brad Arnold | 12/1 |
| Melinda Keena | 12/3 |
| Robert "Bud" Aku | 12/5 |
| Justin Alonzo | 12/7 |
| Emma Nakano | 12/7 |
| Gentle Akao | 12/9 |
| Dixie Topliff | 12/11 |
| Jet'aime Nakano | 12/12 |
| Bianca Ng | 12/13 |
| Nina Homestead | 12/19 |
| Bob Loebel | 12/22 |
| Monica Ng | 12/25 |
| John Walker | 12/27 |



Happy Anniversary!



| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| Chuck & Mo Barclay | 12/6 | Frank & Judy Bugado | 12/19 |
| Kelly & Tanya McGrew | 12/11 | Duane & Peggy-Jo Slocum | 12/20 |
| Rick & Sheri | 12/11 | Curt & Natalie Hanson | 12/27 |

For additions or addresses, please call the church office.



From the Pastor

With Thanksgiving behind us, it's time to turn our attention toward Christmas. Thanksgiving reminded us of all the things for which we are thankful and Christmas seems to remind us of all the things we want. Our prayers sometimes sound more like a letter to Santa than praise to the Almighty God. And trust me, I am guilty too. While God does tell us to come to Him with our needs and our cares, He also wants our love. At Christmas we have the opportunity to act more like God than at many other times. We think of the ways we can give to each other. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." God's love for us has been demonstrated by his giving. He didn't give things or money, He gave life. He gave the life of His Son so that we could be redeemed from our sin. This Christmas season let's seek the opportunities we have to give to others. It is in our giving that we show our love to one another.

Soon the rush of the parties and shopping and family and special programs and events will be upon us. We will feel pulled in every direction and before it is all over some of us will be wishing that Christmas were already past so that we could just relax a little bit. But please don't miss the baby in the manger this year. We celebrate Christmas to remember what God has done for us. He came, as a baby, small and helpless, so that we could have life, a life that we will never know unless we put our faith in Jesus and make him our Lord. Please don't let another Christmas pass without "knowing" the Reason for the season.

May God Bless You This Christmas Season,

Pastor Rick



From the Editor

For those of you who would like to try their skills in writing, or has any suggestion for the upcoming newsletter, please let me know. I would love to print your article. Also if you have any spiritual questions that you would love answered, please direct them to me, Iwaloa. There will be a Q & A column in the next issue.

Aloha nui, Iwaloa

DECEMBER 2008

Changed by Christ to Reach our World

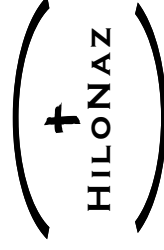
Schedule of Events

- December—Compassionate Ministries Month
- December 6—Women’s Ministry at Prince Kuhio Starbucks @9:00 AM
- December 7—2nd Sunday of Advent
- December 9—Pastors Ragle & Slocum on 90.3 AM KCIF Radio @ 6:00—8:00 AM
- December 12—HANS Christmas Program@7:00 PM
- December 14—3rd Sunday of Advent
- December 14—Compassionate Ministries Offering
- December 19—HANS and Church Board Christmas Dinner @ 6:00 PM
- December 21—4th Sunday of Advent
- December 21—Pastor Slocum & Peggy-Jo’s last Day
- December 23—Pastor Ragle on 90.3 AM KCIF Radio @ 6:00—8:00 AM
- December 23—Slocum’s fly to Washington
- December 24—Christmas Eve Service @7:00 PM
- December 25—Christmas Day (HANS Closed)
- December 27—Clean up of Christmas Decorations
- December 31—New Year’s Eve Service @ 7:00 PM

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

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Compassionate Ministries Month

All across our world we are getting reports of people in need. Those that are misplaced from homes devastated from Hurricanes and Earthquakes. People who are in financial crises due to loss of jobs or increase in mortgage interest rates. Children that roam the streets due to the death of their parents. It seems like everything has taken a turn for the worse.



When Jesus walked the earth, there were earthquakes and devastations. But, the gov-

ernment back then did not take care of people who lost their homes or whose children were orphaned. The Roman Government not only had a King, but they had Representatives. Why was there no help for the poor, the down trodden, the widows, the orphans and the sick? We do not know.

But what we do know, is that Jesus was calling people to care for the widows, orphans, poor and the needy. He wanted people to get involved with the caring for others in need.

This is the very reason why The Church of the Nazarene first came together. It was under the idea of helping those in need. God calls us to be compassionate to others.



This month in the Church of the Nazarene is Compassionate Ministries Month. They have called us to pray and to give what we can for this

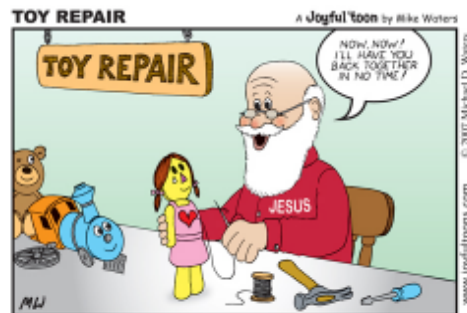
ministry. It is through this ministry that we as a Nazarene Church are able to reach out to others across our world. They supply food and clothing to those in need.

On December 14 we will be taking an offering for Compassionate Ministries. Please pray about your monetary donations and see what God can do with it.

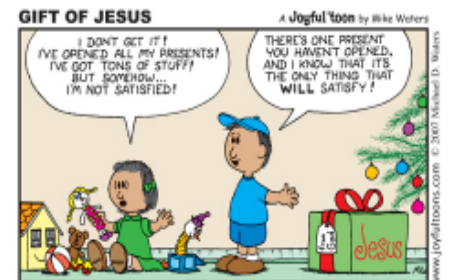


Nazarene Compassionate Ministry has a website that you can visit at <http://www.ncm.org>

Christmas Cartoons



He heals the brokenhearted
And binds up their wounds. - PSALM 147:3 NKJV



Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. -PSALM 107: 8,9 KJV

Pastor Duane Slocum and Peggy-Jo



We are saddened by the immanent departure of Pastor Duane Slocum and his wife Peggy-Jo. We as a church knew that this day would be coming.

They have been a part of our church since January 2003. Pastor Duane Slocum served our church not just as an Assistant Pastor, but he served in our Hale Aloha School as a School Teacher and then as an Assistant Principal. He also assisted the preschool teachers during the afternoon. Pastor Slocum's last day was on November 21, 2008

Peggy-Jo is currently one of our Adult Sunday School teachers. We will miss her teaching. She is also an Assistant Teacher in our Public School system. She will be retiring from this position on December 19, 2008. I know that she will be greatly missed at Kea'au High School.

Pastor Slocum and Peggy-Jo have also opened their home for a Bible Study on Sunday evenings. They will be greatly missed by their group.

Prior to joining our church family, The Slocums served at our Paradise Park church for 6 years as their pastor. I am sure that we are not alone, in this sad news for us, but good news for the Slocums. Their last day is on December 21 and they fly from Kona on December 23 to join with their son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. How wonderful it will be to be able to spend time with the family.

Their new address will be:

8317 60th Lane, SE
Olympia, WA 98513

Announcements...

**KCIF
Radio
90.3
AM**



**New Years Eve
Service**



**Women's
Ministry at
Starbucks
December 6**



Pastors Rick Ragle and Duane Slocum are on the air. Turn in to KCIF on December 9 and 23 between 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM. Listen in for some fun, interesting conversation and great music. Would you like to join in on the fun? Talk to Pastor Rick for your chance on the air.

On Wednesday, December 31 at 7:00 PM there will be a New Years Eve Service. It will be a time of remembering what has taken place and looking forward to what is to come. So come and join us during this time.

Come join us, ladies, for a cup of coffee and fine fellowship at the Prince Kuhio Starbucks on the first Saturday of every month from 9:00 AM. to 10:00 AM. It's a great, refreshing way to start your week-end. Treat yourself and a friend to this special time! Contact Gail Ragle at 989-1368 for more information.

Upcoming Event:

Christmas Eve December 24

On December 24 at 7:00 PM Hilo Church of the Nazarene will be having a Christmas Eve service. The service will start at 7:00 PM and end at 8:00 PM. There will be singing of Christmas songs, the reading of the birth of Christ, the lighting of candles and the list goes on. It will be a joyous occasion. It will be a time for us to remember that Jesus came to us as a baby, born with the same needs like all babies, being solely dependent upon the care of his Mother and on his Step-Father. After there will be Hot Chocolate and Hot Apple Cider and Christmas cookies for a time of fellowship.

All are welcomed to come and join us during this Christmas Eve Service.

“Changed by Christ, to Reach Our World”
~Matthew 28:19a

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