



# Chapel Chimes

727 T Street, Sacramento, CA • December 2022

Dear Friends,

A new church year began on Sunday, November 27, with the first Sunday of Advent. The four Sundays of Advent are often seen as the countdown to Christmas, as the time when we get things ready for Christmas. Trees need decorating, and presents need wrapping. And somewhere in all this are the goings on of everyday life: work, school, meetings, doctor appointments, running errands. The temptation is to live what someone has called a “hurry-up, get busy, Christmas is almost here,” Christmas. There is another way.

Advent is a time when the Church stands up in the midst of all the busyness of life and asks us to slow down, to focus, to be alert. For the four Sundays of Advent aren't the time when we prepare for Christmas but the time in which we are being prepared for Christmas. We are to look and listen for the God who is always coming to us. We reflect on who we are and whether our friendship with Christ is deepening our experience of God and our relationships with each other. We look for Jesus in all the unexpected places-in the stuff of everyday life, especially in the needy of our world. We live with expectancy of God's presence in our lives.

That's not easy, living as we do in a culture of distraction and noise, busyness and instant everything. That's not easy to do any time, but especially in one of the busiest times of the year. At Parkview this Advent season, we are celebrating God's presence in worship with the 303<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the song, “Joy to the World.” As we anticipate the One for whom all heaven and nature sing, we will begin each Sunday service with the lighting of candles in an Advent Wreath. Each week, the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love candles remind us that waiting and watching are holy work. They teach us how to look for God's joy even during hard times. On Christmas Day, the Christ candle will be lit to show how brightly God's joy shone in our world in Jesus, the manger-born King. Together we will share the joy of the angel's message: Today in the city of David there has been born for us a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Thanks to Donna Komure-Toyama for making the lovely royal purple Advent drapes for our sanctuary crosses. And thanks to everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary for Christmas with the nativity set, greenery, bows, the beautiful tree sparkling with ornaments and lights, and, thanks to Gary Younglove, a star of David on the very top of the tree. In a year when the US is awash in racist antisemitic rhetoric and violent incidents, it's imperative to stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters in shared devotion to God. Like Gary said, “It's great having a star of David on our tree. After all, Jesus was a Jew!”

Thanks to all who plan to bring a poinsettia to church to decorate in honor or in memory of loved ones. These festive seasonal plants will fill our sanctuary with joyful color. And thanks to all who donated warm winter wear to give to our neighbors living outdoors. We took the coats, hats, gloves, socks, and scarves to the respite center at Westminster Presbyterian and the Wind Youth Services. People were very glad to get the winter outerwear. A woman at the respite center came back to the supplies table modeling her new coat. “I was cold before,” she said. “Now I'm warm.” Thank you, Parkview Church, for providing this God-blessed moment. Thanks in advance to Parkview Presbyterian Women for providing edible Christmas cheer for us to enjoy on Christmas Day!

Advent and Christmas are seasons of preparation and expectancy, times to anticipate and celebrate the coming of Jesus into our world. May God prepare us all to celebrate the good news and great joy of Jesus' birth. Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Thanks be to God!

- Pastor Sarah



*Original Christmas Card by Sachiko Yoshikawa  
See page 3 for purchase information*

# News

## Volunteer Spotlight: "Church Ladies"

*Parkview is fueled by its volunteers, many working behind the scenes to keep the church going.*

Thank you, Maurine Huang and Carla Hart, for coming on Thursday mornings to fold the bulletins, clean the candle holders and candle lighters, stuff envelopes, wipe down door knobs, and carry out other duties in preparation for worship. You both do so much for the church already, and we are all so grateful for these finishing touches!.



*Photo Courtesy of Kris Sasaki*

## Youth Group Disbands

With most current members moving on to college, the Youth Group decided to disband. They have graciously donated their remaining funds of \$165.84 to the church. Many thanks to Wade Tambara, who guided them these past years.



## Report from Session

At the November meeting of Session, the following actions were taken and matters discussed:



- **2023 Budget Information:**

Treasurer advised that the 2023 church budget will be approximately the same as the 2022 budget.

Possible adjustments for church staff may be considered pending personnel committee evaluations. Session will consider 2023 budget at Session meeting in December;

- **Clerk of Session Candidate:** Christine Umeda has resigned as Clerk of Session, and Terri Bowman has been nominated to be the Clerk of Session for 2023. Terri will be elected as Clerk in January 2023;

- **Church Property and Liability Insurance Premium Increase:** Insurance costs have steadily increased over the past few years. Proposed premium increase for 2023 could be due to the vandalism claim submitted in 2021. On-going research to consider possibly changing carriers or increasing deductible;

- **Successful Talent Show Fundraiser (Part I):** first talent show fundraiser held on November 6 raised approximately \$4,500;

- **Stewardship Letters:** to be sent in November. Formation of fundraising and budget committee (a.k.a. Heavenly Treasures Team) to take place in 2023;

- **Church Repairs:** safety and security upgrades to the church have priority and will be completed before repairs to the Kansha House;

- **Personal Safety Instruction:** in January 2023, an instructor from the Elk Grove Dojo will provide personal protection training for those who may be interested. Details to be forthcoming;

- **Donation of automobile:** an anonymous donor would like to donate a non-operational, vintage, automobile to the church. Recommend assisting donor sell the car with proceeds to be donated;

- **110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Report to Session Submitted.**

- Christine Umeda, Clerk of Session  
Steve Hanway  
Carla Hart  
Pattie Hashimoto  
Donna Komure-Toyama  
Irene Uno  
William Yee

## Financial Report as of November 30, 2022:

	November	Total Yr 2022
Income:	\$28,376.27	\$142,651.39
Expenses:	\$17,878.87	\$162,205.24
Difference:		(\$19,553.85)

# News

## Parkview Welcomes Aki & Miko Kumagai

On November 27, 2022, Parkview received Aki and Miko Kumagai into active membership. The Kumagais attended Parkview when they first moved to Sacramento more than 20 years ago. They came back to Parkview early in 2022, and we are glad for their friendship and ministry among us. We celebrate God's faithfulness in growing our church family so that together we can be God's people doing God's work, sharing God's love with all the world.



Photo courtesy of Jonathan Sakakibara

## Congratulations, Stan Umeda!

Stan Umeda received the prestigious Florin JACL-SV Leadership Award at the Dec 10 Florin JACL-SV 87<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards & Installation Gala. We are so proud of Stan and his many contributions to Parkview (the updated podium, for one), the JACL, and the community at large. Thank you, Stan!



## Parkview Joins SSIP

Parkview has joined the South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership with Carla Hart and Lois Van Beers joining the Board. *Click here* to read SSIP's December newsletter. If you are interested in volunteering at SSIP, please go to <https://www.ssiifoodcloset.org/volunteer>.



## Special Christmas Card Fundraiser

Sachiko Yoshikawa, our own professional illustrator, is graciously bringing two colorful and whimsical cards for Christmas our way!! Thirty copies of each design will be printed and sold for \$5 each. They are scheduled to be available as of the Dec 11 worship service. Please see Donna or Haruko after the service, if you would like to purchase cards. Please email Haruko at [sakakibaraharuko@gmail.com](mailto:sakakibaraharuko@gmail.com) to reserve them.



This is Sachiko's second donation of world-acclaimed art to our church. Thank you so much, Sachiko! Such a joyful message through your art will deliver the spirit of Christmas.

## Candy Canes and Kudos to Session Clerk

Heaps of appreciation to Christine Umeda, who is retiring as Parkview's Clerk of Session at the end of Dec. For more than six years, Christine has faithfully taken notes of all session proceedings and created minutes and agendas for the monthly meetings. Christine has also compiled detailed annual statistical reports for the Presbyterian Church's General Assembly. She has served session as a terrific elder while recording the minutes. Many thanks to Christine for all her efforts keeping Parkview's session records in tip-top shape.



## No On-Site Worship Service on Jan 1

Happy New Year! There will be no on-site worship service at Parkview on Jan 1. There are still ways to worship:

- Worship at Home: worship materials will be provided
- Visit a local church and enjoy new ways of connecting with God.
- Spend time with family and friends in God's great outdoors!



- Submitted by Parkview Session

# News

## 2023 Worship Team Schedules are Set

The schedules for the volunteers to serve during Sunday Worship Services in the year 2023 are now ready! How nice it is to have people with a warm spirit and smiles continuously filling our sanctuary to welcome the members and visitors every Sunday!



A significant number of people have recently volunteered to fill a worship position. Thank you Kaz and Lois for joining as PA operator, Aki for zoom moderator, Mana, Marilyn, Rumi, and Tia for greeters, and Aki, Betsy, Donna, Irene, Lynn, and Miko for ushers. As a result of the enthusiasm to help, greeters, Japanese reading, PA system, and ushers now have a rotation of twice in three months instead of every other month, and chairperson rotation is every three months. Parking and zoom operators will need future help since they stay with a monthly rotation. Anyone who is interested is welcome anytime.

Pianists will be in a rotation of three, and any help will be nice. Wade, who has continuously provided wonderful music since high school, will have a well-deserved rest in 2023. Thank you so much, Wade!

Special thanks goes to Titus for taking the lead for the rotation of the duties for securing our parking lot on Saturdays. And welcome to Neil for joining his team!

We are a community of kindness. Any time a volunteers' schedule changes, substitutes and exchanges will be available.

- Submitted by Haruko Sakakibara  
Worship Committee

## Congregational Meeting Set for Jan 22

Our annual congregational meeting will take place after worship service on Jan 22. Please plan to attend either in person or online. Your vote matters!

If you chair a committee or organization, please turn in your annual report by Jan 6.

[Click here](#) to access the committee form.

[Click here](#) to access the organization form.

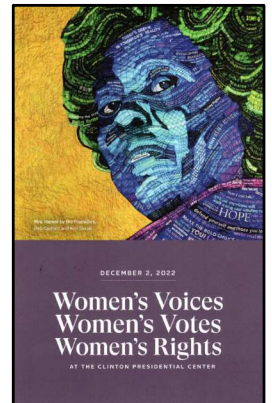


## Active Shooter Training Scheduled for Jan 22

This year we put together a team tasked with reviewing and increasing safety and security for Parkview's buildings and congregation. Hach Yasamura, Lois Van Beers, William Yee, and Maurine Huang met with area police officers and security advisors to see how to improve security at Parkview. One of the suggestions from the police was to offer an Active Shooter Training to help us prepare for an attack on our building or church family. Parkview will host an Active Shooter Training with Officer Young on Sunday, Jan 22 at 12:30 pm, following the annual congregational meeting. Please attend this important presentation if you want to be equipped to respond in the event of an attack. Together we will be trained for something we hope and pray never occurs.

## Office Manager is also an Artist!

Kudos to our very own Kris Sazaki and her creative partner, Deb Cashatt of Pixeladies, whose piece honoring the civil rights activist, Fannie Lou Hamer, was used for the publicity for the international Women's Summit held at the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, AR. The accompanying exhibition is on view through Apr 30. Kris spent her vacation at the event, coming home with great memories and a nasty non-Covid flu, which is the reason this newsletter was published late.



- Submitted by Pastor Sarah

## Basic Self-Defense Class for All Ages/Abilities

Start your new year with a self-defense training session at Parkview! After worship on January 29, 2023 at 11:30, Mr. Kelly of Kovars Satori Academy of Martial Arts (Laguna Elk Grove) will offer a class in basic self-defense at Parkview. Cost is \$5 per person. Mr. Kelly will teach self-defense skills for all ages and abilities. Everyone is invited to attend. Friends and family are welcome. Mr. Kelly will demonstrate skills for everyone no matter what their physical capabilities. Please bring comfortable clothes and shoes. Join us at Parkview on Jan 29 as we increase our awareness and ability to respond to threatening situations for ourselves and others.

# Upcoming Events

Worship with Us In Person or Online:

Login info and worship programs are available at <https://parkviewpc.org/>.

- Dec 11: **Worship Service.** 10 am.  
Worship Leader - Donna Komure-Toyama  
Japanese Reader - Mieko Davis  
Pianist - Janet Hill  
Zoom Moderator - Judy Yee  
Sound System - Tom Tambara  
Parking - Dave McGill  
Parking Barrier (Sat) - Titus Toyama  
Ushers - Maurine Huang, William Yee  
Greeters - Judy Fukuman, Jana Nakase-Lee  
Online Greeter - May Lee  
Altar Flowers - Jane Matsuoka
- Dec 11: Gingerbread House Making. After worship service.
- Dec 13: No Bible Study.** Bible study resumes Jan 10..
- Dec 14: Choir Practice. 7 pm in the social hall.
- Dec 18: **Worship Service.** 10 am.  
Worship Leader - Titus Toyama  
Japanese Reader -Miko Kumagai  
Pianist - Janet Hill  
Zoom Moderator - Nancy Arata-Fong  
Sound System - Cathy Nishizaki  
Parking - Russ Hart  
Parking Barrier (Sat) - Jonathan Sakakibara  
Ushers - Julie Chew  
Greeters - Jerry Champa, Carla Hart  
Online Greeter - May Lee  
Altar Flowers - Tom & Wade Tambara
- Dec 21: Choir Practice. 7 pm in the social hall.
- Dec 25: **Worship Service.** 10 am.  
Worship Leader - Jonathan Sakakibara  
Japanese Reader - Miko Kumagai  
Pianist - Haruko Sakakibara  
Zoom Moderator - Lori Hart  
Sound System - Titus Toyama  
Parking - Phillip Chew  
Parking Barrier (Sat) - William Yee  
Ushers - Michael Wright  
Greeters - Pattie Hashimoto,

Gary Younglove

Online Greeter - May Lee

Altar Flowers - Lynn Yamamoto

- Dec 25: Newsletter Submission Deadline.** Send articles and/or photos by 5 pm to [officemanager@parkviewpc.org](mailto:officemanager@parkviewpc.org).
- Jan 1: NO On-Site Worship Service.** See page 3 for details.
- Jan 10: Bible Study.** 6 pm via Zoom
- Jan 10: Prayer Team Meeting.** 7:15 pm via Zoom.
- Jan 11: Worship Committee Meeting.** 5 pm via Zoom.
- Jan 12: Session Meeting.** 1 pm via Zoom.
- Jan 16: PPC Legacy Meeting.** 7 pm via Zoom.
- Jan 22: Congregational Meeting.** After worship service.
- Jan 22: Active Shooter Training.** See page 4.
- Jan 29: Personal Safety Instruction.** 11:30 am. See page 4 for details.



## Contact Us:

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Kris Sazaki: [officemanager@parkviewpc.org](mailto:officemanager@parkviewpc.org)

# Thank You for Your Support!

Many thanks to all of you who contribute to Parkview through your generous pledged offerings! Additionally, thanks so much to the following for their generous special donations. Acknowledgment letters and postings in the *Chapel Chimes* may be in reverse order. Thank you for your patience. Contact [officemanager@parkviewpc.org](mailto:officemanager@parkviewpc.org) with any questions.

**Special Offerings:** Jan Batt, Parkview Youth Group

**In Appreciation of Hip Surgery:** Christine Umeda

**In Celebration of the Birth of Grandson, Caleb Hideki Fernandez:** Doug Kubo

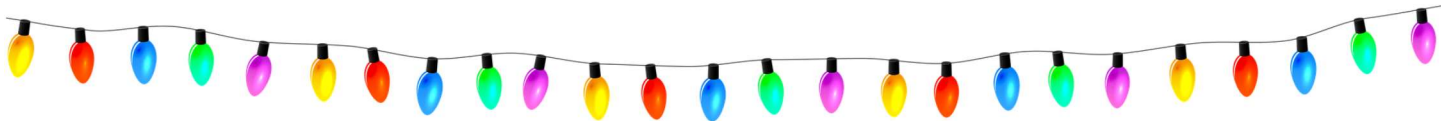
**In Celebration of Parkview's 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Bill & Linda Nagata, Parkview Presbyterian Women, Jonathan & Haruko Sakakibara

**In Support of PPW:** Dave McGill

**Thanksgiving Offerings:** Terri Bowman, Kevin & Sylvia (Ryugo) Campbell, Marilyn Champa, Tak & Linda Fukuman, Stephen & Janet Hill, Brian & Leah Kanegawa, Glenn & Evelyn Kubota, May Lee, Mitch & Sue Lorens, Jane Matsuoka, Dave McGill, Bill & Linda Nagata, Jonathan & Haruko Sakakibara, Yumiko Swann, Rick & Irene Uno, Hach & Linda Yasumura, William & Judy Yee, Richard & Joyce Yuki

**Thanksgiving Showtime:** Terri Bowman, Phil & Julie Chew, Betsy Eskridge & Lois Van Beers, David & Nancy (Arata) Fong, Carla Hart, Russ & Lori Hart, David & Barbara Horiuchi, Jana Nakase Lee, Fumi Nakata, Cathy Nishizaki, Dwight & Sarah Nave, Aya Sakakibara, Jonathan & Haruko Sakakibara, Titus & Donna (Komure) Toyama, Stan & Christine Umeda, Lynn Yamamoto, Hach & Linda Yasumura, William & Judy Yee, and numerous cash donations.

*Thank you in advance for your Christmas offering.*



## How Donate:

**In Person.** You may drop off your donation during worship service.

**By Mail.** Make checks out to Parkview Presbyterian Church. **Please do not send cash.**

**Online.** Please go to <https://www.parkviewpc.org/> and click on the "Support Parkview" tab and select "General Fund." Use the Notes section to provide additional information about your donation, i.e. "in memory of" or "xx fund." You can use credit card or bank transfer, donate one time only or set up regular donations.