



Who are we now?

Over 50 people attended the combined “State of the Church” and Charge Conference after worship on December 3rd. The Staff Parish Relations Committee took care of the set up, with some help from the Mochi making group—thank you!

The event began with a delicious soup and salad lunch, and everyone had a great time chatting with one another. Several people who had not been at church for some time were there, as was Rev. Paul Kottke, our District Superintendent.

Rev. Vivian opened the meeting with prayer, then gave a presentation about our church. She has done research about trends in our church over the past 45 years. The information she provided helped everyone gain a better

understanding of the challenges we face. The Power Point is available on the church Facebook page (www.facebook.com/simpsonumcarvada/).

The challenges the church is currently experiencing arise from two sources: the changes in the overall culture in our country, and the unhelpful ways the people of our church have sometimes responded (or not responded) to the changes in the culture.

While every church goes through a predictable life cycle, Rev. Vivian explained that this church is not just in decline, but is near the end of its life. Rev. Paul concurred, and said that many churches in the Rocky Mountain Conference are facing the same situation.

The good news is that there is hope for the future. The church has enough money in restricted funds to carry us for a few years. So, if it is not a question of money, why is the church struggling to survive?

As the hymn “I Am the Church” says, “the church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is

not a resting place, the church is a people!” The simple truth is that we do not have enough people involved in the life of the church to survive.

A key factor unique to this congregation has masked this issue for some time, and that factor is the popularity of our cultural events. A number of people who used to attend worship and Sunday school, who used to serve on committees and repair the building, now only attend Hina Matsuri or the Bazaar.

Some are simply not able to drive any more, or as far as they must to attend church. Distances that used to be easily accomplished on a Sunday morning are now barriers to attending worship.

For others, arguments and ill will built up over the years, and attending a festival allows them to be supportive without having to talk with someone they wish to avoid.

For some younger people it is no longer important to attend a Japanese American congregation; a church close to home with children’s programs suits their needs better than Simpson does.

In order to be a vibrant church, one that can continue to offer support and space to cultural events, the congregation of Simpson United Methodist Church must attract new people, grow disciples by growing faith, and do all this while retaining an authentic identity that honors our past.

Like all churches over 100 years old, this church has faced this kind of challenge before. The church of the 1950s was very different from the church of the 1930s. And the kids who attended youth group in the 1980s looked very different

(continued on page 4)





Tea and Conversation



As I type these words I am just beginning to recover from the whirlwind of activity that was December. From the Charge Conference to Christmas Eve, my calendar was packed with things to do. Like many of you, I not only had a great many tasks to accomplish at work, but family obligations as well. And then, of course, I caught the terrible cold that people were passing around, and - well, I never did quite catch up.

And so I find myself looking forward to a new year. Surely 2018 will be calmer with fewer stressful demands! Then the voice of experience sounds in my head, and I know that this new year will be just like last year in one key respect: it is an opportunity filled with possibilities, and I alone will determine its outcome.

Now, I'm not foolish enough to think that I am in control of life. Unexpected events will happen in 2018, just as they did in 2017. Some events will be happy; others will knock me off balance. But no event can determine whether the year is fruitful and good, or destructive and painful. That is the one thing I can control: my own response to what happens in my life.

When I was young, I got up each morning and just did what had to be done. Every morning I showered and dressed for the day, and then lived out the drama of all the events of the day. Bad traffic? Bad day. Nasty comment made to me? Angry response followed by hours of recounting the scene for friends. Good review of a performance brought elation at being praised in public; that felt good. But a bad review brought depression and self-doubt.

At some point in my twenties, deeply hungry for a calmer, more secure inner life, I sought some way to become more anchored, more rooted in a deeper sense of myself. I was raised in the Methodist Church, but the church didn't seem to have any sense of purpose to offer me. I wandered from being a "born again" Christian to the est movement, from Wicca to psychic fairs, always seeking something deeper, something meaningful.

Until I found God again in silent prayer. In the silence all the drama of life seemed to fade into the background as God's gentle, loving light revealed what is true and permanent: God alone, and my existence in God. I will lose my body, but my soul - that which is expressed through my mind, my body, my emotions - my soul exists forever, safe within God's strong, eternal presence. That realization gave purpose and meaning to my life.

I am not alone in my desire to have a sense of purpose and meaning. My son and daughter-in-law took us to see the new "Star Wars" movie on Christmas night. It's all about purpose! Luke Skywalker has lost his sense of purpose and become bitter. Rey, the young protagonist, is desperately searching for a purpose. Kylo Ren has rejected his family's purpose out of anger and pain, and controlling others to avoid feeling his pain is becoming his purpose. And, of course, - **spoiler alert!** - wise Yoda understands what the purpose of life really is, and intervenes at a key moment to open eyes and change the course of events.

Whenever I encounter a church in decline, inevitably I learn that the congregation has lost a shared sense of purpose, a shared sense of being united in some mission for Christ. Their squabbles vary - about the building for some, the kitchen for others. But the squabbles merely mask their reluctance to ask: why are we here? Does this church really matter?

A sense of purpose is so important that God advises us in the Bible - Proverbs 29:18: **Where there is no purpose, the people perish.** Or - as Eugene Peterson puts the same verse in *the Message*: **If people cannot see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves, but when they attend to what God reveals, they are most blessed.**

How can we possibly "see what God is doing"? Well, one way is just to do our best to be really present in each moment. As one wise older pastor once said, "Some people are entrenched in the past; others constantly project themselves into the future. But the present is all we really have. If you aren't living in the present, you aren't really living." God created the present for us to enjoy what God is doing today, right now. That's how we can "attend to what God reveals."

As we enter the new year, I invite you join me as we "attend to what God reveals" by living in the present moment together. One way I have learned to strengthen my ability to be present is to ask myself each morning, "What does God want to do through me **today** at Simpson United Methodist Church?" That question prompts me to look at each moment of the day as an opportunity to be a vessel for God's love, God's peace, God's encouragement.

And that's my purpose for 2018 - to grow in my ability to attend to what God is revealing, right here.



Masa Nishimura, Miyoko Wells, & Helen Goto



I want to take a moment and wish everyone at Simpson UMC a very happy New Year. Time seems to go very quickly this time of year. Now that we are past the holidays we can stop and take a breath.

YOUTH SUNDAY is January 7th!! Youth are responsible for preparing the bread and juice for Holy Communion, and for serving it to the congregation. My mom, Rev. Linda Pelletier, will preside and I will be preaching. **Please arrive at church no later than 9:30 am so we have plenty of time to get things done.**

In youth we will be going back to bible basics. I will use videos and have some discussion topics each week. We will talk about the characters that helped define our faith.

Abraham ☯ Isaac ☯ Jacob ☯ Joseph ☯ Moses ☯ King David

We will discuss who these people were and where they fit in in the bible. In addition, we will continue to do some fun activities and service projects.



**DON'T FORGET—YOUTH COUNCIL MEETS
JAN. 7 @ 11:15! ASIAN CAMP will be our focus.**



It's been great having between 6 and 8 in youth group each week. And I'm looking forward to 2018!

God Bless,
Scott Pelletier



Dear Simpson UMC Friends,

I want to take this time to tell you how happy I am to be teaching your children about Jesus and the Bible. The stories we will be learning in the New Year, during Sunday School, are designed to encourage your child(ren) to fall in love with God and the Bible. I hope that the children will come home excited about the Bible and coming to Sunday School. We will be using the "Jesus Storybook Bible" lessons. Learning about all the wonderful stories in the Bible is one of the most important aspects of a child's faith journey. Our first lesson to start the New Year, will be "The beginning: a perfect home." What they learn now will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

God Bless! And a very Happy New Year!

Sheri Pelletier



CHURCH NEWS

STATE OF THE CHURCH *(continued)*

In order to thrive once again, the people of this church must work together to answer some key questions:

- ♦ Why do we exist as a church?
- ♦ What do we value most about being Christian?
- ♦ How can we live into those values?
- ♦ Where is God in all this?

Answering these questions will help us discern who we are as a people of God today.

As she did for our successful retreat, Rev. Vivian will lead us in these conversations. But, as happened at the retreat, the people of the church had to provide the answers to the questions.

The process Rev. Vivian will use has three phases: **Dialogue, Discuss, Decide**. The first phase, Dialogue, is like an extended brainstorming session. The above questions will be asked in different ways, and people will be encouraged to explore new ways of thinking. Courtesy will be observed, and no ideas will be rejected or judged.

People will have several opportunities to participate in the Dialogue phase. No votes will be taken and no decisions will be made, so everyone is encouraged to attend one or more Dialogue sessions:

Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 pm

Tuesday, January 16 at 2:00 pm

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY -

Saturday, January 20

8:30 am - 3 pm

(see page 7 for more information)

Arrangements will be made for at least one Dialogue session with the Nichigo congregation, using an interpreter so they may fully participate.

Rev. Vivian will work with the Council and SPRC to assess the process as it unfolds. More Dialogue sessions may be added if it becomes clear that they are needed.

Once the Dialogue phase has led to a shared understanding of why this church exists as well as a shared set of values, the **Discussion phase** will begin.

During the Discussion phase the conversations focus on whether the church's current worship format, staff, ministries, and governing structure will serve the new shared sense of identity and mission.

No decisions are made during the Discussion phase as new ways of thinking and doing church are learned. People may wish to visit other churches to explore new ways of doing church, or attend a workshop, or study a book.

When a new direction for our church has been identified and people have fully discussed ways to live into that identity, only then will the church come together in the **Decision phase**.

A final series of opportunities to come together will be offered to make decisions based on what has been learned. Decisions may include changes in staff, worship, youth and children's ministries, and the arrangement and use of the building.

Every decision will be assessed in light of the new identity and the new direction in which God is leading.

Once key decisions have been made, a special Charge Conference will be scheduled to enact the decisions and possibly elect more leaders. It will be publicized to everyone so full participation is possible.

This process will only succeed if the people of the church support it with their presence and their prayers,

CHURCH FINANCES

FINANCE REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2017



	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>Jan. 1—Nov. 30, 2017</u>
Donated to Operations	\$ 8,364.17	\$ 89,731.25
Other Income†	4,184.33	70,455.57
Fundraising†	2,885.00	56,377.38
From Restricted funds	45,000.00	134,450.37
Total Income*	60,433.50	\$220,973.49
Total Expenses	—18,484.77	—289,896.75
Net Result	\$ 41,948.73	\$ 47,194.62

**Does not include gains in investments that were not deposited as income*

† Please note: Not all income may be used to offset the expense of running the church.

CHURCH NEWS

Simplifying Our Leadership Structure

For over a year the Church Council has been exploring new ways to organize church leadership. Fewer and fewer people are willing or able to do the work of maintaining the church, much less learn how to grow it.

The Council has identified a promising new model called Simple Leadership. This model has been successfully adopted by churches throughout the country, and approved for church leadership by the General Conference and the Judicial Council of the United Methodist Church.

The Simple Leadership model replaces multiple committees with a single Church Board, whose meetings must be open to all, plus two committees whose work must be done in confidence (Nominations and Staff Parish Relations Committee).

This model incorporates the Trustees and Finance Committee into the Church Board. The whole Board does their work, and is responsible for the voting pro-

cess required by law for some of our work.

Other ministry areas, such as the O.N.E. Committee and Worship Committee, could be represented by the Chair of their committee, who may serve on the Board.

The Church Council will learn more about this model at its meeting on January 31 (7:00 pm). More complete information will be presented, and there will be time allowed for discussion. **Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.**

If the Council votes (either in January or at its February meeting) to move in this direction, Rev. Paul Kottke, our District Superintendent, will support our decision (his support is required by *The Book of Discipline*).

The church could begin implementation immediately, and assess its effectiveness for a few months before scheduling a Charge Conference. Any final decision must be made at a Charge Conference.

Dear Members of the Simpson United Methodist Church

Thank you to the Nominating Committee for nominating us to be co-Lay Leaders.

Thank you to the lay people and members of Simpson UMC for electing us as your co-Lay Leaders at the Charge Conference on December 3, 2017.

We do not take this responsibility lightly and will endeavor to do a good job for you and Simpson UMC.

Our primary duty is to you, the congregation, the lay people of our church.

We would like to invite you to reach out to either one of us if you have any concerns. We must speak with you directly to be able to help you. We are only able to address issues that are brought to us personally, by someone with first-hand knowledge. If preferred, you may elect to keep yourself confidential as originator of the concern. If you do, we will respect your wishes, but we will be unable to help you address your concern with church lay people or the pastor.

Please also reach out to us with any questions you may have about Simpson or any suggestions you would like Simpson to consider. We will both be receptive to anything you have to offer, leaving nothing off of the table.

You may call us at any time or speak with us at Church.

May grace and blessings be in your path,

Owen FitzSimons 303-910-2664

Paula Matsumoto 303-908-8456

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you,

WORSHIP



Ring in the New Year at Simpson UMC!

Oops, did I say ring? I meant SING!

Our Chancel Choir just finished rehearsing and performing our 2017 Christmas Cantata.

In January, we will begin rehearsing for our next cantata. The theme will be ALLELUIAS and PRAISES. A tentative performance date is Sunday, April 15, 2018. Easter Sunday is April 1st next year but we'll still be praising on April 15th—and this will give us more time to prepare! Please, seriously consider joining us!

There is a possibility of starting a senior citizen's choir in February 2018. This group would rehearse during the day only, join our choir for worship on Sundays (including the cantata), and share their singing at various senior centers and events. You do not need to be a member of Simpson UMC to participate in this new group. The talents and faith of Simpson's many retired members need a reason and venue to spread our faith through music.

Happy New Year! May Jesus Christ be praised!

THIS JANUARY IN WORSHIP

January 7



YOUTH SUNDAY with HOLY COMMUNION!

Scott Pelletier will preach; the youth will prepare and serve Holy Communion. Guest minister, Rev. Linda Pelletier (Scott's mom), will preside.

After worship we'll take down the Christmas decorations.

January 14

"Cultivating Goodness" Sermon Series begins

Christians are called to become more and more like Christ. Jesus was the embodiment of God, who is Goodness itself, and so we are called to grow in goodness. Madeleine L'Engle captured this world transforming concept beautifully in her novel A Wrinkle in Time when she says:

"The only way to defeat the darkness is to become the light."

Jesus is the Light of the World. As we are transformed into Light our very being will transform the world through the presence of the Risen Christ within us.

January 14

Sermon: "I Can Do BAD All By Myself!"

We will honor and thank those who served as church leaders in 2017, and bless those who were elected to serve in 2018

January 21

Sermon: "Stop Being So Reliable!"

January 28

Sermon: "Next Year"

LITURGISTS

January 7

Youth

January 14

Joe Hayashi

January 21

January 28

Paula Matsumoto

Robin Miyahara

GROCERY CERTIFICATES

Bob Fujioka

USHERS

WORSHIP SERVANTS NEEDED: Dan and Patty Goto, who did such a wonderful job leading our Worship Design Team in 2017, have rotated off the team. **If you would like to help create worship**, please contact Rev. Vivian.

In addition, Julia Kamura has decided to take a break from organizing our liturgists. Those who have been liturgists are still willing to serve; they just need someone to keep them organized, Please contact Rev.

CHURCH NEWS

Leadership Training—Reflecting on Our Culture

When the people of Simpson UMC talk about their “culture,” they are generally referring to the Japanese American ethnicity of our origins.

However, there is another way to think about culture, and that is to reflect on the values of the organization as a whole. Those values may be obvious or hidden beneath layers of tradition and habit.

As our newly elected leaders begin their service to our church in 2018, we have an exciting opportunity for them to grow in their ability to make a difference.

On Saturday, January 20th, Drew Di Giovanni of the Rollins Group will lead us in a workshop that will help us assess and learn about our organization’s culture.

Drew is a nationally recognized consultant in management training and education. His services have been donated to us by Jennifer Lim, who has worked with Drew in the past and knows the value he offers.

This workshop is being offered **AT NO COST to our leaders and members.** This is an exciting and rare opportunity, and will greatly enhance our “Dialogue-

Discuss-Decide” process.

The workshop will take place at Arvada UMC

6750 Carr Street

8:30 am	Registration & refreshments
9:00 am	Welcome, Training in Essentials
9:30 am	Segment I, led by Drew
11:45 am	Lunch (provided)
12:30 pm	Segment II, led by Drew
2:45 pm	Wrap up, benediction

The “Training in Essentials” will include information about the budget for the area for which leaders are responsible, how to submit a voucher, how to put activities on the church calendar, and other practical knowledge.

While leaders are especially encouraged to attend this workshop, **everyone in our church is welcome to participate.** The more people we have participating, the more accurate our assessment will be.

Please sign up to attend this workshop. You can put your name on the list at worship, or simply

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Silver and Gold . . . *Make new friends, but keep the old . . .*

This is the final installment of a 3 part series on building consistent habits easily shared by both long time members, and first time worshipers.

Habit 3: Pray

None of us knows what is in store for our church. Everyone I have interacted with over this year as SPRC chair is working hard, in their own way, to help this church be healthy again. To thrive again.

I have come to realize that many of us have different pictures in our minds of what “healthy again” looks like. The only one who truly knows the answer is God. The only way for us to discern that, is to come into closer relationship with God. That, in my opinion, begins with prayer. Regular prayer. A habit of prayer.

Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

1 John 5:14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

For those of you already in this habit, congratulations! I am envious, and I look to you as my example. Personally, I find life so frenetic nowadays that even when I commit to myself to slow down and make time for God, I have a hard time keeping the commitment. Traditional, in person, meetings never fit in my schedule. Then Bishop Karen gave us another option: online digital devotions. I have been participating in this as often as I can since it began last week. It is a 25 minute morning conference call led by clergy in the Mountain Sky area.

After only a few days I have realized God is willing to meet us where we are . . . including online. The devotional provides a structure and supportive community that is accessible no matter where I physically happen to be. It helps me pause, pray, and make space to listen for God.

Here is the information if you would like to try it: Weekday mornings, 6:30AM Mountain Standard Time.

To Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/3560174667>; Telephone: Dial: +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll) or +1 408

CHURCH NEWS

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

Many people were surprised at the Charge Conference when over 150 people's names were read aloud and it was announced that they may be moved to "inactive" status. Although this process is supposed to be done every year, this church (like so many others) has not tended their membership rolls for some time now. And so, this normal part of the annual meeting seemed unusual to them.

First, let us be very clear: **absolutely no one is being put out of the church.** No matter what action is taken or decisions made by church leaders, **every member listed will continue to be a member** of this church UNLESS they ask to be removed or they pass away.

If everyone will continue to be a member of the church, then why do we read names aloud at the church's annual meeting?

The answer is simple, and rooted in experience with human nature. Everyone who becomes an adult member of the church stands before the congregation and promises to support the church with their "prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness." They are sincere when they make that promise.

But then life happens. Some move away, and forget to tell the church office. Some simply drift away, and stop attending church, serving on committees, and participating in choir or Bible studies. Although they may still donate money, church leaders come to understand that they cannot call upon these people to serve in any way. And the church needs people who are present and active in the spiritual life of the church.

And so, the names are listed and read aloud. The purpose of reading the names aloud is to spur communication and action. Perhaps some names were listed by innocent mistake. Perhaps some are young adults in college who can't attend, some serve in the military, and others are elderly people who are homebound. Once the church becomes aware of this, their status will remain as "active" members.

But for those who are able to participate and choose not to for whatever reason, the church is directed to put together a group of people who will reach out to them over the course of the year. The goal is to encourage them to return to active participating in the religious life of the church. Some will return, some will not for a variety of reasons. And some will simply need more time to make a decision.

Rev. Vivian and Ruby Hada (our new Membership Secretary) want to put together a group of people who will help them go through the list, correct mistakes, and contact people to encourage them to become active again. We have a year to do this work and report to the church at its next regular Charge Conference. **If you would be willing to help Ruby and Rev. Vivian, please contact Ruby or the church office and let us know.** We will hold our first meeting some time in late January to decide how to best do this task.

Poinsettia Donations

Our church looked absolutely beautiful for Christmas because so many people donated poinsettias! We are very grateful for your generosity. Photos of the sanctuary with the poinsettias can be seen on our Facebook page. A full list of donors and the dedications were listed in the worship bulletin on December 17 and 24. We don't have space here to list everyone, but you can see the full list on our web site: www.simpsonumc.com.

We are grateful for the many ways people support our church with generous gifts.

It is part of our tradition to publicly thank those who give special gifts. However, as some prefer to donate anonymously, this is not a complete list of donors.



Given By

Jennifer Lim
Yasuko Nonaka
Toshiko Sakamoto
Joanne Otsuki & Roger Pearce
Paula Matsumoto

In Memory Of

Frank Gallo
Mas Nonaka
Frank Sakamoto
Julius Otsuki
Pets: Maxx, Troi & Rommy



Gifts to the Church November 1-30

Jennifer Lim	Choir Donation; luncheon on December 10, 2017
Sandie Nakayama	Christmas
Dion Dishong	Boiler
Ruth French	Keiro no Hi
Anonymous	UMCOR
Friday Bridge Club	Utilities
Anonymous, Mary Everitt	United Methodist Student Day
Tay & Cindy Kondo	
Jane Nakama & Julia Kamura	
Thanksgiving: Janice Abo, Ruth French, Sachi Goto, Aki Kawakami, Cindy Kondo, Sandie Nakayama, Mary Nishiyama, Alben Sakaguchi, and Grace Tochiara	

A big **THANK YOU** to our faithful volunteers Julia Kamura, Eileen Mayeda and Charlotte Namba for assembling the December Newsletter for mailing on November 28, 2017

We would NOT be able to do this without your help.

You are very much appreciated!

TRUSTEES' CORNER

Projects we are working on:

1. Looking for people or a company to provide snow removal. If you know of any or would like to volunteer, please call Todd Namba at 720-971-0173. Criteria would be during the weekday M-F 8a-2p; if it snows more than 4 inches, we would need to have a path cleared to the West side entrance to the parking lot and street.
2. We understand there are uneven parts of the sidewalks on the West side, but we need to wait until better weather to start the cement work.
3. Due to the random violence at the church in Texas, we are working on a safety procedure and protocols for the church. Look for an update in early 2018.
4. We are also looking at revamping the policies for use and the pricing structure for renting out the different parts of the church to be more in line with other churches for members, non-profits, and non-members.

UPCOMING EVENTS



HINA MATSURI 50TH ANNIVERSARY

March 3 & 4, 11:30 am—4:00 pm

Please join us in celebrating our 50th year. We would love to have volunteers and anyone that would like to display their traditional Japanese dolls and/or cultural artifacts.

Please call Jacqueline Cornish at 303-503-7922 with question or to find out about volunteering.

And plan on the Trustees holding a work day in late February to prepare the church for this very special event!

Thank you

The Hina Matsuri Committee

SAKURA FOUNDATION
LIVING IN HOPE:
A MOTHER AND HER
TRANSGENDER SON'S JOURNEY
with Marsha and Aiden Azumi



Sunday, Feb 11, 2018
1:30 pm

Quebec Place at Fairmount
400 S Quebec St, Denver 80247

Sakura Foundation is pleased to welcome Marsha Azumi and her son Aiden to share their journey of understanding, love and acceptance and the ongoing challenges for the transgender community. Being a transgender individual with family, friends and community, they will talk about how they have experienced as they continued to live in hope for their family and the LGBT community. The discussion will conclude with a book signing. "Two Spirits, One Heart" will be available for purchase.

RSVP required to this FREE public event at www.onensemble.com search "SAKURA FOUNDATION"

Presenting partners:



ONENSEMBLE
presents
Bizarre Heroes

On Ensemble infuses the powerful rhythms of Japanese taiko drumming with musical elements ranging from jazz, hip-hop, and rock to Central Asian overtone singing.

Their fourteen annual expedition expands the artistic range of these ancient instruments, producing some of the most compelling and creative taiko music today.

January 20, 2018 at 7pm
Littleton High School Theater
199 E. Littleton Blvd, Littleton CO 80121
General Admission Seating

Presented by:
SAKURA FOUNDATION

Tickets \$10 each at:
<https://onensemble.eventbrite.com>
Tickets at the door: \$12 each



DENVER—TAKAYAMA SISTER CITIES HIGH SCHOOL TRIP TO JAPAN JUNE 5—19, 2018

Travel to Tokyo, Kyoto, and Takayama. Chaperoned by seasoned travelers, and specifically designed for high school students since 1997, you will go beyond a touristy vacation for a unique cultural, historical, and educational experience.

For more information visit: <http://www.trainersfriend.com/takayama/2018s2j/>

A flyer may be found at: <http://www.trainersfriend.com/takayama/StudentTrip2018.pdf>

There is also an adult trip available visiting Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Takayama.

For more information about the adult trip visit: <http://www.trainersfriend.com/takayama/2018ej/>

A flyer may be found at: <http://www.trainersfriend.com/takayama/EssentialJapan.pdf>

Simpson United Methodist Church
Arvada CO 80003-6833
Telephone: 303/428-7963

JANUARY 2018

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
 Children & Youth Sunday School 10:15 a.m.
 Email: simpsonumc@comcast.net

www.simpsonumc.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2	3	4	5	6 9:00 am – Taiko Japanese Language Class
7 Youth Sunday 9:00 am -Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE with Holy Communion 10:15 am -SS & Youth 11:15 -Youth Council 11:15 -Take down Christmas decorations	8	9 6:30 pm Dialogue Session	10	11 10am—Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm— Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal	12 2:00 pm Wedding in Sanctuary — Reception following in Fellowship Hall	13 9:00 am – Taiko Japanese Language Class
14 9:00 am -Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15 am -SS/Youth 11:00 am—Trustees 12:30 pm—SPRC	15 Martin Luther King Holiday Church Office Closed	16 9:30 am Reflections Class 2 pm Dialogue Session	17	18 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm— Choir Rehearsal	19	20 9:00 am – Taiko Japanese Language Class 8:30 am-3pm CULTURAL ASSES- MENT WORKSHOP
21 9:00 am—Hina Matsuri Mtg. 9:00 am -Choir Rehearsal 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15 am -SS/Youth 11:15 am—Knit & Crochet 11:15 am—Worship Design Team	22	23	24 11:00 am – 1:00 pm APDC Luncheon 6:30 pm – Finance Committee	25 10:00 am—Staff Mtg. 6:30 pm— Choir Rehearsal	26	27 9:00 am – Taiko Japanese Language Class
28 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15 am -SS/Youth 11:00 am—SPRC Meeting	29	30 9am Assemble Newsletter	31 7:00 pm – Ad Council			

Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff St
Arvada. CO. 80003-6833

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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