

When my daughter was in elementary school, I treasured every finger painting, macaroni necklace, and tissue paper collage that she created. The front of my fridge was draped with her artwork, forcing me to display her masterpieces on the front and inside panels of each kitchen cabinet. One year for Thanksgiving, she created a turkey by tracing her hand. On each finger-shaped feather, she wrote one thing that she was grateful for, which included her parents, the family dog, and her friends. It was refreshing to see her gratitude towards relationships.

In Luke 17:11-19, Jesus was heading to Jerusalem when he met ten lepers. They desperately cried out to Jesus, asking for mercy. Instead of immediately healing the lepers, Jesus instructed them to go to the local priest. As they headed to find the priest, they were healed. One of them turned around and came back to Jesus shouting his gratitude and glorifying God. Only one of the ten men expressed gratitude.

As the holidays approach, I have started creating a mental "to-do-list" complete with making cookies, mailing Christmas cards and braving the crowded stores in search of gifts. The longer my "to-do-list" becomes, the more my stress level elevates.

If I am honest with myself, I realize that gratitude does not always come naturally. If I was one of the lepers, I wonder how long it would take me to realize that I was healed and if I would stop to offer gratitude to Jesus. In the hustle of managing "to-do-lists," my eyes and mind are focused on material things. Consider how empty, purposeless and meaningless our lives would be without relationships. As Robin Dugall suggests, relationships have shaped who we are and who we are becoming.

During our daily lives, we have an opportunity to reflect on the various relationships in our lives. Some relationships are long and mature while others are new and cautious. My hope for you is that you allow yourself to be vulnerable so your relationships can develop in new understandings. Cultivating a spirit of gratitude honors God and strengthens our faith. It also strengthens our relationships with other people.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Leah



Thank you for my Birthday Celebration

I greatly appreciate the prayers, yummy snacks and gifts that you gave me to celebrate my Birthday. Your expression of love and support touches me deeply. I am excited to be on this journey with you!



Dear Simpson Members and Friends,

Several people have asked where we are in the Strategic Plan process and we thank you for your interest. At this time, we are in the Implementation phase of this plan and are actively recruiting team leaders to cover each of the four (4) focal points of the plan. The four focal points are: **Cultural Legacy, Service to the Local and Broader Community, Expanding Membership and Financial Viability**. We sponsors have taken the responsibility to oversee the progress, and hold ourselves accountable to meet established outcome measures. Each team will set objectives and activities to achieve the many and varied stepping stones that will lead to the ultimate goal.

You have been a big part in this Plan with your input of good ideas to reach our ultimate goal to make Simpson a vital congregation. If any of you are interested in participating as a team leader or team member for the four focal points, please contact one of the four Sponsors. Also, if you have suggestions regarding team leaders or team members, your input would be greatly appreciated.

Stacey Shigaya will be the team leader for the Cultural Legacy team and Charlotte Namba and Ann Kitayama will co-lead the Service to the Local and Broader Community team. The Service to the Local and Broader Community team will meet next week to begin work on their goals.

Again, thank you for your interest, your service and your commitment to the future of our church.

Join us on the Journey!

Sponsors,
Pastor Leah Coleman
George Kawamura



Ad Council Meeting Notes

Ad Council Minutes – September 22, 2019 - Condensed

Full report will be on church bulletin board.

Trustees – Contractor on track with the Boiler project. Final property sale contract has been received. Trustees looking into changing building insurance provider due to high deductibles.

ONE – 2019 Keiro-no-hi was very well received.

Finance – 2020 budget figures due from all committee chairs by October 13. Stewardship campaign coming.

SPRC – Looking for half time choir director as Debbie will be half time after the beginning of 2020. SPRC will sponsor a potluck on Sunday, October 27. Halloween costumes optional.

Laity leaders' support group formed for Metro District. Represented by Noelle and Owen.

Annual Conference – Pastor Leah is looking for volunteers from Simpson to help organize and present a program on the Japanese American internment experience during WWII.



Hello, it's hard to believe we are already into the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, but our school year is flying by.

Here is the November Schedule.

Sunday, November 3rd - We will paint and decorate the new community prayer box.

Sunday, November 10th - The youth will clean up the outside of the church including raking leaves.

Sunday, November 17th - youth devotions

Sunday, November 24th - Heritage Sunday. Shichi Go San



Also, in November the youth will be doing an Envelope Fundraiser.

Envelopes will be marked from 1 dollar to 50 dollars. Please take an envelope with the amount you feel comfortable donating, then return the envelope with the selected amount back to the box provided. This is an easy fundraiser and the amount adds up quickly. 1 dollar plus two dollars plus three dollars, etc. We will be running this fundraiser the first 3 weeks in November. Please get your envelope and help support the youth group.



Sunday school is off to a great start to the year! It's hard to believe that we are headed into Thanksgiving and Christmas. The November Schedule is as follows.

Sunday, November 3rd. We will make things to go into the new community prayer box.

Sunday, November 10th- We will discuss Jacob and his twelve sons, and the one who got an amazing coat.

Sunday, November 17th We will talk about Joseph in Egypt.

Sunday, November 24th – Heritage Sunday. Shichi Go San



Simpson will be joining with surrounding churches for a United Methodist Youth Confirmation Class in 2019!

If you are interested in your teen going through the classes and being confirmed in the church, please contact Pastor Leah or Scott.



Notes from the Choir Loft



What are you planning to do on Sunday, December 15?

I hope you will be at church to worship with the choir's cantata-Tapestry of Light. This extended work is approximately 35 minutes. We will have a consort of instrumentalists joining the choir and our wonderful accompanist Chen Wu!

Our choir works very hard, sometimes with extra rehearsals to prepare for the cantata while having anthems to sing each week.

As always, we are looking for people to join the SUMC Chancel Choir! Join just for the cantata if you choose. Usually, we begin Thursday's rehearsals with learning anthems for Sunday-6:30 to 7:15 pm A short break then 7:20 to 8:00pm we work on the cantata. Our choir is wonderful, however more members are needed to join our faithful singers!

Be sure to circle **December 15th** on your calendars.(I'm pretty sure the Bronco game doesn't start until 2:00pm!)

Thanks for your support.

Debbie



Trustee Talk



For All Oven Users. After continued complaints that our 8 burner oven still has "cold" spots in the oven chamber the Trustees had Hawkins Commercial Appliance, Inc. come out again to recalibrate. It was discovered that incoming gas supply gas line is under sized. In order to obtain good results from the oven, no more than 3 burners on top should be used at the same time with the ovens. Should the frequency of all burners and oven be used at the same time we will have to consider resizing the incoming gas line.

Hopefully, this is not too much of an inconvenience. If you should have continued problems, please inform one of the Trustees. Thank you for your cooperation and patience regarding this issue. Trustees.



Big Thank you to Ken and the Trustees for your hard work to restore heat in the building. The trustees continue to work plan for the installation of the new boiler in the near future.

We Need your Help!



In the Children's Ministry Program, we have started a new program called Heritage Sunday.

Heritage Sunday is a way to embrace our diversity and celebrate our heritage, including our heritage as Christians.

Heritage Sunday is designed to connect the teachings of the bible to meaningful events and celebrations in our lives.

We are asking volunteers to lead the discussion of one of the topics listed below. This is a great way to spend time with our children and youth plus share your stories.

If you would like to help with a Heritage Sunday, please contact Scott or Pastor Leah.

Heritage Sunday

September: Grandparent's Day/ Keiro no Hi

October: World Communion (communion will be served during class)

November: Schichi Go San Festival

December: Christmas throughout the World

January: New Years

February: Omiyage (Hospitality Gifts)

March: Doll Festival

April: Boy's Day

May: Native American Heritage

June: Youth Trip to Wind River Reservation in Wyoming

July and August: Asian Camps in California

Church News

ONE COMMITTEE MINISTRY - Please join us in our ministry to provide Thanksgiving baskets for families in our congregation who are in need. We will be collecting non-perishable goods, grocery gift cards and cash to assist these families. There is a labeled box in the church foyer for the non-perishables. Please place gift cards and cash in the offering plate and label the envelope "Thanksgiving Ministry", or give it to Charlotte, Ann or someone in the office. We will accept items until November 21.

HELP WANTED: Home caregiver who is familiar with Japanese cooking for elderly senior who is living independently but needs help between 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Hours may vary. Pay negotiable and dependent on experience. Please call Denise @ 720-291-0039 for details.

LITURGISTS

November 03 Noelle Maynell
November 10 TBD
November 17 Robin Miyahara
November 24 TBD

USHERS

Dan Goto
Owen FitzSimons
TBD
TBD

AV TECH

David Powell
Todd Namba
David Powell
TBD

MOCHI

We will make Mochi on Saturday, **December 7, 2019**. Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 1, 2019. An order sheet will be placed on the bulletin board. Orders may be picked up after 2:30 pm on Saturday, December 7, 2019 Price is \$5.00 per pound.

MOCHI ORDER FORM

NAME_____ TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

ADDRESS_____ CITY/STATE/ZIP_____

QUANTITY_____ \$5.00/LB. TOTAL_____

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:

E. & G. Hayashida
Ben Ichikawa
Richard Kuyama
Joe Onodera
Catheryn Smith & Gloria Smith

In Memory of:

Gerri Ota
Madge Ichikawa
Rev. and Mrs. Jon Fujita
Joan Onodera
Johnie and Miyako Smith



*In
Loving
Memory*

Gifts to the Church

Boiler: Paula Matsumoto

Donation to Trustees: Paula Matsumoto

Gratitude for flowers on altar: Jane Nakama

Keiro no Hi: Dion Dishong, Esther Hashiba, Ruth Shinto

Office Supplies: Jacqueline Cornish

Roof Repair: Dion Dishong, Midori Takeuchi

Utilities: Paula Matsumoto

October Newsletter Assemblers from September 24, 2019:

Esther Hashiba, Yoshie Tanita, Grace Tochiara – REALLY could not get the Newsletters out in a timely manner without you.

You are very much appreciated!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: It is that time of year! We decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias donated by people of the church. Order forms are included in this newsletter, and will be available on the table outside the church office.

Thanking you in advance for your support in beautifying our Christmas service!

Thank you!

Kathy Fujita

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM 2019

Poinsettias will be in 6 inch pots and cost \$13.00 each. You may either pick up your plant at the church on Friday, December 20th, or leave it for the Christmas Sunday worship service on December 22nd. Profits from the sale will go to the Music Contingency Fund.

Deadline to receive orders is Sunday, December 8, 2019.

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER FORM.

Name _____ Telephone No. _____

I wish to purchase a total of _____ RED poinsettia plants.
_____ WHITE

TOTAL NUMBER OF PLANTS ORDERED _____ X \$13.00 = _____

Please indicate if your plant(s) is given:

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OR CELEBRATION OF: _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ Check # _____

Return this order form along with your check (payable to Simpson UMC) for payment in full to:

**Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff Street
Arvada, CO 80003**

Community Corner

It's Chibi No Gakko Time!

Chibi no Gakko is a Denver, community-based and teacher-facilitated program that provides children the opportunity to **connect with the Japanese American experience** in a fun, "hands on" way. Children will explore their personal family history, cook, sing, dance, read, write and participate in art and craft activities. This **fun and informative** offering is only held every-other year and truly makes an impact on the youth in our community.


Questions? Contact chibinogakkodenver@gmail.com.

CHIBI NO GAKKO 2020

JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL HERITAGE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Tri-State/Denver Buddhist Temple - 1947 Lawrence Street - Denver, CO 80202

Chibi No Gakko is a Denver, community-based program that provides children the opportunity to explore Japanese American culture in a fun and interactive way. Children will learn about **traditional Japanese culture** through **cooking, song, dance, folk tales and art projects**. They will examine their personal family history as well as the history of the Japanese American experience in America. Children will also explore **Japanese pop culture** like **Anime**, with other engaging topics such as **Judo, Taiko, Hanafuda** and the **2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo**. Classes are designed and led by CDE licensed teachers.



Who: Students currently in grades Kindergarten to 8th

When: Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (January 11th & 18th and February 1st & 15th)
Celebration/Family Potluck on February 22nd 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Cost: \$100 per child (\$80 each additional sibling)
\$50 non-refundable deposit due with the application, final \$50 due first day of class
Former Chibi students interested in being mentors for Chibi 2020 apply to:
Debby Tanigawa 303-503-1794 debby25@aol.com or
Judy Okamoto 303-426-0252 judyokamoto77@gmail.com


Registration Form

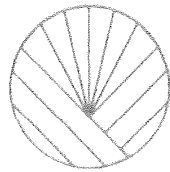
Child's Name:	Parent's Name:
Birthdate:	Cell Phone:
School/Grade:	Email:
Address:	

What years has child attended Chibi as a student? _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____ (cash or checks payable to Chibi No Gakko)

REGISTRATIONS DUE: November 30, 2019 (If space available, applications will be accepted after December 1st)

Mail to: Jani Sakaguchi 3866 E 133rd Court Thornton, CO 80241	Online:  https://forms.gle/Au48ps4x3E8eAp7a6	Questions: chibinogakkodenver@gmail.com
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JARCC

JAPANESE AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER of COLORADO

PLEASE JOIN US

**to learn the process of making
Tsukemono (Japanese pickled vegetables) and Kimchee**

Tsukemono/ Kimchee Workshop



on Saturday, November 16, 2019

at

SIMPSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6001 Wolff Street

Arvada CO 80003

at

10:30 AM - 12:00 NOON

\$15.00 admission via PayPal or at the door

**Everyone attending will receive 1 jar each of Tsukemono and Kimchee from
the workshop. POTLUCK luncheon following at 12:00 noon.**

JARCC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

Please RSVP by November 14th to info@jarcc-denver.org



Simpson United Methodist Church

Arvada CO 80003-6833

Telephone: 303/428-7963, Fax: 303/427-1577

November 2019

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Children Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All Saints Day	2 9:00 am—Japanese Language Class 9:30 am Taiko
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion Coffee Hour	4 10:00 am Staff Meeting	5 7:00 pm—Taiko	6	7 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:00 am Game Day	9 9:00 am—Japanese Language Class 9:30 am—Taiko
10 10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE 11:15 am—Parent/Youth Meeting 11:15 am—Trustees	11 Church Office Closed for Veterans' Day 10:00 am Ukulele	12	13	14 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 	16 9:00 am Japanese Language Class 9:30 am—Taiko 10:30am-12:00 noon JARCC— Workshop for Preparation of Japanese pickled vegetables
17 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE 11:15 am—Knit and Crochet	18 9:30 am Knit and- Crochet 10:00 am Staff Meeting	19 10:30 am—Taiko	20 6:00 pm Finance Committee	21 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23 9:00 am Japanese Language Class 9:30 am—Taiko
24 8:30 am—SPRC 10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE 11:15—Ad Council	25 10:00 am Staff Meeting Ukulele	26 9:30 am Assemble Newsletter	27	28 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 	29 Office Closed 9:00 am Bento Cooking—Denver Nisei Bowling League	30 9:00 am Bento Cooking Denver Nisei Bowling League

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

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ARVADA, COLORADO
PERMIT NO. 11

November 2019

Phone: 303 428 7963
email: simpsonumc@comcast.net
WWW.sipsonumc.com

Or Current Resident

