



## SERVING YOUR CHURCH

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Masthead art: Shingo Nishiura

Heart Mountain, WWII

ALDERSGATE

SHARING

BUILDING

COMMUNITY

## Welcome our New Minister, Sungrae Kim and Family!



Rev. Sungrae, son Aiden, wife Susan and daughter, Lucy.

We are happy to announce the arrival of Rev. Sungrae Kim and family to Aldersgate. After five years as the Youth and Family Minister at UJCC in Clovis, “Rae” is moving into our parsonage and on **Sunday, July 18, you can meet him in person as we open for in-person services.**

“To be the pastor after Roger is a great pressure,” Rev. Rae said. “But already I feel welcome and cared for, thanks to Lisa Joo, the SPRC Chair and other Board and Staff members. We are so grateful for your hospitality already. I will try to listen and learn and meet with you to learn about the life of the church. Let us together take the next step!”

Let’s all come together July 18 as we celebrate re-opening after Covid and the new path we will all take with the Kim family!

# Service for Kiyo Shizuru

2:30pm Saturday, August 14

Crowne Plaza Cabana Hotel, Palo Alto

RSVP early to [jlmontagne@yahoo.com](mailto:jlmontagne@yahoo.com) because social distancing rules are space-limiting for those planning on attending physically. Live-streaming of this event will begin at 3pm. Go here for more info:

<https://jlmontagne.wixsite.com/kiyoshizuru>



## Soyo's Time

In 1917, the war to end all wars was still raging. Some 20 million military personnel and civilians would eventually perish during World War I. Converse All Star "Chuck Taylor" basketball shoes were first produced.

The Original Dixieland Jass\* Band, a group of all Caucasian musicians, recorded the first jazz record. The 1918 influenza was just a year away and was perhaps the deadliest in history. One-third of the

world's population was infected and 20 to 50 million people died worldwide.

In 1917, Soyo Okazawa Takahashi, a member of this church, was born in Palo Alto, CA., on January 19. After birth her father came to pick her up in a horse and buggy.

On Wednesday, June 9, she died in El Cerrito, at 104 years old.

Takahashi attended the earliest version of Aldersgate, the Japanese Methodist Episcopal Church, then located on Ramona Street in Palo Alto. She grew up in a two to three block radius of mostly Japanese Isseis and soon to come Niseis. There was the Yamamura and Sato grocery stores, the Stanford Laundry, run by Josaburo Okada, and a boarding house, the Okazawa University Hotel, which belonged to her parents.

She went for rides on motorcycles driven by her neighbors, participated in the church youth group and was taken to Manzanar during World War II. She married Kazuyuki Takahashi, raised three children and later worked as an antique dealer in Berkeley for some 20 years.

"Soyo lived her life with dignity, tolerance and kindness, accepting life lessons with grace," said friend Pam Hashimoto.

The Aldersgate Church history book could not have been produced with her input.

Among the earliest of Paly Japanese Nisei pioneers, Takahashi fulfilled the dreams of her Issei parents, and it's up to us, to make sure those dreams continue. The next time you drive through Palo Alto and pass by Ramona Street, think of her. May God bless Soyo Takahashi.

## Special Gifts!

Donations June 1 to June 30

Harold and Alice Yu  
Noriko Matsuo  
Fumiko Mendenhall  
Koen and Nanae Nieman  
Noriyuki and Masako Okada  
Kaoru Vo  
Naoko Fukumura  
Yasuko Masaki  
Glenn and Nancy Hamamoto  
Tomoko Ozawa  
Sachiko Watanabe  
Paul and Patty Sakuma  
Emily Allen  
Judy Wong  
Michiko Shigaki  
David Nelson and Jeanne Shizuru  
Jon and Lucy Funabiki  
Norman and Connie Kobayashi  
Steve and Marice Shiozaki  
Sachiyo Yamasaki  
Dai Watanabe and Hwa Mi Choi  
Harry and Syd Hatasaka  
Joyce Hikido  
Kit Nishiura  
Frances Tamura  
Steve and Denise Murata

### In memory of Kiyo Shizuru

Alice Bowden  
Ruth Tsubota  
Frances Tamura

### In memory of Margaret Ishiyama

Richard and Irene Sasaki

### Easter

Atsuko Nelson

### Janelle Baptism

Steve and Marice Shiozaki

### In memory of Masue and Mayumi Takeda & Yugo Nomura

Sachiyo Yamasaki

### In memory of Tak Nishiura

Mary Schallock  
Joyce Hikido  
Kit Nishiura

### In memory of Art Wong

Mary Schallock  
Art and Patricia Yotsuya

### In memory of Silvia H

Mary Schallock

### In memory of Tom Hamamoto

Glenn and Nancy Hamamoto

### In memory of Art Yotsuya (Husband of Pat)

David and Hiroko Yoshida

### Bento

Tomoko Ozawa

### PAYPAL June 1 to June 30

Herb Gong  
Ed Nieda  
Patsy Obayashi  
Brynn Saito  
Marion Wake

The monthly printed newsletter is now coming out at the beginning of the month