

Andrew Y. Kuroda (1910-1997)



Born in 1910 in Yokosuka, Japan, the Rev. Andrew Y. Kuroda, himself the son of a Christian minister, graduated from the Meiji Gakuin College in Tokyo. He entered Auburn Theological Seminary in Auburn, N.Y. in 1934 and received a B.Th. in 1937. He graduated from the Biblical Seminary in New York with an S.T.M. in 1938. He served as minister of a church on the Yakima Indian Reservation in Wapato, Washington and then of a Japanese community church in Salem, Oregon. After being interned during World War II he came to Washington D.C. in 1946 where he was employed by the Library of Congress for 35 years. During this time he also ministered to the Christian Japanese Fellowship Grace Reform Church Kuroda. Resigning on May 12, 1962 he went on to establish the Japanese Unitarian Fellowship of All Souls' Church (Unitarian). The first service was held on September 9, 1962; it was conducted in Japanese and it was the only Japanese Unitarian fellowship outside Japan. In 1962 Rev. Kuroda was received into fellowship as a Unitarian minister. He wrote that while he "opposed racially segregated Japanese church groups for English services... Those who were Japanese speaking needed their own group." The Japanese fellowship continued until 1977 when he became the field director for the Library of Congress in Tokyo. Upon his return he did not try to revive the Fellowship because the "Japanese speaking constituents had virtually disappeared." In 1983 Kuroda and his wife, Julia, transferred their membership to Cedar Lane Unitarian Church in Bethesda, MD. He died in 1997.

Other sources:

- "The Rev. Andrew Kuroda Dies; Was Library of Congress Official," The Washington Post, 27 Feb 1997: D, 4:1.
- See Historical Sermons Tab on UU Sankofa Website.
<http://www.meadville.edu/uploads/files/189.pdf>
- <http://www25-temp.uua.org/uuhs/duub/articles/andrewkuroda.html>

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