

VOLUME XXIX
NUMBER 10
October 2022

The mission of the Waimea United Church of Christ is to provide, through Jesus Christ, the means by which people grow spiritually, thereby preparing and empowering them to witness to God's love, to identify the needs of the community, and to minister to them.

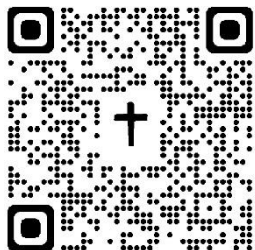
WAIMEA UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
located at the corner of
Makeke and Tsuchiya
roads, Waimea, Kauai.

*Rev. Dr. Olaf Hoeckmann-
Percival*
Pastor

(808) 338-9962
www.waimeachurch.org

P.O. Box 457
Waimea, HI 96796

**Sunday Morning Worship
Service, 10 a.m.**
**Tuesday Morning Bible
Study, 9 a.m.**



THE CONNECTION

A Publication of Waimea UCC

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I thought I would share with you a bit of irony that seems to just describe life these days so well for me. So, one of our recent building upgrades has been in the restrooms at Baird Hall. As the rest of the building had been rebuilt with the addition of the new lanai, office, and children's room; the restrooms had been untouched. In fact, they were used for storage of construction equipment during the rebuild because they could be locked from the outside.

The bathroom facelift began in earnest still during the Covid pandemic with the replacing of the shut-off valves and hoses to the sinks and toilets. These copper compression fittings were frozen and so could not be closed off. The hoses and faucets were then also changed out. The urinal flush valve was rebuilt. Tiles that were missing or loose on the floor and the tile coving were reset with fresh thin-set mortar. An aluminum threshold was added at the entry. The old fluorescent lighting tubes were replaced with brighter LED fixtures—which required also some sheetrock repair to the ceiling. The door jam on the women's side was rebuilt because of some wood rot before being repainted. The doors themselves were gel-stained and sealed with polyurethane with new handles and locks. The stall dividers were repainted, carefully removing and stripping all the hardware that had been previously painted over. Artwork was added to the stall dividers. New toilet paper racks were installed. Wood frames were installed around the large mirrors over the sinks. New signage outside above the doors were added. The floors were then stripped to get rid of the near-permanent redness. Finally, new toilet seats were installed.

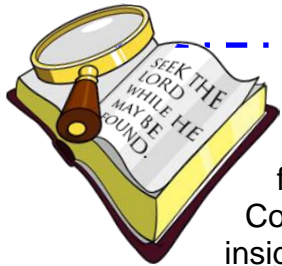
Everything is new and working as it should be, right? We should have no worries for a good long time right? The last weekend of August on Sunday morning I opened up the women's bathroom to discover water all over the floor. The middle toilet was leaking from between the tank and the bowl. I shut off the toilet, which I could do because we had replaced the faulty shut-off valves (yeah!) and mopped up the water. I thought it was just a matter of replacing the bolts on the tank, but it turned out that the inner shank gasket was the problem. I disassembled the toilet and rebuilt it.

Continued on back page



October Scriptures and Sermons

- Oct 2nd Luke 12:22-34
"No Worries"
- Oct 9th Luke 12:35-48
"Time to Dress Up"
- Oct 16th Luke 12:49-59
"The Present"
- Oct 23rd Luke 13:1-9
"Just a Little Manure"
- Oct 30th Luke 13:10-17
"Rejoice on Seventh Day"
- Nov 6th Luke 13:18-30
"A Narrow Door"



The **Tuesday morning Bible Study** group meets in Baird Hall at 9 am to discuss the Scripture for the upcoming Sunday sermon. Come share your inspirations and insights with the Pastor. Everyone is welcome.

Calendar Notes:

Oktoberfest Strudel will be served on **October 9th** after Sunday worship! Pastor Olaf's famous strudel will be on tap.

All are invited to the Installation of **Pastor Rob Bork** at the Kapaa UCC on **October 9th, 3pm**

The next "**Pseghetti Night**" will be on **Wednesday October 12th at 5:30pm**. Kids are once again invited to drop off their parents at a restaurant for date night and come by the church where the real fun will take place.

Mark your calendars for the **KAUCC Aha Mokupuni** on **November 6th** at the Marshallese Church (3pm).

Mahalo:

Thank you to Owen and Marilyn Ueno, Kathy Uyeda, Helen H-P, Alex Gamiz, and Russell Wagner for pulling together the KVMH Hospital Staff appreciation coffee hour last month. The Chinese take-out boxes of goodies were greatly appreciated.

Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: **Rick Foulks**

Deacon: **Jared Morsey**

October Deacons: **Joy Whitehill, Mahea Morsey, David Somers**

Church Council Meeting: **October 8 @ 11:30 am via Zoom hybrid**



Margaret's brother, cancer; Susie Somers, cancer recovery; Dr. Fukino, cancer recovery; Ruth's daughter, Carol Alvesos (brain tumor); Jill Faye, cancer recovery; Mike Matutino, cancer recovery; Janice's friend Ron, cancer recovery; Leinani Springer, cancer recovery; Galen Kaohi, cancer recovery; Norma Watanabe cancer recovery; Jared's father (stroke); Lucia's son Michael for healing; Mahea's mother (stroke); Berenice's mother Hortencia (stroke); Pastor's Uncle Olaf; Helen's mother (heart); Gladys Okada (blindness); Kristen to fight infection; Robert Medeiros knees; Robert's Mom Dorothy breast cancer surgery; Sue Carlson (hip replacement recovery); Rob Carlson; Beth Hanashiro (headaches); An end finally to the pandemic; Healthcare workers; Those suffering from spiritual distress; Our local, state, and national leaders, our men and women in the military fighting terrorism, and a speedy end to wars everywhere.

One example of how grant money from the Neighbors in Need mission follows:

This summer, with a grant from the United Church of Christ's **Neighbors in Need** offering, 24 high school students from an economically challenged Houston neighborhood learned about activism and carried out a local campaign for a \$15 minimum-wage law.

The idea came from the basic insight that many Houston residents find it hard to make ends meet, especially workers in fast-food and other service industries. The Rev. Darnell Fennell serves some of those people in both his callings. He is pastor of **Just Love Church**, affiliated with the UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He also teaches high school social studies.

Hau'oli la Hanau!

October 1 James Beardmore
October 3 Tori Kagawa
October 18 Alicia Hartsell
October 26 Verna Kauahi



News From the Pews

Congratulations to Russell and Berenice Wagner on their impending grandparenthood.

Blessings to Kay and Kevin on the birth of their second daughter Abigail Anh! Jake won the pool by the way.

Welcome home to Sue and Robert Carlson after a long summer away.

We mourn the untimely loss of Pastor Jim Fung, who preciously served at the Lihue Christian Church and as interim at Kapaa UCC. May God accept him into the Saints in Light.

Vicky Mercado took a trip to Greece and visited some ancient Christian monasteries. Maybe her Greek is good enough now to understand the Pastor's sermons?

Pastor Olaf will be at the Regency Pua Kea starting up live and in person Bible studies again, starting Tuesday, October 4, at 3pm. What a blessing to have this ministry starting up again.

Middle School Bible Club will also be starting in October to take place on Thursday lunch breaks on the band room.

Pastor thanks the congregation, especially Jared M. who preached, for the opportunity on short notice to return to Germany to say a final goodbye to his uncle.

Mama Kahu is away to England and Malaysia to visit family. Travel mercies.

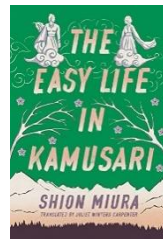


In 2022, the UCC's **Neighbors in Need (NIN)** offering focuses on economic justice under the theme of "BEHOLD!"

With inflation impacting households, this year's NIN offering addresses economic justice through a faith lens, with online learning tools at https://www.ucc.org/nin_promotional_toolkit/.

As with every NIN offering, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by UCC Justice & Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a range of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Our collection for the NIN offering will be on October 2, 2022 as part of World Communion Sunday, but contributions can be made at any time. Donations can be made online through our church's Donate button at WaimeaChurch.org, with "NIN" listed anywhere in the First or Last Name field in the online form, or by mail (see church address at WaimeaChurch.org) with "NIN" in the memo line.



Diane Foulks will host October's book club selection, *The Easy Life in Kamusari* by Shion Miura, on October 15 at 3:00 pm via Zoom.

Yuki Hirano is just out of high school when his parents enroll him, against his will, in a forestry training program in the remote mountain village of Kamusari. No phone, no internet, no shopping. Just a small, inviting community where the most common expression is "take it easy."

Yuki learns to fell trees and plant saplings. He begins to embrace local festivals, he's mesmerized by legends of the mountain, and he might be falling in love. In learning to respect the forest on Mt. Kamusari for its majestic qualities and its inexplicable secrets, Yuki starts to appreciate Kamusari's harmony with nature and its ancient traditions.

In this warm and lively coming-of-age story, Miura transports us from the trappings of city life to the trials, mysteries, and delights of a mythical mountain forest. (*Description from Amazon website*)

November's host will be Lucia Laidlaw. Her selection is a non-fiction book by Morgan Housel --*The Psychology of Money*.

Continued from front page

In the afternoon on that Monday (my day off by the way), I got a call that the bathroom was sloshing with water again. Not wanting to crack the fine old Eljer porcelain, I had been too cautious in tightening the tank bolts. Listening for the dreaded crack of old porcelain, I slowly tightened them up. Whew! Nothing split apart. Success! Later that evening I came back by just to make sure that the floor was still dry. Yup.

Whenever we think that nothing else can fail, the world will prove us wrong. All things human fail. That is why we put our ultimate and enduring faith in the infallible God of the universe. This much I know for sure, I will not be mopping bathrooms and sawing toilet bolts in heaven. I am just going to be in perpetual worship, singing praises to the God of glory. And, the scriptures that were also added to the restroom walls will be the only things left of this worldly project!

Ameni, Ameni, Ameni, Pastor Olaf

◆
DOMINOES
TUESDAY, 7-9 PM
AT BAIRD HALL
◆

**Waimaea United Church of
Christ
P.O. Box 457
Waimaea, HI 96796**