

VOLUME XXIX
NUMBER 9
September 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.

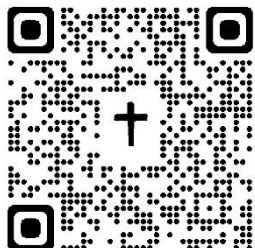
WAIMEA UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
located at the corner of
Makeke and Tsuchiya
roads, Waimea, Kauai.

Rev. Dr. Olaf Hoeckmann-
Percival
Pastor

(808) 338-9962
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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,

Yeah, our after-school open gym at the Ed Center is filled up again. We are hosting between twenty and forty youth from the high school every day. Sometimes we will have two basketball games at either end of the gym and a volleyball game in the middle where the net is set up.

Of course it is not about the numbers of youth but rather reaching out to the individuals. That means learning names, engaging in conversations, and in the end sharing faith. It is nice to see that at least two of the youth that come after school also show up for the Friday lunch Bible Club in the band room on campus. We have no trouble getting to know them!

Meanwhile, we are on the lookout for troubled youth. The child that rushes off campus when the bell rings at the end of the school day, runs across the street to our gym, and then quickly ducks into the restroom has most likely been harassed at school and is afraid to use the restrooms there. The one who always stands on or outside of the line on the volleyball court while waiting for the ball to come is often an outcast in the group. If they wear long-sleeve hoodies when it is 90 degrees, then we have another potential troubled youth.

The other day I noticed one of the boys wearing his football jersey with his name on the back. I called him over to talk with me. You see, the habit among most of the kids is to wear their "bestie's" jersey in an exchange. Therefore, if a kid is wearing a shirt with his own name on it, that raises a red flag that he may not have a best friend in school with whom to exchange shirts. Add the other behaviors being noted in the same youth, then surely outreach from our side is vital.

One cannot just blurt out, "Hey, are you lonely and without any friends in your life?" We would never see that child again at the gym. We instead work to build up his confidence to speak to us about what might be going on in his world. In years past, an invitation to join the annual youth retreat meant that we could spend more quality time with youth outside of the high school environment. That is when the real faith sharing can take place. Getting the child to attend Bible Club on campus can also provide for a time when prayers can be offered at least.

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Scriptures and Sermons for September

4 Sept Luke 11:14-23

"Divided Kingdom"

11 Sept Luke 11:37-54

Jared Morsey preaching

18 Sept Luke 12:1-12

"Counting Hairs"

25 Sept Luke 12:13-21

"Bigger Barns"

2 Oct Luke 12:22-34

"No Worries"

Special Note: Pastor Olaf will be away from September 7th to 16th to visit his ailing uncle, also named "Olaf," who is now bedridden and in hospice care. Youth missionary Jared will be in the pulpit that Sunday. And, there will be no Bible Study on the 13th of September.



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:

Wednesday, **September 7th** at 2:30-3:30 will be the KVMH staff appreciation coffee hour. Thank you to Kathy U Marilyn U for decorating all the to go containers. Thanks in advance to Russell, Berenice, and Alex for bringing the espresso machines for fresh brew. (Set-up at 2pm at Conference Rooms A and B.)

Mark your calendars for the afternoon of **November 6th**, for the Kauai Association's Fall Aha Mokupuni right here in Waimea, but at the Waimea First Marshallese Church on Ola Road.

Mark your calendars for the **September 27th** General Meeting of the Kauai Association. Pastor Barry Mick will talk about "Anti-Bullying Policies for Churches." You have to come or else! Wait--that be bullying. The meeting will be via a live Zoom link. Check church website for link.

Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: David Hanashiro

Deacon: Jacob Matutino

September Deacons: Vickie Mercado, Jared Morsey, Joy Whitehill

Church Council Meeting: September 11, 2022 via Zoom Hybrid at 11:30 am



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); Priscilla'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.

Mahalo:

Thank you to David H. for sharing about his ongoing prison ministry at our outdoor worship service on the 21st of August. It was very enlightening.

Thank you to all those souls from our congregation who ventured out to Kapaa to help celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our sister church Kapaa UCC.

Hauoli la Hanau!

September 7	Jackie Matsumura
September 11	Kevin Aguilar
September 17	Braiden Malicki
September 17	Gladys Okada
September 18	Cinthy Kagawa
September 22	Cyndi Ceballos
September 27	Brian Ceballos
September 27	David Somers
September 28	Carin Somers
September 30	Adam Somers



Aloha from your Missions Chair!

Over the past year our WUCC Church Council discussed how to extend God's love and our mission beyond our church walls and into our Kaua'i community. So in addition to our regular UCC offerings (One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need, Christmas fund, etc.) specific areas for WUCC support were identified for 2022 (see below).

Jesus' teachings compel us to be generous with what He has blessed us with - our time, talent and treasure - so that all may be transformed by His spirit.

In addition to a monetary donation, WUCC will also 1) share general information on the organizations we are supporting (so that WUCC members can consider volunteering or passing along information to those in need), and 2) find ways for those who have been helped by these organizations to share their Christian witnessing with us. For example, a big mahalo to Brother David Hanashiro for sharing a Mission Moment, inspiring us with his volunteering experience with Kauai Prison Ministry, during a recent WUCC Sunday service!

2022 Mission Support from WUCC:

- **Women in Need** (Kaua'i) - To support "wraparound" social services for women & families in transitional Kealaula housing at **Pua Loke**
- **Youth Mental Wellbeing & Suicide Prevention**- For suicide prevention efforts using faith-based and culturally sensitive approaches
- **Kaua'i Prison Ministry** - To support a ministry of prison faith services & helping inmates in their re-entry efforts
- **Tutu and Me** - Supporting vitally-needed early education for Kauai's keiki and their parents
- **'Ae Kamali'i Preschool**- For a unique preschool based at **UCC Lihue Christian church**

Book Club: Cinthy Kagawa will host on September 18 at 3:00 PM. *Bewilderment* by Richard Powers is about a scientist father and his special needs son as they navigate the grief they experience by their wife and mother. The father, an astrobiologist, imagines the possible life forms on other planets is offered an opportunity to help heal his son's difficulties through a new brain-training program. It's heartwarming and tragic.

News from the Pews

- Blessings and travel mercies to Vicky M. as she travels off to Greece this month. You know what they say--"Φάτε πολύ μπακλαβά για εμάς."
- Band travel mercies for Helen and Kim H-P in October as they head to England, Holland, and eventually Malaysia. Helen will be visiting her mama there.
- Welcome to a crew of workers from North Carolina who came with YWAM to help do painting and repairs in the Ed Center last month. They stayed for about a week.
- It was great to see Pastor Rob Kojima's sister and extended family in worship on the 14th of August!

Message from Clint Snyder

Wish I could be there. Miss you and all the wonderful people on the west side. Although I am thankful for wherever He takes us, I am always asking our Father if there's a time that we will get to be back on the west side. Jesus knows, and that is enough.

:)
Blessings,
Clint

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In all of this, we ask for your continued prayers. I thank God for Jared and Mahea Morsey in their respective ministries in reaching out to children. They are true youth missionaries. It is a true godly mission to save our community's youth. I am thankful to all the staff of Youth With a Mission who volunteer to be present in the gym everyday with us. Kudos to Christian and Hannah Savage especially!

Plans are already in the works to start up the middle school Bible Club next month. Thanks to David and Kelly Braun for helping specifically with this and for David for providing the place to meet on that campus.

Blessings and Peace, Pastor Olaf

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

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