

VOLUME XXIX
NUMBER 8
August 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.

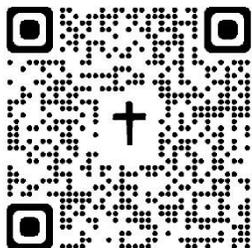
WAIMEA UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
located at the corner of
Makeke and Tsuchiya
roads, Waimea, Kauai.

*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,

Many of you know that I like to study languages. This gives useful insights into other cultures. I recently noticed something that fascinated me in a grammar chart of the Hawaiian tongue. The person who made the chart decided to leave out the "I" (first person singular nominative pronoun inclusive).

As I learned many years ago in Hawaiian language class, "I" (that is "au" or "wau") never comes first in a sentence. If this be the case, then strictly speaking as a grammarian that means that "I" is being acted upon by what comes before it. In English an "I" stands as the subject of the sentence. In Hawaiian the action verb takes precedent in word order, which is then modified with the pronoun that follows. This matches more the conjugated forms of heavily declined languages such as Latin and Greek in which the ending of the verb relates the information of who is speaking. For instance, in Spanish one does not need to say "Yo hablo" but rather simply "Hablo" (*I speak*) and drop the "Yo" (I) completely.

What a blessing it is to be on an island where "I" never comes first! The sentence "I need" in English becomes "Need for me" or better "It is right for me" (*Pono wau*) with the "is" being implied as it does not exist in Hawaiian Language either. So, I understand why the grammarian left out the "I" in the chart of pronouns as it is better understood always as "for me" or "to me." I get the sense that when the Hawaiian spoken language was first squeezed into a written form based on Latin that this nuance was not taken into account.

To be sure, I see so many other interesting facets of Hawaiian language that are difficult to translate vis-à-vis and that bespeak a distinctive worldview, one of communal action and sharing. Just the notion that "I" never comes first warms my heart. I see this in the selflessness of the people here and especially in our own church.

In the Bible, Jesus only uses "I" seven times, and each time it refers to the "Great I AM," in other words referring to His being God incarnate. (Check this out in the Gospel of John.) The rest of the time Jesus is a servant, reaching out to others in humility, putting other's lives first. All are part of the community of God joined by the Holy Spirit.

Aloha ke Akua, Pastor Olaf

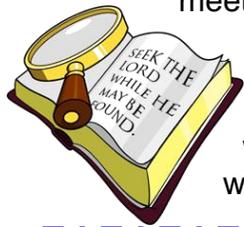


Scriptures and Sermons for August

- August 7 Luke 10:13-24
“Private Talk with Christ”
- August 14 Luke 10:25-37
“The Neighbor”
- August 21 Luke 10:38-42
“KP Duty”
- August 28 Luke 11:1-13
“Pray”
- Sept. 4 Luke 11:14-23
“Divided Kingdom”

David “Hano” Hanashiro will share a message about the restarted island prison ministries on Sunday the 21st of August.

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:

Outdoor worship picnic-style worship will be on **August 21st on the Smith Lanai**. Fun and games. Pot-luck. Please bring good food to share with others.



On Saturday, August 27 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Kapaa UCC is inviting our congregation to join them in celebrating our blessings from God! They will “shower” guests with entertainment lunch (noon-1:30), games and best of all fellowship. Parking is available at Kapa’a First Hawaiian Church, Kapaa Assembly of God Church—Koa Street or street parking. From Pastor Rob Bork, Kapa’a UCC.

Mahalo

Thank you to Christian and Jared for all of the amazing work cleaning out and making repairs on the Ed Center for its use as a YWAM (Youth with a Mission) discipleship training site.

Thank you to Helen H-P for the new bathroom murals in Baird Hall. Very nice palm trees!

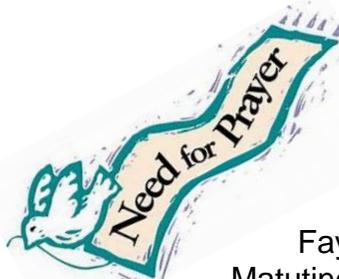
Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Kevin Christian

Deacon: Jared Morsey

August Deacons: Jacob Matutino, David Somers, Marlene Matutino

Church Council Meeting: August 14, 2022 at 11:30 am via hybrid zoom



Kathy's daughter Lauren, 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); June Woodall eye surgery; Cindy's mother (grief); 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); Mary Hayes (being assaulted and robbed); 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.

YWAM (Youth With A Mission) is re-purposing the Ed Center as its teaching facility. Jared Morsey and Christian Savage are working hard on getting the place cleaned and fixed up for YWAM ministry. If anyone has a couch or other furniture or building materials to donate, please talk to either Jared or Christian. They will be hosting work teams to help with the project, so please look out for them and welcome them with Aloha.

Hauoli la Hanau!

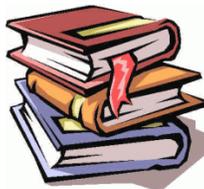
August 1	Caleb Chronister
August 6	Mahea Morsey
August 8	Yukie Okino
August 13	Tavis Kagawa
August 15	Jaxon Kagawa
August 16	Rick Foulks
August 20	Carolyn Hoeckmann-Percival
August 20	Courtney Chronister
August 20	Marina Galiza



News From the Pews

- ❖ Congratulations to Jo Douglas on her 99th birthday--and still as young at heart as ever.
- ❖ Travel blessings to Glen Molander who is off to Scandinavia to visit family and re-visit his roots.
- ❖ Travel blessings to James and Cindy Beardmore-Horton who are off to Ireland for a much-deserved vacation.
- ❖ Congratulations to former Waimea exchange student Nelli who married this last month to Sergei Vilke of Jarvenpaa, Finland. As soon as the paperwork clears so they can travel again, hopefully they will be seen again on island.
- ❖ The new pastor of the Kapaa United Church of Christ came to visit and get the history tour of Waimea this last month. Blessings on Pastor Rob Bork's new ministry.
- ❖ Special blessings on Kay and Kev Christian as they are expecting their new baby this month.
- ❖ Blessings on Jared and Mahea Morsey, once again serving as foster parents.
- ❖ Travel mercies and blessings to Jim Ryan as he moves back to the mainland. We are going to miss you!

Upcoming changes to worship: Communion will be served in regular fashion once more starting in August, and we will once again have a Mini-Message before dismissing the children.



Who is "JOE"?

There is a headstone and grave near the corner of the Cemetery by the High School and Baird Hall with the simple engraving of "JOE." Since it is located right next to the Lex Brodie gravesite and is close to the Judge Hofgaard monument, the Brodie family asked me one day "who is Joe?" No one seems to know who this individual was or anything about him. According to the dictionary, "Joe" could be defined as an *ordinary man*, or a *cup of coffee*. Ruling out the second definition, we are left with the first. Yes, Joe was probably an ordinary man. But he was also someone's son, probably someone's brother, possibly someone's husband, and someone's father.

I would guess that he was loved and nurtured as a child, sent off to become a man in the world, and at some point, when his life ended, he never returned. Perhaps he was befriended by a person who had connections with our cemetery, and in this time of need, was given a resting place.

Many of the gravesites have infrequent (if any) family or friends visit. It is very possible that there are no living relatives anywhere near, if at all. There are some gravesites that do have regular visits and flowers are left and the area surrounding their loved one is tended to. Whenever I walk through the Cemetery grounds, I feel the presence of those who have gone before, and I feel honored to be able to feel the history there. It has been a privilege to be a part of the caretaking team. Maybe someday we will find out more about "Joe", however the reality has been that there are many, many unmarked gravesites and unidentified burial areas in the cemetery. We pay respect to them all. (submitted by Teri Sakai)

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech is August's selection. Helen Hoeckmann-Percival will host on August 21 at 3:00 pm. It is a story of a 13-year-old girl who is seeking her mother via the postcards that she sent but it is also a story of finding one's identity and place.

Cinthy Kagawa will host in September. Her selection is *Bewilderment* by Richard Powers.



Have you heard that the monarch butterfly was recently declared an endangered species? Its population has declined by up to 90% in some places because of human actions. When we first moved to Kauai in 2005, I remember seeing many of these butterflies flitting around the crown flower plants at the high school. There would also be numerous chrysalises hanging from just about every railing of the classroom buildings close to these flowers as well. Over the years, these butterflies have become fewer and fewer and now I have to really look for them. So, even on Kaua'i, we are witnessing the decline these beautiful and necessary members of Creation. What can we do to help? Tackling climate change, loss of habitat, and the overuse of pesticides are actions that will take commitment and a lot of time. However, what is more immediate and gratifying is simply planting more flowers. Crown flower is a type of milkweed that monarch butterflies and caterpillars can eat. It likes the full sun and can be propagated by cuttings. So, please put some crowns in your garden and enjoy the butterflies. -Helen Percival

◆
DOMINOES
TUESDAY, 7-9 PM
AT BAIRD HALL
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Waimaea United Church of
Christ
P.O. Box 457
Waimaea, HI 96796