

VOLUME XXIX
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June 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.

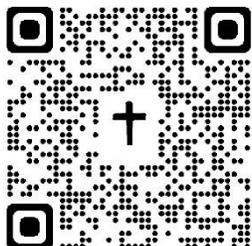
WAIMEA UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
located at the corner of
Makeke and Tsuchiya
roads, Waimea, Kauai.

*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,

What should it matter that the old stone church stands in Waimea? In light of the churches that have been closed during the pandemic and that are now being converted into housing and commercial buildings, we ought to be sure that our worship of God is the better option. One church building in Switzerland, for instance, was featured in the news for being ideal for becoming an auto shop. The high ceilings and wide front doors made it easy to get the cars in and to set up hydraulic lifts! One church in Berlin has become a senior housing center. I am not sure I would want to lead such a cloistered life!

I believe that Waimea is a better place for the idea that God is still worshipped here. And, the building is not just a "service provider" to the community that one day may offer some different kind of service.

As the school year closes down for the summer, I have been saddened that our on-campus ministries never really took off this year as had been hoped. We never got back onto the middle school campus, and the high school bible club has not been well attended. Yet, when I go on campus, my heart is warmed that the students know who I am and greet me with "Hello, Pastor!" Somehow my presence must matter to them as they ask, "Oh, is there Bible Club again?" This be just a little reminder to them that God still cares over their lives. This little feeling of care has in the past stopped several of the youth from committing suicide and has helped countless others. Praise God.

One morning the phone rings in the office. I pick up and speak with a dental assistant from an office in Lihue. Someone's child in Waimea needs a bus pass so that the mother and child can come in for critical dental surgery. The dental assistant asks if we can help. Of course! We support that kind of outreach through Nana's House here in Waimea. The West Kauai Ministers' have a "Kokua Fund" designed to assist in just such an emergency.

A family comes to the site and has lunch under the milo tree in front of Baird Hall, finding peace and togetherness in a safe place. Kids catch fish in the fish pond.

Families with elders that have been buried in the cemetery come in from all parts to pay respect to past generations.

We fellowship with bible studies, game nights, and ukulele sing-a-longs. The children come to learn about God and Jesus. We offer a little hope and joy in our worship on Sundays.

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Scriptures and Sermons for June



- June 5 Luke 8:26-39
"Crazy, Man"
- June 12 Luke 8:40-56
"Lamp Cover"
- June 19 Luke 9:1-17
Jared Preaching
- June 26 Luke 9:18-27
"Take Up the Cross"
- July 3 Luke 9:28-36



"The Cloud"

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.

From Music and Worship

You may have noticed a new lectern in church, where the Sunday morning's Scripture lesson is read. This is a temporary replacement to and improvement on the flimsy music stand that was used before. We await a more permanent and beautiful lectern that will better suit the aesthetics of the sanctuary, so please bear with us.

Summer is here. This is a time for the church to enjoy the many musical talents and gifts in our brothers and sisters. If you feel moved to share a song, or a reading, or a dance, please contact Helen H-P. There will always be a place for these gifts to be accepted.

Music is an integral part of worship. We sing familiar and inspirational songs, but there is room to grow. If there are any songs you would like included in worship, whether they are from the hymnal or a piece that needs to be copied as an insert, please let Helen know.

Song leaders: a clear, strong voice to lead in singing is a precious gift. Should you feel inspired to lead a song during worship, please feel welcome to do it.

Helen H-P, Music and Worship Chair

Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Joanne Watanabe

Deacon: Mahea Morsey

June Deacons: David Somers, Beth Hanashiro, Jacob Matutino

Church Council Meeting June 12, 2022 –
Hybrid Zoom at 11:30 am



Susie Somers, cancer recovery; Dr. Fukino, cancer recovery; 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.

Calendar Notes:

June 3rd--"Jesus in the Hood" car ministry will take place.

June 3rd, there will be a **Powerful Prayers** time from 9:30-9:55 in Baird Hall. We will be following the guidance of books on prayer and spend time praying together. Some of the books we'll look at are *A Praying Life* by Paul E. Miller, and *Fervent* by Priscilla Shirer. Come and join us for a new time of learning and praying.

Pastor will be away from **July 21st through the 25th** to perform a wedding on the mainland.

Hau'oli la Hanau!

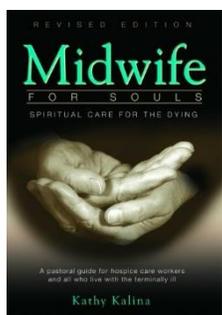
June 11 Joanne Parongao
June 15 Naoko Ho
June 19 June Woodall
June 25 Susie Somers
June 30 Graceleanor Baird



Mahalo:

Thank you to Christian, Jared, Mike M., David S., Marlene M., Kathy Uyeda, and Pastor Olaf for the wonderful Mother's Day brunch of pancakes, sausage, eggs, and fruit! Thank you to Helen H-P and the children for making corsages for the

mothers!



Book Club

Teri Sakai will be hosting June's book club. We will meet on June 26 (3rd Sunday is Father's Day). The non-fiction selection is entitled *Midwife for Souls: Spiritual Care for the Dying* by

Kathy Kalina. A collection of stories and lessons from the author's experiences as a hospice nurse serves as a guide for anyone unsure of how to care for someone who is terminally ill. There is discussion of how faith and spirituality and the power of prayer can guide one in ministering to a dying person.

The appendices contain prayers and scriptural comfort of those who are going through a loss.

Congratulations to high school graduates Gracie Kamai (off to KCC on a scholarship) and Kamalani Goo (off to University of Hawaii at Manoa on a scholarship). Russell and Berenice's daughter Selma (Selma Wagner) also grad--but in Phoenix, AZ., And, to all the other graduates whom we know from youth camps and the like!

There is a person who turns on faucets and leaves them running on the westside. As a result, we had a huge water bill. If you see water running unattended, please shut it off! Prayers for this person who is obviously disturbed.

News from the Pews

- **Driver wanted:** Joanne and Winona (in Kekaha) are hoping to find a younger driver to help bring them both to church on Sundays—and even home again afterwards. Please talk to Joanne if you can!
- The annual State Council of Hawaiian churches Aha Mele that had been scheduled for May 13th was cancelled due to the up-tick in Covid recently. That is so sad as our ukulele group had their hearts set on performing there.
- Phoebe Liu-Eng finished her term as Kauai Association UCC President. Kudos to her for her calming presence and sincere outreach to all of our churches. She is still on the Executive Committee as the past president/advisor.
- Little Sammi is in the honey business, collecting the honey from her own hives. See her if you would like a jar.
- If you enter the children's nursery from the sliding door in front and look on the wall, you will see a measuring tape of spiritual growth. The kids have been measuring themselves there. Only thing is that it is too short for any adult—"Lest we become like children. . . ."
- Why have not the Easter banners in front of the church parking lot been changed out? It is Easter until the Season of Pentecost! It is absolutely great to still wish a "Happy Easter."
- It was great to meet and greet Tom M's son all the way from Florida. He came to play dominoes at game night. That night Tom M. won the game, too! Way to go.
- Hello Amy U. visiting home again here from Los Angeles. We missed you!
- FYI the pastor's wild goat that just showed up one day and has been living at the parsonage for the last few months is missing. Yeah! Now to replant the garden!
- Blessings on Rob and Sue Carlson as they are off to Minnesota for a couple of months. We miss you both
- Blessings to June Woodall on Oahu recovering from eye surgery. We miss you!
- Church trivia: Did you ever notice that the original Eljer toilet seats in the church restrooms are not round or oval? Yup, isosceles trapezoids ($\angle A + \angle C = 180^\circ$ and $\angle B + \angle D = 180^\circ$). Quite unique!

Continued from front page

If anyone thinks that our church would make a better car repair shop, then I would point out that we have car repair ministry, too ("Jesus in the Hood").

The point is that the church matters in so many ways. It is worth a lot to the people here. That is why it has survived over two hundred years in Waimea, longer than any other institution. Over two thousand years for the planet! Thank you for supporting through thick and thin. Your commitment to this ministry matters! God bless you!

Aloha ke Akua, Pastor Olaf

◆
DOMINOES
TUESDAY, 7-9 PM
AT BAIRD HALL



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