

VOLUME XXXI
NUMBER 10
October 2024

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.

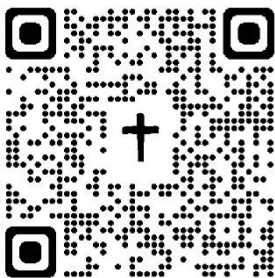
**Waimea United Church
of Christ**

Located at the corner of
Makeke and Tsuchiya
Roads, Waimea, Kaua'i

Rev. Dr. Olaf Hoeckmann-
Percival, Pastor

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Sunday Morning Worship,
10 am
Tuesday Morning Bible
Study, 9 am



THE CONNECTION

A Publication of Waimea UCC

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Many of you have already told me that you expect a travelog from Helen's and my recent travels to Hellas for this month's news article. The whole time I was traveling, I began to question the philosophy of travel itself. Why do we do it? What is this wanderlust that pervades the human soul?

First, I noticed that time moves much slower while I am on the road. At home, weeks meld from one to the next in a quick and constant rhythm. While waiting for the plane to take off, time slows. On the plane for sixteen hours watching the incremental crawl of the cartoon plane on the flight-aware screen I enjoy life slowed to a minimum.

Inevitably while traveling one will get sick from the viral wildlife of crowds, new foods, and dehydration. Time really slows down as you wait for your body to find the strength to continue on the adventure. While in Athens I had to stop eating but still climbed the Acropolis in 95-degree heat. Travel can mean being in a survival mode at times, a physical and mental challenge to remain fit and continue on.

Second, we were surrounded by everything new. In fact, the Acropolis was the only thing that had not really changed since the last time I was there—well that and the ancient subway trains! Some would call this “culture shock.” The food, the language, the surroundings: all are unfamiliar. Here is the difference between traveling to go home to a place you have been and taking off into the unknown.

It is only an adventure if you are in discovery mode. For Helen and me, we walked down streets not knowing what we would find. Most often we were delighted with the new discoveries, sometimes not even sure where we were or what we were looking at. We were overcome by the smell of oleanders in the hot sun, the ubiquitous stray cats that never moved from their respective perches, or surprised by the smell of our own clothes that had only been rinsed in the hotel sink with the little bottle of shampoo from the shower. These are things that Google maps miss completely.

Lastly, we faced the shedding of the self. Nobody knew who we were. Helen and I traveled light with only small backpacks, but really, we were quite without our usual baggage so to speak. Only one waiter pegged me as a Greek classicist by my word choice in Greek, using *lambano* instead of *paro* to ask for a takeout box. That was the only time I shared that I was a pastor. For reference, imagine a tourist speaking in Shakespearean English on Kauai! By the way, I did get the Greek-speaking discount in a taxi once, making my decades of biblical studies definitely worth it.

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Scriptures and Sermons for October 2024

- Oct 6 Romans 11:1-10
"Grace Alone"
- Oct 13 Romans 11:11-24
"Rooted in Faith"
- Oct 20 Romans 11:24-36
"Inscrutable"
- Oct 27 Romans 12:1-8
"Living Sacrifice"
- Nov 3 Romans 12:9-21
"Bless & Do Not Curse"



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

October 6th will be *Neighbors in Need* offering. Proceeds go to homeland missions in the US, including Native American ministries, new church starts, and special grants for ministries. Please help this national offering.

October 27th will be **Pastor Appreciation Potluck** luncheon. See Kathy U. to find out how you can help.

Sunday, November 3rd will be **Aha Mokupuni of the Kauai Association** of the United Church of Christ. It will take place at our church. Yes, all of our island churches will be gathering at 3pm here in Waimea. The subject of the Aha Mokupuni will be "Peace in Palestine." There will be a Zoom Conference with the Wi'Am Center for Reconciliation in Bethlehem to discuss how to bring about peace.

Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Rob Carlson

Deacon: Dave Somers

October Deacons: Joy Whitehill, Kevin Christian, Mary Hayes

Church Council Meeting: October 11, 2024, at 11:30 am via hybrid zoom

Condolences for Diane Foulks and family for the passing of her mother; Rest in Peace Betty Smith, (former pastor's wife); Nancy P. healing from infection in arm; Marsha Kiest healing from hip surgery; Helen Masaki; Irwin Oyama one check-up; Melissa B.,

year cancer recovery; Susie Somers, cancer recovery; Ruth's daughter, Carol Alvesos (brain tumor); Mike Matutino, 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); Helen's mother (heart); Kim H-P for a new job; Kristen to fight infection; 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:

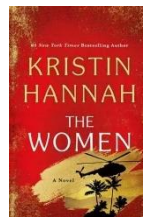
* Thank you for the cadre of Church leadership that led worship on September 1st. Talk is that we should do more congregant led worship in the future!

* Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who brought goodies and helped with the KVMH staff appreciation coffee hour! The workers at the hospital appreciated the community loving on them so much! Special thanks to Russell and Berenice and family for making the specialty coffees for the staff

Hauoli La Hanau!

Okakopā

- 1st James Beardmore
- 3rd Tori Kagawa
- 18th Alicia Hartsell
- 26th Verna Kauahi



Book Club

The Women by Kristin Hannah is October's selection. Sue Carlson will host on October 20th.

The novel is set during the Vietnam war era and tells the story of "Frankie" a young army nurse whose family has a long history of serving in the military. She wants to contribute to her family's heroic legacy. She experiences the trauma of war and the rewards of friendship and becomes someone who is truly heroic.

News from the Pews

- ♥ –Youth Missionary Jared found a pair of reading glasses at the base of a toilet outflow where the inner wax ring meets the sewage pipe. If you are missing your reading glasses, please see Jared.
- ♥ –Marlene will be away on the mainland caring for her grandson Zion for two weeks. We miss you already.
- ♥ –Our organist Diane will be on the mainland visiting family there October 6th.
- ♥ –The "Thank you for saving us from the fires" sign was taken down after being wind-whipped and given to the firefighters at Waimea Fire Station with a sincere thank-you for their efforts keeping us safe.
- ♥ Jared M. ran the Kauai Marathon and came in around 100th. In his honor we will sing the "Old One Hundredth" (the Ho'onani or *Gloria Patri*) in church every Sunday from now on.
- ♥ Teri S. will be visiting Turkey and Armenia this month. She will be connecting back with former exchange student Khanoum (Hanna) while there. Another former exchange student, Lava from Malaysia also just finished visiting Khanoum.
- ♥ Mary H. is now recovering from laser eye surgery. Things will be blurry for a while
- ♥ Phoebe has been in New York helping a friend who has been diagnosed with cancer. Thank you for the love and care you always show others. God bless.
- ♥ –Melissa B. was back on the mainland for the funeral and spreading of ashes of her dear father Jim. Our prayers of comfort are with you.
- ♥ –David and Susie are back on-island as David continues to heal from being bucked by a mule. Fast healing prayers!
- ♥ –Dee Crowell passed away recently from a brain tumor. Our prayers of consolation go out to the family.
- ♥ –Former exchange student Nelli M. (subject of Pastor's book *Daughter Henry*) was able to fly in from Finland to meet her former hanai parents in Germany during their recent trip to Europe. She is well and has a new job working as a movie FX coordinator.
- ♥ –Sarah H., who had been staying with Joanne W., has returned to the mainland. We will miss her so much and hope that she finds her way back here again soon.
- ♥ ***Please take extra care this election season to pray for our election officials, workers, and post office that they all stay safe from harm.***

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We became intrepid, slowing down life, landing on survival mode, and losing ourselves to the adventure. Jesus called His disciples to do the same at the start of their faith journey. He gives us the command to go out and make disciples of all peoples. Maybe I need to be more of a traveler right here in Waimea!

On the road again! Pastor Olaf

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

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Christ
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