



# THE CONNECTION

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Waimea United Church of Christ

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every morning I get up, go through the usual routine of shaving and brushing, dribble out a little juice from the coffeemaker, and go outside to see how the dog and garden are doing, watering and feeding as needed. One morning stood out this last month from the routine. I went outside to see a powerful rainbow, arching overhead with a full moon nudging it on one side. I was awestruck until the dog's whimpers behind the gate distracted me once more to continue my routine. As Nikos the dog jumped on me, I tried to point the rainbow out to him. Silly, dogs only see black and white. He was not interested in the least. For the most part, if he cannot sniff or chew it, it does not exist to him. Still for the moment, I felt revived.

Some, no, many of you have come to me recently sharing concerns about your lives and a sense of anxiety—if you thought you were alone in this, think again! Anxiety is becoming endemic in our world today. I will call it an environmental condition, like a vog that has blown over the island. In contrast, when I looked up at the sky and saw the rainbow and moon together, I felt all my anxieties disappear. The sense I felt was that God is in control: "Hallelujah! Thine, the glory! Hallelujah! Amen! Hallelujah! Thine, the glory! Revive us again!" "May each soul be rekindled with fire from Above." God was giving me a respite from the anxiety of the world; God was indeed reviving me.

I was thinking that this is what I want the folks who come to worship to get as well. I want us to break the routine and see something amazing from God that will revive our souls. Maybe we won't see a rainbow and full moon

when we come into worship, but we ought not just see that same old routine either. We are here to give the world the new life in Christ! As Jesus says in the Book of Revelation 21:5 "Behold, I make all things new again."

We can revive the world by giving it hope that will chase away the anxiety. Maybe when we see everything changing around us we can feel comforted that this is a sign that God is making all things new again. We can come to praise God for showing us the beauty of breaking the routine. No anxiety, just God's beauty! If we only have eyes to see! Hopefully we are not blind to it.

Aloha ke Akua, Pastor Olaf .....



Excerpt from  
*A Prayer*  
by Max Ehrmann

*Let me do my work each day; and if the darkened hours of despair  
Overcome me, may I not forget the strength that comforted me  
In the desolation of other times.*

*May I still remember the bright hours that found me walking over  
The silent hills of my childhood, or dreaming on the margin  
Of a quiet river, when the light glowed within me,  
And I promised my early God to have courage amid the  
Tempests of the changing years.*

*Lift up my eyes from the earth, and let me not forget the  
Uses of the stars. Forbid that I should judge others lest  
I condemn myself. Let me not follow the clamor of the  
World, but walk calmly in my path.*

*Give me a few friends who will love me for what I am;  
And keep ever burning before my vagrant steps the  
Kindly light of hope.*

**Scripture & Sermon Titles  
April 2010**

April 4<sup>th</sup> **EASTER**

Matthew 28:1-10  
"To Live Again"

April 11th

Guest Preacher

*Pastor Bemry Bunglik*

April 18th

Daniel 1:3-17

"No Food to Foreign Idols"

April 25<sup>th</sup>

Daniel 2:25-29

"The Revealer of Dreams"

May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Daniel 3:19-30

"Faith in the Fire"

The Tuesday morning Bible Study Group meets in Baird Hall at 9 a.m. This group studies the upcoming Sunday's scripture and sermon topic and gives input for the sermon. All are welcome to share in the lively discussion and prayer.



**EVENING BIBLE STUDY**

The Evening Bible Study and fellowship meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 6 pm. We are studying the Book of Revelation. Listen to announcements for the location each time.

**CALLING ALL BOOK READERS!**

The Book Club will meet on Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 3 pm at the home of Lucia Laidlaw. We will discuss the book *Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell.



**HOLY WEEK**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY  
TENEBRAE AND COMMUNION SERVICE  
THURSDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>, 7 P.M.  
WAIMEA UCC**

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE  
SUNDAY, APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30 A.M.  
METHODIST CHURCH  
KAUMAKANI  
BREAKFAST TO FOLLOW**

**EASTER SERVICE  
SUNDAY, APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>, 10 A.M.  
WAIMEA UCC**

*Please note that the Sunday after Easter is the annual Kauai UCC Ministers' pulpit exchange Sunday. Pastor Olaf will be in the pulpit at the Church of the Pacific in Princeville, and we will have Pastor Bemry Bunglik from the Marshalese Church in Koloa give us the message.*

**A SEED TAKES ROOT**



Margaret Kagawa has a dream--to have "the eyesore" of our church's vacant lot become a place of beauty. A quiet place where people can sit and rest; pray or meditate and enjoy the natural beauty of nature and see herbs, vegetables and fruits growing. A place not only for our church, but also for her neighborhood, the larger Waimea community and the whole island.

To help her make her dream come true I have connected her with those who have made it their life's passion and focus to beautify and develop undeveloped land in the most effective way.

Margaret has listened and learned and has made a preliminary draft of her dream. She has submitted it to Mike Zelko. The fact that he showed up on Kauai at this time is a miracle. The Community College did not call him. He just showed up. Born and raised on the Big Island he knows a lot

about farming in Hawaii. Besides being down to earth and funny he has been a commercial farmer and rancher and knows the how's and why's of commercial versus organic farming. He is totally committed to sustainable farming because it is the best way to care for God's earth.

Margaret, being business minded and a key member of the West Kauai Rotary Club, sees them as partners in her dream. There is a growing movement for developing community gardens throughout the island of Kauai. Sometimes church organizations are restricted in their ability to access certain financial aids. But, we can be under the umbrella of another non-profit and can apply for grants. Right now there is some grant money for community gardens like ours.

Margaret plans to share her dreams and vision soon. So pray for Margaret and give her encouragement and offer her help in whatever form you might be able to.

It takes a spark to start a fire but to keep it going we need lots of fans to keep it going.

-Submitted by: Joanne Watanabe

**SPRING 'AHA MOKUPUNI  
FRIDAY, MAY 14-SATURDAY, MAY 15  
HANAPEPE HAWAIIAN CHURCH**

**THEME: "KULEANA"**

The gathering will begin with a Supper at 5 pm on Friday, after which will be the Aha Mele/Hoike. On Saturday, the Mokupuni will start at 7:30 am with breakfast, followed by the Annual Business Meeting, and then the presentation by Rev. Jim Fung on the theme. This will be followed by a workshop, and the day will conclude with the installation of newly elected Association officers, and Dinner. Please plan to attend the event if you are able.

**YOUR NEW CHURCH LEADERS**

Please keep the following newly-elected church leaders in your prayers and give them your support: **Moderator:** Teri Sakai, **Vice-Moderator/Missions:** Margaret Kagawa, **Treasurer:** Sheila Ueno, **Assistant Treasurer:** Marlene Matutino, **Secretary:** Cinty Kagawa, **Music & Worship:** Sally Molander, **CE:** Lissa Dunford, **Fellowship:** Kathy Uyeda, **Personnel:** Jackie Matsumura, **Food Bank/Representative to Hawaiian Council:** Grace Kamai, **Cemetery:** James Beardmore and Naoko Ogata, **Buildings & Grounds:** Mike Vidinha, **Stewardship:** Helen H-P, **Finance Ministry Members-at-large:** Grace Kamai and Boyd Thompson, **New Deacons:** Elaine Ganeko, Jackie Matsumura, Sally Molander

*The Church's Ministries*

**Food Pantry:**

*Packing- Tuesday, Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>  
Distribution- Wed. Apr. 21<sup>st</sup>*

**Rummage Sale: Saturday,  
April 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Quilting Group:**

*No Meeting—Easter Sunday*

**Church Council:**

*Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup>*

**April Lay Reader:**

*Janice Oyama*

**April Deacon:**

*Sally Molander*

**Our Prayers**

*For the Kimoto family (loss of Kenji), the Aguilar family (loss of Priscilla's father), Yuki Okino, Lynn (Susie Somers' sister), Robbie (Nora's son-in-law), Marina Galiza, Ruth Cassel, Gladys Okada, Catherine Wilson, Nancy Jones, the Chronister family, Jane Matsukawa, Gayle Mizukami, Sue Metivier, Jim Kimoto, Nelson Keller, Elmo Douglass, Frank Watanabe, the youth in Waimea High School, Nora Vidinha, Loddy, Michael, Lance; Michael Nizo, Veronica Botelho, Sosei Chinen, Selden Burtch, Verna Kauahi, Glenn Kagawa, Desiree Kamai-Santos, the Lanai Committee and project, our local, state and national leaders and our troops overseas.*

**MORE KIDS COMMERCIALS**

*GOD is like Coke—He's the real thing*

*GOD is like Tide—He gets the stains out that others leave behind*

*GOD is like Allstate—you're in good hands with Him*

A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the pastor was standing at the door as always to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside. The Pastor said to him: "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" My friend replied: "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor." The Pastor questioned: "Then, how come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" My friend whispered back: "I'm in the Secret Service!"



### *HOW TO BE BEAUTIFUL*

*For attractive lips, speak words of kindness. For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people. For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry. For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day. For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone. People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, reclaimed, and redeemed—never throw out anyone. Remember: if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.*

*-Written by Audrey Hepburn when asked to share her "beauty tips"  
(Thank you, Sally, for sharing this)*



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