



VOLUME XXVIII
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*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

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P.O. Box 457
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**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,

While watching the Biden/Harris Inauguration I realized that the real star of the show was the elder gentleman in a scarf and long coat who would come forward after every speaker to wipe down and disinfect the podium. He got more air time than any of the stars or politicians. He was also, sadly, probably the one who got the most potential exposure to Covid at the ceremony. Social media sites dubbed him "Sanitizer-in-Chief."

Most of you may not know that we have our own "Chief Sanitizer." Head deacon David Somers comes in on Sunday morning at 7am, just as the sun comes up in the Winter months, and wipes down every chair, table, door handle, "you name it." With latex gloves and face mask he tracks down and eradicates every virus, bacterium, and chocolate chip cookie crumb. Just like Jesus wipes away every stain of wretchedness from our souls, David S. cleanses our worship space outdoors!

Then, he comes and does it again the next Sunday. And, the Sunday after that! Should it not be adequate to have been thoroughly cleansed but once? Hah, if you might think that then you obviously do not live on the Westside of Kauai. We could clean every surface in the house only to discover that ten minutes later there be a new layer of red dust attached. Then, why clean at all? This was my logic with my college roommates while living in Berkeley.

As I have pointed out before in a sermon, the only reason I wash and wax the church van is so that it will rain the next day. Well no, actually I do it to preserve the integrity of the body of the vehicle. Dirt and water together makes mud that sticks and causes rust. Add in our abundant sea salt in the air, and the rust will cause the car to oxidize into a crumbling red heap of metal right before our eyes. A \$30,000 vehicle will become essentially worthless in a couple of years unless it is washed regularly.

Likewise, our spiritual lives will become worthless without asking God for a good cleansing of the soul on a regular basis. Let God be that "Sanitizer-in-Chief" for your heart. How many times Jesus casts out evil from people in the gospels! This is followed with the Acts of the Apostles, too. We see that Jesus gave his disciples the authority to cast out demons. We have that power, too. We just have to pray for God to cleanse our souls of all unrighteousness. As we wipe away Covid from our planet in the coming year, let us also wipe away all the other bad with it!

Aloha ke Akua, Pastor Olaf



Scriptures and Sermons for February

Feb 7th 1 Timothy 4:11-16
"Pay Attention to Yourself"

Feb 14th 1 Timothy 5:1-16
"Honor Where Honor Is Due"

Feb 21st 1 Timothy 5:17-25
"A Little Wine"

Feb 28th 1 Timothy 6:1-10
"Evil Roots"

Mar 7th 1 Timothy 6:11-21
"Missing the Mark"

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.



Church Leaders Event

Please go to the WWW.HCUCC.ORG and click on "Church Leaders Event" in the *quick links* to see the information and registration material for this year's on-line gathering scheduled for February 13, 15, 18, & 20th. Deadline is Feb 8th to apply.

West Kauai Ministers' On-Line Zoom Lenten Study

This year's Lenten Series will be a five-week study of the suffering and redemption of the person of Job in the Bible.

Session #1 "When Bad Things Happen"
February 25th, 7pm, (Job 1-3)

Session #2 "Friends in Times of Trials"
March 4th, 7pm, (Job 4-15)

Session #3 "Confession Even When Innocent"
March 11th, 7pm, (Job 16-18)

Session #4 "Redemption"
March 18th, 7pm, (Job 19-37)

Session #5 "Restoration"
March 25th, 7pm, (Job 38-42)

Worship Leaders

Lay Reader--TBA

Deacon—David Somers

February Deacons—Joy Whitehill, Beth Haneshiro, Mahea Morsey, Lauren Starner

Church Council Meeting: February 14, 2021 via Zoom



Mike Matutino chemotherapy, Janice's friend Ron struggling with cancer, Mahea's mother Pamela for stroke recovery, Jared's stroke recovery, Selden father, Burtch (Rest in Peace), Elsie Hegwood, Gladys Okada Covid shot, Mahea and Jared to have a child, Leinani Springer (cancer free), Gailen Kaohi (reconnect surgery), Marilyn Ueno (tremors), Norma & Mary Watanabe (cancer), Helen's mother, Stacy, cancer, Janice's mother—health, Priscilla's mother (heart), Our local, state, and national leaders, our men and women in the military fighting terrorism, and a speedy end to wars everywhere.

The Zoom on-line Meeting Room is **692-081-6012**. Passcode is **1820**.

You will need to download the free Zoom meeting software in order to participate on your phone, tablet, or laptop. This can be downloaded easily at <http://www.zoom.us>

An active link will also be sent out to the churches via e-mail the week before. Simply click on the link and follow the instructions to download the program and participate. Or, use the above meeting room reference and passcode. (It is highly recommended to use headphones or an earpiece to reduce audio distortions.)

For more info, call Pastor Olaf

Hau'oli la Hanau!

February 1 Helen Masaki
February 9 Grant Kagawa
February 10 Lyle Ceballos
February 11 Bill Woodall
February 11 Kiana Okino
February 24 Bergen Ceballos
February 26 Glenn Molander
February 27 Glenn Kagawa



BOOK CLUB

The Last Girl: My Story of Captivity, and My Flight Against the Islamic State by Nadia Murad is January's book club selection which will be hosted by Deborah Santmyer. Nadia Murad's memoir describes growing up in a Yazidi village. Yazidi's are a minority ethnic group in Iraq. She provides the reader with background



information on Yazidi history, lifestyle, and beliefs as well as explaining her relationships with her community and family. The Iraqi civil war and the rise of Isis and the subsequent massacre of many people in her village leads to a harrowing journey for survival for Murad.

The book club meeting will be via Zoom on February 21 at 3:00 PM. If you would like to be included, please let Jackie Matsumura know.

March's book selection will be *Still Life* by Louise Penny. This is the first novel in a series introducing Inspector Gamache. Lucia Laidlaw will host.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting was held January 31, 2021. Thanks to pastor Olaf and his technical wizardry we were able to have a quorum safely via socially distancing on the Lanai and through Zoom. The budget was shared and attendees were able to ask questions and provide comments. The reports from the committees are available at waimeachurch.org. The minutes and the slate of church leaders were approved. The leaders are as follows: Moderator, Jackie Matsumura; Vice-Moderator, James Beardmore; Secretary, Helen Hoeckmann-Percival; Treasurer, Margarete Kagawa; Assistant Treasurer, Marlene Matutino; Board of Finance—Cemetery, Teri Sakai; Stewardship, Sue Carlson; Buildings and Grounds, Rick Foulks/David Somers; Members at Large, Diane Foulks, Susie Somers; Missions, Phoebe Liu-Eng; Fellowship, Kathy Uyeda/Kevin Christian; Music & Worship, OPEN; Christian Education, Kim Hoeckmann-Percival; Deacons (2024) Joy Whitehill, Beth Haneshiro, Mahea Morsey; (2023) Kevin Chirstian, Lauren Starner, Jared Morsey; (2022) David Somers, Marlene Matutino, Helen Hoeckmann-Percival



Cemetery News

The cemetery committee has been hard at work preparing the slabs for the new columbariums. The columbariums will be arriving soon and will be set on the slabs. They are located next to the current columbarium but will not be enclosed in a building. There are plans for a seating area and landscaping



For the Lexophile (Puns!)

Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off? He's all right now.

A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.

The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.

◆
**DOMINOES will
resume when it is
safe to do so
TUESDAY, 7-9 PM
AT BAIRD HALL**
◆

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