



VOLUME XXXIII
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February 2026

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

(808) 338-9962
www.waimeachurch.org
PO Box 457
Waimea, HI 96796

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



THE CONNECTION

A Publication of Waimea UCC

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The morning that I am writing this the temperature in Waimea is a cool 57 degrees (13 Celsius). The sun still has not yet risen over the horizon as the days are at their shortest point of the year. I am about to head down to the pool to swim my laps. I know already that I will be the only one in the pool. Some of you might consider this a bit extreme; yet, the water is a perfect 74 degrees (21 Celsius). In this sense it is not extreme at all. It is exhilarating.

Likewise, the interior of our church is always nice. When it is cold, we keep the windows closed, and the heavy stone walls radiate the previous day's warmth back in. When it is hot, the stone keeps the room cool, and we open the windows to let the breeze cool us further. The church is naturally protected from extremes. When I walk into the sanctuary and it is the perfect climate inside although outside is extreme, I am once again exhilarated.

This is the underrated thrill of temperance! The thrill of just being warm blooded. Not hot blooded. Not cold blooded. I am just the temperature God meant me to be in my body and spirit. That is not lukewarm as is forewarned in Revelation 2. It is the tempered warmth of faith in Jesus Christ radiating at a pleasant glow. Without shivering or sweating, life in the Lord is good.

When I think about Jesus's life and ministry, it is one of warmth and goodness always. Jesus never used extremism to rile up the masses. He taught his disciples quietly by the water, and when others came to listen, he fed them. He healed gently and blessed the masses without a call to arms or any hatred. In His warmth and the glow of the Spirit even today we are exhilarated.

In the cold weather, offering a homeless man a sleeping bag, blanket, and tent—just a little bit of warmth—is also exhilarating. Your generous donations to the Kokua Fund last Thanksgiving worship service are spreading the warmth of Christ in Waimea right now. We are helping to protect people from the extremes!

Please protect yourself from extremes with the love and warmth of Jesus in your heart and reach out with that love to warm others too.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Olaf



Scriptures and Sermons for February 2026

Feb 1 Matthew 5:33-37
"Yes Be Yes"

Feb 8 Matthew 5:44
"Bless Enemies"

Feb 15 Matthew 6:5-8
"Closet Prayer"

Feb 22 Matthew 7:1-5
"Judge Not"

Mar 1 Matthew 8:22
"Follow Christ"

We continue our sermon series on the commandments of God with the words of Jesus during the Sermon on the Mount.



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:

KVMH STAFF APPRECIATION: Friday, March 13th at 2pm. Please help provide goodies for this event so we can show how much we love our local hospital staff. We need you to sign up on the sheet on the back table in the Narthex, please. This has always been a great outreach to show the love and care of the community back to doctors, nurses, and support workers!

Spring Youth Camp at Waineke Cabins March 17th - 20th. See the flyers on the back table in the Narthex or download from the church website. Click on the picture on the landing page. See youth missionary Jared or pastor Olaf with questions. The theme this year is "Trust."

Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Berenice Wagner

Deacon: Kim Hoeckmann-Percival

February Deacons: David Somers, Helen Hoeckmann-Percival

Church Council Meeting: February 8 at 11:30 am via Zoom hybrid.



Yuki Okino, heart; Bradford Afong; Gia, recovering from broken neck; Natalie for bone marrow match, cancer; Marilyn Ueno, surgery; Helen Masaki; Irwin Oyama, back pain; Robert Medieros surgery 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; Sue's friend Martha for Cancer recovery; Jared's father (stroke); Lucia's son Michael for healing; Mahea's mother (stroke); Helen's mother (heart); Kristen to fight infection; Rob Carlson; Beth Hanashiro (ulcer); 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.

GRACE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS for students from Waimea High entering college. This year we have increased the amount to \$2,000. The deadline is **March 31st**. Applications can be downloaded from the church website under "LINKS" on the navbar.

Mahalo

- ♥ Thank you to Rob & Sue for purchasing five new armchairs for fellowship time after worship to help seniors be stable when getting up. These were bought in honor of Elsie Hegwood.
- ♥ Thank you Kim H-P for stuffing envelopes and Skyler for stamping them!
- ♥ Thank you Diane F. for taking Middle Schoolers to Oahu for drone competitions.

Hauoli la Hanau!

Pepeleuli

1st Helen Masaki
9th Grant Kagawa
10th Lyle Ceballos
11th Kiana Okino
22nd Melissa Campbell
22nd Beth Hanashiro
24th Bergen Ceballos
26th Glen Mollander
27th Glenn Kagawa



Community Help Opportunities

There are many people in our community that need assistance. Here are some things you can do to help:

Nana's House—Miscellaneous toiletries are always welcome. (Toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, etc.)

Thrift Shop at Hanapepe UCC—Feb. 2, 9, 16, 21, 23—7:30-10:30 am. You may drop off items (no large, heavy, bulky items please). They accept used clothing—even if stained, faded or torn. No baby items due to safety concerns. Knickknacks, LPs, small furniture in good condition, books, DVDs, small appliances, etc.

Project Vision Hawaii:--(Kauai Hiehie)

Tuesdays 10 am-1pm Lihue Salvation Army;
Wednesdays 10am-1pm Hanapepe Salvation Army.

<https://www.projectvisionhawaii.org/kauaihiehie/sched>

Reminders for Food Access:

Holy Cross Church: first Friday of the month—drive through—4-5 pm. (Feb 6)

Eleele Baptist Food Pantry-2nd Saturday-begins at sunrise (approx. 6:45 am) -8:00 am.(Feb 14)

Hawaii Foodbank Kauai—Use the link below to find food assistance in your area

<https://kauai.hawaiifoodbank.org/get-help/food-assistance/>

News from the Pews

- ☆ Berenice's beloved grandmother passed away. Our heartfelt condolences.
- ☆ Mary H.'s sister has gone to join the angels in heaven. Comfort and love.
- ☆ Learning the Ten Commandments in song during worship was fun for children and adults alike!
- ☆ Happy that Yuki is back on-island after getting a pacemaker.
- ☆ Happy healing for Marilyn Ueno on her recent surgery redo.
- ☆ Mahalo to Treasurer Margaret K. for all her work on the budget for 2026
- ☆ Memory verse from Middle School Bible Club this month is "Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to him." James 1:5.
- ☆ Pastor made Schwarzwälderbrandtweinhimbeernmarzipantorte for Kara's birthday that was celebrated at Tuesday game night. Guess you just had to be there to know!
- ☆ F Kealoha from Aloha Termites letting you know that we will be coming out to do our periodic check. . . ." Pastor replies, "You speak exceptionally well for a termite!"
- ☆ Pastor David Leong's wife went through emergency surgery for an aortic dissection. She is still in recovery and needs our prayer.
- ☆ Welcome back home David and Susie. We missed you both!
- ☆ From Joanne W. "Thank you for the new (used) walker!" The church gave her a new one when her old one got a busted wheel from her off-roading adventures.
- ☆ Did everybody see little Archie with a "centipede" braid in his hair?!
- ☆ Please be careful still in watching for roofing nails around the church as the wind continues to blow them off the roof after the steeple reshingle.

Talk Stories

Helen Hoeckmann-Percival will host *Yellowface* by R. F. Kuang on February 15, 2026. This is a novel about a Caucasian writer who steals her deceased friend's manuscript and publishes it as her own under an ambiguous Asian pseudonym. The novel was written by an Asian writer and has themes that reflect the original writer's experience as an Asian. The novel skewers the publishing industry and social media. All are welcome to participate in what surely will be a lively discussion.

◆
DOMINOES
TUESDAY, 7-9 PM
AT BAIRD HALL

Waimaea United Church of
Christ
P.O. Box 457
Waimaea, HI 96796