

**VOLUME XXX**  
**NUMBER 10**  
**October 2023**

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.

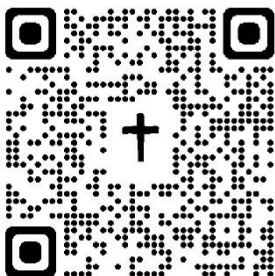
**Waimea United Church  
of Christ**

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

Rev. Dr. Olaf Hoeckmann-  
Percival, Pastor

(808) 338-9962  
[www.waimeachurch.org](http://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,

Do you recall the thing that Adam and Eve did right after eating the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden? The Bible tells us that they "sewed together" fig leaves to cover themselves. The word here appears elsewhere in the Hebrew Scriptures as "mend"--an idea that is compelling in the biblical sense but is falling out of favor in modern English. We do not mend things anymore even though Ecclesiastes 3 even tells us that "There is a time to mend."

So, the making of loincloths out of fig leaves is a codswallop to be sure. The leaves are frangible, itchy, and will quickly dry to a crumble. Yet, Adam and Eve had nothing more and so had to make do. They had to fix this thing for themselves. Fortunately, God sent them animal skins to wear as a parting gesture of mercy upon them.

Last month while at the organ console Diane pointed out to me that the middle F# key on the "Great" keyboard of our Rodgers organ was no longer producing sound. A microchip on the encoder circuit board was failing. The board needed to be replaced. The church council approved the cost of the replacement board.

After being put on hold by Rodgers Organs again and again, asking for callbacks that never came, and the usual miserable standard of service we have all come to accept nowadays, I was told that the board would be sent to us posthaste. A week later it was still not sent. As I tried to follow up, I would eventually learn that the replacement board no longer exists. Their computer inventory was off. When they had gone to the warehouse itself, the box with the circuit board we needed was not to be found. A recourse was offered: I could buy a whole new organ for some six figure amount. Had this been a sales ruse all along? Are we not always told now to just throw the old thing away and get a new one? Does not even the new item come with three recalls attached already and some proprietary digital encoding making it impossible to ever mend again?

The kaput organ circuit chip can be bought in bulk for thirty-nine cents apiece. The Bible itself says that there is a time to mend. Alleluia! Most everything the church has has been mended: The sound system, radio microphones, video camera, photocopier, church van, plumbing fixtures, x10 lighting system, computer, door handles, windows, and so the list goes on. Mend, mend, mend. My wife Helen has already even re-sewn the organ cover! So, the failing F# key has now been jerry-rigged, macgyvered, or mended with what was on hand in a biblical sense! It is a fig leaf for the Rodgers organ!

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## Sermons and Scripture for October

- Oct 1 Luke 24:1-35  
**“Christ in the Breaking of the Bread”**
- Oct 8 Luke 24:36-53  
**“These Are MY Words”**
- Oct 15 Esther 1:18-21  
**“Vashti Abashed”**
- Oct 22 Esther 2:5-10, 15-18  
**“Esther Way to Heaven”**
- Oct 29 Esther 2:19-23  
**“Mordecai Mortified”**
- Nov 5 Esther 3:1-9  
**“Haman Aches”**



Okay everybody, you wanted the Book of Esther! Please read the Book in its entirety as we will just have snippets for the Bible readings in church. Read it twice even.



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:

--**Neighbors in Need** Offering will be Sunday **October 1st**. This is a special national offering for homeland missions, including Native American outreach, and helping in natural disasters such as the fire in Lahaina.

--**Kauai Association Safe-Church Workshop, Saturday, October 7th, 2-4pm, at Kapaa UCC.** “Learn to create or enhance an environment that values each person and allows them to worship freely and safely.” Contact Helen H-P if you would like to attend. Presented by Rev. Jonathan Roach of the Hawaii UCC Conference Office.

--**Pseghetti Night** on Wednesday, **October 25th, at 6pm** for the keiki and their parents. Drop off your keiki and have a nice evening! There will be painting involved, so keiki-cakey clothes appreciated.

## Worship Leaders

**Lay Reader:** Rob and Sue Carlson

**Deacon:** Brian Michael Herrick

**October Deacons:** David Somers, Jared Morsey, Marlene Matutino

**Church Council Meeting:** October 8, 2023, at 11:30 via hybrid Zoom

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Irwin Oyama for heart and surgeries; Melissa B. healing; Margaret's brother, cancer; 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); Berenice's mother Hortencia (stroke); Helen's mother (heart); 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 to all those helpful hands that showed up for the church clean-up day last month: Teri, Mary, Kathy, Jared, David S., Mike M., Mike H., Olaf, Sammi, Margaret, Marlene, Melissa C., Joanne W., and Little Toro the lamb! You all did a great job zapping the spider webs and even repainting the doors!

--Letter from KVMH: *Dear Pastor Olaf, Russell Wagner, and the Parishioners of the Waimea United Church of Christ. On Behalf of the executive leadership team, department leaders, employees and providers of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Kauai Region-Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital, I want to thank all of you for taking the time from your busy schedules to sponsor an employee coffee hour for us. Your delicious homemade baked goods, dips, fruit trays and Aloha Spirit, is truly meaningful to us, and we value your trust in us to care for you and your loved ones. We are sincerely grateful and blessed! With much Aloha, Lance K. Segawa, Regional Chief Executive Officer.*



## Hau'oli la Hanau!

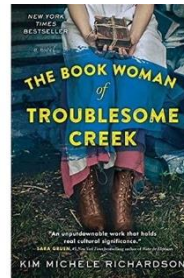
- October 1 James Beardmore
- October 3 Tori Kagawa
- October 18 Alicia Hartsell
- October 26 Verna Kauahi

You too can help with Aloha Hour snacks! Please sign up on the back table in the Narthex or whisper your sincere intent to Kathy Uyeda (Fellowship Chair-Angel).

### News from the Pews

- ❖ Congratulations to Ryan and Elyse upon the birth of their first daughter Lilly Josephine Collins on August 23rd. May the Lord bless the child and the mother's recovery!
- ❖ Was that Lee Miller practicing music for Sunday at 3:30am in the sanctuary? It must have been! Or was it the ghost of Tony Bennett? Scary!
- ❖ Blessings for healing after eye surgery, David S.!
- ❖ Will Tom ever break his winning streak at Game Night? The rest of us are getting tired of losing.
- ❖ So many are out traveling the planet: Nani in Korea, Vicky in Ireland, the Christian Family in Japan, Diane to the mainland, etc. Travel mercies! And, one can see that Helen H-P is back because Pastor's shirts are not wrinkled anymore.
- ❖ Pastor is still on for Jury Duty the first week of October.

*Potluck and bingo for Pastor Appreciation Sunday on October 29th after worship. Please bring prizes to share with the winners as always.*



October's selection is *The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Richardson. Teri Sakai will host at her home on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. Set in the remote hills and valleys of Kentucky during the Great Depression, the novel introduces us to Cussy, a "bluette"—a person who has blue skin as a result of a genetic mutation. Cussy is a packhorse librarian who brings books to remote settlements. Her challenges and spirit are at the heart of the novel. There are many fascinating characters woven throughout the novel.

November's selection will be *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. Jackie Matsumura will host.



**The Book of Esther** is a part of the Old Testament and tells the story of a Jewish woman named Esther who becomes queen of Persia and thwarts a genocide of her people during the reign of King Ahasuerus in the Persian Empire. Esther and her cousin Mordecai saved the Jewish people from the plot of the wicked Haman, who was advisor to the Persian King Ahasuerus and who tried to have the Jews destroyed. The book is divided into 10 chapters.

*Continued from front page*

Is that not why Jesus came as well? He came to mend our hearts. He came to mend the world. He came to mend our relationship back to God. I want us to get back into the mending spirit and accept this biblical concept once more. There is a time to mend! Now is the time!

B# to C, Pastor Olaf

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



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Christ  
P.O. Box 457  
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