



The Connection

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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 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.

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Olaf
Hoeckmann-Percival

(808) 338-9962

www.waimeachurch.org

**PO Box 457 Waimea,
HI 96796**

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 am

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:00 am



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the book and movie *The Russia House* by John le Carre, the head of MI6 makes the statement: "I don't like lists; they say too much about the people who make them." This statement was made in regards to a list of questions for a spy to answer about the Soviet rocket program. I find myself now after Hurricane Lowell in "list making" mode. I can only handle about ten or so sticky notes before I start forgetting important dates, needs of others, and the like. Making lists, psychologists say, is one way of handling the stress of life. Every item crossed off the list becomes a personal victory and a feeling of accomplishment that keeps us from imploding under the strain.

The hurricane and its aftermath is no longer a trauma, a recurring nightmare, but rather an inventory of life. Plans are made, and resources are appreciated. On the Saturday after the storm, we had a workday at the church with a list on a whiteboard of all the things that needed to be accomplished. I inventoried six pick-up trucks, one huge dump-trailer, eighteen volunteer workers, four chainsaws, two window panes and glaze, mops and brooms, eighteen barbecued hamburgers and twenty hotdogs. I lost track of how many trips to the dump, but my guess is around twenty. Afterwards the church and grounds looked better than before the storm. Great job everybody! What an accomplishment.

The first Sunday after the storm, we spent most of the worship time in sharing and prayer mode, just coming together as a family of God to release and assuage our pent-up distresses. Several people after worship expressed appreciation, saying: "I really needed this time of release." I made a list of all our stories, trepidations, and praises. God had indeed provided many miracles in the midst of tragedy. I ran out of space to write all of the blessings and needs on the prayer list. God knows!

At the Church Council meeting after worship, another list started forming: How can we prepare better for the next weather event? This was a brainstorming inventory of what helped others and what we could do better. Little things, such as just serving hot coffee to those with no power, to big things such as back-up generators were listed. No one can ever be totally prepared, but then again, making a list helps relieve anxieties. Storms blow over us, and we need to be ready.

Making a list can be a Godly exercise: akin to Moses with God on Sinai chiseling the Ten Commandments. We prioritize our lives, discerning God's plans for us. God takes our hands to help check off the boxes. In the midst of tragedy, we can count up the miracles.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Olaf

In Need of Prayers



- Diane Foulks, cancer recovery
- Simon Sakai, recovery from diving accident
- Yuki Okino, heart
- Bradford Afong
- Gia, recovering from broken neck
- Natalie for bone marrow match, cancer
- Helen Masaki
- Irwin Oyama, back pain
- Robert Medeiros 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, baby Montana grandniece
- 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.

What's on the Calendar?

WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Deacon of the month is Helen Percival

Liturgist will be Helen Percival

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Morning Bible Study - Tuesdays, 9am
in Baird Hall



Dominoes - Mondays, 7-9pm in
Baird Hall



CALENDAR NOTES

- **November 1st will be a special offering Sunday** for our neighbors in need. The sound equipment at the Marshallese Church was destroyed in the hurricane. We will be raising money for its replacement as a special gift of grace.
- **The Kauai Association of the United Church of Christ** will be hosting its Fall Aha Mokupuni at the Hanapepe UCC (across from the library) on Sunday, November 1st at 3pm. The theme will be "For All the Saints," as it is All Saints Day, too. Please see Pastor Olaf if you can help with set up and break down for this event.
- **Church Council Meeting:** October 11th, 2026, at 11:30 via Zoom hybrid

- **Book Club will meet on October 18th at 3pm via Zoom.** We will be discussing the book “Just Mercy” by Bryan Stevenson. Hosted by Debbie Santmyer.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS!

–Joanne Watanabe was bitten by a centipede, but her daughter Shari was quick to provide first aid to draw out the poison and heal the wound.



–Lilly C. celebrated her third birthday by climbing the milo tree at church. “Look, I am ‘tree’ years old!”

–Our sister in Christ Ruby Doi has recently passed into heaven. A familial celebration of life is planned for

November. We will always remember her beautiful smile, sweet singing voice, and all the gifts she brought to us.

–Thank you to everyone who went out to check on neighbors/church members after the big storm. Blessings on Jared M. and his crew of workers for clearing so many trees and branches in others’ yards.

–Mahalos to Pastors Olaf and Jared for performing a “Jesus in the Hood” miracle on Kathy’s van that needed an emergency new starter motor just before the storm hit.

–As reported by Melissa C. & Kekoa the Waineke Cabins in Kokee survived with but minor damage although the road to the cabins remains blocked by downed trees. Melissa is the newest member of the Kauai Association’s Waineke Committee, too! Waineke coordinator Andrea Kaohi noted, “It looks like God spared us the cabins because we have a lot more ministry to do up there!” By the way, the annual Spring youth camp planned for next year is called “Camp Fearless”!

–Thank you Bennett, Forrest, Forrest Jr. & Brookes for being our lay liturgists in August. It is wonderful to see the whole family reading the Word. Thanks to Kevin C. with little Abby doing the same in September!

–At the bingo pot-luck Sunday, we were asked to write down our personal stress points. Here are some: “Eyesight, work, to walk again, bullying, pain, home repairs, bugs, cancer, mental illness, parents, and defenestration.” Really? Who is throwing whom out of windows in Waimea

TALK STORY

Thanks to Ryan, Winston, Kevin, Jared, Marsha, Jackie M., Kathy U., Marlene, Rick F., Diane, Melissa C., Kekoa, Olaf, Helen H-P, Kim H-P, Sammi, David S., and Don M. for helping to restore the church grounds at the church work day on Saturday September 12th. after the hurricane. The work culminated in a barbecue with burgers and beans! Someone noted that the church looks better now than it did before Hurricane Lowell.



Joanne W. officially has left for her new apartment at the Regency Pua Kea in Lihue. She is already attending Pastor Olaf’s afternoon Bible Study there!



Pastor Kinchi of the First Marshallese Church in Waimea has expressed his gratitude for allowing their congregation the use of our sanctuary on Sunday afternoons as their church undergoes roofing repairs due to the storm.

Hauoli La Hanau!

James Beardmore - Oct. 1
Tori Kagawa - Oct. 3
Alicia Hartsell - Oct. 18

Luke Kevin Christian - Oct. 7
Aya Miranda - Oct. 14

SCRIPTURES and SERMONS for August

OCTOBER 4TH

Matthew 5:13-15 "Salt and Light"

OCTOBER 11TH

Matthew 5:17-20, 21, 27, 31-2 "You Heard It Said"

OCTOBER 18TH

Matthew 6:1-18 "Private Faith"

OCTOBER 25TH

Matthew 6:19-24 "Treasures"

NOVEMBER 1ST

Matthew 6:25-34 "Tomorrows"

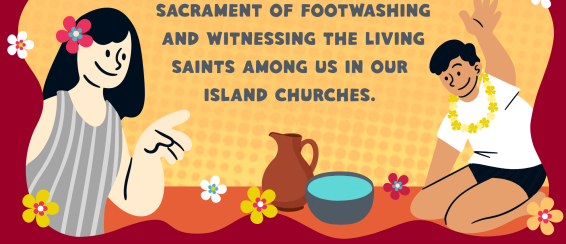


† FOR ALL THE SAINTS †

Kauai Association of the United Church of Christ
will gather at **Hanapepe UCC at 3pm** for worship
and a fellowship dinner on **November 1st**.

*This Aha Mokupuni will be based on Romans 1:1-9,
John 13:12-15, and John 17:20-26.*

WORSHIP WILL INCLUDE THE
SACRAMENT OF FOOTWASHING
AND WITNESSING THE LIVING
SAINTS AMONG US IN OUR
ISLAND CHURCHES.



KAUAI ASSOCIATION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MIDDLE & HIGH
SCHOOL YOUTH

BOWLING
NIGHT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

5:45 - 8:00 PM

KAUAI BOWL, LIHUE

RSVP TO AUNTY TIFF BY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
AUNTYTIFFKUC@GMAIL.COM

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