

"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World"

1020 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 ♦ Volume LII ♦ Issue 41 ♦ June 2016

Pastor's Page...



Practicing patience is a difficult thing to do. When you are so excited about something, and you make all these plans, and you have all these dreams, and then something stops... and you have to wait. And all the energy has to be put on hold. It can be frustrating to say the least.

But practicing patience is also a blessing. It helps you to realize that you are not in charge. It reminds you that you have to rely on others. It causes you to take a step back, breathe deeply, and be faithful.

We are in the midst of practicing patience when it comes to our sanctuary renovation. We had the dream, we made the plans, we raised the funds, and now we have wait. Before we can fix the coral concrete in the support columns, we have to put in scaffolding to shore the weight of the building. There are only two shoring contractors on Oahu. One is so busy we couldn't even get a bid. The other is so busy, we are having to wait to work out the contract and engineering specifications. Nothing else can be done until the shoring is in place. And so we wait.

But our waiting helps us to realize that we are not in charge, that we rely on others, that we must breathe deeply and have faith. Waiting doesn't mean we are not doing anything. We pray, we contemplate, we step back and look at the bigger picture. And we trust that the waiting will be worth it, in more ways than one.

Peace,

Pastor Amy

CHANGE THE WORLD

One Day Visioning Retreat
Saturday, June 4, 2016
Harris United Methodist Church
9 am to 3:30 pm
Led by Lily Bloom Domingo

Now that we know what our goals are... how do we make them happen? How can we be sure we are on the right track? What does the Ohio Team have to share with us? What are we going to do with the increase in lease rent expected in 2017? How will our Core Values, Guiding Principles, and Strategic Goals guide us to the future? What can we do to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?

Join us as we plan our future and change the world!

Lunch will be provided.

For more information, please contact Pastor Linita or Pastor Amy.

Mahalo Xin!

Thank you to Xin Lin for being our piano accompanist this past year. We have enjoyed your skill and your calm presence. Xin will be returning home for the summer to visit family and friends and then head to the University of Minnesota for his PhD in Piano. Best wishes to you Xin!

We will welcome our new pianist Mia Lin this Sunday, June 5 at the joint worship service

Thank you to...

- All the volunteers of Pancake & Praise
- Fatafehi Ta'ufo'ou for covering the office while Paini was on vacation
- Ben Bystrom for donating a keyboard for the Praise Band
- Altar Flowers: Constance Deming, 'Anapela Cocker & family, and Lenley Hawksworth in memory of loved ones.

In Our Prayers

Our shut-ins: Momi Schneider, Katherine Minn, Shigeko Yamaguchi, Buster Scott, Ruth Kiehm, Evelyn Shon

Those with continuing concerns: David Walter, Ma`u Ikahihifo, 'Aunofa Koloamatangi, Wilma Wilson, Jo Toxvard & son, Richard Szumiel, Johann Leverenz, Ann Bystrom, Ben

Timmerman, Supi Palamo, Mele Paongo, Temaleti Mafile`o, Peni Tau`alupe, Ray Dorsey, Albert Pihl, Patrick Dolan, Fa`aui Taumoepenu, Wilma Wilson, Mele Paongo, Jeff Thomas, Carol Kesler, Etu Lolohea, Mel Olson, Lile Fonoti, Pastor Amy's Uncle Dave, Alisi Moala, Billy Masima, Those receiving treatment for cancer: Valerie Leverenz, Roman's sister-in-law Amanda, Judy & Mel's daughter, Mim Hall Beck, Justin Wong, Kesa Finau

Our hearts and prayers are with:

Mel Olson, recovering from surgery
Lile Fonoti, surgery

Announcement

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN Meeting

"The Face of Peace"

Wednesday, June 8, 2016, 11:30AM - Library
What does peace look like? Are we each peacemakers? What does it take to be a peace seeker? Bring an item that symbolizes peace. Bring a sack lunch. Beverage to be provided. Need help with transportation? Call church or Carol Kesler.

LUNCH ON THE LOOSE, Thursday, June 16, 2016, 11:30 AM, AISA MANOA RESTAURANT
2801 East Manoa Road, Chinese Cuisine

Make reservations with Carol Kesler or Lenley Hawksworth.

General Conference 2016 - Reflections

Norma Kehrberg Cal-Pac Reserve Delegate

General Conference 2016 is History. Vibrant worship, inspiring and challenging preaching by the bishops of the United Methodist Church were highlights of the past two weeks at General Conference. During the complicated parliamentary plenary procedures, we struggled to hear God's word. Most of the work was done in groups outside of the plenaries as small groups strategized how to get a crucial issue on the floor or how to defeat, stall, refer or table an issue that was not reflective of their point of view off the floor.

Non-Legislative Highlights: Commissioning of Missionaries, Deaconesses and Home Missioners in plenary sessions in keeping with the theme "Go Therefore", celebrating 60 years of the ordination of women, anticipation of the 150 year anniversary of UMW, and finally the close of the Imagine No Malaria campaign as it morphed into the more expansive "Abundant Health" focus for our church with emphasis on the prevention of the deaths of infants, children and mothers. In a close vote, 428-405, the delegates voted to establish a commission led by the Council of Bishops to develop a process to deal with the most divisive issue of the current UMC, the inclusion of LGBTQ brothers and sisters. An inclusive presence abounded at General Conference. Commissions and studies based on inclusive issues in the UMC date back at least to the early 1990s. I firmly believe that the deep seated roots of our divide will only be reconciled when there are autonomous churches circling the world, bound together loosely like the Anglicans or our World Methodist Council. Another alternative is that we are all organized in central conferences where our social justice differences can be addressed within our respective cultures. It was wonderful to be with the committed members of Cal-Pac and to greet worldwide friends.

**“Use Your Tears”
Faith in Action after the Cyclone
by Wes Neal**

Our student Iliesa confessed to not being sure what to do when an older man in a village where he was visiting told him that, after the cyclone, he no longer believed in God. The village where the man was an elder had been devastated by Cyclone Winston in February and still there is no help from the govern-



A group of DTC students with Trauma Healing certificates.

ment or relief organizations. “How can I believe in God?” the elder asked the student who was on the counseling team to his village. “Use your tears” replied Iliesa, at

which the man started to cry over the destruction of his village for the first time in 10 weeks.

“Using our tears” could be the theme of the three months that have passed since Cyclone Winston devastated so much of Fiji last February 20.

In March and April, Wes conducted three training sessions to introduce students and faculty to the basics of Trauma Healing. The course is an introduction to basic counseling skills and a guide for helping people move through grief and into a deeper trust in God’s ability to heal wounded hearts. Around 75 students and faculty attended these sessions, most of whom were deployed to affected areas at the start of May.



A home in Ba, where Wes’ team was deployed.

Eighteen teams went out from Davuilevu, bringing their training to the lives of people in around 100 villages on the two main islands of Fiji. Thousands of people were part of the teaching sessions. After the chapel sermon on the day before we departed, Jerusha prayed for us from Luke 10, that our eyes would see and that our ears would hear amazing things was answered in full.

In the village, Wes’ team visited and prayed with a family of 9 whose house had been blown com-

pletely away in the storm. They were sleeping in a tent and living in a temporary shelter their neighbors had built out of debris. And yet after the visit they offered him water and a gift of a cloth to bring home to Mercy (who the daughter of this family had met once before). The excellent work of the teams that were deployed have reminded us of the importance of the work we do in theological education. One student on Wes’ team shared the experience of the recent death of his own mother to help people find faith in their grief. Another taught groups of children gathered in our camping tent that Jesus can calm any storm. The teams are back home now, and sharing stories of what God has done through them, but the work of healing the trauma of Cyclone Winston has just begun. Thank you for your gifts that allow us to continue to be here and to do the work God has sent us to do.

We pray that in tears and laughter, you are seeing God’s hand in the place where you minister. We are proud to be your missionaries.



To support our work online: go to www.umcmmission.org/jneal and www.umcmmission.org/wneal - or give to our Advance numbers through your local congregation: (Jerusha #3021963, Wes #3021964).

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Rev. Dr. Linita 'U. Moe

Church Secretary/Office Mgr.

Paini Harris

Choir Directors:

Tupou Seini Kelemeni, Fololiena Maka

Pianist:

Xin Lin

Custodians:

Heamasi Koli, Pat Sheppard,

Moala Mateaki

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JUNE 2016

**repeats weekly*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 12Noon CRF *7pm Tongan Services	2 *2:30pm Staff Mtg	3 *7pm Youth & Youth Adults *10 p.m. Radio Ministry	4 9AM-3:30PM VISION RETREAT Harris UMC
5 10am Joint Worship Service, Graduate Sunday	6	7 *5:30pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm Tongan UMW Circle, Komuro Hall	8 11:30AM UMW Meeting—library	9 6:30pm SPROUTS 7pm Trustees	10 Kamehameha Holiday—office and buildings closed	11
12 9-12 Health Clinic 1-3pm Legal Clinic 11:30am Bible Study 1pm Tongan Quarterly Meeting	13	14	15	16 11:30am Lunch on the Loose	17	18
Annual Conference in California, June 15-18, 2016						
19 10am Lay Preacher Pains Harris 11:30am Bible Study	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 8:30-11:30 Health Clinic 11:30am Bible Study 1-3pm Legal Clinic	27	28	29	30		

Check out our website: www.firstumchonolulu.org



College/University



Helena Ogle
Chaminade University



'Ana Hungalu
University of
Hawaii-Manoa



'Amelia Lolohea
Honolulu
Community College

High School

Villisoni Takai ~ Mililani HS, Taisia Tafuna ~ Farrington HS, Katokakala Leha ~ Kaimuki HS,
Ariitema Vulivalu & Ve`e Ve`e Li ~ McKinley HS, Mapuana Maka ~St. Francis School



Middle School

Tongia Uhilamoelangi ~Stevenson, Susanna Mateaki ~Dole, Puatasi Komiti ~ Jarret
Pisila Taufu ~Kawananakoa, Pauliasi Takai ~ Mililani



Elementary

Paea Masima ~ Palolo, Naitingikeili Aho ~ Royal, Lutimi Pakileata ~ Pearl Harbor
'Ofa Vehikite, David Tupou Lolohea, Astoman Fifita ~ Jefferson, Vilifonise Takai ~ Mililani



Preschool



Soloni Ikata'ane Veikoso,
KCAA Preschool