

“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”

1020 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 ♦ Volume LI ♦ Issue 40 ♦ May 2016

Pastor's Page...



Next month, we will be having a visioning retreat with Lily Bloom Domingo to follow up on our two strategic goals of GROWING SPIRITUALLY and INCREASING ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT. It will be a chance for us to

see what's been done so far and to plan for the future. It will also be an opportunity to start dreaming of what might be possible with the increase in lease rent we are expecting next year. The retreat will be held on Saturday, June 4. Lunch will be served. ALL ARE WELCOME!

To prepare for this retreat, we will be reviewing our church's core values and guiding principles in worship throughout May. Join us for the sermon series:

May 8 Welcoming Hospitality

First UMC takes God's calling to welcome the stranger to heart by providing warm hospitality to all newcomers wherever they connect to the church – worship, foodbank, Aloha Hour, preschool, community service. This hospitality extends beyond the church grounds through a profound commitment to serving others who need God's love and healing. Sometimes our commitment leads to our own discomfort as we make room for all God's people, but we support one another through the growing pains, celebrating our diversity and God's wisdom in creation.

May 15 Nurture & Growth

First UMC provides opportunities for everyone, across ages and cultures, to learn about their faith and the love of God through inspiring, heartfelt, thought-provoking, and celebratory worship, bible study, and other educational opportunities focused on living a faith-filled and integrated life. Through fellowship times – potlucks, open house, coffee hours – we grow a

close-knit community that invites new people in to shared ministries and leadership opportunities. We believe that each of us is nurtured in God's love through actions of caring for others.

May 22 Vision & Wisdom

First UMC believes that God is calling all of us to find and share our unique skills and talents for the betterment of the world, whether it is in our own personal family, the church family, our local community, and/or our global community. We are always seeking direction from the Holy Spirit, listening carefully and learning from one another, and prayerfully growing our faith-filled vision for ourselves and the church in this particular time and place so that we may be wise leaders and faithful stewards acting with purpose and intention to create a more just and compassionate world.

May 29 Prophetic Leadership

First UMC knows that God is calling us to bring this world into greater alignment with God's kingdom, and this requires great courage and discipline on our part. It means we need to translate our faith into daily life action where we risk reaching out to others, speaking up to share the truth as we see it, listening across the wide chasms that separate us, embracing our flawed human natures with patience, kindness, firmness, forgiveness, and inviting all of us to be servant leaders prepared to take action; thereby transforming ourselves and the world.

Peace,

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. There will be a potluck in honor of Xin after choir practice on Wednesday May 18. All are welcome.

Outstanding!

Congratulations First UMC Honolulu! We have been selected as the Outstanding Missionary Support Church in the Hawaii District for 2015. We are being honored at Annual Conference at the Missionary Luncheon. Thank you to everyone who gives so generously to our missionaries!

Team Change

Pastors Amy and Linita, Alex, Ongo, Kueni, Jennifer and myself had an amazing opportunity attending the Rooted and Change the World conferences in Dayton, Ohio and in San Francisco at Glide Memorial UMC. This trip is definitely the start of the blossoming changes for the church and ourselves.



At the Rooted conference we visited church plants, meet with several pastors and people in their ministry, and engaged with people from all over the U.S. Each church plant we visited, we were greeted with Ohio Aloha spirit. It was interesting that many of the Pastors we meet came from within the congregation and not seminary. Each Pastor shared their story and their ministry. They were open and honest about problems, challenges, budgets, accomplishments, ministries, and things that they needed to work on and address for their church. It was pretty cool to see different perspectives and views in which they all benefitted God's kingdom. The message was clear, the church must work together as one body in Christ. We are all needed. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

At the Change conference, we participated

in different breakouts that ranged from servant power, dollar and sense, worship/media, marketing/communication, revitalization, small groups for leaders, mission multiplication, re-designing church to name a few. People who are actively serving in their particular ministries conducted these breakouts by sharing their experiences and mistakes. Change does not happen overnight, it takes teamwork to bring God's Kingdom to everyone. Shane Claiborne shared this quote, "where the pain is, is where your ministry should be".

In San Francisco, we had a wonderful experience with the Glide Memorial staff and God's people. We found out that some of the volunteers, who are not members of Glide, sign up online to serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner. We attended the Sunday service and

meet with Rev. Dr. Karen Oliveto. The experience we learned here is definitely beneficial for our pancake and praise ministry and for the church.

As we begin this journey together, we are encouraged to find the 'burning bush' God has put through you. We are God's team, working together as stewards of God's earth. May we all grow with change through prayer and the Holy Spirit.

Ana Namoa

Thank you to...

- All the volunteers of Pancake & Praise
- Aloha Refreshments: Ikata`ane & Sue Veikoso and Fijian Fellowship
- Altar Flowers: Constance Deming and Paini Harris
- To Mahei and Alisi Moala for taking good care of our yard.
- Fehi Taufou`ou and Carol Kesler for substituting for our secretary while she is away.

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 Ikaohiifo, `Aunofu Koloamatangi, Wilma Wilson, Jo Toxvard & son, Richard Szumiel, Johann Leverenz, Ann Bystrom, Ben Timmerman, Supi Palamo, Temaleti Mafile`o, Peni Tau`alupe, Ray Dorsey, Albert Pihi, Patrick Dolan, Fa`au Taumoepenu, Wilma Wilson, Mele Paongo, Jeff Thomas, Carol Kesler, Etu Lolohea, Billy Masima

Those receiving treatment for cancer:

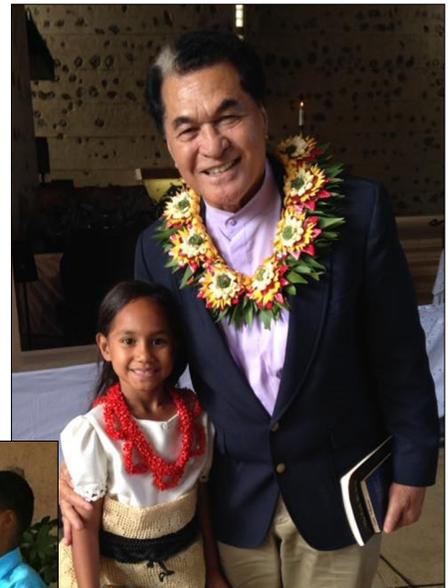
Valerie Leverenz, Roman's sister-in-law Amanda, Judy & Mel's daughter, Mim Hall Beck, Justin Wong, Kesa Finau

Our hearts and prayers are with:

The family of Mele Paongo for their great loss
Paini's family for the loss of her uncle
Mel Olson, preparing for surgery
Lile Fonoti, hospitalized
Pastor Amy's Uncle Dave, major stroke

Announcement

United Methodist Women will meet at 11:30 a.m on May 11 in the library. Please bring a sack lunch and come and join us. Did you know that United Methodist Women support nearly 100 National Mission Institutions in the United States which empower women, care for children, educate and build youth, look after the neglected, advocate for social justice, create economic opportunities and change neighborhoods? Here in Honolulu the Susannah Wesley Community Center is one of the missions supported by UMW.



First United Methodist Church

1020 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1492

(808) 522-9555 Fax (808) 528-3992

Email: Office@Firstumchonolulu.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter editor: Sandra Mactagone

Church Leaders & Staff

Resident Bishop:

Bishop Minerva G. Garcaño

District Superintendent:

Rev. Dr. Se Hee Han

Co-pastors:

Rev. Amy C. Wake

Rev. Dr. Linita 'U. Moe

Church Secretary/Office Mgr.

Paini Harris

Choir Directors:

Tupou Seini Kelemen, Fololiena Maka

Pianist:

Xin Lin

Custodians:

Heamasi Koli, Pat Sheppard,

Moala Mateaki

Kilohohana Methodist Church and
Kilohana Angels presents
Internationally Operatic Tenor

Ta`u Pupu`a & friends
in concert

Saturday, May 21, 2016

7:00PM

McKinley High Auditorium

Admission: \$30.00

Call 373-3373 for more information or
tauconcert@gmail.com