



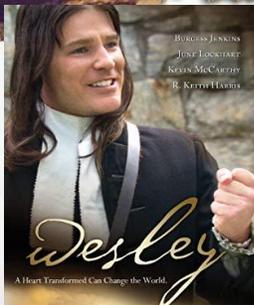
# Focus

*Growing in Christ through Spirit, mind, body and 'ohana*

1020 S. BERETANIA STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

JULY 2019 – VOLUME LXVI, ISSUE 7

## Upcoming Events



### FAMILY & FRIENDS MOVIE TIME

Sunday, July 7  
1:00 p.m. in Komuro Hall

“Wesley: A Heart Transformed Can Change the World” is a movie about the transformation of one man whose heart-wrenching search for peace haunts him even as he pours himself into a life of service and evangelism. Wesley’s fascinating spiritual struggle is presented in this award-winning film based on John’s own private journals.

Join us in watching this film and for an opportunity to have fellowship and popcorn together!



### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Wednesday, July 10  
11:30 a.m. in the Library

The English Circle of United Methodist Women will meet in the second floor Library on Wednesday, July 10, at 11:30 a.m. Bring a lunch and join us!

The Tongan circle meets at 8 pm on the third Tuesday of each month.

Women of any age are invited to join the United Methodist Women.



### LUNCH ON THE LOOSE

Thursday, July 18  
11:30 a.m. at  
Rangoon Burmese Kitchen

All are welcome to join us for lunch and fellowship at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 18. We will meet at church and carpool to Rangoon Burmese Kitchen at 1131 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu.

Contact Paini at [paini@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:paini@firstumchonolulu.org) or the church office at 808-522-9555 to reserve your spot.



### In This Issue:

Upcoming Events . . . . . p. 1  
Pastor’s Page . . . . . p. 2

July Sermons . . . . . p. 3  
FunFest@First . . . . . p. 3  
Youth & Young Adults . p. 4

Other Opportunities . . . .p. 5  
Vacation Bible School . . p. 5 & 6  
Calendar . . . . .p. 7



## Pastor's Page

Dear FUMC 'Ohana:

It is such a blessing to be starting my third year as senior pastor of FUMC! Thank you all so much for the kindness and ministry that you have extended to me, my family, our church, and community.

As I have been preaching on mission, I want to give you an update on our missional priorities. Just before I came, the congregation came up with three priorities for mission and ministry. This priority action plan focuses our work into three areas with progress reports in each:

1. Strategic church growth –
  - a. We used church consultants from one of the largest United Methodist churches in America, Ginghamburg UMC to help us in recognizing areas of improvement. One of the major areas was improving our welcoming and hospitality – the best evidence for this is improved signage and improved social media, such as our upgraded website and Facebook page.
  - b. We have been trying to create exciting, powerful worship services, most notably with the addition of the praise band (at the English and Tongan services), dance, and multi-media.
  - c. Church growth starts with spiritual growth. We have added more Bible studies and programs for children and youth. We hope to continue developing all of these to the glory of God.

The second priority is...

2. Mission and Outreach –
  - a. We clearly continue to focus on the homeless and hungry, with our Foodbank, Pancakes and Praise breakfast worship ministry, and our just concluded Family Promise round.
  - b. We also support many different ministries, such as the Wesley Foundation Campus ministry, the New Legal Clinic that you will hear about next Sunday, The Susannah Wesley Community Center, and many others.
  - c. We are continuing to reach out to Ka'ahumanu Elementary School, providing music lessons and other services.

The third priority is...

3. Renovating the sanctuary and first floor.
  - a. We had a slow start, but now we are seeing evidence of the renovation. The first way was the improved landscaping, which many people have commented on, including people who aren't part of our church. We have hired an architect specializing in historic preservation, and you can see the work in renovating the columns on the outside of this historic building, designed by Alfred Preis, designer of the Arizona Memorial.
  - b. We will soon have a master plan for the rest of the sanctuary and first floor, including renovating Butterworth Chapel as a multi-purpose room while preserving the chapel aspects, and our fellowship area, Komuro Hall and kitchen.

We are an active church! Please continue to be a part of our growing ministry.

Grace and aloha,

*Pastor Tom*



### July 7 – “I am a Child of Immigrants and Refugees”

Pastor Tom preaches a very personal sermon that responds to the immigration situation in our nation by sharing the experiences of his family. His sister, Portia Choi, is visiting Hawaii and is a published poet. She will share a few of her poems about her Korean War experience. Holy Communion will be celebrated.

After combined worship, there will be a luncheon – all welcome – and following the luncheon, there will be a screening of the film “Wesley – A Heart Transformed.” For children, the film “The Incredibles” will be shown at the same time.

### July 14 – “Wesley: A Heart Transformed”

Our series on films continues with this dramatic presentation of the life of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism.

### July 21 - “The Incredibles”

VBS weekend concludes with a presentation from the participants. Pastor Tom will preach from this Disney film about how we lose track of our original purpose but can be restored.

### July 28 – “Faith in Film: 42 – The Jackie Robinson Story”

On the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this birth and using different media sources, Pastor Tom pays tribute to Jackie Robinson, a man of faith and courage, who was the first black man to play in Major League Baseball in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Copies of the worship script are available via email at [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org) or stop by the office for a hard copy.



## FUNFEST@FIRST

FunFest@First is a wonderful community event that will be held on August 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Our church will host this all community event for our houseless neighbors with food, music, haircuts, and more! A great serving opportunity! If you would like to volunteer for our FunFest@First event, please email Kim Houff at [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org) or call the church office at 808-522-9555.

If you are unable to serve at this community event but would still like to bless the houseless in some way, we are in need of the following items . . .

### Donation needed:

- T-shirts (new or gently used)
- Pants
- Shoes
- Socks
- Razors
- Deodorant
- Hydro Flask type insulated water bottles
- Sanitary Items
- Cosmetics
- Small to Med Sized Towels
- Reusable Bags
- Backpacks
- Sleeping Bags
- \$5-\$10 Gift Cards to McDonalds, Burger King, Longs, Walmart



You may drop off donations at the Church Office. For more information, contact Kim Houff at [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org) or call the church office at 808-522-9555.



### YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY

**June 2019:** About 80+ young people joined together to perform for the Tongan quarterly worship service; the Youth did a joint outing to support Sara Brekke and Sierra Choi in Children's Theatre of Oahu's musical "Snow White"; and about 30 young ladies (youth, young adults and chaperones) attended the 2 day BLOOM Conference.

**July 2019:** We have Vacation Bible School (VBS) for ages 3 to grade 6 from July 19-21. Please turn in your registration forms as soon as possible so we can make sure we have enough supplies and food for everyone! If you are interested in volunteering please let the office know at 808-522-9555 or email [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org). Check the Sunday bulletin for our wish list if you're able to lend or donate any of those items.

Preparations for the annual Tongan Youth Day will begin this summer. Please save the date and come out to support our young people – Saturday, August 31, 2019.

**Youth and Young Adults:** Wesley Foundation and Hawaii District Young Adult Ministry is sponsoring a Youth Revival **"Everlasting Faithfulness"** on Friday July 5 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Christ UMC.

There will also be a Young Adult Revival **"Passion"** on Friday, July 12 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Christ UMC.

*Mele Pepa Latu,  
Director of Young People's Ministry*



### ENGLISH YOUTH GROUP

I know I don't have to tell you that God is everywhere and our youth are taking hold and moving

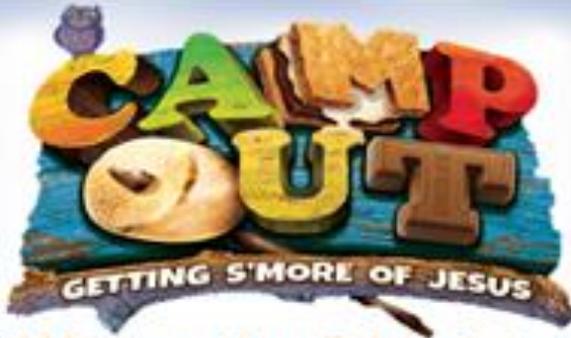
with God in so many directions. First there was the BLOOM conference for young girls (and ladies young at heart) - an amazing, uplifting and inspiring conference that helped transform many young hearts that drew closer to God as a result.

Then a large group of our youth enjoyed fellowship as together they supported Sara and Sierra, who both put on a wonderful performance in the musical Snow White.

To close off the month of June, it was an enjoyable time hosting Family Promise. I love to see our youth being so loving to families who really need to know they matter. Yes, God is everywhere and doing His will through our youth who are obedient and willing.

*Mark Brekke, Director of Youth*





## FREE Vacation Bible School

July 19-21, 2019

Fri & Sat: 5-8 p.m. (includes dinner)

VBS Celebration: Sun at 10 a.m.

(parents are invited to see what your child has learned)

First United Methodist Church

1020 South Beretania Street, Honolulu 96814

For ages 3 to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Outdoor Activities
- Bible Study
- Arts and Crafts
- S'mores
- and More!

To register, email

[office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org)

or call 808-522-9555.

## VBS DONATIONS NEEDED

We are in need of the items listed below for our VBS. If you are able to donate or allow us to borrow the items, please bring them to the church office by Sunday, July 14.

- White Sheets
- Flashlights
- Lanterns
- Jump Ropes
- Backpacks
- Wet wipes
- Camping Tent
- Folding Beach Chair
- Blow up raft/kayak/boat
- Fishing Pole
- Hand towels

## VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you love to play games? Do you love to do crafts? Do you love investing in our keiki? If you answered "YES" to any of the above questions, we need you!

Come to our VBS Volunteer Training on **Sunday, July 7 at 11:30 a.m.** Pick up your lunch in Komuro Hall and bring it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Maile Room and get a taste of what activities we'll be doing at VBS and where you can help. Contact Mele Pepa Latu at [youngpeoplesministry@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:youngpeoplesministry@firstumchonolulu.org) for more information or to sign up to volunteer.



## YOGA CLASS

Thursdays at 12noon

Starting Thursday, July 11 at 12noon, FUMC will be offering a FREE Yoga Class every Thursday!

This class is being offered in accordance with our mission "Growing in Christ through Spirit, mind, **body** and 'ohana".

Beginners are welcomed and encouraged to participate! All levels are welcome.

Bring a towel, water and a mat if you have one. If you don't have a mat, one will be provided for you. To register for this FREE class, email [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org) or call 522-9555, Monday through Friday, 9-3 p.m.



## FUMC's Got Talent

SAVE THE DATE: **Sunday, August 18 from 12 – 2 p.m.**

If you would like to share your talent (singing, dancing, reciting poetry, etc.) sign up with the office at [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org).



## Vacation Bible School Registration Form

For ages 3 to 6<sup>th</sup> grade

July 19-21, 2019

6pm – 8pm: Program

5pm: Check-In, 5:15pm: Dinner (families welcome to join)

Children are invited to perform during our 10:00 am Worship Service on Sun., July 21



Child's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Full Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Any health or allergy alerts: \_\_\_\_\_

Any special concerns or requests for your child? \_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Contacts

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

YES     NO    My child will/will not be performing on Sunday, July 21 at First UMC.

**Media Release:** I give permission for my child to be photographed and/or videotaped during VBS activities. My child's image may appear in print or online promoting church activities. I understand that my child's name will not be used to identify my child. If I would like to withdraw my permission, I may do so at any time by submitting a written request to the church office.

### Parent/Guardian

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE.** Please turn in or mail completed form by **July 7** to the FUMC office at **1020 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96814**. You may also send completed form via email to: [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org). If you have questions, please call **Mele Pepa or Sandi** at **808-522-9555**.

### DINNER REGISTRATION

Dinner will be provided on July 19 & July 20 at 5:15pm - 6:00pm. It will be open to all members of the family whose child(ren) are participating in VBS. Please indicate the date and TOTAL number of people who will be attending dinner.

**July 19, Friday:** \_\_\_\_\_ (please put total number of people attending dinner)

**July 20, Saturday:** \_\_\_\_\_ (please put total number of people attending dinner)



1020 South Beretania Street  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1492  
 (808) 522-9555 Fax (808) 528-3992  
 Website: www.firstumchonolulu.org



BLOOM Conference 2019

# JULY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		5:30 pm Centering Prayer	6 pm IHS Meal Outreach 6 pm The Family Table Bible Study 6:30 pm Tongan Language Service	<b>HOLIDAY</b> OFFICE & FACILITY CLOSED		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8am Pancakes & Praise 10am Joint Worship with Fellowship Luncheon 11:30am VBS Volunteer Training 1:00 p.m. Friends & Family Movie (Wesley: A Heart Transformed) & Fellowship		5:30 pm Centering Prayer	11:30 am UMW English Circle 6 pm The Family Table Bible Study 6:30 pm Tongan Language Service	12noon Yoga 6:30 pm Tongan Women Prayer Group 8:00 pm Tongan Choir		
				Women's Walk to Emmaus		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8am Pancakes & Praise 8:30-11:30 am Health Clinic 10am English Worship 11:30am Disciple's Path 11:30am Youth Grp 12 noon Tongan Worship 3pm Tongan Prayer Service		5:30 pm Centering Prayer 8 pm UMW Tongan Circle	6 pm The Family Table Bible Study 6:30 pm Tongan Language Service	11:30am Lunch on the Loose at Rangoon 12noon Yoga 6:30 pm Tongan Women Prayer Group 8:00 pm Tongan Choir	5pm VBS: Camp Out	5pm VBS: Camp Out
Walk to Emmaus					Vacation Bible School	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8am Pancakes & Praise 8:30-11:30 am Health Clinic 10am English Worship 11:30am Disciple's Path 11:30am Youth Grp 12 noon Tongan Worship 3pm Tongan Prayer Service		5:30 pm Centering Prayer	6 pm The Family Table Bible Study 6:30 pm Tongan Language Service	12noon Yoga 6:30 pm Tongan Women Prayer Group 8:00 pm Tongan Choir		Misinale
28	29	30	31			
8am Pancakes & Praise 8:30-11:30 am Health Clinic SNAP Assistance 10am English Worship 11:30am Bible Study 11:30am Youth Grp 12 noon Tongan Worship 3 p.m. Tongan Service		5:30 pm Centering Prayer	6 pm The Family Table Bible Study 6:30 pm Tongan Language Service			



## First United Methodist Church

1020 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1492  
(808) 522-9555 Fax (808) 528-3992  
Website: [www.firstumchonolulu.org](http://www.firstumchonolulu.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Church Leaders & Staff

**Pastors:** The Rev. Dr. Tom Choi  
The Rev. Dr. Linita 'U. Moa

**Director of Discipleship & Community Engagement:**  
Kim Houff

**Pastoral Intern for Multicultural Ministry:** Ongo Koli

**Church Administrator:** Paini Harris

**Assistant to the Pastors:** Sandi Brekke

**Director of Youth:** Mark Brekke

**Director of Young People's Ministry:** Mele Pepa Latu

**Choir Directors:** Tupou Seini Kelemen, Fololiena Maka

**Accompanist:** Jason Eom

**Custodians:** Heamasi Koli, Pat Sheppard,  
Pongi Vehikite, Sione Palu, Sia Lolohea

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:**

**Resident Bishop:**  
Bishop Grant Hagiya

**District Superintendent:**  
Rev. Dr. Se Hee Han



### **WALK TO EMMAUS**

**Men's Walk: August 15-18 at St. Stephen's Retreat Center**

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It's an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ.

If you are interested in participating in Walk to Emmaus, please see Helena Ogle, Pastor Tom or Pastor Linita.

**Check out our website: [www.firstumchonolulu.org](http://www.firstumchonolulu.org)**



**Email: [Office@Firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Office@Firstumchonolulu.org)**



**Instagram: [firstumchonolulu](https://www.instagram.com/firstumchonolulu)**



**Facebook: [First United Methodist Church Honolulu](https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchHonolulu)**



**Twitter: [HonoluluFUMC](https://twitter.com/HonoluluFUMC)**