

Focus

Glorifying God through our D.A.Y.S. *(Discipleship, the Arts, Young People and Service)*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HONOLULU | 1020 S. BERETANIA STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
FEBRUARY 2021 - VOLUME LXVIII, ISSUE 2

Ash Wednesday Joint Service

February 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Our Ash Wednesday joint service will be held on Facebook Live on Wednesday, February 17 at 7 p.m.

Please call the office at **808-522-9555** or email office@firstumchonolulu.org to arrange to pick up your ashes and communion elements prior to Ash Wednesday or to have them mailed to you.



Britt Lectures with Rev. Tod Bolsinger

Friday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m.
Leading in Uncharted Territory

Friday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m.
Leading through Resistance

The 2021 Britt Lectures with Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger will be held this year via Zoom and each session will include a presentation from the speaker, breakout discussion, large group discussion, and a Q&A.

Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger is the vice president and chief of leadership at Fuller Seminary. He has extensive experience in church and nonprofit consulting and executive coaching. He has authored many books including *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*.

Please register at: <https://calpacumcformstack.com/forms/brittlectures2021> by **Mon, Feb. 8**. Attendance at both Friday sessions are required. This event is FREE and open to the public. A 30% discount for the book purchases will be made available to those who RSVP.

Church Events

- Feb 8th - Contemplative Prayer Workshop
- Feb 12th - Britt Lectures: Leading in Uncharted Territory
- Feb 15th - HOLIDAY: Facilities and Office CLOSED
- Feb 15th - Foodbank OPEN
- Feb 17th - Ash Wednesday Service at 7 p.m.
- Feb 19th - Britt Lectures: Leading through Resistance

Ministry Musings

Dear FUMC 'Ohana:

As we move further into 2021, things are different. We just inaugurated the 46th president, Joe Biden, and the first ever female vice-president, Kamala Harris, also the first Black and South Asian VP. The Senate is in Democratic control for the first time in many years. There are many who celebrate these new realities; there are many who are saddened by these realities. But they are the realities, and as we look to heal from the pandemic and the Capitol riots, I hope that a new reality will emerge: of greater self-introspection, discernment, and even repentance.

Like so many others, I was impressed and deeply moved by Amanda Gorman, the youngest ever Poet Laureate, who delivered an inspiring poem at the inauguration. I share a portion of it here and pray we'll live out its words:

When day comes we ask ourselves, where
can we find light in this never-ending shade?
The loss we carry, a sea we must wade
We've braved the belly of the beast
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace
And the norms and notions of what just is
Isn't always just-ice
And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it
Somehow we do it
. . . When day comes we step out of the
shade, aflame and unafraid
The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light, if only we're brave
enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it



Photo by Rob Carr



Pastor Tom Choi
Senior Pastor

PC: Aloha Images & Design

WORSHIP IN 2021 CONTINUING REFLECTION

Our leadership continues to monitor the vaccination rollout as we ponder when we might return to in-person worship. According to a recent press conference by Dr. Anthony Fauci, Chief Medical Advisor to the President, the hope is if by late summer, 75%-85% are vaccinated, we could return "some degree" of normalcy by fall. The "hope" depends on the openness of people to receive the vaccine.

What does this mean for in-person worship at First UMC? Safety is the first concern as well as making sure that when we return to in-person worship, we have a full and complete church experience: singing out loud, choir rehearsals, holding hands and hugging, meals together, children playing, etc. I also hope we can find a way to help our homeless community and others get vaccinated on campus, perhaps through the H.O.M.E. program through the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

I know that we are anxious to get back to in-person worship. And we will as soon as it is safely possible, and experientially and spiritually powerful.

LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 17 WITH VIRTUAL ASH WEDNESDAY AND A DEVOTIONAL

The season of Lent begins this month with Ash Wednesday. For the past few years, we have had a brief service with the imposition of ashes along with a simple supper afterward. Since we are still under COVID restrictions, we will have a virtual service at 7 pm. We will be happy to arrange for prepared ashes to be delivered to you.

We will also be providing a Lenten Devotional, which will be available in English and Tongan. Each devotion will be brief and will sometimes feature links to music and video, as well as works of art.

We pray that this season of special contemplation and devotion will be a special one for us all.

Grace and aloha,

Pastor Tom

From Faifekau Linita Moa's Desk



Si'i Kaunga Pilikimi,

Malo e laumalie 'a hou'eiki pea pehe ki he kainga kotoa pe 'o e Siasi, 'o tau a'usia 'eni 'a e mahina hono ua 'o e ta'ufou ni. Fakafeta'i lahi ki he 'Otua Mafimafi he'ene tauhi mo e taki ki he fononga 'oku tau fai he ngaahi 'aho ni. 'Oku kei fakafeta'i pe 'etau mo'ui he'etau lakai mai 'a e ngaahi fatongia kehekehe 'o e hala fononga, si'i fakamavae mo si'i Sione Fakatete mo Uinise Ma'ume'afo'ou Ikaiahifo, kuo na tau 'a e taulelei, pea kuo na lava'i 'a e fakapuepue, ka kei malo'ia pe 'a e huafa ma'oni'oni 'o e Ta'ehamai.

'Oku fanguna 'a kitautolu he siate folau 'o e mahina fo'ou ko'eni: **"Ke Tau teuteu: Fai Vave 'Etau Filí mo e Liliu Mo'uí (Be Prepared: Choose Swiftly and Transform)."** 'Oku mahino kiate kitautolu ke 'oua te tau fakatoto'ohi pe fakata'eta'ekuha 'a 'etau teuteu mo 'etau tui ki he 'Eiki ko Sisu Kalaisi. 'Oku fiema'u ia ke fakapapau'i pea ke fou ai, 'o kapau 'oku te'eki te tau filí mo liliu 'etau mo'ui ke tau muimui ki he 'Eiki he taimi ni pe 'oua toe tatali. Ko e mahina 'eni ke tau vakai'i mo fakapapau'i pe 'oku pau pea ke fononga ai.

Ko e mahina ko'eni 'oku tau anga maheni pe kiai ko e mahina 'eni 'o e Britt Lecture 'o e Vahefonua, pea 'oku kehe 'a e ta'u ni, he 'oku tau ngaue'aki pe 'a e Zoom, pea 'oku ou tui 'e faingofua ange kiate kimoutolu 'a e founa 'o e ta'u ni. Koia ka ke vakai ki he lesisita te u feinga ke tuku atu he'eku peesi pea mo e peesi 'a e Siasi ke mou lesisita he zoom. Ko e lesisita 'e ngata ia ki he 'aho Fepueli 8, 2021. 'E fakahoko 'a e Britt Lecture he 'aho Fepueli 12 mo e 19 mei he taimi 7 p.m. Ko hono fakaikiiki 'e ma'u atu ia mei he Britt Lecture flyer 2021 he hawaiidistrict@calpacumc.org. Pea ko ha'o fetu'utaki mai kiate au, 'e lava pe ke u tokoni atu ki hono fakatauke'i koe pe tokoni atu.

Fekau'aki mo e covid-19, 'oku kole atu pe ke tau tui ma'u pe ho mask 'i ho'o mavahe mei ho 'api ki ha feitu'u pe, pea tauhi 'a e vamama'o fute 'e 6 pe lahi hake ai, pea ke fanofano ma'u pe foki ho nima he taimi kotoa, 'e tokoni lahi 'aupito ia ki hono malu'i koe pea pehe pe foki ki he tokotaha kehe foki. 'Oku ha'u pe 'a e taimi mo e toe tokolahi ange 'a e faingata'a ko'eni, ka 'oku fakatokanga atu pe tau tauhi ange 'a e founa koia ke tokoni mo malu'i koe mo ho famili foki.

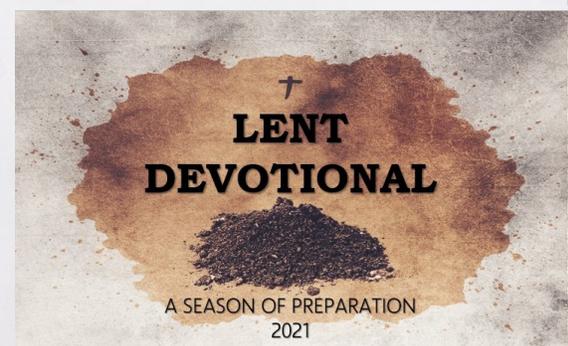
Fakamanatu atu pe foki, ki hono hufia si'etau kau faingata'a'ia, si'i Salote Mikaele, pea pehe pe foki ki he'etau kau toulekeleka 'oku nau toka 'i 'api, pea pehe pe ki he ngaahi famili 'o e Siasi, ke fakakau atu he'etau ngaahi lotu famili mo e ngaahi ma'unga kelesi lotu kotoa pe.

Tauange ke tapuaki mai kimoutolu kotoa pe mo fakamonu'ia 'e he 'Otua, pea fakataha mo ia 'etau talangofua mo faka'ehi'ehi mei he covid-19 mo hono ngaahi fakatapatapu foki.

'Ofa lahi atu mo e hufia, *Faifekau Linita 'U. Moa*

Lent is a season of preparation for the celebration of Easter. One way that helps us prepare for Easter is to practice the discipline of daily devotional reading. Pastor Tom and Kim, Director of Discipleship and Community Engagement, are crafting a thoughtful devotional to guide us through Lent to the celebration of Easter Sunday. The devotional will be available from fumchonolulu.org as a pdf file or you can pick up a printed copy at the church. Devotions will be posted on our Facebook page each day. For more information contact kim@firstumchonolulu.org.

LENT DEVOTIONAL





Sermons for 10 a.m. Online Worship Service on Facebook Live

February 7

Pastor Tom Choi preaches on "Vaccinating Your Faith". Holy Communion will be celebrated.

February 14

Sandi and Mark Brekke give a Valentine's Day message, "No Greater Love".

February 21

Pastor Tom Choi begins a new series on covenants in the Bible. This day's message focuses on the covenant made with Noah.

February 28

Pastor Tom Choi continues the series on covenants with the one made with Abraham.

Our worship service can also be viewed from our webpage – firstumchonolulu.org soon after our Facebook Live worship ends at 11 a.m. and on YouTube. Or if you prefer a printed copy of the worship script, please call 808-522-9555 or email office@firstumchonolulu.org to request one be mailed to you.

DISCIPLESHIP

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

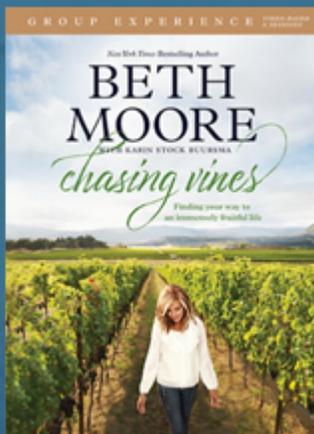
On Sunday, February 21, we will begin a new study for Lent: *FastPrayGive: Ending Hunger by the Means of Grace*. Lent is a great time to practice the disciplines of fasting and praying. This small group study will help us to see how we can connect our fasting and praying to giving in order to make a difference for those who are hungry. You can go to <https://fastpraygive.org/store/fastpraygive-small-group-study-e-boo99k/> to download the free .pdf or 99¢ digital version. The study meets at 11:00 AM following English worship. Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information.

FastPrayGive: Ending Hunger By The Means Of Grace

Andy Morris with Foreword By Greg Buchanan



BETH MOORE BIBLE STUDY



Join us for a new group study of Beth Moore's *Chasing Vines*. We will meet every other Thursday from 6:30-8:00 via Zoom starting on February 18. The church will provide the Group Experience book. If you would like to read the main book, you can purchase it at Logos, Cokesbury, or Amazon. Amazon also has a kindle edition. Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org for the Zoom link.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER WORKSHOP

Monday, February 8 - 6:30-8 PM via Zoom

Do you want to draw closer to God and/or experience God in a new way? We will introduce participants to various methods of contemplative prayer as well as discuss the rich history and importance of contemplative prayer.

Contact Kim Houff at kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information or to sign up.



Methodist History Class

Wednesdays
February 10 & 24
March 10, 24, 31
7-8:15 p.m. via Zoom

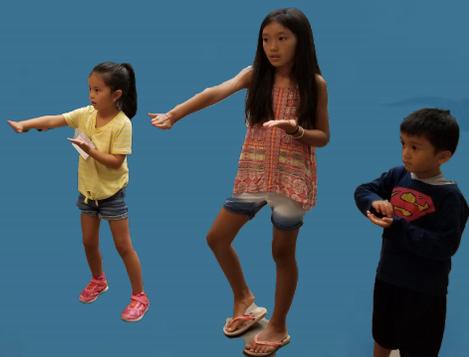


Join Pastor Joy Yun as she takes us on a journey through the history of the Methodist movement. We will learn about its founders, their stories, their trials and triumphs, and how the movement shaped and formed the United Methodist Church as we know it today.

This class is not for credit and anyone can join if they are interested.

Please email Keolumana@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the email list for the Zoom link. The link will be sent out the day before the class starts.

The ARTS



Keiki Sign Dance Class via Zoom

Wednesday, February 24 – April 28
5:00-6:00 p.m.

This FREE dance class is open to all K-6 graders. We will use American Sign Language signs put to music to tell a story. It is a fun and creative way to learn a new language as well as express ourselves through dance!

Our instructor, Sandi Brekke, has been dancing Creative Sign for over 21 years. She has taught Keiki Sign Dance classes for the past 4 years.

To register and get the Zoom invite, email the office at office@firstumchonolulu.org.

YOUNG PEOPLE



YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY

The Youth and Young Adults will be meeting weekly on Zoom to stay connected and share the word of God.

Contact Mele Pepa Latu for more information at 808-469-6800.

Mele Pepa Latu
Director of Young People's Ministry

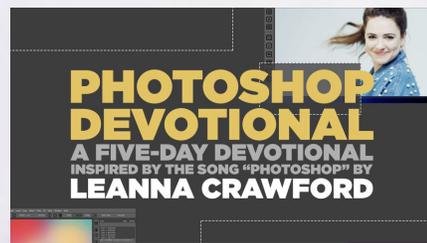
ENGLISH YOUTH GROUP

We may still be partially locked down but we are never locked out from God's blessings. Our youth are resilient, they have incredible faith. They adjust and they trust God knowing He has great plans for them.

Youth Sunday was a great opportunity for the entire congregation to see their faith in action.

Each week they share Godly gems that we all learn from. Our current study, Photoshop Devotional, is focused around self-image. I'm proud of our youth as they are open and honest about their own challenges. As they open up and share, I witness a growth as they build confidence in themselves and each other. Yes, our youth are locked in. They are locked into God and that opens up their hearts to shine His light which allows more and more blessings to come their way!

Mark Brekke
Director of Youth

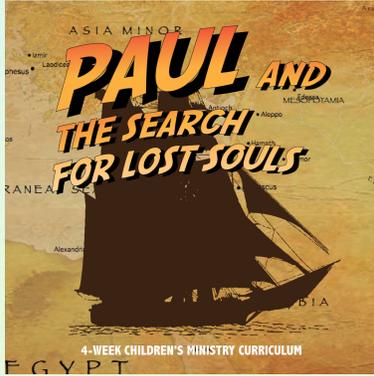




Kids Church

Sundays at 9:15 a.m. via Zoom

All children in K-6 grade are welcome to join us on Sundays for a fun and biblically based curriculum to help build your child(ren)'s spiritual foundation. This month kids will learn that sharing Jesus is our greatest adventure and mission.



Summary: Paul was an adventurer and a man on a mission: to travel the world, looking for lost souls, and to tell them about the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. Pull out your map of the ancient world, as we join Paul on his journey in search of lost souls.

Email Office@firstumchonolulu.org to receive the Zoom invitation.

SERVICE

FAMILY PROMISE MEALS

We have signed up for several weeks of providing meals for Family Promise. You can prepare the meals yourself or purchase prepared meals for the families. (Some people have gotten chickens and sides from Costco!) If you are interested in helping out with this ministry, call or email Kim at kim@firstumchonolulu.org to sign up. If you would like to hear about the experience of providing meals in the new model, call Painsi at the office, 808-522-9555.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

All women are invited to the English Circle of UMW meeting, on Wednesday, February 10 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Beverly Aiwohi will lead the program "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial." In this program, all are called to continue to give thoughtfully to make a difference in the lives of women, children, and youth around the world. If you would like to join us or if you would like to make an offering, please contact Kim at kim@firstumchonolulu.org to get an invitation to the meeting.

The Tongan Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30 PM via Zoom. Please contact Tupou Seini Kelemeneni to get the invitation to the meeting.

Happy 100th Birthday Ann Bystrom!

Ann Bystrom celebrated her 100th birthday in January with her family and friends via Zoom.



LemonAid for Love Water Wells

Thank you to all those who supported LemonAid for Love in 2020! In spite of the pandemic and the Lemonade Alley competition being cancelled and because of your generosity, the girls raised \$9,600!

The first wells were installed recently in Nepal.





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



2020 Labyrinth

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	2	3 10am Wednesday Check-In	4 2-4pm FoodBank	5	6 12noon Faith Friends small group
7 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 8:45am Disciple Fast Track 9:15am Kids Church 10am Online English Worship 11am Online Tongan Worship 11am Zoom Social 11am Youth Group	8 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Contemplative Prayer Workshop 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	9	10 10am Wednesday Check-In 11:30am UMW English Circle	11 2-4pm FoodBank	12 7pm Britt Lectures	13 12noon Faith Friends small group
14 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 8:45am Disciple Fast Track 9:15am Kids Church 10am Online English Worship 11am Online Tongan Worship 11am Acts Study 11am Youth Group	15 HOLIDAY Office & Facilities CLOSED 2-4pm FoodBank 5pm Family Promise Meal (Manu Lehu)	16 7:30pm UMW Tongan Circle	17 Ash Wed 10am Wednesday Check-In 5pm Family Promise Meal (Paini & Lucy) 7pm Ash Wed Service	18 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Beth Moore's "Chasing Vines")	19 7pm Britt Lectures	20
21 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 8:45am Disciple Fast Track 9:15am Kids Church 10am Online English Worship 11am Online Tongan Worship 11am FastPrayGive Study 11am Youth Group	22 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	23	24 10am Wednesday Check-In 5pm Keiki Sign Dance Class	25 2-4pm FoodBank	26	27
28 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 8:45am Disciple Fast Track 9:15am Kids Church 10am Online English Worship 11am Online Tongan Worship 11am FastPrayGive Study 11am Youth Group				<i>All classes and Worship Services are held online. Online committee meeting times to be announced.</i>		



First United Methodist Church
 1020 South Beretania Street
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1492
 (808) 522-9555 Fax (808) 528-3992
 Website: 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
Office Manager: Sandi Brekke
Facilities Director: Paini Harris
Director of Youth: Mark Brekke
Director of Young People's Ministry: Mele Pepa Latu
Choir Directors: Tupou Seini Kelemeneni, Fololiena Maka
Accompanist: Jason Eom
Finance Administrator: Ongo Kali
Custodians: Heamasi Kali, Pat Sheppard,
 Pongi Vehikite, Sia Lolohea

CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:

Resident Bishop:
 Bishop Grant Hagiya
District Superintendent:
 Rev. Moonyoung Lee



Keola Hoonanea senior housing has Market Units available. The rent starts off at \$666.00 and can go as high as \$783.00 depending on your income. If you are

interested, please call 593-6858 for an application. You can also go to Keola Hoonanea to pick up an application.

Check out our website: www.firstumchonolulu.org



Email: 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)