

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
JUNE 2021 - VOLUME LXVIII, ISSUE 6

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Current Events Discussion

Have you ever looked at current events and wondered what the Bible has to say about what's going on?

Beginning **June 13**, the Sunday Bible study group will discuss topics pulled from the headlines of that week.

We look forward to relating current events to Scripture passages, engaging in thought-provoking, stimulating discussions on messages contained in the Bible, and applying what we learn to our everyday life. Each Sunday will be a new article to discuss.

If you are interested in joining this study, please email kim@firstumchonolulu.org so that you can get the news articles emailed to you each week. We will meet at 11:00ish following worship service each Sunday via Zoom.

Church Events

- 🕒 June 5th - COVID Vaccination Clinic
- 🕒 June 11th - HOLIDAY
Facilities and Office CLOSED
- 🕒 June 13th - Summer Bible Study starts
- 🕒 June 17-19th - Annual Conference
- 🕒 June 24th - Kupuna Hale Gathering at 11 a.m.
- 🕒 June 24 - Conversational Tongan Workshop at 6:30 p.m.

Ministry Musings

Dear FUMC 'Ohana:

June is an important month of transitions. For many students, it marks the end of the semester or quarter and for some by this time, their graduation from a school. For me, it is the hard-to-believe time that my daughters, Marina and Sierra, graduated from high school and will prepare for college this fall. We are grateful that the church has been so supportive of them during their high school years, which were spent during our time at First UMC. Thank you for your many thoughts, well-wishes, and other ways to express aloha to them.



June is also the month for transitions for United Methodist pastors. As many of you know, United Methodist pastors are basically on a year-to-year appointment by the bishop, and the appointment year runs from July 1 through June 30. Several pastors will be moving or receiving new appointments. So far, Pastor Linita Moa and I have not been informed that we are moving, but there will be an announcement of a third minister who will be appointed to First UMC. We will keep you posted.



Pastor Tom
Choi

PC: Aloha Images & Design

The California-Pacific Annual Conference takes place from June 17-19. Once again, it will be a virtual conference. Pastor Linita and I are clergy delegates. Our lay members are Judy Olson, Sione Mafoa'aeata, Kepueli Tupou, and Becky Choi. Tupou Seini Kelemen, will be attending as the Hawaii District Lay Leader. All, however, can view the proceedings online. You can find the links at calpacumc.org.

While the official schedule has not been released as of this writing, I believe that on Sunday afternoon, Pastor Emeritus Etuini Kelemen and Tupou Seini Kelemen will be featured as two of the recipients of the Bishop's Awards, which honor outstanding United Methodists of our annual conference.

In addition, on Sunday morning at conference, Sione Finau, who spent his college years attending First UMC, will be ordained as an elder.

A lot of wonderful things happening, as well as transitions. Let us pray for all of them and wish them God's blessings and abundance.

Grace and aloha,

P. S. This month, the electrical system repairs and renovation will begin in our sanctuary. This will no doubt influence our plans to reopening for in-person worship. We hope to have a developing plan soon.

Congratulations to All Our Graduates!





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

June 6 -

Holy Communion celebrated. Pastor Tom preaching on "Food in the Bible".

June 13

District Superintendent Moonyoung Lee, Preacher

June 20 – Father's Day

Pastor Tom reflects on fatherhood.

June 27

Chaplain John Miyahara, USN, preaching.

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.

**HUHU MALU'I COVID-19
COVID-19 VACCINE 2nd SHOT**

Saturday, June 5
8:30-2:00 p.m.

Feitu'u? / Where?
First UMC of Honolulu

It is very important to bring your vaccination card with you.



DISCIPLESHIP

Conversational Tongan Workshop Part 2

Thursday, June 24, 2021
7 – 8:30 p.m. via Zoom



Would you like to be able to greet your Tongan friends and colleagues or ask them how they are doing in their language?

Join us as Tupou Seini Kelemen and Kuenilingi Maka help us to learn more basic phrases for conversational Tongan. Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org to sign up for the workshop.



Kupuna Hale

Thursday, June 24, 2021
11-12noon via Zoom

Join us for a time of fellowship and learning how to age gracefully.

When we put our hope in the Lord He will renew our strength; we will not grow weary but will walk and not faint. We cling to this hope as we learn how physical activity and faith play a role in combating Parkinson's Disease when we treat it early. Join us this month for our session on *Early Warning Signs of Parkinson's Disease*.

Please email office@firstumchonolulu.org for the Zoom link.

Mission u

All are invited to participate in Mission u 2021 sponsored by

CALPAC United Methodist Women. This year is a ZOOM format so there is no need to travel. Mission u is an opportunity to study a spiritual growth topic, a geographic area, and an issue impacting society. Participants grow in understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context. The studies give particular attention to the responsibilities of women in the fulfillment of mission. This mission education program strengthens leadership and membership of UMW. Classes start June 21. Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information or to receive the link to sign up for classes.



The ARTS

A Reflection by Sierra Choi

Kailua High School
Class of 2021



Children who had almost nothing were running around me, bubbling with laughter and held such bright, beautiful smiles, using up precious paper and markers with their friends to create a beautiful picture to welcome me. To this day, it's hung on the wall opposite my pillow. It's the first thing I see when I wake up in the morning. To me, it's the most beautiful wake-up call in the world. It reminds me of how effortlessly blessed I am, and the gratitude I should radiate to others around me. In that single week, I had never felt such a warming and comforting feeling, almost like a blanket had been pulled over me, coaxed with warm, buttery toast, and the soft lulling of a voice putting me to rest. I looked around and saw such contentment and gratitude everywhere I went, and saw people who gave so much, with no hesitation or obligation at all, to help me, even when they had so little, materialistically, to offer the world. And so every morning when I wake up, I bring my hand up to the paper heart through the glass of the frame. I let my fingertips graze the rounded top edges of the shape and feel the warmth from the scarlet hue. I think of all the little boys and girls who put together this precious gift for me. I think of the wonderment in their eyes over a glove we tossed around as a soccer ball. I think of the toothless smiles that beamed at me when I found their hiding spots in a game of hide-and-seek.

There is no limited amount of words I can express in a couple of paragraphs that can express how much my perspective on life in itself has changed. But I've decided that to see the tears of happiness in eyes, to hear the sounds of cheering and the clap of hands, to see the life of the water spring up and change the life of others with one sip, I want to be that well for others every day.

YOUNG PEOPLE

English Youth Group

My how time flies when you're having fun building relationships with each other and with God. That's exactly what our youth group has been doing. Sandi and I have been so blessed to see our youth grow strong in their faith and in their love for each other.

Congratulations to Amalia, Marina and Sierra who all just graduated high school with an incredible display of honors. We are so proud of you!

Class of 2021



So what is going to happen to our youth group? They have drawn so close and they want to stay connected so we will now include young adults in our youth group. So, if you know of any youth our young adults looking for a place to connect and belong, email Sandi at sbrekke@firstmcholonolulu.org for the Youth and Young Adults Sunday Zoom link.

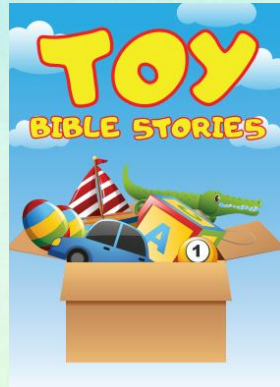
We will continue to share our love for God together and look forward to building our faith and our relationships for many more years!

Mark Brekke
Director of Youth



Kids Church

All children in K-6 grade are welcome to join us on Sundays from 9:15-9:45 a.m. as we finish our series called "Toy Bible Stories" where we use common toys to teach kids that toys can teach us about serving God.



Summary: Most toy boxes are full of many different toys. We like to play with different toys for different reasons, but they are all used for one main purpose: to play. All through the Bible God used very different people to carry out his main purpose: to let the world know who God is and how much he loves us.

Email Office@firstumchonolulu.org to receive the Zoom invitation and have the Kids Church packet of goodies mailed to your child.



FUMC Scholarship

The FUMC scholarship guidelines and application are available on our website at

<https://firstumchonolulu.org/scholarship/>

The deadline is July 1, 2021 to turn in the application and supporting materials. Email office@firstumchonolulu.org for more information.

SERVICE

FIRST UMC RECEIVES DISASTER KITS

The Hawaii District recently received mucking buckets with supplies and hygiene kits which were distributed to key churches to store in case of an emergency (First UMC is one of the store houses).

If you would like more information about the Early Response Team (ERT) or would like to volunteer in the call center or when there is a disaster, please contact Kim Houff at kim@firstumchonolulu.org.



We are building our volunteer contact list so we are prepared if there is a disaster (flooding, fire, earthquake, hurricane, etc.) and we get called into action.



WELLS FOR NEPAL

With Nepal experiencing a second wave of Covid-19, the country back in lockdown, and shops only open for three hours in the morning, it is even more of a blessing to have a water well

within walking distance.

Due to the pandemic, sponsorship of water wells have dried up. First UMC would like to continue to sponsor water wells and spread the love of Jesus to the people of Nepal. If you would like to contribute to the sponsorship of a water well, you may go to our website at www.firstumchonolulu.org and click on "GIVING" and select NEPAL WATER WELLS on the drop down menu. Or you can send a check to the church office with "WATER WELLS" in the memo.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

All women are invited to the English Circle of UMW meeting, on Wednesday, June 9 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Kuenilingi Maka will lead the program "Learning in Community." If you would like to join us, please contact Kim at kim@firstumchonolulu.org to get the link to the meeting. The Tongan Circle will meet on Tuesday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact Tupou Seini Kelemen to get the invitation to the meeting.



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



FUMC Vaccination Clinic

JUNE 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>All classes and Worship Services are held online.</i></p> <p><i>Online committee meeting times to be announced.</i></p>		1	2	3	4	5 FUMC COVID 2 nd Vaccination Clinic 8:30am-2pm
6 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	7 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	8	9 10am Wednesday Check-In	10 2-4pm FoodBank	11 HOLIDAY Facilities and Office CLOSED	12
13 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	14 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	15	16 10am Wednesday Check-In 11:30am UMW English Circle	17 2-4pm FoodBank	18	19
20 Father's Day. 8:30am Pancake Breakfast 8:45am Disciple Fast Track 10am Online English Worship 11am Online Tongan Worship 11am Acts Study 11am Youth Group	21 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	22 7:30pm UMW Tongan Circle	23 10am Wednesday Check-In	24 11am Kupuna Hale 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Conversational Tongan Workshop	25	26
27 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	28 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	29	30 10am Wednesday Check-In			



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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 Kelemen, Fololiena Maka

Accompanist: Jason Eom

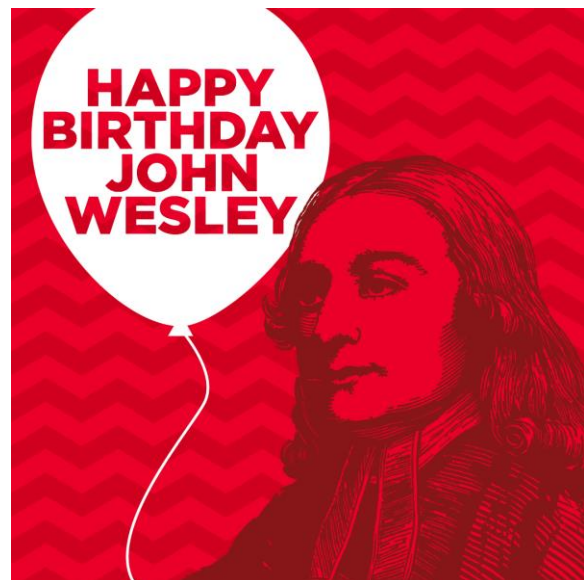
Finance Administrator: Ono Koli

Custodians: Heamasi Koli, Pat Sheppard,
Pongi Vehikite, Sia Lolohea

CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:

Resident Bishop:
Bishop Grant Hagiya

District Superintendent:
Rev. Moonyoung Lee



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)