

# Focus

## *Glorifying God through our D.A.Y.S.*

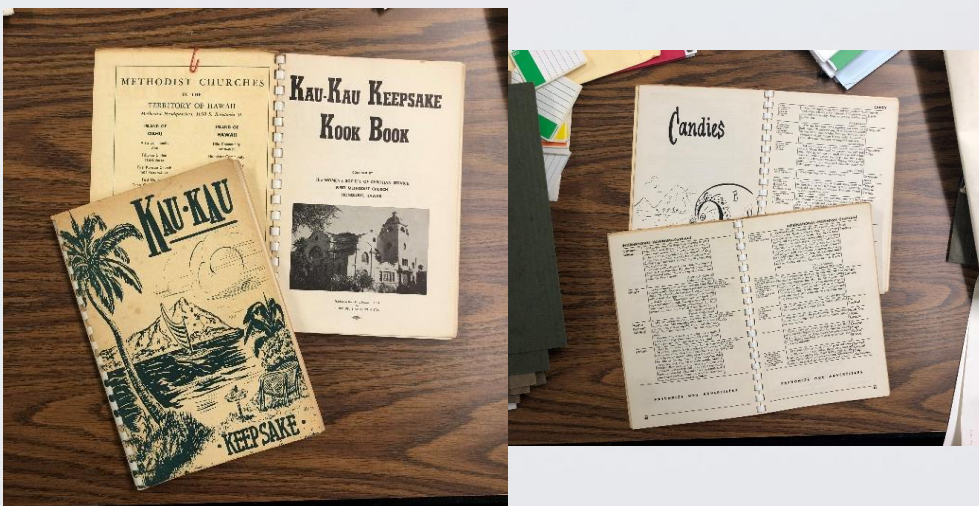
*(Discipleship, the Arts, Young People and service)*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HONOLULU | 1020 S. BERETANIA STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814  
FEBRUARY 2022 – VOLUME LXIX, ISSUE 2

### From the FUMC-H Archives

Two copies of the “Kau-Kau Keepsake Kook Book”, a collection of recipes compiled in the 1950s by the Women’s Society of Christian Service (now the United Methodist Women) at the First Methodist Church of Honolulu. The books include images of the church’s previous sanctuary and a large collection of recipes, donated by members of the WSCS, for appetizers, sweets, and local specialties.

We’d love to see someone try these recipes out! Interested in taking a closer look at this or other materials in the archive? Contact Ashleigh Houff, FUMC-H’s acting archivist, via [ahouff@hawaii.edu](mailto:ahouff@hawaii.edu) or by calling the office at 808-522-9555.



### Church Events

- Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – First Sunday Zoom Social following 10 a.m. English Worship via Zoom
- Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – Spiritual Gifts Workshop 7 p.m. via Zoom
- Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – President’s Day HOLIDAY: Facilities & Office CLOSED
- Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> – Keiki Sign Dance Class Starts 5 – 6 p.m. via Zoom

# Ministry Musings

Dear FUMC 'Ohana:

February has many different celebrations. Groundhog Day (although probably only a celebration if Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see a shadow), Valentine's Day, and Presidents Day. But there are also several month-long celebrations and observations in February. There is American Heart Month (I'm definitely focused on that!), National Cherry Month (maybe it should be Cherry Blossom Month, since Cherries as a fruit aren't until June?), Great American Pies Month (yum...maybe time to try baking a pie for the first time), and National Cat Health Month (as a dog person, I doubt I'll be paying much attention).

But there are two on which I wish to focus. First, February is Canned Food Month. In these days of rising inflation, including the cost of food, plus shortages of food supply, there is greater food insecurity than ever, making our Food Bank more valuable to our neighbors and also more in need of donations. Please keep our Food Bank especially in mind.



February is also Black History Month. While I want to include a celebration of the great African American faith tradition, I also wish to celebrate the many different ways our faith is expressed, not only in the United States, but elsewhere.

I pray that in a time when we are so divided, we can find the commonalities we share.



**Pastor Tom Choi**  
**Senior Pastor**

*PC: Aloha Images & Design*

## COVID UPDATE

Friends, we are very grateful for your patience as we continue to navigate through this pandemic. After returning to in-person worship for four Sundays in December, we returned to worshipping online only in January. We believe that this was a good decision as we have had several who have tested positive for COVID or who have been exposed. Our collective safety is our foremost concern.

The decision our staff made is to remain online only for the month of February and then evaluate toward the end of this month and consider returning to in-person worship in March. As of this writing, the number of daily COVID cases has already begun to drop, so we are optimistic that soon we will make the prayerful and careful decision to return to in-person worship, this time in our newly renovated sanctuary!

In the meantime, please continue to mask and socially distance. My personal recommendation, based on information from the CDC and other experts, is to wear high quality filtered masks, such as the KN95, the KF94, or the gold standard, a NIOSH certified N95. Please also vaccinate, boost, and/or test regularly. Thanks so much.

Grace and aloha,

*Pastor Tom*

# From Faifekau Linita Moa's Desk



PC: Aloha Images & Design

Si'l Kaunga Pilikimi 'I he 'Eiki,

Fakafeta'l ki he 'Otua Mafimafi he'ene 'ofa taumama'o kuo ne faka'inasi'aki kitautolu kotoa pe lolotonga 'o e hala fononga he kamata'anga 'o e Ta'u 2022. Kuo tau a'u mai 'eni ki he mahina ko Fepueli 2022 pea ko e taha'l tapuaki ia ki he ngaahi lotofale kotoa pe 'o e Siasi.

Ko hotau siate folau 'o e mahina Fepueli: **"Ke tau kamata fo'ou 'aki 'etau hoko ko e Sino 'o Kalaisi 'o fekuki mo e ta'au kotoa pe 'o e hala fononga."** 'Oku tau lolotonga fe'ao mo e naunau 'o e mahina 'o 'ikai ko e covid pe ka kuo tau toe tofanga 'I he faingata'a peau kula mo e tsunami 'I hotau ki'l fonua, pea 'oku ne uesia lahi ai 'etau mo'ui kotoa, koia ko e fakamanatu ni ke tau kamata fo'ou 'aki 'etau hoko ko e Sino 'o Kalaisi ki he tokoni, faka'ehi'ehi mo e me'a kotoa pe 'e poupou ki he leleiang'e 'o e hala fononga 'oku tau fononga ai.

Ko 'eni 'a e ngaahi me'a 'oku fakamanatu atu pe ki he mahina fo'ou ko'eni:

1. Ko 'etau ngaahi ma'unga kelesi, Sapate, Pulelulu, Falaite 'e kei fakahoko atu online pe he zoom mo e facebook he mahina ni. Ka faifaiange kuo holo hifa 'a e covid 'I Ma'asi, 'oku ngalingali te tau foki leva ki he loto ki 'api siasi.
2. Ko e ma'unga kelesi malanga letio he efiafi Falaite taimi 10 p.m., 'e fakahoko live atu ai pe mo ia he'eku Facebook, pea mo e facebook 'a e Siasi .
3. Ko 'etau tokoni koia ki Tonga, kuo loto 'a e Komiti Tonga, ke to'o 'a e \$10,000 mei he'etau seniti 'a e kakai Tonga ke foaki ia ko'etau tokoni ki Tonga he peau kula (Tonga Relief) pea 'oku fakafou atu ia 'I hotau Siasi pe ki he Cal-Pac Conference pea ki he Tonga foki ki he Siasi SUTT. Kuo 'osi fakahoko foki 'a e tokoni ki Tonga mei he'etau konifelenisi Cal-Pac 'o fou atu 'I Nu'usila, ko e vai inu ma'ae Siasi ki Tonga. 'E 'ikai ngata ai 'a 'etau tokoni, ka 'oku toe 'a e ngaahi tokoni 'amui ange hange ko ha ngaahi koniteina me'akai, mo ha ngaahi tokoni kehekehe.
4. Ko 'etau Lautohi FakaSapate 'e kamata ia he Sapate Fepueli 13, 2022 taimi 1:30 p.m. pea ko e link kiai 'oku 'I he'etau Tohi Momo pe foki, pea 'e 'oatu aipe he'eku facebook ke mou hu mai ai.
5. 'Oku 'iai 'etau fokotu'utu'u ki he'etau kau seniors ke fai 'a hono si'l tokangaekina, koia 'oku faka'amu ke fai hanau ki'l fakafeohi 'I he mahina ni, pea te tau kamata pe ki 'api Siasi ni he uike faka'osi 'o e mahina ko Fepueli. Ko hono fakaikiiki 'e toki fakahoko atu 'amui ange, ka 'oku ou faka'amu pe ke 'ilo atu he mahina ni.

Fakatauange ke tau fiefia he fononga fakataha mo e Laumalie Ma'oni'oni, ke ne taki mo fakataukeyi kitautolu lolotonga 'a e fononga 'oku tau fai 'I taimi. Ko e 'aho kotoa pe, 'oku ou faka'amu ke tau lau mu'a 'etau folofola 'aia 'oku 'osi tufa atu he Halanga Tapuaki, pea ko 'etau ngaahi ma'unga kelesi 'e fakahoko atu pe ia mei he ngaahi leseni koia, pea kapau 'oku 'iai ha taha 'oku fie vahevahe mai ha a'usia, 'oku 'iai foki mo 'etau peesi 'a e Siasi 'aia 'oku ui ko e **First United Methodist Church – Lotu Tonga** 'e ngofua pe ke ke vahevahe mai ai ha lelei mo ha ausia fakalaumalie ke tau 'inasi ai.

'Ofa Lahi atu mo e Lotu,

*Faifekau Linita 'U. Moa*

# FAITH ENCOUNTERS

OF THE THIRD KIND

## Sermons for 10 a.m. English Worship Service

FEBRUARY 6 – "Why We Are So Often Divided." Pastor Tom Choi explores why relationships break down and what we can do about it. As it is the first Sunday of the month, virtual Holy Communion will be celebrated.

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FEBRUARY 13 – "Faith in a Foreign Land." Pastor Kim Houff shares the experiences her family had while living in Russia, especially their faith experience.

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FEBRUARY 20 - "Faith Encounters of the Third Kind, Part One." Pastor Tom bases a two-part series on David J. Brewer's book of the same title on how Christians can live harmoniously with people from other religions.

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FEBRUARY 27 – "Faith Encounters of the Third Kind, Part Two." The conclusion to this brief series.

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*You can access previous videos of our worship services on Facebook (First United Methodist Church Honolulu) or edited versions on YouTube (First United Methodist Church of Honolulu). Or if you prefer a printed copy of the worship script, please call 808-522-9555 or email [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org) to request one be mailed to you.*

# DISCIPLESHIP

## First Sunday Zoom Social

**Sunday, February 6,**  
**following 10:00 AM worship**  
via Zoom



If you have missed seeing and talking with your church family, join us for our Social on the first Sunday of each month following the end of Worship (about 11 AM). For February, we will be discussing Love—share a story that highlights love.

Join us as we grow in faith by connecting with each other. Email [Kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Kim@firstumchonolulu.org) to get the Zoom link.



## Sunday Bible Study

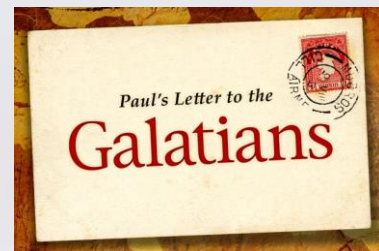
**Sundays, Following 10:00 AM following worship**  
via Zoom

Our "The Wired Word" current events Bible study continues to provide us interesting topics to discuss—all through a biblical lens. Past conversations have ranged from mental health to a modern-day Jonah story. Join us on Sunday following 10 AM worship to discuss the topic for the day. Articles are emailed on Thursday or Friday for Sunday's discussion. Please email [Kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Kim@firstumchonolulu.org) for more information or to get the Zoom link.

## Wednesday Evening Study: Galatians

**Wednesdays, 7:00 PM**  
via Zoom

What does Paul's Letter to the Galatians have to say to us today? Join this group as we gain insights from Paul's letter on how to live our lives today. No book necessary other than a Bible. You need not attend class every week to get a lot out of this study. Please email [Kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Kim@firstumchonolulu.org) for more information or to get the Zoom link.



## Spiritual Gifts Workshop

Thursday, February 17  
7:00 P.M. via Zoom



Pastor Tom recently preached a sermon on discovering your spiritual gifts. This workshop will help you to explore your spiritual gifts and how God may be calling you to use your spiritual gifts for his glory. Even if you have previously taken a spiritual gifts assessment, attend the workshop to see how the Holy Spirit is working in your life now. Email Pastor Kim at [Kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Kim@firstumchonolulu.org) to sign up and to get the links to a couple of spiritual gifts assessments.



## Kids Church

We jump into our NEW series called "Winter Games" on February 13. In this series, we learn that athletes train every

day for that one opportunity to play in the Winter Games. We need to train ourselves up in God's word so that whatever comes, we can keep our cool.

**Memory Verse:** "All who take part in the games train hard. They do it to get a crown that will not last. But we do it to get a crown that will last forever." – 1 Corinthians 9:25

### Lessons:

**February 13: Cross Country Skiing** – Cross country skiers have to stay strong and keep the pace throughout the long race. Kids will learn that with God's word to guide us, we can stay strong in any situation.

**February 20: Ice Hockey** – Two teams hit the ice but only one team is victorious. Kids will learn that we can trust God to lead us to victory no matter how difficult the challenge we face may be.

**February 27: Bobsled** – A good bobsled team knows when to push and when to stop and let gravity take control. Kids will learn that we can trust God, knowing that he is always in control.

Email [Office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Office@firstumchonolulu.org) to receive the NEW Zoom invitation, registration form and Kids Church Activity Packet for 2022.

# YOUNG PEOPLE



## Young Adults Ministry (YAM)

It's a new year and our Young Adults Ministry, a.k.a. YAM, continue to fellowship virtually. We are currently using The Wired Word as our study guide which allows for good discussion about current events and includes meaningful scripture.

Our YAM just finished shooting a dramatic new video, "Burdens", that will touch your heart. You will see how our Young Adults have taken Pastor Tom's sermon to heart and answered the call to use their creative gifts to inspire others and to glorify God. We discovered that some of them had the gift of creative casting, writing, directing, editing and even an eye for continuity! It was a fun day of getting to know each other better and discovering our hidden gifts and talents. I am so proud of them and I'm humbled to be asked to lead such an amazing group of talented young adults.

Stay safe and keep the faith. God willing, we'll all be together again soon.

*Mark Brekke*  
Director of Youth  
and Young Adults



# SERVICE

## Relief for Tonga

We continue to pray for Tonga as the country deals with the aftermath of the recent volcanic eruption. CalPac Annual Conference is accepting monetary donations to aid Tonga in their recovery efforts. You may mail a check to First UMC Honolulu or donations for relief can be sent to the California-Pacific Conference at P.O. Box 6006, Pasadena, CA 91102-6006. Please mark any donations with "Tonga Relief." You can also give electronically on our website: [firstumchonolulu.churchcenter.com/giving](http://firstumchonolulu.churchcenter.com/giving). Please select Tonga Relief.

## United Methodist Women



All women are invited to UMW meetings. The English Circle will meet on **Wednesday, February 9 at 11:30 a.m.** via Zoom. Beverly will lead the program, "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial." A collection will be taken for UMW Mission Giving. If you would like to join the group, email [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org) to get the Zoom link. If you would like to make an offering, mail a check made out to United Methodist Women to the church.

The Tongan Circle will meet on **Tuesday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m.** via Zoom. Please contact Tupou Seini Kelemeni to get the Zoom invitation to the meeting.

## Backpacks for Parolees

It is time to prepare backpacks for those being released from prison. We are collecting these new or gently used items:



- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Bath Towel & Wash Cloth
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razors
- Facial Tissue
- Band Aids
- Sheets and Pillow Case
- Non-liquid Detergent
- Instant Coffee
- Cup Noodles
- Hairbrush or Comb
- Nail Clippers
- Bar Soap
- Body Lotion
- Shaving Cream
- Toilet Paper
- Antiseptic Cream
- Water Bottles
- Trail Mix/Nuts
- Hot Chocolate
- Granola Bars

Please call the office at 808-522-9555 to make arrangements to drop off donations. Monetary donations are also welcomed, go to [firstumchonolulu.org](http://firstumchonolulu.org), click on GIVING and select BACKPACKS. For more information email Pastor Kim at [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org).

# THE ARTS

## Keiki Sign Dance

*Wednesdays, February 23 – April 27  
(no class March 16 – Spring Break)*

*5:00 – 6:00 P.M. via Zoom*

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 22 years. She has taught Keiki Sign Dance classes for the past 5 years.

To register and get the Zoom invite, email the office at [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org).



The sign dance will be presented on Mother's Day as a dedication to all the mother figures in our lives.





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



**Boxing Day Challenge Donations**

# FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7pm Galatians Study 7pm Tongan Worship via Zoom	3 2-4pm FoodBank	4	5
6am Tongan Worship via Zoom 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast 8:30am Adult Study 9am Kids Church via Zoom 10am Online English Worship 11:00 am The Wired Word 11:00 Young Adults Ministry 12noon Online Tongan Worship 7:00pm Saving Grace Study	7 2-4pm FoodBank  6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	8	9 11:30am UMW English Circle via Zoom 7pm Galatians Study 7pm Tongan Worship via Zoom	10 2-4pm FoodBank	11	12
6am Tongan Worship via Zoom 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast 8:30am Adult Study 9am Kids Church via Zoom 10am Online English Worship 11:00am The Wired Word 11:00 Young Adults Ministry 12noon Online Tongan Worship 1:30pm Tongan Sunday School 7:00pm Saving Grace Study	14 2-4pm FoodBank  6:30pm Tongan Bible Study	15 7:30pm UMW Tongan Circle	16 7pm Galatians Study 7pm Tongan Worship via Zoom	17 2-4pm FoodBank  7pm Spiritual Gifts Workshop	18	19
6am Tongan Worship via Zoom 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast 8:30am Adult Study 9am Kids Church via Zoom 10am Online English Worship 11:00 am The Wired Word 11:00 Young Adults Ministry 12noon Online Tongan Worship 1:30pm Tongan Sunday School 7:00pm Saving Grace Study	21 <b>HOLIDAY Office &amp; Facilities CLOSED</b>  <b>FOODBANK CLOSED</b>	22 7pm CFA meeting	23 5pm Keiki Sign Dance 7pm Galatians Study 7pm Tongan Worship via Zoom	24 2-4pm FoodBank	25	26
6am Tongan Worship via Zoom. 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast 8:30am Adult Study 9am Kids Church via Zoom 10am Online English Worship 11:00 am The Wired Word 11:00 Young Adults Ministry 12noon Online Tongan Worship 1:30pm Tongan Sunday School 7:00pm Saving Grace Study	28 2-4pm FoodBank  6:30pm Tongan Bible Study			<i>All classes and Worship Services are held online. Check with committee chairs for online committee meeting times.</i>		



## **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. Moea

**Minister of Discipleship & Community Engagement:**  
Rev. Kim Houff

**Office Manager:** Sandi Brekke

**Facilities Director:** Paini Harris

**Director of Youth & Handyman:** Mark Brekke

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

**Choir Director:** Tupou Seini Kelemani

**Accompanist:** Jason Eom

**Finance Administrator:** Ongo Koli

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

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### **CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:**

**Resident Bishop:**

Bishop Grant Hagiya

**District Superintendent:**

Rev. Maonyoung Lee



**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)**