

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
APRIL 2023 – VOLUME LXX, ISSUE 4



Bishop Dottie's Aloha Celebration

Saturday, April 15, 2023
2-4 p.m. at Christ UMC

We will be welcoming Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank on Saturday, April 15 at Christ UMC of Honolulu from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Livestreaming will be available for those unable to attend in person. The link will be sent out in April.

Please RSVP at:

<https://calpacumc.formstack.com/forms/bishopaloha2023>

Refreshments will be served after the service in the Fellowship Hall. There will also be a time to meet and greet our resident bishop. All clergy and laity are invited to attend.



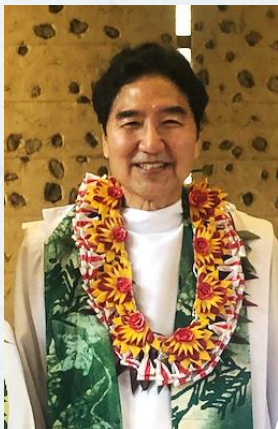
Vacation Bible School

April 28-30, 2023
Friday and Saturday,
5-8:30 p.m.
Sunday performance at
10 a.m. English Worship

Growing spiritually doesn't have to be an unsolved mystery! Take a two-day journey with kid detectives as they dig into a few of Jesus' parables to solve the mysteries of how to grow their faith, how to care for, serve, and love others. They'll discover that the answers have been there all along: spend time with God, spend time with others, use your gifts, and share your story. Email office@firstumchonolulu.org for more information.

Church Events

- April 2nd - Palm Sunday Musical Extravaganza
- April 6th – Holy Thursday Christian Seder meal at 6:30 p.m.
- April 7th – Good Friday HOLIDAY: Office CLOSED
- April 7th – Good Friday English Service at 1 p.m. Tongan Service at 5 p.m.
- April 8th – Tongan Easter Camp at 10 a.m.
- April 9th – Joint Easter Service at 10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m. Combined Tongan Easter Service at 2 p.m.
- April 15th – Bishop Dottie's Celebration at 2 p.m.
- April 20th – Coffee and Conversation at 10a.m.
- April 22nd - Saturday Foodbank at 2-4p.m.
- April 28th to 30th – Vacation Bible School



Pastor Tom Choi
Senior Pastor

Dear FUMC 'Ohana:

TIME OF TRANSITION

As just about all of you know by now, Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank will be appointing me to become the next Hawaii District Superintendent on July 1 of this year. This will be a second time for me in this role. While I feel that this is the right thing at the right time for the right reasons, I am also filled with sadness that I will no longer be your pastor after that date. We have had some wonderful times and gotten through many challenges, including the COVID quarantine and shutdown years, as well as the renovations to our facility.

As we go through this transition, we will still have time together to do great ministry. This month will feature the highest of holidays in the Christian church: Holy Week with Palm/Passion Sunday and culminating with the greatest event in human history, the resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Ministry Musings

HOLY WEEK



Please join us for the Holy Week festivities:

April 2 - Palm/Passion Sunday: For the first time since the COVID pandemic, we will have a return of the musical extravaganza featuring music from Jesus Christ Superstar and Godspell. We will have singing talent from some of the finest local musical theater artists as well as some of the outstanding singers from our Praise Band.

April 6 - Holy Thursday: We will have an interactive experience with a Christian Seder meal, recalling the Last Supper Jesus had with the disciples. This will be a service combined with the meal.

April 7 - Good Friday at 1 p.m. in English.

April 9 - Easter Sunday - a festive service featuring a five piece brass quintet and culminating with the Hallelujah Chorus. A fitting way to celebrate Jesus's resurrection!

We hope to see you for these and all of the worship service and activities in April

Pastor Tom

From Faifekau Linita Moa's Desk

Fakafeta'i ki he 'Otua Mafimafi he'ene 'ofa pea kuo tau tu'uta he mahina hono 4 'o e ta'u, ka ko e mahina mo e fa'ahita'u 'o e Pekia mo e Toetu'u hotau 'Eiki. Ko e kaveinga 'o e Mahina ni, **'Epeleli Ke tau fakafeta'i ki he 'Otua Māfimafi 'i he'ene fokotu'u hake 'a Sīsū mei he Pekiá ko hotau Tākaua / We praise God Almighty for resurrecting Christ to be our constant companion.**



Pastor Linita Moa
Associate Pastor

Kuo hono mai 'a Sisu 'o pekia pea toetu'u mei he pekia, pea kuo ne ha'ele hake kae hifo 'a e Laumalie Ma'oni'oni ke nofoma'u 'iate kitautolu, pea ke tau takaua moia ki he ngata'anga 'o 'etau mo'ui. Ko e mahina 'eni 'o e fiefia mo e fakatu'amelie he hala fononga, he 'oku ne fakamo'oni mai ki he fu'u mafi 'o e 'Otua 'ia Sisu Kalaisi, ko e makatu'unga 'o 'etau tui 'oku mo'ui, pea malohi 'o fe'unga he hulu atu mo 'etau mo'ui vaivai. Ke tau fakafeta'i he kalusefai na'e fai 'e Sisu ma'au mo au, ke tau ma'u ai 'a e mo'ui, pe ke tau ma'u ke lahi 'aupito.

'Epeleli, 7, 2023 'oku kamata ai 'etau 'Apitanga Pekia/Toetu'u he taimi 3 pm, katoa mai ki Honolulu ni.

'Epeleli 8, 2023 'Apitanga fakataha mai 'a Honolulu mo Kilohana ki Honolulu ni, 10 am-3 pm.

'Epeleli 9, 2023 Malanga Toetu'u fakataha mo e kau Palanga he 10 a.m., Egg Hunt he 11:30 a.m. Hili koia 'e toki fakahoko mai 'a e ngaahi polokalama faka'osi 'o e 'Apitanga ki Honolulu ni, katoa mai 'a e ngaahi Potu Siasi he taimi 2 p.m. 'o Ha'ofanga Toetu'u mo e Malanga Tapuni mo e Fakaului.

'Oku fakamanatu aipe foki 'etau VBS 'a e fanau he 'aho 28, 29 mo e 30 he mahina ni, pea 'oku fakataha kiai 'a e Young Adults ke tokoni ki hono fakalele 'o e polokalama ko'eni.

'Oku ou talamonu atu ki he kaunga pue kotoa pe 'o e Siasi, mo e fakamalo lahi he fuesia hotau ngaahi fatongia he ngaahi mahina ko'eni kuo tau situ'a ki ai, Tauange ke tapuekina mo fakamonu'ia kimoutolu 'a e ngaahi lotofale kotoa pe, pea ke tau ma'u foki ha fa'ahita'u Pekia mo e Toetu'u kelesi'ia mo Kalaisi'ia.

'Ofa lahi atu mo e Hufia,

Faifekau Linita 'U. Moa



COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

If you are looking for coffee and conversation, join Pastor Kim Houff at Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar just across the street from FUMC (park at FUMC), at 10 a.m. on **Thursday, April 20.**



EASTER

Sermons for 10 a.m. English Worship Service

APRIL 2 – PALM/PASSION SUNDAY. We will have a return of the musical extravaganza featuring music from Jesus Christ Superstar and Godspell. We will have singing talent from some of the finest local musical theater artists as well as some of the outstanding singers from our Praise Band.

APRIL 9 – EASTER SUNDAY. A festive service featuring a five piece brass quintet and culminating with the Hallelujah Chorus. A fitting way to celebrate Jesus's resurrection!

APRIL 16 – Pastor Kim Houff will be preaching on Proverbs 31:8-9-advocating for justice for the poor and needy. We will participate in an offering of letters to Congress concerning continuing SNAP benefits.

Special Guests: Indian Trail High School and Academy Choir from Kenosha, Wisconsin

APRIL 23 – TBD.

APRIL 30 – Pastor Tom Choi and the Young Adults lead worship service with special performances by the Vacation Bible School participants and our Keiki Sign Dance class.

You can access previous videos of our worship services on Facebook (First United Methodist Church Honolulu) or edited versions 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.

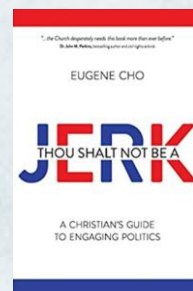
DISCIPLESHIP

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Following 10 AM worship
Starting April 16
In-person and via Zoom



Our “The Wired Word” current events Bible study continues to provide us interesting topics to discuss—all through a biblical lens. Previous conversations ranged from discussing gun laws in light of the violence in Uvalde to the importance of choosing our words wisely. Join us on Sundays starting April 16 following 10 AM worship to discuss the topic for the day. Articles are emailed on Thursday or Friday for Sunday’s discussion. Email Kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information or to get the Zoom link.



“THOU SHALT NOT BE A JERK” BOOK STUDY

Mondays at 6:30 PM
Starting April 10 via Zoom

Since everyone seemed to enjoy Pastor Eugene Cho’s lectures at the Britt Lectures Series, we are reading and discussing his book, *Thou Shalt Not Be a Jerk: A Christian’s Guide to Engaging Politics*. We will read and discuss one chapter (including the intro) at each session. Don’t worry if you cannot make every session, but please do try to read the chapter for each session. We will learn together, why and how Christians should engage politics. A limited number of books are available. If you would like a book or need more information, email kim@firstumchonolulu.org.

FUNFEST@FIRST PLANNING TEAM MEETING

Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

Pastor Kim is looking for help with planning a new version of FunFest@First. The event will take place on July 22 from 10-1 PM. Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information and the zoom link.

Samaritan Counseling Center Presents WAHINE WELLNESS: VISION BOARDS

THE ARTS



- Do you ever feel overwhelmed about which direction to take in your life?
- Would you like help organizing your thoughts about which direction to head next?
- A vision board can be an anxiety reducing, self-care tool, to help prioritize and plan your future!

Come create your vision board with us!

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

6:30 – 8:00 PM Komuro Hall

Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information and to sign up.

YOUNG PEOPLE



INDIAN TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL AND ACADEMY CHOIR

Sunday, April 16, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

We are pleased to host Indian Trail High School and Academy Choir directed by John Choi from Kenosha, Wisconsin on Sunday, April 16 at our 10 a.m. Worship service.

This 40 member choir has toured all over the mainland and in Europe where they have performed in major Cathedrals, but they really just love to share their music with everyone.

WE EXIST TO EQUIP,
ENCOURAGE, EMPOWER, AND
INSPIRE THE NEXT
GENERATION OF FEMALE
LEADERS TO BLOOM WHERE
THEY ARE PLANTED AND
BECOME ALL THAT GOD
CREATED THEM TO BE!



MOTHER'S DAY BLOOM BRUNCH

Saturday, May 20, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We are SO excited to be able to attend BLOOM again this year! Join us for a morning filled with worship in 'Olelo Hawai'i by Zeo Worship (Imua and Tiffa Garza, Kamu Sing, and Tiffany Thurston), inspiring messages, and empowering stories to help you to "BLOOM" where you are planted and become all God created you to be. Lunch will be provided and is included in the registration price.

First UMC is graciously sponsoring this event for youth (12 and older) and young adult females and their moms. It's **only \$20 per person!** Seats are extremely limited.

To register, email sbrekke@firstumchonolulu.org with the number of tickets and your names.



"Roll Down, Justice!" Lenten Study

YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

This month the YAMmers (Young Adult Ministry members) continue our Lenten study, "Roll Down, Justice!" where we are reminded of the work that still needs to be done to "seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God."

Being more like Christ is the goal of most Christians. Our Young Adults strive to have a closer relationship with God and to represent Him well. We all agree that we could never be as perfect as Jesus, but we can try each day to become more like him in our thoughts and our actions.

As we dive into scripture, we continue to learn more about God and ourselves. Each week after a time of sharing, we leave with tools we can apply immediately with confidence that God has our back. So we are going out boldly into this crazy world with kindness and choosing to love even if it is hard. We are going to shine our light for others to see because we may be the only Jesus someone ever sees.

Mark and Sandi Brekke

Young Adults Ministry



SERVICE



OFFERING of LETTERS

Offering of Letters

We can act now to end hunger by participating in the Offering of Letters sponsored by Bread for the World. This year, Congress is working to renew farm bill programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and international food aid programs. Among the measures that should be included are strengthening nutrition security in domestic and international programs; creating a more equitable SNAP program; and increasing food systems sustainability.

On Sunday, April 16 following the 11:00 worship service, Pastor Kim will provide materials so that people can send letters to



Congress, telling them to support the reauthorization of the farm bill in order to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems. Scan the QR code for more information.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



United
Women
in Faith

All ladies are invited to the English Circle Meeting on Wednesday, April 12 at 11:30 in the library. Our program will be "Peacemakers and Justice Seekers" led by Judy Olson. Contact kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information.

The Tongan Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 18 at 7:30 PM in Komuro Hall. Please contact Kueni Maka for more information.



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

Pastor Kim
 outside
 Halawa
 Correctional
 Center.

Back Pack
 for Parolees
 ministry.



APRIL 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
BC= Butterworth Chapel KH = Komuro Hall	L = Library		MR = Maile Rm S = Sanctuary	YR = Youth Room		1
PALM SUNDAY 2	3	4	5	HOLY THUR 6	GOOD FRI 7	8
6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am SHIP (MR) 11:00 am Sunday Adult Study (L) 11:00 am Young Adults Ministry (YR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30 pm Tongan Sunday School (S)	2-4pm FoodBank 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)		5pm Keiki Sign Dance 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	6:30 p.m. Seder Meal & Service (KH)	HOLIDAY Facilities & Office CLOSED 1pm English Service (S) 5pm Tongan Service (S)	10-6pm Tongan Easter Camp
EASTER SUNDAY. 9	10	11	11:30am 12	13	14	15
6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am Joint Worship Service 11:30 am Easter Egg Hunt 2-7pm Tongan Easter Service with Feast	2-4pm FoodBank 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)		UWF English Circle (L) 5pm Keiki Sign Dance (BC) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship	6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	2-4pm Bishop Dottie's Celebration at Christ UMC
6am Tongan Worship 16	17	18	5:00pm 19	20	21	22
8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School <i>Indian Trail HS & Academy, Kenosha, WI</i> 11:00 am SHIP (MR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30 pm Tongan Sunday School (S)	2-4pm FoodBank 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	7:30pm UWF Tongan Circle	Keiki Sign Dance (BC) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	10am Coffee & Conversation 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	2-4pm Foodbank
6am Tongan Worship. 23	24	25	5:00pm 26	27	28	29
8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am SHIP (MR) 11:00 am Sunday Adult Study (L) 11:00 am Young Adults Ministry (YR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30 pm Tongan Sunday School (S)	2-4pm FoodBank 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	7pm Trustees Mtg	Keiki Sign Dance (BC) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	5-8pm Vacation Bible School (VBS)	5-8pm (VBS)
6am Tongan Worship. 30	31					
8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School VBS & Keiki Sign Dance performance 11:00 am SHIP (MR) 11:00 am Sunday Adult Study (L) 11:00 am Young Adults Ministry (YR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30 pm Tongan Sunday School (S)	2-4pm FoodBank 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)					



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

Minister of Discipleship & Community Engagement:
Rev. Kim Houff

Office Manager: Sandi Brekke

Facilities Director: Paini Harris

Director of Young Adult Ministry & Handyman:
Mark Brekke

Director of Young People's Ministry: Mele Pepa Latu

Choir Director: Tupou Seini Kelemen, Fololiena Maka

Accompanist: Jason Eom

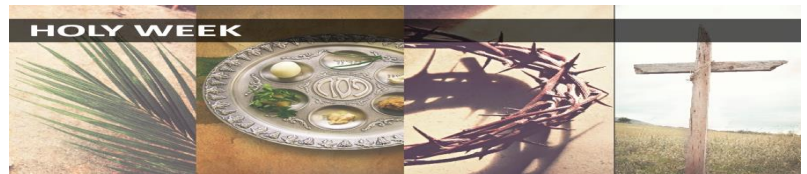
Finance Administrator: Ongko Kali

Custodians: Pongi Vehikite, Pat Sheppard,
Sia Lolohea, John Kelemen

CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:

Resident Bishop:
Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank

District Superintendent:
Rev. Moonyoung Lee



Palm Sunday, April 2 @ 10 a.m.
Musical Extravaganza

Holy Thursday, April 6 @ 6:30 p.m.
Seder Meal

Good Friday, April 7 @ 1 p.m. English
@ 5 p.m. Tongan Service

Easter Sunday, April 9 @ 10 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:30 a.m.

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)