

# 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 2024 – VOLUME LXXX, ISSUE 2

### Britt Lectures – Dr. Chris Adams Flourishing in Ministry

Feb 16-18, 7:00 pm – Lectures  
Feb 19, 9:00 am – Workshop

Lectures are free and open to the public. Dr. Adams is a Consultant to the CalPac conference in the areas of clergy candidate assessment, clergy health, and pastoral leadership formation, and is a consultant, researcher, and writer with the Flourishing in Ministry project. Please make a request if you will be needing child-care or translation services in Korean or Tongan. For more information go to: [firstumchonolulu.org/2024britt](https://firstumchonolulu.org/2024britt). **Registration Link:**

<https://calpacumc.formstack.com/forms/brittlectures2024>



### Church Events

- Feb 4<sup>th</sup> – All Church Potluck following joint worship service
- Feb 10<sup>th</sup> – FUMC Lay Leader Training – 9 AM to noon – Komuro Hall
- Feb 10<sup>th</sup> – Saturday Foodbank (Sanctuary back door) 2-4 PM
- Feb 11<sup>th</sup> – Super Bowl Party – Komuro Hall – 1:30 PM
- Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday – 12-1 PM drop in, 7 PM combined service – Sanctuary
- Feb 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> – Britt Lectures – Sanctuary and Komuro Hall
- Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life study starts – Zoom, 6:30 PM
- Feb 27<sup>th</sup> – Crafting for a Cause – Maile Room – 6 PM
- Feb 29<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and Conversation – Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar – 10 AM



Ash  
Wednesday  
Feb 14<sup>th</sup>

Come to the sanctuary between noon and 1 p.m. to receive the imposition of ashes.

Our 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday service will be followed by a potluck supper. All are invited to join us and bring a potluck dish of vegetarian soup, salad, bread or fruit to share.

Call the office at 808-522-9555 or email [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org) with what potluck dish you will be bringing.

Super Bowl  
Party  
Sunday, Feb 12<sup>th</sup>  
1:15 p.m.

We will be watching the Super Bowl in Komuro Hall on the big screen and enjoying each other's company.

We invite you to join us at 1:15 p.m. in Komuro Hall. We will provide one hot dog per person. You may bring your favorite pupu to share if you like. Pastor Kim will be making popcorn! We hope to see you there!





# Ministry Musings

Pastor Won-Seok Yuh  
Co-Pastor

*"I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift." (Ephesians 4:1-7, NRSVue)*

While I was at a summer youth church retreat, my mother registered my high school freshman schedule for me, and had my last period set for football. Up to that point, I could barely get my weak body and poor stamina to reach a 10-minute mile, so we quickly changed that (ironically) to cross-country. Still, I appreciate the wonder of the camaraderie, coordination, and one-ness of football teams. In general, I'm not much of a sports buff, but watching the fruit of the competing teams' training, labor, and relationship building is a wonder. At the start of each play, every athlete makes every effort to look out for one another and be where they are committed to be.

Since the beginning of our "ON YOUR MARK!" sermon series, celebrating our many GIFTS starting with the Magi and the Epiphany, this has been my personal prayer for FUMC of Honolulu:

O G-d, may we FIND YOUR MARK of love in our lives!  
O G-d, may we FOLLOW YOUR MARK of love to wherever your call!

O G-d, may we BECOME YOUR MARK of love in fullness of presence, thought, and action!  
O G-d, may we MAKE YOUR MARK of love known from ordinary to the extraordinary!

Join us to witness the fruit of what mark of G-d's love has been shown through our United Women in Faith (previously known as UMW – United Methodist Women) Sunday Service on Feb. 4. Join us in our Britt Lectures with Dr. Chris Adam speaking on "Flourishing in Ministry" from Feb. 16-19.

Starting from Ash Wednesday and throughout the Season of Lent, we will work through what it means to (re)commit to our SERVICE as members of First UMC of Honolulu. We'll be having "Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life" with Pastor Kim on Mondays, "In-Between Mark" Bible study on Thursdays, UM Polity Primer on Saturdays, and (Re)Membership Class on Sundays for those who are interested in being baptized or joining our wonderful congregation as a member! We have even more ways that we could learn and be in SERVICE together detailed in the rest of this newsletter!

As we get ready to and trust in G-d's timing by confessing "O God, may we stay and go ON YOUR MARK," may we transition into the time from Epiphany to Lent by praying that G-d would "**MAKE US ONE**" – one with G-d, one with each other, and one in all the ministries with the world.

By the grace of G-d,  
Rev. Won-Seok Yuh

P.S. Join us for one of the nation's way of unifying (and dividing) the many at our Super Bowl Pot Luck on February 11, following our Sunday worship services!



MAKE US  
ONE

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

FEBRUARY 4 – UWF Sunday (Holy Communion)

- Kuenilingi Maka

FEBRUARY 11 – Super Bowl Sunday

- Pastor Won-Seok Yuh
- Mark 9:2-9 – “On Your Mark!”

FEBRUARY 18

- Dr. Chris Adams (Britt Lecturer)

FEBRUARY 25 – Friendship Sunday

*Invite a friend to worship!*

- Pastor Kim Houff
- Mark 2:1-12

*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 to be mailed to you, please call 808-522-9555 or email [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org).*

## DISCIPLESHIP

### CENTERING PRAYER

Tuesdays at 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.  
in the Butterworth Chapel

In the season of Lent, we remember, again, the story of the inauguration of God’s kingdom in the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

Traditionally, people of faith commemorate this season by abstaining from certain common activities as a spiritual discipline to express solidarity with Christ’s sacrifice for us on the cross.

This year you are invited to choose another option for your Lenten Spiritual Discipline: Regular, dedicated, quiet time with God, The Holy Spirit.

While God, The Holy Spirit, is given to be with us, and in us, we are often too distracted to notice his presence by the myriad issues of daily living. Centering prayer is a method by which we learn to detach ourselves from these distractions- to free us- to be present, on purpose, with the presence of God, The Holy Spirit.

Centering prayer springs from The Ancient Christian Practice of “The Prayer of Silence”. It’s stated purpose is simply: “To Consent To The Presence and Action of The Holy Spirit Within” it is based on the Dictum of Psalm 46:11 “Be still, then, and know that I Am God!”

Help establish your new practice of centering prayer at a workshop at Wesley UMC, 1350 Hunakai St. on February 10, 2024, from 9 am – 12 noon, facilitated by Pastor Amy Wake. Four weekly follow-up sessions will be offered at First United Methodist to support your new centering prayer practice. In addition, I will be hosting regular group centering prayer sessions throughout the year every Tuesday afternoon at 5:30-6 p.m. in the Butterworth Chapel.

Come, taste and experience the transformative presence of God, The Holy Spirit, in silence.

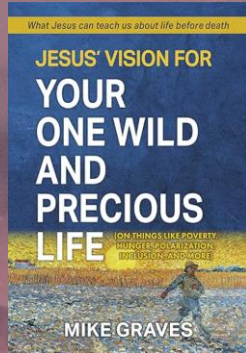
Alex Teruya

# DISCIPLESHIP (CONT.)

## MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

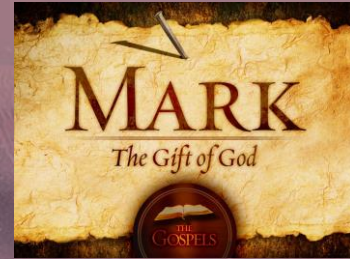
6:30 PM via Zoom  
February 19 – April 1

Our Lenten study this year is *Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life* by Mike Graves. Instead of focusing on Jesus' seven last words, we will look at Jesus' seven essential sayings to guide our Lenten journey. Pastor Kim has ordered books, or you can get it for free on Kindle with Kindle Unlimited. For more information and/or to get the Zoom link, email [Kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Kim@firstumchonolulu.org)



## “IN-BETWEEN MARK” BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays 6:30 PM  
from 2/15  
In Pastor Won-Seok's  
Office and on Zoom



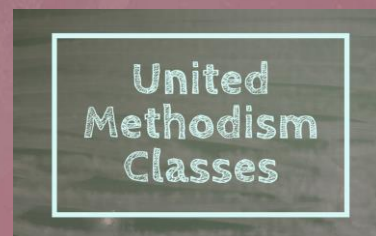
Join Pastor Won-Seok as we study the entire Gospel According to Mark each Thursday. We'll be studying each verse, including portions that are not covered in our Sunday lectionary. All you need is your Bible and a curious spirit! For more information and/or to get the Zoom link, email Pastor Won-Seok at [revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org).

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY:

### UMC Faith and Fact Cards

Following English Worship  
Except first Sunday  
In Person and via Zoom

We continue our look at UMC Faith and Fact Card as the United Methodist Church prepares for General Conference. Join the group for inciteful conversations about current social issues. Pastor Kim will send the Faith and Fact Cards for each Sunday. For more information and/or to get the Zoom link, email [Kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:Kim@firstumchonolulu.org).



## (RE)MEMBERSHIP CLASS:

Sundays at 8:00 AM, 2/25-3/24  
in the Library and on Zoom

Have you been thinking about being baptized, joining as a member, or wanting to refresh what it means to be a part of the UMC? Join Pastor Won-Seok during the Sundays of Lent to (re)learn what it means to commit in being a disciple of Jesus Christ at FUMC of Honolulu. Email [revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org) by 2/11 for more information and/or to get the Zoom link.



## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The English group will meet on Wednesday, February 21 at 12:00 PM in the library. (Come at 11:30 with your lunch if you would like.) New ladies are always welcome. For more information email [ts\\_kelemani@yahoo.com](mailto:ts_kelemani@yahoo.com).

The Tongan Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 20 at 7:30 PM in Komuro Hall. Please contact Kueni Maka for more info.

## UM POLITY PRIMER:

Saturdays at 9:30 AM, 2/17-3/9  
in the Library and on Zoom

Curious about how UMC is structured, and what's the big deal about General Conference? Join Pastor Won-Seok to learn the impact each member can make in our church & the UMC. Email [revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org) by 2/11 for more information and/or to get the Zoom link.

# THE ARTS

## CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

February 27, 6-8 PM

Maile Room

Join Sandi and Kim for an evening of devotion, crafts, and snacks. We will be making an Easter craft selected by Sandi!

It should be an easy craft for young and old to make. For more info or to RSVP, email [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org).



## KEIKI SIGN DANCE

Wednesdays March 6 – May 8

5:00 – 5:45 PM Butterworth Chapel

This FREE dance class is open to all PreK-8 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 24 years. She has taught Keiki Sign Dance classes for the past 7 years. Sandi's assistant and husband, Mark has been dancing for over 21 years.

To register, email the office at [sbrekke@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:sbrekke@firstumchonolulu.org).

**NOTE: The Keiki Sign Dance class will perform on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. which will be livestreamed on our Facebook page.**

# YOUNG PEOPLE



## Young Adult Ministry

Happy Birthday Sandi! Our fun outing for January was to celebrate Sandi's birthday by going to see our daughter Sara perform in the Rock-A-Hula show at the Royal Hawaiian Center. We had a fun night cheering Sara on and clapping along with the familiar tunes.

Being a Christian has always had its challenges as it is a narrow path to navigate. What is the truth? Which religion is best? Our Young Adults continue to wrestle with this question and others as we study *"Ask: Faith Questions in a Skeptical Age"* by Arthur D. Jones and Scott J. Jones.

Can only one religion be true? This is the first question our Young Adults took on and shared their wisdom in answering this tough question. Can I just say that our discussions are full of fresh perspectives and are truly God inspired.

We invite and encourage all young adults to join us after 10 a.m. worship service (except on the first Sunday).

Blessings,

Mark Brekke  
YAM Leader

## YOUNG PEOPLE ( CONT. )



### Young Peoples Ministry

We started the new year off with learning how the four disciples responded to Jesus' call in John 1:35-50. We asked ourselves: How can we be better disciples for Jesus? How are we responding to His call in our daily lives, in our ministries, in our church, out in our communities?

Our young people continue to commit Friday evenings for our weekly fellowship as we prepare for Confirmation and Easter weekend. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, our Young Adults meet for Bible study at 7 p.m. Tongan Sunday School has resumed and is held after the Tongan worship service.

In February we will be doing an outreach at the Hale Nani Rehab and Nursing Home, followed by a Sports Day at Thomas Square Park.

For more information, please reach me at 808-469-6800 or email [youngpeoplesdirector@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:youngpeoplesdirector@firstumchonolulu.org).

Mele Pepa Latu

Director of Young Peoples Ministry

## SERVICE



### What are you giving up for Lent?

How about some coins? This Lent let's see how blessed we are by using the Lent Coin Calendar. The idea is to follow the prompt on the calendar and put a coin in for each one of the items you have. At the end of Lent, donate the coins you have collected to a ministry that will help those in need. Download the Coins for Lent Calendar here:

<http://tinyurl.com/LentCoinCalendar>



### Want to help plan a fun event for the community?

We are partnering with other community organizations to host a community festival highlighting services that will help those in need and offer giveaways of food, clothes, and small household items. The event is scheduled for July 13, 2024. If you are interested, join Pastor Kim for a meeting on a Tuesday evening, email [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org). It is time to start planning! The date of the first meeting will be scheduled with the input of those interested in being part of the team.



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



# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				6:30pm 1 Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	2 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	3
4 6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am Joint Worship Service 11:30am Potluck Lunch	5 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	6 12noon Yoga (KH)	7 12noon UWF English Circle (L) 7pm English Choir (CR) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	8 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 7pm Tongan YA Bible Study (L) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	9 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	10 9am-12pm Lay Leadership Workshop 2-4pm Foodbank
11 6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Sunday Bible Study (L) 11:00 am Young Adults Ministry (YR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30pm Super Bowl Watch Party (KH)	12 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	13 12noon Yoga (KH)	14 12-1pm Imposition of Ashes (S) 6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service & Potluch Supper	15 6:30pm In-Between Mark Bible Study (Pastor Won's Office & Zoom) 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 7pm Tongan YA Bible Study (L) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	16 7pm Britt Lectures (S)	17 9:30am UM Polity Primer 7pm Britt Lectures (S)
18 6am Tongan Worship 8:00am (Re)Membership Class 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Sunday Bible Study (L) 11:00 am Young Adults Ministry (YR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30pm Tongan Sunday School (KH) 7pm Britt Lectures (S)	19 <b>Holiday (Office CLOSED)</b> 9-12noon Britt Workshop 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom	20 12noon Yoga (KH) 7:30pm UWF Tongan Circle	21 6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	22 6:30pm In-Between Mark Bible Study (Pastor Won's Office & Zoom) 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 7pm Tongan YA Bible Study (L) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	23 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	24 9:30am UM Polity Primer 2pm YYA Hale Nani Outreach & Sports Day
25 6am Tongan Worship 8:00am (Re)Membership Class 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am English Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Sunday Bible Study (L) 11:00 am Young Adults Ministry (YR) 12noon Tongan Worship 1:30pm Tongan Sunday School (KH)	26 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	27 12noon Yoga (KH) 6pm Crafting for a Cause (MR)	28 6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	29 6:30pm In-Between Mark Bible Study (Pastor Won's Office & Zoom) 10am Coffee & Conversation 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 7pm Tongan YA Bible Study (L) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	CR = Choir Room BC= Butterworth Chapel KH = Komuro Hall S = Sanctuary L = Library MR = Maile Rm YR =Youth Room	



## First United Methodist Church of Honolulu

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:** Rev. Dr. Linita 'U. Maa  
Rev. Wan-Seak Yuh

**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:** Ongu Kali

**Custodians:** Pongi Vehikite, John Kelemen  
Sia Lolohea

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:**

**Resident Bishop:**  
Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank

**District Superintendent:**  
Rev. Saia Tu'itahi

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join Pastor Kim on Leap Day for a time of conversation and coffee (or Italian soda!) at the Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar 21 across the street from FUMC (park at FUMC), at **10 a.m. on Thursday, February 29.** (Museum entrance is free to go to the Coffee Bar.) We hope you can join us!



**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)**