

# 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  
JANUARY 2024 – VOLUME LXXX, ISSUE 1

## Martin Luther King Jr Parade

The Hawaii District will be participating in the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade on Monday, January 15, 2024, in Waikiki. The parade begins at Magic Island with the formation of organizations at 7:30 a.m., then moves out at 9:00 a.m., traveling on Kalakaua Avenue through Waikiki to Kapiolani Park. Please wear your church t-shirt or Martin Luther King Jr. t-shirt and arrive at Magic Island by 8:00 am to line up and take group photos. A trolley with wheelchair access will be available! The trolley will pick up participants at Harris UMC located on 20 S. Vineyard Blvd. Honolulu at 7:00 am sharp. It will return to Harris UMC after we reach Kapiolani Park. To secure a spot on the trolley or if you have questions about the parade, please contact Pastor Pauline at [pauline.taumalolo@cst.edu](mailto:pauline.taumalolo@cst.edu)



## Church Events

- Jan 8<sup>th</sup> – Gospel of Mark study starts – Zoom, 6:30 PM
- Jan 13<sup>th</sup> – Saturday Foodbank – Sanctuary back door – 2-4 PM
- Jan 15<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King Jr Parade – Waikiki
- Jan 18<sup>th</sup> – Coffee and Conversation – Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar – 10 AM
- Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – Ho'oku'ikahi Service (Remembrance of the Overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom) – Betsuin Main Temple – 6:30 PM
- Jan 20<sup>th</sup> – Susannah Wesley Community Center Party – Susannah Wesley Community Center
- Jan 30<sup>th</sup> – Crafting for a Cause – Maile Room – 6 PM

## COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Get to know others in the congregation with a time of conversation and coffee (or Italian soda!) at the Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar just across the street from FUMC (park at FUMC), at 10 a.m. on **Thursday, January 18**. (Museum entrance is free to go to the Coffee Bar.) We hope you can join us!





# Ministry Musings

Pastor Won-Seok Yuh  
Co-Pastor

*“<sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”  
(Matthew 2:10-11, NRSVue)*

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Epiphany!

Did you know that, as with some Christian traditions, we follow a pattern marked by a three-part celebration?

It starts with the Season of Advent, a time to prepare for the coming of the present and presence of Emmanuel, G-d with us, Jesus Christ. Then comes the celebration of the 12 days in the Season of Christmas starting from December 25<sup>th</sup> (like the popular song that gifts a total 184 birds, 364 birds, or 12 mynah birds). Last in the trio comes the Season of Epiphany, starting in January 6 (old Christmas Eve) with the Celebration of the Shepherds to January 7 (old Christmas Day) with the Celebration of the Magi.

The three gifts prepared by the Magi were presented to Jesus, recognizing who he was before he had done any ministry or performed any miracles as a human being. Gold marked Jesus' power and authority equal to royalty,

apart from the silver of the merchants and the copper of the lowly. Frankincense marked Jesus' divine connection with G-d as it was special incense used for prayer. Myrrh, which would sometimes be crushed and burned as a calming incense or mixed with oil for healing or embalming, marked Jesus' life from compassionate healing to prepared death.

As marked by the Magi's gifts, the Season of Epiphany is about discovery, delight, and direction! Oh, to discover that mark of G-d that values humanity toward the power of love and redemption! Oh, to delight in that mark of G-d that made manifest Emmanuel, G-d's presence and connection with us! Oh, to direct ourselves toward that mark of G-d that guides us to give of ourselves in life, in death, and all in between!

Join us as we begin our new series on “Epiphany: On Your Mark!” – “marked” with our Installation Service for Lay Leadership and Holy Communion on January 7! To dive deeper, join us in our upcoming weekly Bible studies on the Gospel of Mark.

As we begin this new year, may we discover G-d's mark of holy love and powerful redemption in us and in our neighbors, and may we be led by the Holy Spirit to follow the mark of Jesus Christ for the holy and compassionate transformation of our world.

Happy New Year!  
Rev. Won-Seok Yuh

# From Faifekau Linita Moa's Desk



Si'i Kainga 'I he 'Eiki,

Ko ia foki, kapau 'oku 'ia Kalaisi ha taha, ko e mātu'aki fakatupu fo'ou ia: kuo mole 'a e ngaahi me'a 'o ono'aho, uē kuo nau hoko 'o fo'ou. 2 Kolinito 5:17

Ko e kamata'anga ia 'o e Ta'ufo'ou ni, ko 'etau faka'amu ke tau kamata 'aki 'a e kamata'anga 'oku fo'ou he ta'u 'oku fo'ou. Ko e mo'ui 'oku fo'ou, pea 'oku fo'ou 'a e me'a kotoa pe. Mo'oni 'a e Himi #538, 'Oku ha fo'ou ho'o 'ofa, he 'aho fulipe, 'a'ahi ki he me'a kotoa ke fakatu'umalie, si'o 'ofa'anga ia, tangata lotu tohitapu, lama hono topuva'e, mo tauhi hono lau. Ko e fo'ou'anga ia 'o 'etau hokosia 'a e ta'ufo'ou ko e 'ofa 'ata'ata pe 'a e 'Otua 'ia Sisu Kalaisi.

Pastor Linita Moa  
Co-Pastor

Ko e kaveinga 'o e Mahina ko Sanuali: Ke tau toe kamata fo'ou, 'i he Tui mo e Ngāue, 'o Tali 'aki 'a e Ui 'a e Tama'i kuo fou mai 'i hotau Papitaisó. / Let us begin anew by responding in faith and action, to our Father who has called us through our baptismal.

Ko e faka'amu ia 'o e mahina ni ke tau toe kamata fo'ou 'I he Tui mo e Ngaue, pea ko e faka'amu ia 'oku 'uhinga kiai 'a Semisi, ko e Tui mo e Ngaue 'oku 'ikai lava ke na mavahevahe 'I ha taimi, ko e taimi kotoa pe 'oku na o fakataha, ko e va'e ia 'o e Tui ko e Ngaue, pea ko e loto'atamai 'o e Ngaue ko e Tui.

Kainga, 'oku faka'amu ke tau kau fakataha he Tui mo e Ngaue fakataha he kamata'anga 'o e ta'u fo'ou ko'eni, 2024. Pea he'ikai ha taha he tomui pe miss 'o kapau te tau fepoupouaki 'I he tui mo e ngaue fakataha.

Ko 'etau Uike Lotu 'e kamata ia he 'aho hono Monite Sanuali 1, 2024, houa lotu pongipongi he 5:00 a.m ko e hiva tali lotu, pea kamata he 5:30 a.m 'a e Lotu. Ko e houa efiafi ko e 6 p.m. 'a e Hiva tali lotu, pea kamata he 6:30 p.m 'a e Lotu. Ko e kau hiva koia 'e tataki 'aki 'a e hiva talilotu he ngaahi houa lotu he 'aho taki taha: Monite: Fitu'i Lea mei he Kolosi, Tusite: Vaine Mo'onia, Pulelulu: Ko au 'eni fekau au, Tu'apulelulu: Petani pea Falaite:Peteli & Palataisi

'Oku fakamanatu atu ko 'etau Uike Lotu 'e toki kamata fakataha pe he efiafi Monite 'a e Uike Lotu, 'o toki fakahoko fakataha pe 'a e ongo failotu he efiafi, kamata 'a e Failotu pongipongi pea faka'osi 'a e Failotu Efiafi mo e Kelesi. Tukuange pe 'a e Po Malanga Faka'osita'u ke kakato ki he midnight 'o e po Sapate pea tau matuku, tau toki fakataha pe he efiafi 'o kamata ai 'etau Uike Lotu. Ko e 'aho Sapate Sanuali 7, te tau malanga he 12 p.m. pea mo 'etau Sakalameniti, mo e Polokalama Tali Ui 'a e Potungaue ki he ta'ufo'ou. Ko e Sapate 14, ka hili 'etau malanga 'e fakahoko ai 'a e fakataha 'a e Komiti Tonga ki he ta'ufo'ou. Ko e toenga 'o e ngaahi fatongia 'e toki fakahoko atu pe ia he lolotonga 'o e mahina.

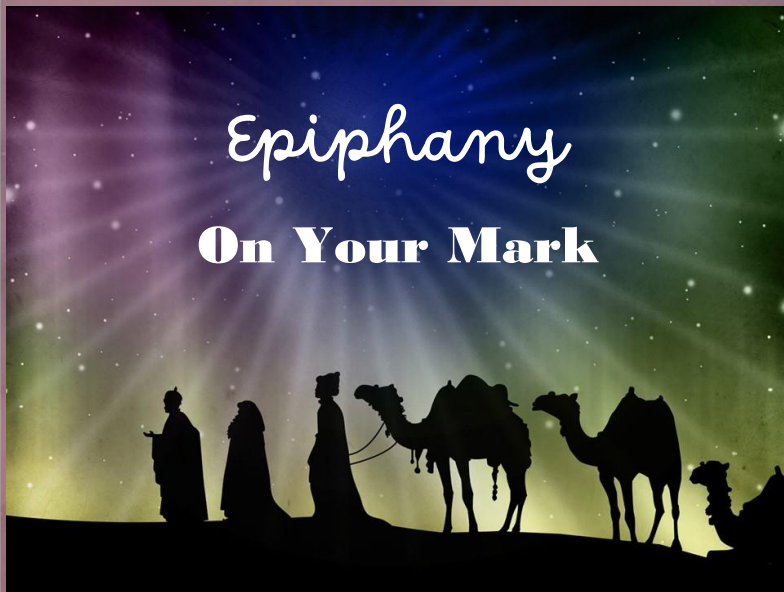
'Oku ou talamonu atu ki he ngaahi famili kotoa pe 'o e Siasi, tauange ke mou ma'u ha ta'ufo'ou fonu monu'ia mo kelesi'ia he hala fononga 'o e ta'ufo'ou ko'eni.

'Ofa lahi atu mo e Lotu,

*Faifekau Linita 'U. Moa*

# Epiphany

## On Your Mark



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

JANUARY 7 – “Find Your Mark” (Holy Communion, Epiphany Sunday, Baptism of the Lord Sunday)

- Pastor Won-Seok Yuh  
Matt 2:1-12; Mark 1:4-11

JANUARY 14 – “Follow Your Mark”

- Pastor Won-Seok Yuh  
John 1:43-51

JANUARY 21 – “Become Your Mark”

- Pastor Won-Seok Yuh  
Mark 1:14-20

JANUARY 28 – “Make Your Mark”

- Pastor Won-Seok Yuh  
Mark 1:21-28

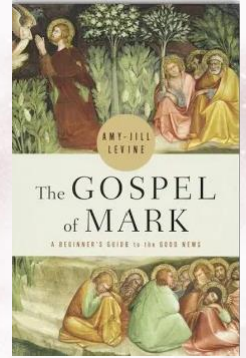
You can access previous videos of our worship services on Facebook (First United Methodist Church Honolulu) or edited versions on YouTube. Or if you prefer a printed copy of the worship script to be mailed to you, please call 808-522-9555 or email [office@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:office@firstumchonolulu.org).

# DISCIPLESHIP

## MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

6:30 PM via Zoom  
Begins January 8

Since this year is the year for lectionary readings from the Gospel of Mark, we will be studying Amy-Jill Levine's *The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News*. We begin the study on January 8 with the introduction and the first chapter. For more information and/or to get the Zoom link, email [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org).



## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY:

**UMC Faith and Fact Cards**  
Following English Worship  
Except first Sunday  
In Person and via Zoom

As the United Methodist Church prepares for General Conference, we will review the current Social Principles using Faith and Fact Cards. We will be discussing

Immigration on January 14. 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).



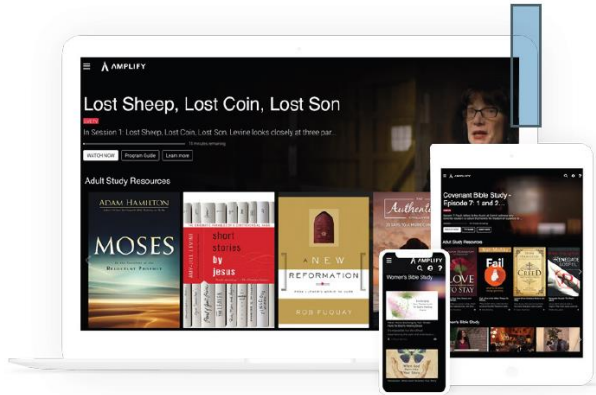
## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The English group will meet on Wednesday, January 10 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, January 21 at 7:30 PM in Komuro Hall. Please contact Kueni Maka for more information.

Now Available!



What if you could stay engaged and encouraged anywhere and anytime with a library of the best resources for study and reflection?

Through any device you now have 24/7 access to motivating stories, insightful teaching, and powerful resources.

Email [kim@firstumchonolulu.org](mailto:kim@firstumchonolulu.org) for access.

### Queen Lili'uokalani Ho'oku'ikahi Reconciliation Service

Friday, January 19, 2024  
6:30 pm  
Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i  
Betsuin Main Temple  
1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu

All are invited to join in this service. For more information, please contact Jon Matsuoka at [jmatsuoka@hawaiiibetsuin.org](mailto:jmatsuoka@hawaiiibetsuin.org) or call at (808) 536-7044.



### MISSIONARY NEWS

Krista Givens, one of the global missionaries that we support sent us an email thanking us for our support. You can find out what she is up to by checking out her newsletter at <http://tinyurl.com/7tdu7yx7>.

## THE ARTS

### CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

January 30, 6:00 PM  
Maile Room

Join Sandi and Kim for an evening of devotion, crafts, and snacks. We will be making a 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).



Did you see the tree with the crocheted angels? The Tongan youth and young adults made ornaments for the members of the congregation that passed during the year and added them to the tree!



### DANCE MINISTRY

Wednesdays starting 1/17  
6:00 PM Komuro Hall

Join the dance ministry in learning a hula to "Not Guilty" by Mandisa to be performed on Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24. All levels are welcome! For more information, email [beckyaloha808@gmail.com](mailto:beckyaloha808@gmail.com)

# YOUNG PEOPLE



## Young Adult Ministry

Happy New Year!

You have all heard the expression, "Hey, keep your mind out of the gutter". Well our Young Adults went bowling last month and to be honest, we didn't do so good at keeping our bowling balls out of the gutter. However, it was a wonderful time of fellowship, fun and laughter.

As I observe our Young Adults and spend time with them, I believe they all do a good job of staying out of the gutter by having good thoughts that are pleasing to God to help build a strong relationship with Him and are following and living John Wesley's Three Simple Rules:

- Do No Harm
- Do Good
- Stay in Love with God

Wishing you all a blessed 2024!

Mark Brekke  
YAM Leader



# SERVICE

*Celebrating  
125 Years!*



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL  
CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE SERVICE  
WITH BISHOP DOTTIE ESCOBEDO-FRANK  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH  
11AM-2PM

Worship Service of Gratefulness

Lunch

Service Opportunity (Diaper & Hope Bag Packing)

Tour of Our Home

### Key Info:

- Location: 1117 Kaili Street, Honolulu
- Phone: 808-847-1535
- Seeking baby diaper donations (sizes 4, 5, 6)
- RSVP via QR code below



Sponsoring organizations:



**Justice & Compassion Ministries**  
California-Pacific Conference  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**Let's see how many packages of diapers we can collect!**

If you are not attending the event, bring in donations to church on Sunday or drop them off at the office during the week. You can even donate money for Pastor Kim to purchase diapers. Pastor Kim will take them to the event.

## FunFest@First

Are you interested in helping plan our FunFest@First Community event in July? If so, 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

The Hawaii District sent a team to Lahaina to sift through rubble.



# JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Holiday (Office CLOSED)</b>	2	3 7pm English Choir (KH) <b>7pm Tongan Worship (S)</b>	4 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	5 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	6
7 6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am Joint Worship Service with Lay Leadership installation 11:30am Potluck Lunch	8 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	9 12noon Yoga (KH)	10 12noon UWF English Circle (L) 7pm English Choir (CR) <b>7pm Tongan Worship (S)</b>	11 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	12 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	13 <b>2-4pm Foodbank</b>
14 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 Tongan Sunday School (KH)	15 <b>Holiday (Office CLOSED)</b> 7:00am MLK JR. Parade meetup 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom	16 12noon Yoga (KH) 7:30pm UWF Tongan Circle	17 <b>6pm Dance Ministry (KH)</b> 7pm English Choir (KH) <b>7pm Tongan Worship (S)</b>	18 10am Coffee & Conversation <b>6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC)</b> 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	19 6:30pm Ho'oku'ikahi Service (Betsuin Main Temple) 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	20 11am Party at Susannah Wesley Comm. Center
21 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 Tongan Sunday School (KH)	22 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	23 12noon Yoga (KH)	24 <b>6pm Dance Ministry (KH)</b> 7pm English Choir (KH) <b>7pm Tongan Worship (S)</b>	25 6:30pm Tongan Women's Prayer Group (BC) 8pm Tongan Choir(S)	26 7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	27
28 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 Tongan Sunday School (KH)	29 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	30 12noon Yoga (KH) 6pm Crafting for a Cause (MR)	31 <b>6pm Dance Ministry (KH)</b> 7pm English Choir (KH) <b>7pm Tongan Worship (S)</b>	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-Seok 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 Kelemeni, Fololiena Maka

**Accompanist:** Jason Eom

**Finance Administrator:** Ongo Kali

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

\*\*\*\*\*

### **CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:**

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

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



**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)