

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
MARCH 2024 – VOLUME LXXX, ISSUE 3

Holy Week Festivities



Sunday, March 24, 10:00 AM – Passion/Palm Sunday

Come and wave palm branches while crying out with loud “Hosanna” in the Courtyard, a special presentation from our Dance Ministry, and the Brass Quintet as we begin the Holy Week during the English service.

Monday-Friday, March 25-29, 6:00 AM – Passion Week Devotions

Join us each day at 6:00 a.m. on Zoom in a prayerful journey with Jesus through the stories of the Passion Week. E-mail Rev. Won-Seok at revyuh@firstumchonolulu.org for more information.

Thursday, March 28, 6:30 PM – Maundy Thursday Communion Dinner Service

We will have an interactive dinner and Communion service recalling the Last Supper Jesus Christ had with the Disciples, with foot/hand washing (optional).

Friday, March 29, 12:00 PM(English), 6:00 PM(Tongan) – Good Friday

Join us for our services remembering the events leading to the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, March 31, 10 a.m. – Easter Sunday, Joint Worship Service

Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with a festive service featuring the Brass Quintet and culminating with the Hallelujah Chorus, followed by an Egg Hunt.

Church Events

- Mar 3rd All Church Potluck following joint worship service
- Mar 9th Saturday Foodbank (Sanctuary back door) 2-4 PM
- Mar 12th Crafting for a Cause in Maile Room – 6 PM
- Mar 16th All Church Work Day – 8-1 PM
- Mar 24th Passion/Palm Sunday
- Mar 26th Kuhio Day HOLIDAY facilities and offices CLOSED
- Mar 28st Coffee and Conversation – Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar – 10 AM
- Mar 28th Maundy Thursday Communion Dinner – 6:30PM
- Mar 29th Good Friday Service 12 PM – English 6 PM - Tongan Worship & Easter Camp
- Mar 31st Easter Sunday 10 AM – Joint Worship Service 11:30 AM – Egg Hunt 12:00 PM – Tongan Service 2pm – Easter Camp (cont.)



Ministry Musings

Rev. Won-Seok Yuh
Co-Pastor

“²⁰I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”
(John 17:20-23, NRSVue)

From all the examples of Jesus’ ministry demonstrated in miracles, teachings, and acts of love, one practice of Jesus that I treasure most often is how Jesus connects with G-d, especially through prayer. I appreciate those who wrote the gospels, those who sustained the gospels, and those who translated the gospels to help us remember that even Jesus had a prayer request!

How hard must it be that even Jesus had to pray for us to be one as Jesus and G-d are one? According to the Book of Genesis, humanity had one of its chances to be made one during the building of the Tower of Babel (unpacking that story is a whole Bible study of its own). We might think that if all of humanity could speak only one unified language, how much more efficiently and effectively we might be able to work together. Yet, how often have we spoke the same language and still not fully understood each other? And how much harder is it to possibly understand the divine, holy, and mysterious things of G-d (as Jesus describes in Mark 8:32)?

While it seems that in every Season of Lent,

our world feels more divided due to social, economic, and political differences, the call for us in this time is to be collectively attentive to the hurt in our world: exclusion and marginalization, neglect and poverty, corruption and oppression. In our Lenten journey, we detach from our personal comforts to alleviate another’s suffering, we divest from personal acquisition to fulfill another’s dire needs; and we direct our attention from amassing personal power to surrendering to G-d’s presence in the world.

In a similar way that we prepared ourselves for the coming of Jesus Christ into our lives during the Season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for the return of the Body of Christ, both in the members to the Body and in the resurrection of the Body. Our fasting during the Season of Lent is about more than letting go, whether it be in activities or food or attitudes. It is about being active witnesses of G-d’s *agape* love that calls us to wholly serve and whose Holy Spirit moves to “Make Us One”!

May we be made one in serving the needy; one in crying out “Hosanna!” and “Save us!”; one in remembering the way Jesus loved, suffered, and rose again; one in celebrating that Jesus is risen! May it be so as we commit to love G-d and love one another in this Holy Lent: to be made one in Christ, one with each other, and one in all the ministries with the world!

As Jesus prayed for us: MAKE US ONE, O LORD! AMEN!

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

From Faifekau Linita Moa's Desk



Pastor Linita Moa
Co-Pastor

Fakafeta'i ki he 'Otua Mafimafi he'ene 'ofa kuo tau a'usia ai 'a e mahina hono tolu 'o e ta'u ni, 2024. Ko hotau siate folau ki he mahina ni, "KO SISU KALAISI 'A HOTAU KOELI, PEA KOIA 'OKU TU'UNGA AI 'ETAU IKUNA." Ko e mahina foki 'eni 'oku tau fakamanatua ai 'a e Pekia mo e Toetu'u 'a e 'Eiki. Pea 'oku tau teuteu atu foki ki he 'Apitanga Pekia mo e Toetu'u 'o e ta'u ni.

Oku tau 'Apitanga fakazone he ta'u ni, pea ko hono fakaikiiki 'e toki fakakakato mai ia 'I he'etau Kuata Ma'asi. Koia ai ko e Maundy Thursday te tau Lotu fakataha ai mo e Kau Palangi, Ko e Falaite Lelei (Good Friday) 'e fakahoko ai 'etau Malanga Pekia fakataha mo e Malanga Fakaava 'o 'etau 'Apitanga. Ko e Tokonaki 'e hoko atu ai pe 'etau 'Apitanga, pea ko e 'Aho Sapate te tau Malanga Fakataha he 10 a.m. mo e kau Palanga, pea tau toki Malanga Toetu'u Fakatonga pe he'etau taimi malanga he 12 p.m. pea hili koia, pea tau hoko atu aipe 'etau ngaahi polokalama Toetu'u ki he 'aho Sapate, pea mo e matuku 'a e 'Apitanga.

Ko e 'Aho Lotu koia 'a Mamani 'e fakahoko ia he 'aho 22 'o Ma'asi, pea 'oku fakaafe'l 'a e kakai kotoa pe kiai.

Ko e ngaahi Kulupu Hiva koia ki he Mahina Ma'asi: Ko e 'Uluaki Sapate ko e Malanga Fakataha mo e kau palangi, Sapate hono ua ko e Polotu Kuata ia, Sapate tolu ko e Kulupu Hiva ki ai Ko e Fanau Tangata Talavou, Sapate fa ko e Sapate Paame ia ko e Kulupu Pancakes & Praise Band, pea ko e Sapate nima—Sapate Toetu'u ko e Hiva ia 'a e Fanau Lautohi FakaSapate mo e youth & Young Adults.

Ko 'etau Kalasi Malanga (Preaching Class) hoko 'e fakahoko ia he 'aho Ma'asi 5, 2024 he taimi 6:30 pm 'I he K-Hall kataki kau mai kiai neongo kuo ke 'osi malanga pe, ka 'oku fakaafe'l atu kotoa pe 'oku faingamalie ke mou kau mai ki ai.

'Oku ou talamonu atu kiate kimoutolu kotoa pe, he hala fononga 'o e mahina ko'eni, ke ke takaua mo e 'Eiki he 'aho kotoa pe, Lau 'a hono veesi lauloto faka'aho, pea fai foki ha'o lotu he 'aho kotoa pe, mo e lau ho'o folofola he t eke hao ai mei he fakatauele 'a e fili mo e 'ahi'ahi.

'Ofa lahi atu mo e Lotu,

Faifekau Linita 'U. Moa

Spring Break Workshops

Make your Spring Break productive this year by learning something new right here at First UMC! We have talented individuals ready to share their knowledge and skills. Please select the topics you're interested in (i.e., lei making, baking Tongan jam pies/scones, whole fish breakdown, banking & finance, start up a business, college essay writing, sign dance, praise ministry, and more!) and when you're free from March 18-22. Your final schedule will be sent to you no later than March 12.

We will do our best to accommodate your request. In return we ask for your commitment to actively participate and to be prompt. Please provide any cancellations 48 hours in advance, if possible. All workshops will be free of charge and held at First UMC. Church membership is not required. For any questions or concerns, please contact Mele Pepa Latu at 808-469-6800 or youngpeoplesdirector@firstumchonolulu.org.
Registration link: <https://forms.gle/nLS7WqAa1SH7j6Yt9>



MAKE US ONE



Sermons for 10 a.m. English Worship Service

MARCH 3 – 3rd Sunday of Lent,
Combined Service with Holy
Communion

“Make Us One: One with Each Other”
(John 2:13-22) with Rev. Won-Seok
Yuh

MARCH 10 – 4th Sunday of Lent,
UMCOR Sunday

“Make Us One: One in Ministry to All
the World” (John 3:14-21) with Rev.
Won-Seok Yuh

MARCH 17 - 5th Sunday of Lent,
Scouting Sunday

“Make Us One: All Honor and Glory”
(John 12:20-33) with Rev. Won-Seok
Yuh

MARCH 24 – Passion/Palm Sunday

“Make Us One: Hosanna! Save Us!”
(Mark 11:1-11) with Rev. Won-Seok
Yuh

MARCH 31 – Easter Sunday

“Go and Tell: Tell the Disciples” (Mark
16:1-8) with Rev. Won-Seok Yuh

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.

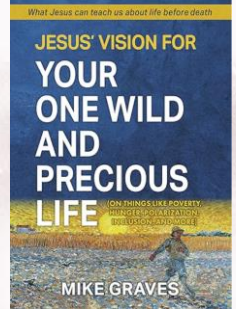
DISCIPLESHIP

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

6:30 PM via Zoom
February 19 – April 1

It is not too late to join our Lenten study, *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. The book is available for free on Kindle with Kindle Unlimited. For more information and to get the Zoom link, email Kim@firstumchonolulu.org

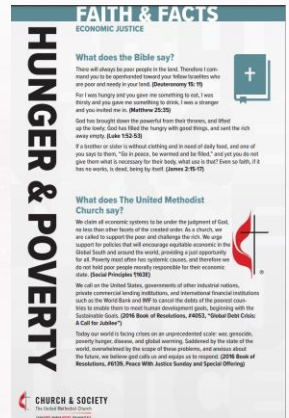


SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY:

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.



UNITED WOMEN IN
FAITH

The English group will meet on Wednesday, March 13 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_kelemeni@yahoo.com.

The Tongan Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30 PM in Komuro Hall. Please contact Kueni Maka for more info.

THE ARTS

CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

March 12, 6-8 PM

Maile Room

Join Sandi for an evening of devotion, crafts, and snacks. We will continue making Easter crafts selected by Sandi! It should be an easy craft for young and old to make. For more info or to RSVP, email sbrekke@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.

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

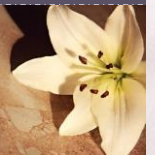
We're excited as our Youth and Young Adult room is getting a facelift with a new paint job and new carpet. Also, we are adding two dry erase walls for future fun activities. Just as Jesus invited everyone to sit at his table, we hope that this space will be a place where people can come together and see how much they have in common. A place where we can share struggles, joy, and pain and be filled with compassion for one another. Where we can grow deeper in our relationship with Jesus and each other. The Young Adult Ministry was able to gather around the table for the first time last Sunday. We enjoyed fellowship time, discussed "Why is There Suffering and Evil?", and learned a fun new card game all of which helped us grow spiritually and as a group.

Blessings,

Mark and Sandi Brekke
YAM Co-Leaders

Easter Lily and Spring Plants Order

On Easter Sunday, lily and other spring plants will grace our altar as the symbol of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This arrangement is possible through your desire to honor or remember loved ones.



The deadline for ordering is **SUNDAY, MARCH 17**. Limited quantities are available. Please email the office at office@firstumchonolulu.org or call 808-522-9555 for and order form and turn it into the office **with your payment** marked for LILY PLANT by the deadline.

We request that plants be picked up after 10am Easter Service.

YOUNG PEOPLE (CONT.)



Young Adult Ministry

In our journey of searching what it means to be a disciple of Christ, we learned quickly in two different bible study sessions the suffering that comes with it. As we pondered on Romans 8:18-30 and 1 Peter 3:8-22, we are reminded to not dwell on the current sufferings but instead to look forward to God's glory. We are reminded to serve with harmony, sympathy, love, compassion and humility. To let our lives be evidence of God's truth. As we continue during this Lenten season, pray with us and for us, that we are molded into the disciples we're meant to be.

Our Young Adults have been leading our Friday programs on our journey to the cross in preparation for our Easter Camp (March 29 thru 31). This is open to all ages. DOE Spring Break falls on March 18 thru 22 and we plan to have activities and workshops in the afternoon geared for our young people. If you are interested in leading a workshop on cooking/baking, lei making, playing the ukulele, budgeting, etc., please reach out to Mele. More details will be announced soon.

For more information, please reach me at 808-469-6800 or email youngpeoplesdirector@firstumchonolulu.org.

Upcoming:

Fri, Mar. 1, 8, 15 – Young People Friday 6:30 p.m.

Sat, Mar. 9 – Campbell High School's Fiafia Night 5:30 p.m.

Sun, Mar. 17, 24 – Tongan Sunday School 1:30 p.m.

Thu, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28 – Tongan Bible Study 7 p.m.

Fri, Mar. 29-31 – Easter Camp (Tongan)

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS 2024 – July 5-7

Mele Pepa Latu

Director of Young Peoples Ministry

SERVICE



This month our service focus is Family Promise of Hawaii. Their mission is to help homeless and low-income families in Hawai'i achieve sustainable independence by mobilizing existing community resources and support. We are a community resource that can provide support in the following ways:

Donate most-needed supplies

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- All-purpose cleaning products
- Laundry Detergent
- Diapers

Donate wish list items

- Air mattresses & pumps
- Box fans
- Blankets
- Bath towels (new)
- Bathroom rugs (new)
- Shower curtains, rods, and rings
- Pots and pans sets
- Go to www.familypromisehawaii.org/wish-list to see what other items are needed.

Provide meals through the O'hana Nights Program

- Sign up to deliver meals to the families in our shelter program.
- 'Ohana Nights occurs every Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday.
- If families are eating in the center, you can eat with them!
- For more information and to sign up, go to www.familypromisehawaii.org/volunteer.


Email kim@firstumchonolulu.org for more information. Donated items can be dropped off at the church on Sunday mornings or between 10 and 3 on weekdays.



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



MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
EASTER SUNDAY. 31 6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am Joint Worship Service 11:30am Easter Egg Hunt 2pm Easter Camp			CR = Choir Room BC= Butterworth Chapel KH = Komuro Hall S = Sanctuary	L = Library MR = Maile Rm YR =Youth Room	7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	
6am Tongan Worship 8:30am Pancakes and Praise Breakfast (grab and go only) 10am Joint Worship Service 11:30am Potluck Lunch	2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	12noon Yoga (KH) 5:30-7pm Radiant Minds, Confident Hearts (KH)	5:00 Keiki Sign Dance (BC) 6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 7pm English Choir (CR) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	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)	7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	2-4pm Foodbank
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	2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	12noon Yoga (KH) 6pm Crafting for a Cause (MR)	12noon UWF English Circle (L) 5pm Keiki Sign Dance (BC) 6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 7pm English Choir (CR) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	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)	7-9:30pm Tongan Youth & Young Adults (KH)	8-1pm All Church Work Day
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)	2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	12noon Yoga (KH) 7:30pm UWF Tongan Circle	6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	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)	7pm World Day of Prayer (S)	
Passion/Palm Sunday 24 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)	6am Passion Week Devotion (Zoom) 2-4pm FoodBank 6:30pm Evening Study via Zoom 7pm Tongan Bible Study (Zoom)	HOLIDAY 26 Facilities and Office Closed 6am Passion Week Devotion (Zoom)	6am Passion Week Devotion (Zoom) 5pm Keiki Sign Dance (BC) 6pm Dance Ministry (KH) 7pm English Choir (KH) 7pm Tongan Worship (S)	MAUNDY THUR 28 10am Coffee & Conversation (HoMA) 6am Passion Week Devotion (Zoom) 6:30 pm Communion Dinner Service (KH)	GOOD FRI 29 6am Passion Week Devotion (Zoom) 1pm English Service (S) 6-9pm Tongan Easter Camp with Worship (S)	HOLY SAT 30 9-6pm Tongan Easter Camp



First United Methodist Church of Honolulu

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(808) 522-9555 Fax (808) 528-3992
Website: 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 Kelemani, Fololiena Maka

Accompanist: Jason Eom

Finance Administrator: Ongko Kali

Custodians: John Kelemani

CONNECTIONAL LEADERS:

Resident Bishop:
Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank

District Superintendent:
Rev. Saia Tu'itahi

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join Pastor Kim for a time of conversation and coffee (or Italian soda!) at the Honolulu Museum of Art Coffee Bar across the street from FUMC (park at FUMC), at **10 a.m. on Thursday, March 28.** (Museum entrance is free to go to the Coffee Bar.) We hope you can join us!



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)