



NUU VINEYARD NEWS

Harris United Methodist Church

20 South Vineyard Blvd. Hon., HI 96813

WE ARE AN OPEN AND RECONCILING CONGREGATION

Website: www.harrisumc.org Facebook: HarrisUMC
August 2017

PASTOR'S CORNER

WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE

Many of us were shocked by the fire at the Marco Polo apartment building near Waikiki. About 2:15PM Friday, the blaze quickly spread upward from the 26th floor of the high rise. The news reported a sad story that three residents died from the smoke and fire. It became citywide news, if not nationwide, that many loved ones and friends mourned. In addition to three confirmed fatalities, 12 people were treated for fire related casualties. Without fire sprinklers, the fire caused severe damage and fatalities. It was horrifying to watch how the blaze ruthlessly destroyed lives and homes. Many people fear what can happen unexpectedly to anyone.



Rev. Dr. Cheol Kwak

A closer look at what happened to those in our Harris Ohana made all of us deeply sorrowful and horrified. Michael, Eleanor, and Marilyn Van Giesons' apartments are on the 32nd floor directly above the origin of the fire. Michael and Eleanor were not at home when the fire started but Marilyn was in her apartment while the fire raged until she was finally rescued. Because of the inhalation of the smoke, Marilyn was admitted to the emergency room and then to ICU at Straub Hospital yesterday afternoon. When Debbie and I visited her at the ICU, she seemed to be breathing fine with an oxygen mask and was waiting to be transferred to a recovery room. We shared a prayer for a quick recovery for her and those victimized. And, Debbie and I shared a sigh of relief as we left the hospital.

The three fatalities include the mother and brother of Rev. Phil Reller, who served Harris as the Christian Education Director in the past. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Rev. Reller and the family for the loss of his family. Also, our grateful thoughts are with those fire fighters who fought the fire and saved lives and properties. For those injured and their loved ones, our prayers will not cease until they all are fully recovered from the disaster. I am sure the Harris Ohana will look diligently for ways to help the victims, especially the Van Gieson's and Rev. Phil Reller.

(continued on page 2)

(PASTOR'S CORNER CONTINUED)

Yes, life is full of unexpected disasters, casualties, fatalities, and violence, either caused by men/women or by nature. It seems it has been impossible to avoid unfair, unjust, unexpected, and unpredictable disasters and events. Somewhere between natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, and the brutality of human violence that has killed too many innocents, our prayers go on. Some process theologians have tackled "the Problem of Evil," alive and well in history. The core quest for them is around the question of why bad things happen to good people. Nature does not seem to consider where to hit and terrorists ruthlessly pick innocent victims for brutal massacre.....blind, random, and unpredictable.

Our prayers hang on to God who is ALL GOOD, ALL POWERFUL, ALL KNOWING, and present EVERYWHERE all the time. We hope and pray, "All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful; the Lord God made them all..." (UMHymnal #147). But, we also know deep in our soul that they are not always bright and beautiful. Facing unjust events around us, we realize that our prayers become desperate wishful thinking. Yet, there is a calling from God who is the Creative Love that knows our joys, tears, pain, crying out for a world where justice rolls down like a river; creative, God evolving, changing, and adjusting along with how we and the creation have evolved; love, never changing God-ness in eternity. God travels with us in time, not knowing exactly what will happen five minutes from now. God's tears do not stop when injustice seems to obliterate justice in our everyday life. God is all powerful LOVE as God participates in our laughter and tears. God knows how deep our prayers have been, and participates in human experience traveling through unexpected events of the world.

That is a reason why God needs our prayer as well. God lures all of us to be just, loving, and wise, but does not dictate how things should happen in all creation. When we say God is the Creative Love, we believe that God's love in Christ overcomes the deep despair that you and I live through. I personally and publicly worship God who is always a creative presence in our being and doing and who also is facing "the Problem of Evil" everywhere in creation. Almighty God is not the one who does not know nor is powerful enough to ignore the "unfairness" or "unjustness" of our journey, but God is our sojourner who creates with love and who completes that love with Christ on a cross. Face what we are afraid of, and listen to God's sobbing and victory over fear as well.

God's tears are now with those who died and their families at the Marco Polo apartments. God's embrace is with our Van Gieson family and Rev. Reller. Prayer is, therefore, valid when it is said in complete trust and unwavering hope. Our prayer continues to be stronger and more real when bad things happen to good people. Amen.

Pastor Cheol



AUGUST WORSHIP SERVICES

THE SEASON of PENTECOST

“DREAMING BIG WITH GOD: CALLED TO BE A SANCTUARY”

9:00 am Nichigo Worship (Japanese Language Ministry)

Sensei Eiko Soranaka

5:00 pm Evening Worship (Contemporary Music)

Davy Lee

10:45am Worship (English Language Service)

August 6: 9th Sunday After Pentecost

“Reflections on the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music & Worship Arts”

Guest Speakers: Jordan Goto and Darlene Rodrigues

Communion

August 13 : 10th Sunday After Pentecost

Peace With Justice Sunday

Scripture Reading: John 1:35-42a

“Come and Follow”

Rev. Claudia Genung Yamamoto, Guest Preacher

August 20: 11th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

“For A Feast With the Crumbs”

Rev. Dr. Cheol Kwak, preaching

August 27: 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Christian Education Sunday

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 6:4- 6; I Cor. 13:1-8

“Let Us Go Deeper With the God of Love”

BIBLE PRESENTATIONS

Rev. Rona Mangayayam & Education Team, preaching

WE ARE AN OPEN AND RECONCILING CONGREGATION ~ ALL ARE WELCOME!



**TOGETHER, WE SPREAD THE GOSPEL OF PEACE AND ENCOURAGE COOPERATION
LOCALLY, IN THE UNITED STATES AND GLOBALLY.**



Rev. Claudia Genung Yamamoto

Rev. Claudia Genung Yamamoto, Covenant Missionary of Harris United Methodist Church will be speaking at the *English Worship Service, August 13, 2017*. Claudia is a missionary assigned to church development and outreach in Kobe, Japan. Claudia specifically works with the Jesus Band Church ministry through Kagawa Memorial Hall, Toyohiko Kagawa where she also assists with the Heaven's Café, which provides low cost lunch for members of the surrounding community - migrants, disabled, elderly, single mothers, and the indigenous Buraku people.

Claudia's expression of mission is "to do justice... work for peace and to share the love of Christ with each and everyone you meet."

Claudia will be the speaker for Peace with Justice Sunday, which will be observed that day. Her husband, Rev. Toshi Yamamoto, formerly pastor of the Harris Nichigo Congregation will also be here. They will be at the Harris Apartment for part of their stay.

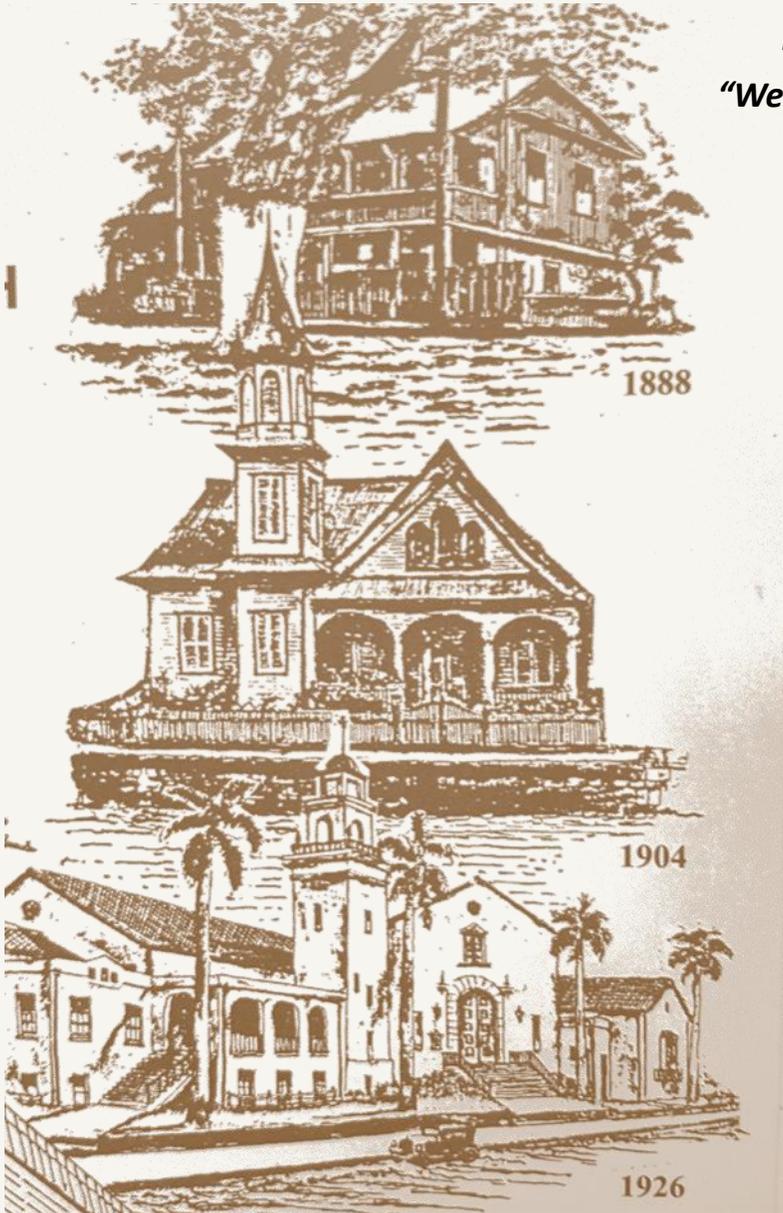
Submitted by Norma Kehrberg

HARRIS CELEBRATES 129 YEARS!

"We lift up our eyes and embrace the future"

1888-2017

(photo cover and quote from Harris 125th Anniversary Historical Album)



Our Gift of Music from Calum Graham and Danny Choi: "The Water is Wide"

<https://youtu.be/SR0nXJ6aYt4>



Our Gift of Music from Calum Graham

<https://youtu.be/xlnIKQ22D7s>



Nichigo and Ukulele Fellowship with our Call To Prayer: "Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"



Our own Ray Okimoto was the organist for the service. Postlude is "O Christ, the Same"

<https://youtu.be/le76XkDSEQA>

Music

MINISTRY TOGETHER

FALL MUSIC STARTING SOON!

Praise the Lord!

“Sing to the Lord a new song; sing God’s praise in the assembly of the faithful! Let them praise God’s name with dance, let them sing God’s praise with the drum and lyre!” (Psalm 149: 1,3)

Harris UMC’s music groups are looking forward to another blessed season to praise God through music. YOU are invited to participate! Everyone has musical talent of some kind, yes, even YOU! So check out one of the following....

CHANCEL CHOIR

Chancel Choir’s first rehearsal will be held on *Saturday, August 26 from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.* Regular rehearsals are held after worship from noon to 1:30 p.m. with a snack to tide you over. Teens to seniors are welcome and *we especially welcome men!* Contact Diane Matsuura, Director or Jordan Goto, choral intern at 808.536.9602.



CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Our Children’s Choir for preschool through Grade 5 will continue to meet every Sunday! Starting on *September 3*, they will resume the fall times and meet at *9:00am in Miyama Hall* with Uncle Jordan Goto.



YOUTH PRAISE BAND

Our Youth Praise Band will continue to meet in *Room 16* from *9:00am-10:30am*. All youth including those entering 6th grade through 12th grade are invited to Praise God through music! Learn to play and sing contemporary praise music, play new instruments, rhythm, and/or singing. Text or call Skylar Yamamoto at 808.781.5658 or email: playball808@gmail.com

HANDBELLS

Back to Bells Workshop~ Monday, September 11th, 6:00pm-7:30pm in Room 5: For all new ringers, and current ringers of Heavenly Handbells and Halle Halle Ringers, to brush up and remove those summer cobwebs!! ALL ARE INVITED to come & learn the basics of handbell ringing with no commitment to play...just a time to learn and have fun! Childcare will be available.



Keiki Joy Ringers~ Mondays beginning August 14th, 3:00pm-5:00pm in Room 5. Keiki Joy Ringers is a children’s community handbell program for ALL interested children entering 2nd grade through 5th grade. We will teach children how to ring handbells and to learn the basics about music. Snacks and tutoring (homework time) will be provided. Childcare will be available after the rehearsal. For handbell information, contact Karen Carlisle: kdingaling@hotmail.com or 808.295.2107.

UKULELE FELLOWSHIP

Learn to play the ukulele, sing and enjoy the music with Davy Lee et.al. on Sunday mornings, 9:00am in Room 5! Bring your ukulele but no worries if no more....Davy will provide an instrument for you! Contact Davy Lee at 808.536.9602 for more information.



PRAISE TEAM

Join with others on the Evening Worship Team to play and sing music for the 5pm Sunday Evening worship service. Contact Davy Lee at 808.536.9602 for more information.





“Pledge to commit your support of God’s Mission”

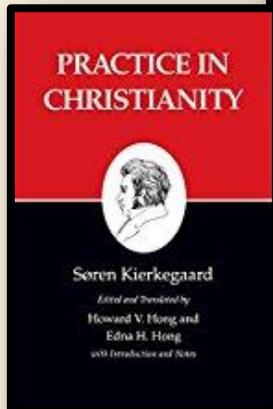
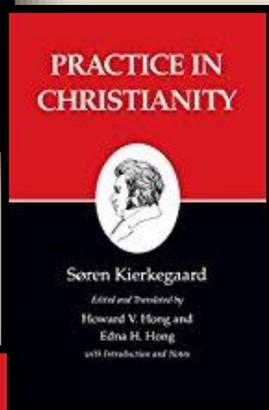
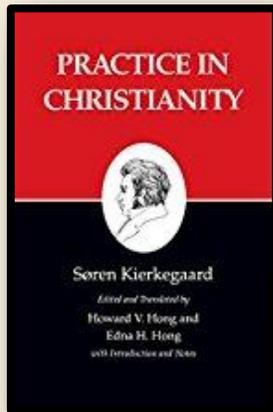
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

SAVE THE DATE ~ SEPTEMBER 24, 2017!!

“Pledge to commit your support of God’s Mission” is the theme for this year’s ***Stewardship Campaign***. During the month of September, ministry teams will share how their work to fulfill God’s mission has impacted our church community and how you can help support their efforts. Each member of the Harris Ohana will have the opportunity to support the ministry teams and God’s mission by completing a pledge card. Our goals are to increase the number of pledging units by fifty units and to increase the pledged amount to \$300,000. The pledge cards will be presented during the September 24 morning worship service, followed by a potluck celebration in Miyama Hall. Mark the date on your calendar and join us!

Submitted by Sylvia Wee, Stewardship Ministries Co-Chair

HARRIS BOOK CLUB



Senior Pastor Cheol Kwak, has agreed to start a Harris Book Club. The first book will be Soren Kierkegaard's "Practice In Christianity" as requested by some members of the congregation. It will be conducted on four weekly, 90 minute sessions held on:

**Wednesday evenings from 5:00-6:30 pm.
The class will begin on August 30 and
conclude on September 20.**

Kierkegaard was a Danish Theologian and though his life was very short, his writings influenced scores of Christian theologians. Kierkegaard emphasizes that belief in God cannot and should not be rational. His thoughts, though challenging influenced teachings of Christianity.

Contact Norma Kehrberg at Norma.Kehrberg@gmail.com if you would like more information or to join this Harris Book Club offering.



TODDLER FRIENDS IN A HUGE BUBBLE!



We had a very fun summer at Harris Preschool! We kicked off the summer with our graduation celebration, with a surprise Lion Dance to bless the graduates. We continued with our soccer and swimming lessons throughout the summer and took advantage of the extra hot weather by adding a weekly water play day. The children loved getting to play in the sprinklers! The children also continued to care for our garden that The Little Green House Hawaii helped us plant. They excitedly watched as cucumbers, tomatoes, and beans grew. We were also fortunate to have a few exciting events to celebrate the end of another school year. In the middle of July we went to see Sesame Street Live and had a visit from the Bubble Lady! The Bubble Lady put on a bubble show, set up an outdoor bubble play zone, and brought along a friend to give the children temporary glitter tattoos. They had a blast!

After a restful week-long summer break in July our teachers returned for a two-day staff development and prep time for our 2017-2018 school year. We will be having our annual Back to School Night on Tuesday, August 1st from 5:00-6:00 PM. This is a great time for parents to chat with their child's new teacher and become familiar with the classroom. We will begin our 2017-2018 school year the following day on Wednesday, August 2nd.



PRESCHOOLERS GETTING READY TO WATCH SESAME STREET LIVE!



PRE-K GRADUATES ENJOYING SESAME STREET LIVE!

Help us Spread the Preschool Word!

If you, or anyone you know, works in a downtown office or business with an employee newsletter, we would love the opportunity to promote our preschool. Please contact preschool director Kapua Hussey at 532-4175 or harrispreschoolhi@gmail.com to help out.



"Maopili: being Neighbors to Neighbors"

Our Mission

Together we work toward healing, reconciliation and the alleviation of suffering in Kalihi Valley, by serving communities, families and individuals through strong relationships that honor culture and foster health and harmony.



"Maopili: being Neighbors to Neighbors"



Rulers, color books, erasers, pens, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, pencil cases,



Pencils, folder paper, binders, folders, backpacks, calculator, graphing paper, calendar,



Backpacks, scissors, markers, composition books, dividers, erasers, and more backpacks!

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATIONS FROM HARRIS FOR KOKUA KALIHI VALLEY STUDENTS!

Mahalo to all from Harris UMC who donated school supplies and school uniforms for students at Kokua Kalihi Valley! Innocenta Sound-Kikku and her kids will be able to have a good start on their upcoming school year where many will be entering a new grade, and for some, a new school. We are blessed to be able to assist in this way....we are all *sanctuaries* for one another.

HARRIS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Now-August 20th

Nursery: 9:00am-end of Worship

****PRESCHOOL-ENTERING 5TH GRADE****

9:30am-9:50am (NOTE START TIME....9:30 am!!)

MUSIC in Miyama Hall

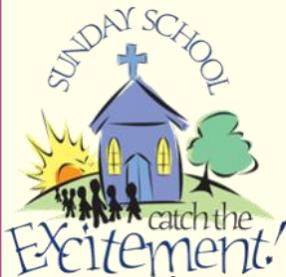
with Jordan Goto

9:50 am-10:30am

ALL-IN-ONE-SUNDAY SCHOOL in Room 3

with Auntie Cheryl

"I Am A Sanctuary: Loving & Welcoming"



****ENTERING 6th GRADE-12th GRADE****

9:00am-10:30am YOUTH PRAISE BAND

with Skylar Yamamoto in Room 16

Learn to PRAISE GOD thru instruments, rhythms, and sharing of the story

HARRIS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & RALLY SUNDAY!

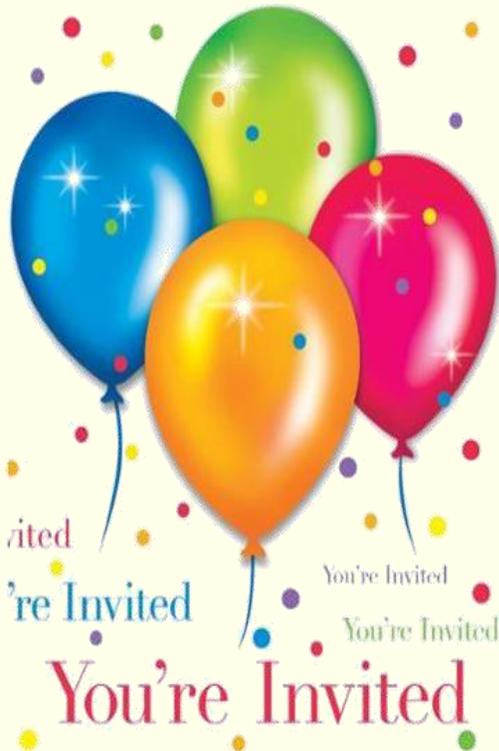
AUGUST 27th 9:00am-10:00am

Welcome to another church school year at Harris! Your Education Ministries Ohana is enthusiastic about seeing everyone back...refreshed and renewed from the summer! If you're looking for a way to "get back into church", take a look to see what's happening this month and be a part of it! You won't regret it!

We will be recognizing the importance of our faith with God, with the help from all of us...learners of Jesus Christ! Join us for a breakfast in Miyama Hall: meet (and eat!) with your friends in faith and the Harris Ohana!

Bring a breakfast food to share...coffee and beverages will be provided.

Then, the celebration will continue in the sanctuary where we will bless those teachers and helpers who have agreed to volunteer to help lead us...God's children! So, if you're thinking about "getting back to church", **now's the time and this is the place!**



TO: RALLY SUNDAY BREAKFAST!

WHEN: SUNDAY, AUG. 27th

TIME: 9:00 am-10:00am

WHERE: MIYAMA HALL

**BRING: your smiles, enthusiasm,
& your favorite potluck breakfast dish
to share!!! ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

HARRIS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES



NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Beginning Sunday, September 3rd!

"What's Your Story: Seeing Your Life Through God's Eyes" by Sarah Heath

For: Adults & Young Adults

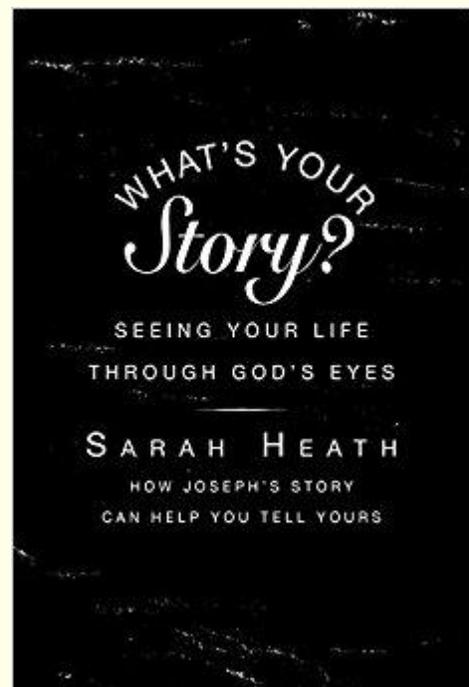
Leader: Rev. John Miyahara

9:30am in Miyama Hall

"Envision your life as an adventure co-created by God. This study explores Joseph's story. Sarah Heath helps you explore your own life story in the same way. By doing so, you'll discover how to co-create with God the kind of life that will be a page-turner."

The cost of the book is \$8.50.

Order your book by emailing info@harrisumc.org by August 14 or watch for the sign up sheet at the courtyard on Sundays of August 6 and 13.



BISHOP'S RETREAT WITH CONFIRMANDS

SEPT. 22-24, 2017

CAMP MOKULEIA

ho'oulu

/hō/ō/ōō/loō/
verb

1. to grow, propagate or cause increase
2. to be inspired by the Spirit; to **inspire**, stir up and excite

*"Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ
so that all may experience God's life-giving love"*

Join us along with our Bishop, Grant Hagiya for a weekend of transformation, fellowship and celebration as we dive deeper into our faith.

Date: September 22-24, 2017

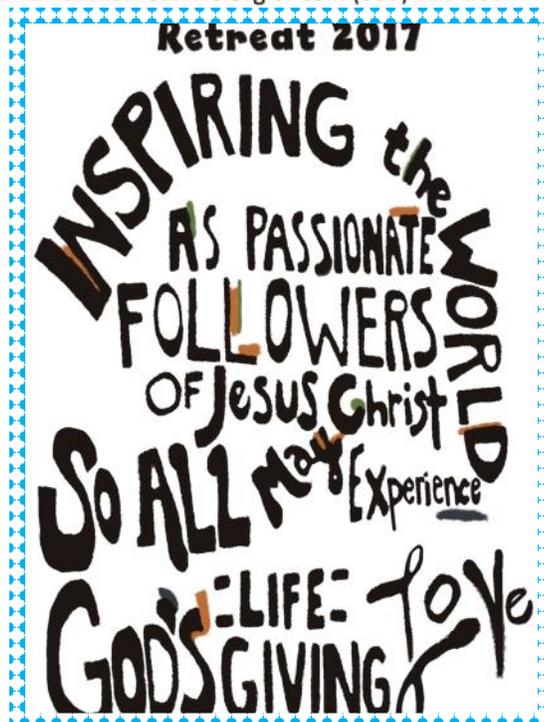
Location: Camp Mokuleia, Waialua

Cost: \$100.00*

Participants: Youth in confirmation, ages 11 thru 16

*A limited number of neighbor island scholarships are available on a first come, first served basis.

For more information visit HawaiiDistrictUMC.org or call: (808) 536-1864



Retreat 2017

INSPIRING the

BISHOP'S CONFIRMATION RETREAT

The Hawaii District UMC is excited to offer a Confirmation Camp for Hawaii Youth! Bishop Grant Hagiya will lead this special weekend for youth to fellowship with other Christians, learn more about their faith and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. So please register at the link below and join us!

- Date:** September 22-24, 2017 (Friday ~ Sunday)
Place: Camp Mokuleia, 68-729 Farrington Highway, Waialua, Hawaii
Who: Ages 11-18 years old (Middle School – High School Senior)
Activities: Swimming at the beach and pool, kayaking, playing volleyball, hiking, and running through a challenge course.
Cost: \$100 (Scholarship is available but limited to only **neighbor islands**)

Registration Link: <https://calpaccamps.campbrainregistration.com/>

- * Restriction of 10 campers per Church. A chaperone is required to accompany the group.
- * **Registration ends: AUGUST 14**

GOD'S GIVING = LIFE = JOY

Walk to Emmaus®



The Hawaii Walk to Emmaus is holding a WOMEN'S WALK on:
Thursday, Aug. 17 thru Sunday Aug. 20th at the St. Anthony Retreat Center in Kalihi Valley.

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the development of Christian leaders who are members of a local church, have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives, may have unanswered questions about faith, understand that being a Christian involves responsibility, and are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner. If you are interested, please see [Katherine Aratani](#), [Akiko Lau](#), [Lenora Stone](#) or [Carole Suzui](#) who have been on the Walk. They will be happy to help find a sponsor for you. Candidate applications must be completed and submitted by the end of July.

Please visit www.UpperRoom.org/Emmaus for more information to view an excellent video.

Submitted by Patrick Zukemura



- ⇒ **Electronic Giving:** If you are not yet signed up for e-giving and are interested, please contact Sachi Taketa for more information at 808.536.9602. You will no longer need to worry about carrying a check or cash to put in the offering plate or send through the mail.
- ⇒ **YOU are invited to become a member of Harris United Methodist Church!** Please contact Pastor Cheol Kwak (808.536.9602) or Pastor Rona (rona@harrisumc.org or 808.738.7727) if you are interested in joining our Harris Ohana!

NEWSLETTER deadline is 15th of each month
Submit to Cheryl Yamamoto: news4harris@gmail.com

Sustainability Covenant

"God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore for its own sake and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family"

If you are receiving a hard copy version in the mail, please reconsider the sustainable alternative by reading it online from the church website. This will save our blessed & fragile environment and decrease postage & paper costs in the long term. Online versions are in color and will include all submitted photos/graphics; email and hard copy versions will be in black & white and text only.

To receive your newsletter via email rather than by postage mail, CONTACT:
news4harris@gmail.com

We thank you for practicing good stewardship!!

Facebook: HarrisUMC

Website: www.harrisumc.org

