

Nu' u Vineyard News

MAY 2024



Miyama Hall during the 2024 Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 20th. *Photo Credit: Greg Yamamoto*

Mahalo for Your Support!

Thank you to all the volunteers and attendees of the 2024 Rummage Sale! Please join us for May worship services every Sunday at 10:45 am.



Photos from the Rummage Sale (*Continued on Page 4.*)

A Message From the Pastor

Aloha Harris UMC Ohana,

May Day and Lei Day begin this beautiful month, and with Mother's Day and the "Festival of the Christian Home" on May 12 it is a month of celebration of the beauty of Hawaii and Ohana. The lectionary, the 3-year cycle of scripture lessons that is used by the United Methodist Church and other mainline Protestant churches, designates one of my favorite scriptures for May 12:



"I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power." Ephesians 1:15-19

This is one, long run-on sentence. It seems like the writer is so excited about faith in the Risen Christ and the spirit of wisdom that grows as we get to know the Christ that he can hardly get it out; that he cannot stop for a breath until the entire thought is expressed.

I also get excited about the ideas in this scripture passage. It is about seeing the world — all the earth, all the creation, all our Ohana — with new eyes: the eyes of an enlightened heart. These new eyes include love toward all the saints, which really means all people. For the Apostle Paul and the early church, everyone who attended and had faith was one of the saints of the church. It was much later that the Roman church designated special healers and martyrs as special saints. But in the original meaning, we are all the saints of the church. That means we are all called to have hope.

As the saints of the church, I pray that we all will give thanks for one another, with hope. I pray that we will all move through life with a sense of breath and ease, with love in hearts that are enlightened to the power of the Holy Spirit. I pray that as we celebrate May Day, Lei Day and Mother's Day, we will live our faith with true joy and grow in the wisdom of the Risen Christ.

May God's blessings uphold you always,
Rev. Dr. Fran Wiebenga

May Worship Services

Sunday, May 5

6th Sunday of Easter with Communion

Service @ 10:45 am

John 15:9-17

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day/Festival of the Christian Home

Service @ 10:45 am

Ephesians 1:15-23

Sunday, May 19

Day of Pentecost

Service at 10:45 am

Guest Preacher: Erin Hawkins, CalPac Director
of Connectional Ministries

Sunday, May 26

Trinity Sunday

Message by Jo Tanimoto, Lay Speaker

Photo by Pamela Huber on Unsplash

Updates

Rummage Sale 2024

It was a great week of working together to prepare for our 2024 Rummage Sale... reconnecting with friends and of course meeting new ones is always good.

All of the volunteers who came during the week were determined and steadfast in their organizational skills. God certainly blessed us with the presence of our AARP friends who came to help (they have their monthly meetings at the church). It is nice that Diane Morioka includes and invites them to participate in our activities.



People were very generous in their donations of kitchenware, small and large white elephant items including some great Christmas decorations, and fine jewelry and art work. The Bake Goods Booth was all sold out; of course everyone knows that home-baked are



of course delicious. The crowd of shoppers were great and eager to buy... some were very generous in their monetary donations as they paid for items. Overall it was a great opportunity to reconnect with each other and of course, our community.



Updates



Based upon the preliminary report given by Carol Suzui on Sunday, April 21st, our overall income was better than 2023! Monies earned will support the Church in its outreach to the community. We are all interdependent economically, socially and spiritually.



The light of God certainly shines upon all of us in our spiritual journey. God bless you all! Thank you for your ongoing support and assistance to make a difference.

Submitted by Sachi Taketa and Annette Okimoto. Photo Credit: Greg Yamamoto

(For more photos, visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HarrisUMC/>)

Harris Preschool



The Royal Hawaiian Band visits Harris Preschool students on April 11th.



Field trip to the Children's Discovery Center on April 12th.



For more info on Harris Preschool visit: <https://harrisumc.org/preschool/>

Updates

Get Acquainted with our New Members!

Kai Matsuura



The final youth to be interviewed from last year's confirmation class is Kai Matsuura. He relates that it was a family-led decision for him to join the church, even before he

was born! His name Kai was chosen by his parents to keep the tradition of naming Matsuura males with the letter K.

Residing in Nuuanu, Kai's family consists of his parents and sister, Mira as well as their maternal grandparents. Despite his parent's busy careers as bankers, they still find time for special moments that make their children feel appreciated. Kai's sister is described by him as one of his best friends who keeps a smile on his face!

During this interview Kai shared that he enjoys playing basketball and going to the gym in his free time with the goal of worrying less about what he eats. Here's another revealing fact about this young man - he loves writing songs and playing guitar, bass and drums! This latest fact will make you smile... Burgers have been an integral part of his life. He says he's pretty much eaten every big name restaurant burger accompanied by a nice side of fries!!

When asked about his volunteer experience,

Kai says he's done local beach cleanups and homeless breakfast events. It was a great experience since he got to meet so many amazing people. During his high school years Kai was a member of the boys varsity paddling team that participated in international competition. However, he made the decision to seek a part time job and is currently a busser at the Ala Moana California Pizza Kitchen. He feels this has helped him manage his time more wisely and save money rather than spending it on "frivolous objects." As a senior at Iolani School Kai is scheduled to graduate this June.

Kai is proud to be fully committed to Creighton, a private research university, in Kansas. He plans on majoring in biochemistry aiming for the track towards dentistry. After completing his education and gaining a few years of professional experience, Kai hopes to return to Hawaii and open up his own firm.

Kai was asked the same question as others in the confirmation class - what would you like adults to know about today's teenagers? Here is his reply: "Kids are more mature than you think, even if we act stupid!"

John 18:33 is his favorite Bible verse. "I have told you these things, so that you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Once you graduate high school, your smiling presence at Harris will be missed. Our prayers will surround you as God reveals His purpose for your life.

Submitted by Wally Wake

Updates

Corky Yoshina



Introducing recent member Thurston Corky Yoshina to our Harris family!

Formerly a resident of Mililani and long time member of Wahiawa United

Methodist Church, Corky chose to move to town to be closer to his life's necessities. He wanted to have access to medical appointments, grocery shopping and other amenities that make life easier as he grows older. Corky's wise planning was for the time when he might be less mobile but still remain as independent as possible. After attending other churches in the area, he found that Harris was conveniently located close to where he lives. The community of the congregation appealed to him and he decided to transfer his membership and Corky's wife passed away a few years ago but family surrounding him are his two daughters, Lori and Sheri and 3 grandchildren, Rika, Mia and Ian. When asked about his name Thurston, he said a Hilo neighbor thought the name Thurston was a nice name.. Corky is a name his dad thought would be good for him as a nickname.

Corky served his country in the United States Air Force and retired a few years ago. He is enjoying his retirement time and has found a

number of things to keep him busy and active every day. He is a member of the Mililani Lions Club and participates in their activities. Recently they supported a vision program whose purpose is to screen individuals at the Mililani elementary schools identifying students that may be having vision issues. Hopefully, they will be able to improve their studies with glasses if they need to have them. Fortunately for our church, he has also been busy helping with some of the projects supported by Harris United Methodist Church! You can find Corky and his family on the mauka side of the sanctuary where they sit every Sunday. Stop by and say hello!

Submitted by Wally Wake

Royukai



The Royukai March outing to Tea At 1024. The Royukai Senior Fellowship meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 9:30am to 12:00 pm.



Updates

April Worship Services



The Ukulele Fellowship and Youth Praise Band during worship service on April 14th.



SPRC announced Rev. Fran's reappointment to Harris come July 1st.



Rev. Fran and daughter, Grace Wiebenga performing the Gift of Music: "Come and Find the Quiet Center" during service on April 21st.

Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday service on Mar. 31st. Thank you Haoa Morris for organizing the luncheon. *Photo Credit: Wally Wake & Jo Tanimoto.*

Updates

United Women in Faith Spiritual Life Retreat



The Hawaii District United Methodist Women in Faith hosted a Spiritual Life Retreat at Kilohana United Methodist Church in Niu Valley on Saturday, April 13, 2024 and Harris UMC's Rev. Fran Wiebenga was the guest speaker. The scripture reading John 4:1-26 which

focused on the Samaritan woman at the Well who encounters Jesus, was presented in a creative drama form. Then, Rev. Fran's message focused on how Jesus offers water, which is both living-giving and life-saving, to sustain us. Jesus meets us where we are and we need God's living water to heal and transform ourselves as we reach out to others.

Of interest was Rev. Fran's sharing of the

research done by Masaru Emoto which is documented in his book, "The Hidden Messages in Water." Using high-speed photography, Dr. Emoto discovered that crystals formed in frozen water revealed changes when special concentrated



thoughts were directed to them. For example, water from clear springs and water that had been exposed to loving ones, showed brilliant, complex and colorful snowflake



patterns. However, polluted water that was exposed to negative thoughts was incomplete, had asymmetrical patterns and had dull colors. Thus, the implications of his research showed a new awareness of how we can positively

impact the Earth and our personal health.

As always, the fellowship time with our UWF sisters across the various churches was fun and "good food for the soul." Harris UMC was represented by Carole Suzui, Karen Ginoza,



Mona Bomgaars and Mel Billingsley (Unfortunately, Karen Hill who is part of the District UWF was unable to attend but she has invited anyone to join the UWF events.). I hope you will consider attending a future UWF event. It is a life-giving and a life-saving event...and there is lots of laughter and precious moments to form beautiful crystal patterns!

Submitted by Mel Billingsley

Updates/Upcoming



Summary of 2024 General Conference

1. The General Conference began on Friday, April 19 and will end on Friday, May 3.
2. By unanimous vote, the Committee on Reference declared as disqualified on April 22 all petitions from individuals, churches and conferences no longer associated with The United Methodist Church.
3. Major actions are:
 - a. Approval of Apology for the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom.
 - b. [Approval of Revised Social Principles](#), removing harmful language against LGTBQIA+. More actions will be voted on later.
 - c. The Worldwide Regionalization plan passed 586 to 164. (The amendment for the US failed in 2016.) This will allow all regions to make decisions. Annual conferences will vote on this amendment to the denomination's constitution.

“Faith is a lived response to God’s abundant grace and to God’s high calling for Jesus’ disciples to live lovingly in all that we do in our personal and communal practices and public policies. The Revised Social Principles inspires and challenges us as United Methodist Christians to follow a path of love and grace, embodied in prophetic action.”- MFSA Plumblines: Revised Social Principles, April 23.

Submitted by Karen Ginoza, Church & Society Ministry Chair

Kilohana UMC’s Summer Youth Mission

Junior High and Senior High youth are invited to a one-of-a-kind, week-long camp and mission experience, **June 24-30** at Kilohana UMC. Get to know youth from Pasadena First UMC and Grace UMC in Los Angeles, fellowship and serve together at various work sites, learn more about Hawaiian culture, and enjoy some beach days. Cost is \$150, overnight stay during the week is mandatory.

Brochures are available in the rear of the Sanctuary. For more info, contact Rev. Bob Isip, bobisip@gmail.com or call or text his cell phone at 626-487-2329. The deadline is **May 20th**.



SUSANNAH WESLEY
COMMUNITY CENTER

SEMI-ANNUAL DIAPER DRIVE

Help us collect 15,000 Diapers (sizes 4 & 5)
by May 31st

COLLECTION INFO

- May 20 - 31, 2024
- Monday - Friday
- 9am - 4pm

📞 808-847-1535

📍 1117 KAILI STREET

Upcoming

Church Council

The next Church Council meeting is set for **May 4th at 10 am** via ZOOM. This meeting is also a Special Charge Conference to vote on a Lay Delegate to Conference.

Evening Worship



Join us for evening worship **Sunday, May 5th at 5:00 pm**. Davy Lee will deliver the message "Love One Another" based on John 15:12. Potluck dinner to follow.

Church Clean Up

The next Church Clean Up days are: **Saturday, May 11, 2024 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm** and Saturday, November 16, 2024 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm.

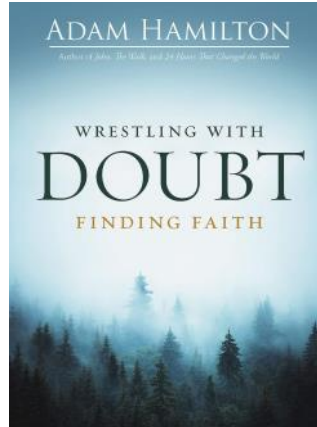
Graduate Recognition Sunday is June 9



We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, June 9 during 10:45 a.m. worship! Please let us know of upcoming graduates (including preschool;

elementary, middle, and high school; college; and training programs) in your family. Pictures and a brief bio about your graduate are welcome... email to Rene: rene@ohta.us by **June 1**. We look forward to celebrating with you!!"

Book Study: Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith



WRESTLING WITH DOUBT, FINDING FAITH, by Adam Hamilton-Discussion Group – facilitated by Brian Maeshiro. **Sundays starting May 19, 9:00am-10:00am Komuro Lounge.**

Each week, we will listen to the course DVD followed by a discussion. We will help each other to strengthen our belief, faith, and trust. Book available on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com). For the first 5 people that sign up, a free book will be available to pick up at Church. The Book is optional to join the discussion group. Contact: Brian Maeshiro at action@arhawaii.com for registration.

Choir Rehearsals

You're invited sing the upbeat, fun anthem "Praise His Holy Name!" by Keith Hampton. Rehearsals will be all Sundays in May (5, 12, 19, 26) from 9:30 – 10:00 am in Miyama Hall. We will sing in worship on **May 26**. Email Diane Matsuura dianematsuura@outlook.com

Used Tennis Ball Donations

The Honolulu Police Department's Canine Training Unit is in need of assistance.

The Unit is in need of used balls preferably tennis balls, but welcome any to be used for training. The balls are used to train the canines in locating missing individuals, illegal substances and even cadavers. If interested in donating a donation box will be left in the church office for donations. Contact Felix at: 808-444-1134.

Ongoing Ministries

Evening Worship

Evening worship meets the **first Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm** in the Sanctuary with a potluck following service. Contact Davy Lee for more information.

Royukai

The Royukai Senior Fellowship meets on the **3rd Thursday of every month from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm** in Komuro Lounge. Contact Jo Tanimoto at the church for more info.

Sandwich Ministry

The Sandwich Ministry meets in the kitchen **twice a month** and is always seeking volunteers. For more information please contact humc.sandwich.ministry@gmail.com

Soup Ministry

Meets in the kitchen on **Mondays at 6:00 am and Sundays at 7:30 am** to prepare soup for IHS. Contact Linda Matsushita at the church office 808-536-9602 for more information.

Tai Chi

Meets every **Friday at 7:30 am** in Miyama Hall. 7:30am-8:10am exercise class. 8:10am -9:00am Taichi. Contact Sachi Taketa at the church office 808-536-9602.

Ukulele Fellowship

Meets every **Sunday at 9:30 am** in the Music Room 5. Contact Davy Lee.

Kids Sunday School K-5th Grade

Meets every Sunday at **9:30am in room 3** and on Zoom. Contact Aunty Rene at rene@ohta.us for more details.

Youth Sunday School 6th -12th

Sundays at 9:00 am in room 16. Contact Skylar Yamamoto for more details. Praise Band every 2nd and 3rd Sunday.



Sunday Worship

Join us every Sunday at 10:45 am in-person or on ZOOM!

Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month.

For more info about Sunday Worship visit: <https://harrisumc.org/what-to-expect-at-worship/>

ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/j/91546086665?pwd=VTItYm1jbjFYM29vQ1h3ZzgyYWZJUT09>



Meetings & Events

5/4 @ 10:00 am Church Council Meeting, ZOOM

5/5 @ 5:00 pm Evening Worship, Sanctuary

5/9 @ 6:30 pm Worship Team, ZOOM

5/11 @ 9:00 am Church Clean Up, Entire Campus

5/14 @ 5:00 pm Preschool Board Meeting, Room 10

5/16 @ 9:00 am Royukai, Miyama Hall

5/16 @ 6:30 pm SFM, ZOOM

5/27 MEMORIAL DAY-Church Office Closed

5/28 @ 6:00 pm Finance Committee, ZOOM

Visit the HUMC Facility calendar: <https://harrisumc.org/facility-calendar/> for more events.

General Information

About Harris

Harris United Methodist Church is an Open and Reconciling Congregation where we believe that Jesus embraces all and celebrates in the diversity of humanity. We pray that we demonstrate His love and compassion for everyone through our actions and words.

Together, we share and pray for each other's joys & sorrows. We honor each individual's reflections, thoughts, and prayers. Our Worship Services are intergenerational where children, youth, young adults and young families blend with our adults and kupuna to serve caring and kindness.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit any info for the June newsletter by Monday, **May 27th** to Erin at admin@harrisumc.org

Ways To Give

IN PERSON: Place your donation in the offering box at worship service on Sundays.

BY MAIL: Write a check to Harris United Methodist Church and send to 20 S. Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96813.

ONLINE: Go to harrisumc.org/donate or scan the QR code below with your cellphone's camera app.



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.

Ushers and Greeters Needed

The Ushers and Greeters team needs volunteers for the 10:45 am Sunday worship services. Ushers are the first people that the church attendees and visitors meet when they come to Harris UMC. If you enjoy making people feel welcome, you'll be a great usher! Contact Mel B. at 808-536-9602 or email info@harrisumc.org.

Covenant Ministries

Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto (Japan)
Jonathan McCurley (Japan)
Miguel Mairena (Mexico)

Altar Flowers

You are invited to dedicate altar flowers in honor or memory of a loved one. Please call the office, 808-536-9602 and indicate your chosen Sunday of dedication, name of honoree and send a check for \$48 to Harris UMC with the memo: Altar Flowers. You may also sign up using the sign up sheet located at the rear of the Sanctuary.



Contact Us!

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20 S. Vineyard Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 536-9602 Main Office
Office Hours: Mon thru Fri 9am-2pm
<https://harrisumc.org>
info@harrisumc.org

We Are Social!



@harrisumc



@aloha2harrisumc