

Nu' u Vineyard News

DECEMBER 2024



63rd Annual Nuuanu Valley Interfaith Service on Nov. 26th. *Photo Credit: Greg Yamamoto. Continued on Page 5.*

Mahalo for Your Continued Support!

Thank you for attending November worship services and events. You are invited to our services in December, Blue Christmas is Dec. 21st at 5:00 pm and Christmas Eve Service is Dec. 24th at 7:00 pm.



Interfaith Service: *Transcending our differences, bringing joy and unity.*

A Message From the Pastor

“Flourishing Through Advent: Bridging Divides through Reconciliation, Renewal, and Unity”

“I bring good news to you — wonderful, joyous news for all people . . . “ Luke 2:10



Blessings Harris UMC Ohana,

This Advent Season, as we anticipate Christmas and the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child once again, we need Good News. We always need Good News, but with all the dark news streaming our way all day, every day, we need the light of the Good News more than ever. That is what the Christ Child brings. Emmanuel. God is here. God is with us. God surrounds us with love and grace, that will always bring hope, even at the darkest times.

It is no mistake that we celebrate the birth of Christ at the darkest time of the year. Even in Hawaii, we notice that the mornings now begin in darkness. But the Good News is that the light will come.

The story in the Gospel of Luke brings the Good News by God’s messenger angels, shining through the darkness of the night. They sing to the shepherds, keeping watch on the hillside. Perhaps one of the reasons God chose shepherds to receive the Good News of Jesus’ birth was because they remind us of the Good Shepherd in Psalm 23. Jesus will grow up to be our Good Shepherd who cares for us, just as the Good Shepherd of Psalm 23 cared for his sheep. The Good Shepherd reminds us of God, present with us.

The Christ Child, born in the company of the sheep, cows and donkeys in the stable, will be the Good Shepherd for people not only of his time, but for ours, and for the future. Jesus, born in a stable, is our Good Shepherd. Jesus, the Christ Child is our Good News, the light of the world.

During Advent, as we anticipate the birth of the Christ Child into the world and into our hearts once again, let us remember that God is already here in the midst of us. Even on the darkest morning, Jesus, the light of the world, our Good Shepherd, is already here to bring hope and light our way.

Blessings to each one during this time of Advent, and Christmas.

Aloha,

Rev. Fran Wiebenga

December Worship Services

Sunday, December 8

2nd Sunday of Advent

Celebration of Holy Baptism with Lunch to Follow in Miyama Hall

Service @ 10:45 am | Luke 3:1-6 | *Found in the Wilderness*

Sunday, December 15

3rd Sunday of Advent

Service @ 10:45 am | Luke 3:7-18 | *Is This (Really) the Good News?*

Saturday, December 21

Blue Christmas– *A quiet time to acknowledge grief, Pain, loss and receive God's comfort and love.*

Service @ 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 22

4th Sunday of Advent

Celebration of Mona Ray Kino's Retirement

Service @ 10:45 am | Luke 2:1-20 | *We Meet the Christ Child*

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

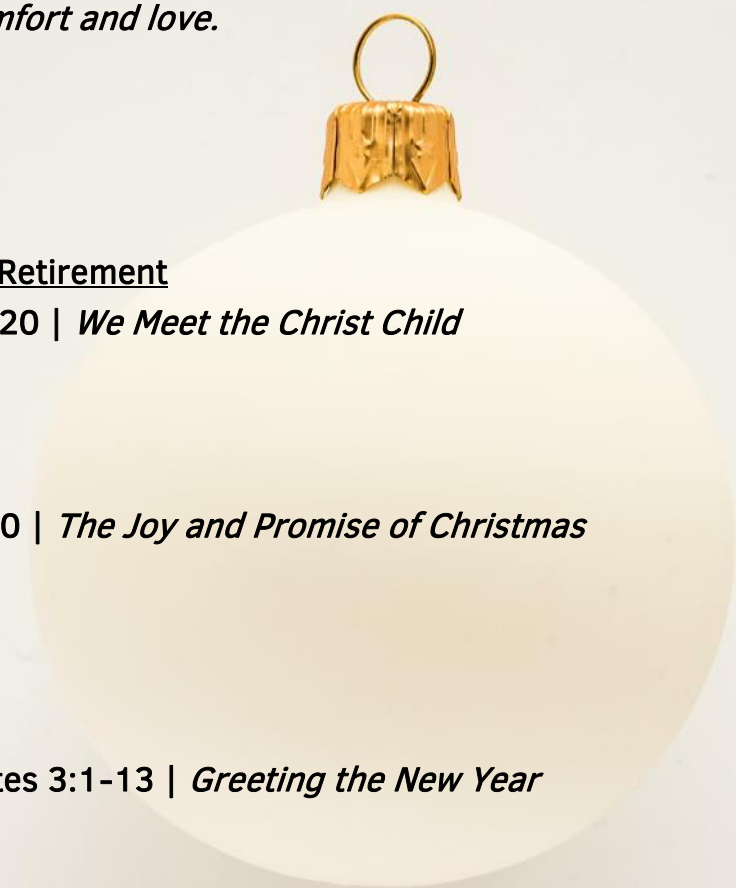
Service @ 7:00 pm | Luke 2:1-20 | *The Joy and Promise of Christmas*

Sunday, December 29

1st Sunday After Christmas

UM Student Day

Service at 10:45 am | Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 | *Greeting the New Year*



Updates

Thanksgiving Service/Potluck



The Harris Fellowship Choir performs The Gift of Music: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"



Thanksgiving Potluck in Miyama Hall on Nov. 24th.



Sunday School



"We learned about the power of kindness and hospitality and shared how we are thankful for God and all of our blessings." ~ Kids Sunday School on Nov. 24th.

Harris Kids Sunday School K-5th grade meets every Sunday at 9:00 am in room 3. Contact Aunty Rene at rene@ohta.us for more details.

Updates

Interfaith Service



Nuuanu Valley Interfaith Service at the Community Church of Honolulu on Nov. 26th.



Preschool Thanksgiving Luncheon



The preschool families gathered for an annual Thanksgiving Luncheon in Miyama Hall on Nov. 27th.



The preschool will be on winter break from Dec. 23-Jan. 1st. For more information, contact Tasha at harrispreschoolhi@gmail.com or visit <https://harrisumc.org/preschool/>

Updates/Upcoming

FINAL RESULTS FROM 2024 MISSION BAZAAR

| | Pre/Post - BazaarIncome | Total 11/2 Income. | Total Gross Income | Startup Costs | Expenses | Total Expenses | Net Income |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Asian-made items/Costume Jewe | \$84.00 | \$435.95 | \$519.95 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$469.95 |
| Baked Goods (Cookies, etc.) | \$0.00 | \$870.00 | \$870.00 | \$100.00 | \$54.32 | \$154.32 | \$715.68 |
| Baked Goods (Pies) | \$3,560.00 | \$1,496.00 | \$5,056.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,986.76 | \$1,986.76 | \$3,069.24 |
| Books | \$435.00 | \$696.68 | \$1,131.68 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$1,081.68 |
| Christmas Items | \$74.50 | \$286.95 | \$361.45 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$311.45 |
| Country Store | \$864.00 | \$1,150.76 | \$2,014.76 | \$100.00 | \$200.00 | \$300.00 | \$1,714.76 |
| Crafts | \$0.00 | \$630.50 | \$630.50 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$580.50 |
| Kau Kau Korner/Refreshments | \$82.10 | \$355.00 | \$437.10 | \$50.00 | \$207.87 | \$257.87 | \$179.23 |
| Kitchen Wares | \$138.00 | \$736.04 | \$874.04 | \$150.00 | | \$150.00 | \$724.04 |
| Plants | \$0.00 | \$723.00 | \$723.00 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$673.00 |
| Sewing Ministry | \$0.00 | \$1,473.50 | \$1,473.50 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$1,423.50 |
| Silent Auction | \$798.00 | \$2,903.25 | \$3,701.25 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$3,651.25 |
| Toys | \$0.00 | \$365.25 | \$365.25 | \$50.00 | | \$50.00 | \$315.25 |
| White Elephant | \$192.25 | \$1,021.27 | \$1,213.52 | \$100.00 | | \$100.00 | \$1,113.52 |
| Miscelleenous | \$125.00 | \$27.00 | \$152.00 | \$0.00 | \$236.99 | \$236.99 | -\$84.99 |
| Finance Office | \$0.00 | \$414.01 | \$414.01 | \$400.00 | | \$400.00 | \$14.01 |
| Totals | \$6,545.00 | \$13,585.16 | \$19,938.01 | \$1,300.00 | \$2,685.94 | \$3,985.94 | \$15,952.07 |

THANK YOU EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!!!

Evening Worship



You are invited to Contemporary Worship, on the first Sunday of every month at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary with a potluck following service. All are Welcome!

New and Used Toys Needed

The Harris UMC youth group will be collecting new / lightly used toys & games before and after service on 12/8, 12/15 & 12/22. The beneficiary of the toy drive is IHS.

Upcoming

Advent Season



Our Advent theme is "Flourishing Through Advent: Bridging Divides through Reconciliation, Renewal, and Unity." The four Sundays of Advent, we light Candles and prepare to welcome the Christ Child once again. We pray that the candles will light our way, our faith will be strengthened, and that we will find hope that will lead us into, and carry us through, the New Year.

Advent Poinsettia



Poinsettias will be on sale in the courtyard right after worship on Dec. 8th. There are only 20 five inch poinsettia plants available at \$15 each. Please make checks out to HUMC with Poinsettia in the memo or pay cash. Mahalo!

Na Leo Lani

Na Leo Lani Sweet Adelines chorus presents their annual Christmas concert entitled "Christmas Magic" on **Saturday, December 14 at 2:30 pm** in the Harris Sanctuary. Tickets are available at the door: \$15 for adults and \$10 for children ages 6-12. You are invited to stay for refreshments in Miyama Hall afterwards.

Multimedia Volunteers Needed



The multimedia team is always looking for volunteers! Contact Mahe our Multimedia Director at multimedia@harrisumc.org if interested.

Blue Christmas



Harris UMC will host a Blue Christmas service on **Saturday, December 21st at 5 pm** in the sanctuary. This service recognizes the time of "blue" feelings such as pain, confusion and fear for those who have experienced losses of a loved one, relationships, employment, housing or financial setback. Our church recognizes that this is not a joyous season for everyone and we seek to provide a time and space for acknowledgment, comfort and prayer for those in need.

Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve worship service will begin at **7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24**. Join us for this special Candlelight Service! Hear the beautiful story and sing the glorious hymns of the Birth of Jesus.

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.

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.

Choir Rehearsals

Join the choir and rehearse on Sunday mornings at **9:30 am** in Miyama Hall with Jordan Goto.

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 9:00 am** in the Music Room 5. Contact Davy Lee.

Kids Sunday School K-5th Grade

Meets every Sunday at **9:00 am** in room 3. Contact Aunty Rene at rene@ohta.us for more details.

Youth Sunday School 6th -12th

Sundays at **9:00 am** in Room 16. 1st Sunday: Bible Study with Aunty Diane, 2nd & 3rd Sundays: Youth Praise Band with Skylar Y., 4th Sunday: UMYF with Uncle Keven.



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=VTltYm1jbjFYM29vQ1h3ZzgyYWZJUT09>



Meetings & Events

12/14 @ 2:30 pm Na Leo Lani Chorus, Sanctuary
12/17 @ 6:00 pm Finance Committee, ZOOM
12/21 @ 5:00 pm Blue Christmas, Sanctuary
12/22 @10:45 am Worship Service: Celebration of Mona Kino Retirement
12/24 @ 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary
12/25 CHRISTMAS DAY-CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
12/26 DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS-OFFICE CLOSED
12/29 @10:45 am Worship Service: UM Student Day
1/1 NEW YEARS DAY-CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
1/2 DAY AFTER NEW YEARS-OFFICE CLOSED

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

January is a slow month, so the next newsletter will be a **combined Jan/Feb issue**. Please submit any info by **Jan. 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 indicate your chosen Sunday of dedication and the name of the honoree on the sign up sheet located at the rear of the Sanctuary, or email or call the church office (at admin@harrisumc.org or 808-536-9602). We suggest a donation of \$48 to our Altar Flowers Fund, but it is not required. You may send a check with the memo "Altar Flowers" or donate online at harrisumc.org/



Contact Us!

Harris United Methodist Church
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