

Nu'u Vineyard News

MARCH 2025



The Royal Hawaiian Band performs for the Harris Preschool students on Jan. 30th in Miyama Hall.

The Lenten Season

Lent begins on March 5th and ends on Palm Sunday April 13th! You are invited to our Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, March 5th at 12:00 pm.

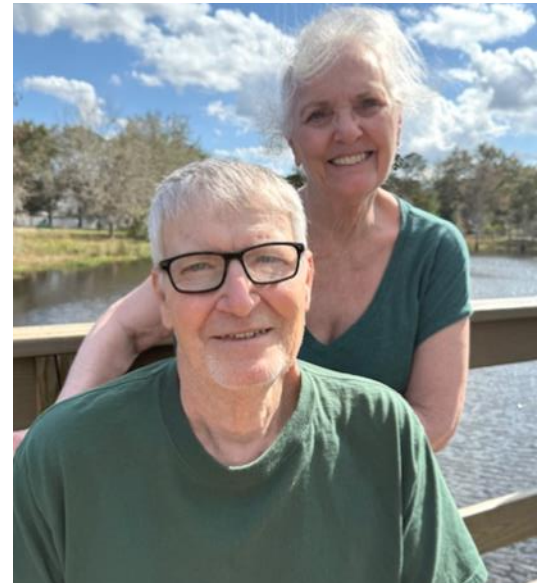


Worship Service on Feb. 23rd-7th Sunday After Epiphany with Guest Preacher: Rev. Loretta Reid (left). Gift of Music performed by Hiroshima Jogakuin University Students.

A Message From the Pastor

Aloha Friends,

I seldom cry anymore, I write “anymore” because there have been times in my life that were very difficult, when I wept tears of regret, frustration and sorrow, often night after night. Yes, we all have times that are described as “The Dark Night of the Soul.” It was after one night of weeping those tears that I was totally emptied out of the deep emotion that caused the tears, that I sat down and simply breathed into a meditation — and something happened. I cannot describe it other than I knew, I simply knew, that God was with me. I felt the Presence of the Source that we call God. I also understood, in a new way, that God was there, with me. It was a new and different knowing. More complete. I was at peace. It changed my life. I trusted in the Presence of our loving God in a new way. And I continue to trust.



Rev. Fran & her brother John.

Which is why I was surprised to find a single tear slipping from the corner of my left eye, sliding down my left cheek, after reading about some of what is happening in the political life of our country. And, I have awakened more than one morning with a similar tear emerging as I opened my eyes, for we are in a dark valley of intentional cruelty that impacts all of us.

I don't know if Jesus had a tear slide down his cheek as he cried out for the city of Jerusalem, that he longed to gather her to himself as a hen gathers her chicks. We are told that Jesus wept for his friend Lazarus. At this time, it is important to remember that Jesus did not leave Lazarus in the tomb, where he had been placed. He prayed. He prayed with all his might. Then Jesus called to Lazarus to come out. And Lazarus was given new life. (John 11:1-44)

Our Lenten theme is “Through the valley of the shadow into the light.” God does not leave us feeling hopeless and dead. We may weep as we go through this valley of the shadow, but God is with us. God is present, calling us to go through the valley with the One who made us. We are called to walk together, in trust, until we come into the light. The promise is that the light is always there, for God is always with us. God does not give up on us, and it is only if we give up on God that we are truly lost.

So, during this Lenten time of reflection, we might want to engage with some of the tried-and-true devotional practices of prayer and meditation as we go through the valley. We can use our Upper Room and other devotional guides, other books, periodicals such as Sojourners (which has some practical suggestions of what we might do), books and blogs (I recommend “The Cottage” by Diana Butler Bass). And as we walk together through the valley of the shadow, I trust that we will continue into the light to receive the blessing of hope and new vision.

May God bless each one,

Rev. Dr. Fran Wiebenga

March Worship Services

Sunday, March 2

Transfiguration Sunday

Service @ 10:45 am | Luke 9:28-36

Coming Down from the Mountain

Evening Service @ 5:00 pm | Isaiah 6:8

Here I Am

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday

Service @ 12:00 pm | Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Where Your Heart Is

Sunday, March 9

1st Sunday in Lent

Service @ 10:45 am | Luke 4:1-13

Into the Wilderness

Sunday, March 16

2nd Sunday in Lent

Service @ 10:45 am | Psalm 23

Through the Valley of the Shadow into the Light

Sunday, March 23

3rd Sunday in Lent

Service @ 10:45 am | Psalm 63:1-8; Luke 13:6-9

Looking for Eggs

Sunday, March 30

4th Sunday in Lent

Service @ 10:45 am | Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Paradise Lost, Prodigal Found

Photo by Nadiia Ploshchenko on Unsplash

Updates

Royal Hawaiian Band



Harris Youth Fundraiser



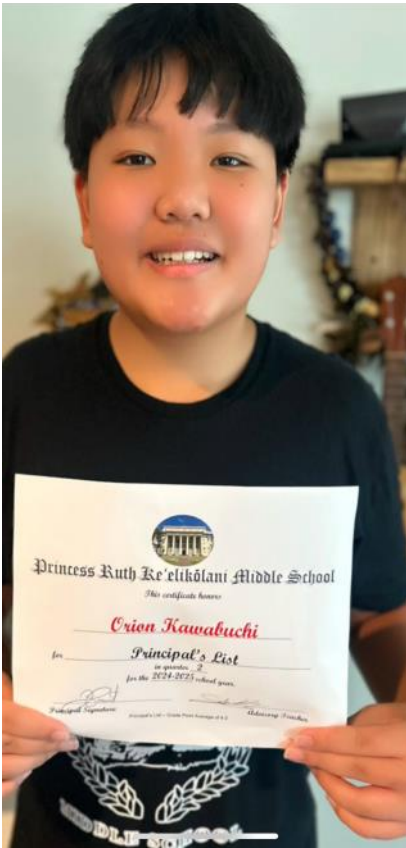
Photo Credit: Jessica Inouye



The Harris youth held a bake sale on Feb. 23rd after worship service to raise funds for their trip to Hiroshima, Japan.

Updates/Upcoming

Congrats to Orion Kawabuchi!



It's a GO for our 2025 RUMMAGE SALE!

GOD IS GOOD....at our Feb. 11th meeting with the leadership of our 2024 Rummage Sale who were present, the decision was made to have a Rummage Sale 2025 was amazing!! There was no hesitation. The work week will start on **Grubby Monday, April 28th** and Rummage Sale Day will be on **Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 9 am to 12 pm.**

All are welcome! Volunteers to work in various Sections are needed through out the week, but especially on the Sale Day. Grubby Monday is the day we empty the stage and containers of all the donations that have come in since Dec. 2024. Many of us are saying we need to start downsizing or clearing out our closets.... please consider donating your clean and useable items to the Harris

Rummage Sale. If possible, please hold on to them until the work week as it will help us in organizing donations. Also, please avoid mixing your clothes with kitchenware, etc., as much as possible.

Come and join us...the positive aspect is of course the interaction with each other as we work together and our outreach efforts to our community. This is also a good time to provide a "mentorship" program with our future leaders.

If any questions, contact Annette Okimoto or Sachi Taketa.

Submitted by Sachi Taketa

Happy 103rd Birthday, Bea!



Photo from <http://plazaaassistedliving.com>

On January 17, 2025, church member, Beatrice Yoshiko Shiroma ("Bea") turned a sweet 103 years old! She lives in a senior living facility and her daughter, Yuki, said that Bea enjoys receiving the church bulletins as she feels included in the worship services. Praise God for Bea and prayers that she enjoys a healthy, happy and blessed golden year.

Submitted by Mel Billingsley

Upcoming

HARRIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CORNER OF NUUANU & VINEYARD

RUMMAGE SALE

May 3, 2025
9:00am to 12:00pm

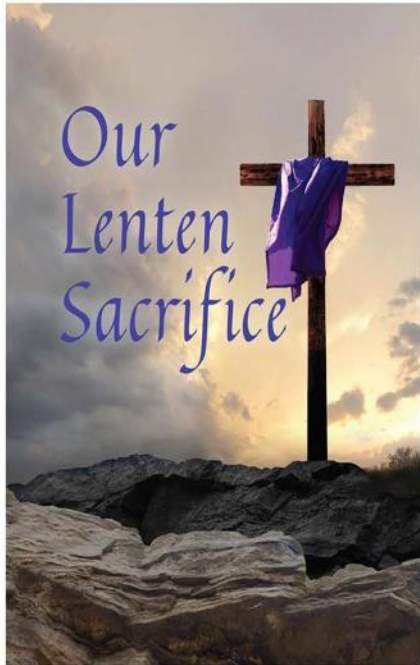


Refreshments & Baked Goods

** Proceeds to support Harris UMC Ministries
Call 536-9602 for more information*

Upcoming

LENTEN OFFERING



The Season of Lent is about to begin. It is a time to reflect on the journey of Jesus to the Cross. You are invited to participate in the Lenten Offering which continues through Palm Sunday April 13. This year our gifts will be distributed equally among the Harris Soup Ministry, the River of Life Mission and the Institute for Human Services, each group serving the houseless here in Honolulu.

We ask that at the end of the offering (Palm Sunday) you bring or send your gift to the church. Please make checks payable to Harris United Methodist Church with a notation of Lenten Offering, or by paper money. While coins will of course be accepted, a check or paper money is preferred for health reasons. If coins are offered, please include them in a zip lock bag with the total amount written on the outside of the bag. Electronic offering can also be made at www.harrisumc.org/donate.

Lent is a special time to remember the journey of our Lord to the Cross. As you participate in setting aside your gift each day, please spend time in prayer and meditation on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and our witness.

Upcoming

Christian Education Scholarship Program



Applications for the Christian Education Scholarship Program of Harris United Methodist Church through the Harris Foundation will be available on

March 1 on the Harris UMC website. Eligibility requirements include being a member/constituent of Harris UMC or Hawaii District UMC and being a student currently enrolled or accepted into an accredited institution. Deadline for submission will be **April 30th, 2025**. More information on the scholarship, application, eligibility and submission requirements will be posted to the Harris UMC website.

Ash Wednesday Service on March 5th



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Harris UMC will observe the beginning of Lent with a Service of the Imposition of Ashes, **12:00pm (noon) on Wednesday, March 5.**

Lenten Healing Journey with Rev. Fran Wiebenga

Our Lenten Theme is "Through the Valley of the Shadow into the Light." Rev. Fran will offer a 4-week Lenten Healing Journey with time for Bible Study, Reflection and Meditation on **Wednesdays March 12 & 26 and April 2 & 9, 10:30am-11:30am** in Komuro Lounge.

Contact Rev. Fran to sign up at revdrfran.w@gmail.com or call 808-927-5949.

Evening Worship



All are welcome to attend the Contemporary Worship on **March 2 at 5:00pm**. We are in the process of evaluating this service. Davy Lee will deliver the message "Here I Am" based on Isaiah 6:8.

The Next Church Clean Up



Mark your calendars! The trustees have set **April 5th and November 15th from 9 am-12 pm** as the next Church Clean Up days. Mahalo for your support!

A Prayer Before Reading the News

(written by Rabbi Irwin Keller in early 2016)

Elohai neshamah shenatata bi tehorah hi

My God, the soul you have placed in me is pure and vulnerable. I am afraid that looking at today's news will be painful. Encircle me in a robe of light so that I can witness the wounds of the world without being wounded myself. Let me learn what I need to know in order to be of my greatest use, without being overwhelmed by despair. I feel your protective light now as I open myself to the world's suffering and the world's joys. Amen



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

3/2 @ 12:30 pm Church Council Meeting, Komuro Lounge

3/2 @ 5:00 pm Evening Worship & Potluck, Sanctuary

3/5 @ 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

3/11 @ 5:00 pm Preschool Board Meeting, Room 10

3/13 @ 6:30 pm Worship Ministry, ZOOM

3/20 @ 9:30 am Royukai, Komuro Lounge

3/20 6:30 pm SFM, ZOOM

3/25 @ 6:00 pm, Finance Committee, ZOOM

View the calendar online: <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

For the April 2025 newsletter, please submit any info by Monday, **March 24th** 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 \$60 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 9:00am-1:00pm
<https://harrisumc.org>
info@harrisumc.org

We Are Social!



@harrisumc



@aloha2harrisumc