

Nu'u Vineyard News

APRIL 2025



The Harris UMC Fellowship Choir performs the Gift of Music on Sunday, March 30th. *Photo Credit: Donna Oshiro*

Holy Week Starts April 13th!

Palm Sunday, Apr. 13th @ 10:45 am—
Palm Procession and Service.

Holy Thursday, Apr. 17th @ 5:00 pm—
Soup & bread, Handwashing and Service.

Good Friday, Apr. 18th @ 10:00am—
2:00pm Labyrinth in Miyama Hall run by Harris Youth, 12:00 pm— Service with scriptures from the Gospels in the Sanctuary.

Easter Sunday, Apr. 20th @ 10:45 am—
Service followed by Egg Hunt and Potluck Lunch in Miyama Hall.



Hiroshima Jogakuin High School Students sing "I Would Be True" by H.A. Walter on Sunday, March 30th.

A Message From the Pastor

Aloha Friends,

We are at the end of our Lenten journey, “Through the Valley of the Shadow into the Light” with just two weeks until Palm Sunday on April 13, Holy Week — with the remembrance of Jesus’ Last Supper with his disciples and followers on Thursday night April 17, and then the betrayal, trial, and crucifixion on Good Friday April 18. Finally, we arrive at a new day on Easter. We will have gone through seven weeks of introspection, journeying through the darkness and shadow, arriving with the light of dawn on Easter morning.

Although we travel this liturgical journey from beginning to end starting on Ash Wednesday, going through the deepest valley to the light of Easter morning, we know that life is not a linear journey but a circular, or cyclical, experience of valleys and times of light.

One way to experience this journey is with a walking meditation, on a path that we call the Labyrinth. It is a circular path that is a metaphor for our spiritual journey of darkness and light, of times when we feel God present, near to us, and the times when we do not. When we walk the Labyrinth, we begin on the edge and it looks like there will be a straight path to the center, which is a metaphor for Christ at the center of our lives. But that is not to be. Instead, the path will wind around. It will take us close to the center, and then all of a sudden we are again at the edge of the path, taking us far from the center, but still on the path. Then, as we keep walking, just when it seems that we will forever be far from the center and God’s presence, the path takes a surprise loop and we find ourselves in the center, in the presence of our gracious God. We may stay as long as we like in the center. It is like a mountain top experience. But then, we retrace our steps and, with a new awareness of what our journey with Jesus might be like, go into the world once again.

We will have the opportunity to walk the Labyrinth on Good Friday, before and after the worship service. The Methodist Youth Fellowship will set it up, and it will be ready by 10am. You may walk it more than once, for our journey with God is ongoing. It can be a slow meditative experience, or a joyful experience when it feels more like moving quickly, even dancing, through the path.

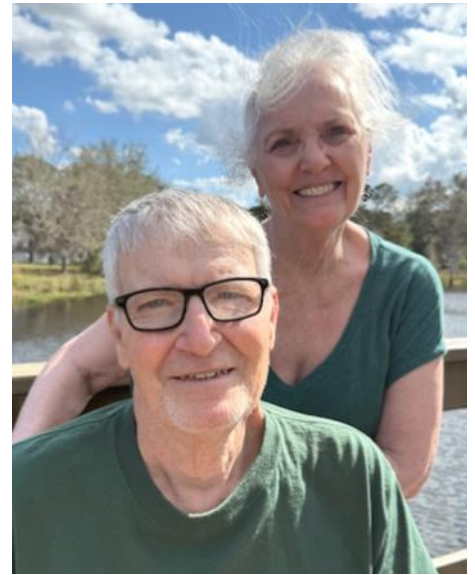
And a word about Easter: Why does Easter come early some years, and later in the year other times? The date of Easter was set in 325CE by the Council of Nicaea, and is truly about light — the light of the stars, and the movement of the heavenly bodies. It is the first Sunday, after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. “Even if calculated on the basis of the Gregorian calendar, the date of the full moon sometimes differs from the astronomical first full moon after the March equinox.” (Clarence E. Woodman, “Easter and the Ecclesiastical Calendar,” *Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada*, 12 May 2019.)

This year, the vernal equinox was on March 20. The first full moon will be on April 12, just in time for Palm Sunday, and then Easter a week later.

As we journey through these last few days, “Through the Valley of the Shadow into the Light,” let us do so with faith and anticipation of the hope and light of Easter.

May God bless each one,

Rev. Dr. Fran Wiebenga



Rev. Fran & her brother, John.

April Worship Services

Sunday, April 6th
Fifth Sunday in Lent

John 12:1-8
“Costly Grace”

Sunday, April 13th
Palm Sunday

Palm Procession at 10:45am
Luke 19:28-40
“The Heart of Holy Week: Two Processions”

Thursday, Sunday, April 17th
Holy Thursday

5:00pm Remembrance of the Last Supper in Miyama Hall
Service of the Shadows

Friday, April 18th
Good Friday

10:00 - 11:45am and 1:00-2:00pm Labyrinth in Miyama Hall
12:00pm (noon) Good Friday Worship - Sanctuary

Sunday, April 20th
Easter Sunday

Brass Quintet and Easter Choir
Flower Cross (please bring flowers if you can)
John 20:1-18
“A New Dawn Alive with Hope”

Sunday, April 27th
2nd Sunday of Easter
Guest Preacher: Rev. Scott V. Cervas

Updates

Harris Preschool



The Butterfly Experience visited Harris Preschool on March 20th. Students learned about the life cycle and held caterpillars and butterflies.

To learn more about Harris Preschool, visit <https://harrisumc.org/preschool/>

Harris Youth Fundraiser



Photo Credit: Diane Matsuura



BIG MAHALO for supporting the youth lunch fundraiser! The next fundraiser will be April 27th!

Upcoming

Hawai'i J20+ Solidarity Series



sol·i·dar·i·ty
/ˌsäləˈderədē/

United We Stand with those Hurt

Friday, April 11, 2025, 6-8 PM
Harris United Methodist Church (20 S Vineyard Blvd)
Light Pupus / Free Parking behind Church

SPEAKERS

David Day

(Special Assistant to the Attorney General of Hawai'i)

Manfred Steger

(Professor, Sociology, UH Manoa)

Others TBA

Moderator: Nandita Sharma (Hawai'i J20+)

This event will be livestreamed + recorded (see homepage)



Organized by Hawai'i J20+ /hawaiij20.com

Co-sponsored by

Harris United Methodist Church's Sanctuary Ministry Team,
and Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network

Upcoming

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 Lenten Healing Journey with time for Bible Study, Reflection and Meditation on **Wednesday April 2 from 10:30am-11:30am** in Komuro Lounge. All Are Welcome!

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!

Evening Worship



Please join us for Contemporary Worship next Sunday, **April 6th at 5pm**, followed by a potluck dinner. jo Tanimoto will deliver the message "No Regrets Here..." based on Philippians 3:13-15.

Church & Society

United We Stand with those Hurt by present policies. **April 11th, 2025 from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM** at Harris United Methodist. Join us for a discussion on navigating the new policies of the Department of Government Efficiency. Hosted by Hawaii J20, Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network, and Harris Methodist Church Contact: Jane Aquino at aquinoj002@hawaii.rr.com.

You Are Invited to Our Holy Week Services Starting April 13th!



Palm Sunday, Apr. 13th @ 10:45 am—We will begin the worship service in the courtyard before the Palm Processional around the church starting through the main gate into the parking lot. Processing by the

intersection at Vineyard & Nuuanu and back into the courtyard through the Vineyard side gate.

Holy Thursday, Apr. 17th @ 5:00 pm—Soup & bread, Handwashing and Service. Our remembrance of the Last Supper will be with soup made by Davy Lee and bread by Linda Matsushita. We will have "hand washing" in place of foot washing, and conclude with a Service of Tenebrae (Shadows).

Good Friday, Apr. 18th @ 10:00am-2:00pm Labyrinth in Miyama Hall run by Harris Youth, **12:00 pm**— Service with scriptures from the Gospels, remembering Jesus' last words. The tradition is to leave the sanctuary in silence, mourning the Crucified Christ.

Easter Sunday, Apr. 20th @ 10:45 am—Service with the brass quintet directed by Jordan Goto and flowering of the cross followed by an Egg Hunt and Potluck Lunch in Miyama Hall. Harris will provide ham, please bring salads, vegetables and your favorite desserts to share. Contact Haoa Morris for more information.

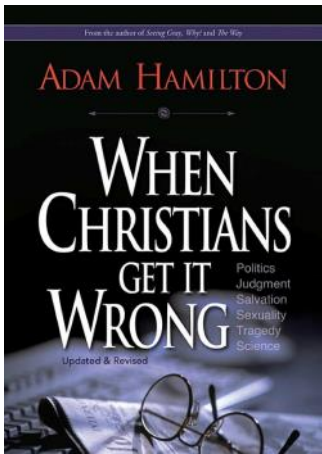
Multimedia Volunteers Needed



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

Upcoming

Book Study: When Christians Get It Wrong



Starting **Sunday, April 27th, 9am-10am** with Brian Maeshiro in Komuro Lounge. No Homework – No Required Reading. Join us for a thoughtful and engaging book review. Topics for discussion include: When Christians Are Unchristian Christians,

Science, and Politics. When Speaking of Other Religions. When Bad Things Happen, In Dealing with Homosexuality, When Christians Get It Right. This is a flexible, come-as-you-can Sunday gathering—feel free to join us whenever you are available! We'll watch segments from the course DVD together and engage in meaningful discussions.

Grubby Monday is April 28th!

Grubby Monday is **April 28th**, the day we empty the stage and containers of all the donations. All are welcome! Volunteers to work in various Sections are needed throughout the week, but especially on the Rummage Sale Day, May 3rd.

Please avoid mixing your clothes with kitchenware, etc., as much as possible. No large furniture is accepted.

If you have any questions, contact Annette Okimoto or Sachi Taketa at the church office.

Tai Chi Class

There will be no Tai Chi class on Friday, **May 2nd**.

Newsletter



To receive the newsletter electronically. Visit <https://harrisumc.org/newsletter/> and add name and email to the mailing list.

Christian Education Scholarship Program



Applications for the Christian Education Scholarship Program of Harris United Methodist Church through the Harris Foundation are available 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**. Visit <https://harrisumc.org/spiritual-formation-ministries/> for more information on the scholarship, application, eligibility and submission requirements.

Rev. Lea M. Booth Has Been Appointed to Harris UMC



Rev. Lea M. Booth

to the retired relationship to the annual conference on July 1, 2025.

Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank intends to appoint The Rev. Lea M. Booth as pastor to Harris UMC in the Hawaii District as of **July 1, 2025**.

Rev. Dr. Frances Wiebenga will return

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*

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

4/2 @ 10:30am Lenten Healing Journey, Komuro Lounge

4/4 @ 8:00am-5:00pm Preschool Open House

4/5 @ 9:00 am Church Clean Up, Entire Campus

4/6 @ 5:00 pm Evening Worship, Sanctuary

4/8 @ 5:00 pm Preschool Board Meeting, Room 10

4/10 @ 6:30pm Worship Ministry, ZOOM

4/11 @ 6:00 pm United We Stand, Miyama Hall

4/13 @ 10:45 am Palm Sunday, Sanctuary

4/17 @ 9:30 pm Royukai Senior Fellowship, Komuro Lounge

4/17 @ 5:00 pm Maundy Thursday, Sanctuary

4/18 @ 10:00am -2:00 pm Labyrinth in Miyama Hall, 12:00pm Good Friday Service, Sanctuary

4/20 @ 10:45 am Easter Sunday Service & Potluck

4/21 Easter Monday-Church Office Closed

4/23 @ 6:30 pm SFM, ZOOM

4/28 Grubby Monday, Entire Campus

4/29 @ 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 May 2025 newsletter, please submit any info by Monday, **April 28th** 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-12:30pm

<https://harrisumc.org>

info@harrisumc.org

We Are Social!



@harrisumc



@aloha2harrisumc