

Nu'u Vineyard News

AUGUST 2025



2025 Bishop's Award Service on July 1. *Photo Credit: Greg Yamamoto. Continued on page 4.*

You Are Invited to August Services and Events

We look forward to seeing you at our August worship services including a special Peace with Justice Sunday service on August 17 with guest preacher Rev. Toshimasa Yamamoto.



Welcoming Rev. Lea Booth and family on July 6.

A Message From the Pastor

Aloha Harris 'Ohana,

What an incredible month it has been getting to know many of you, celebrating with you in worship and life, getting to know the story and traditions and ministries of this congregation! I am inspired and proud of the work you all do, the investment you have in God's kin-dom work, and the ways you help "justice to flow like waters" in this community. Y'all are a gift!



Sometimes summer is known as a time of rest and rejuvenation, and although many of us are working and serving, I would like to share (or remind) all of us of the rest we are offered in God's love. We are made for love, for relationships, and too many people spend too much time feeling unloved, and this can make us feel unworthy or unvalued.

You are loved. You are a beloved, worthy, sacred, wonderful child of God, made in God's own image. Breathe it in. Rest in it. Revel in it. You are loved.

This month in worship, we'll talk about what it means to be loved, and what we can do with that knowledge in our own lives by walking through some of the letter to the Hebrews. We'll talk about faith, and joy, and hope, and history. We'll also hear how our covenant missionary in Japan, Claudia Genung-Yamamoto, is sharing God's love in her work.

There's a lot of work for us to do, yes. And we do it in the assurance and security of God's love for us, where we can come and rest and recharge for the work ahead.

With the love of Christ,

Pastor Lea

August Worship Services

Sunday, August 3 @ 10:45 am

8th Sunday After Pentecost

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

For the Sake of Faith

Evening Worship @ 5:00 pm

Lay Speaker: Jo Tanimoto

James 1:2-4

From Obstacles to Opportunities

Sunday, August 10 @ 10:45 am

9th Sunday After Pentecost

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

For the Sake of Joy

Sunday, August 17 @ 10:45 am

Peace with Justice Sunday | 10th Sunday After Pentecost

Guest Preacher: Rev. Toshimasa Yamamoto

Matthew 25:31-46

To the Least of These

Friday, August 24 @ 10:45 am

11th Sunday After Pentecost

Hebrews 12:18-29

Unshakeable

Friday, August 31 @ 10:45 am

12th Sunday After Pentecost

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Remember

Photo by Sergey Shmidt on Unsplash

Updates

Rev. Lea's First Service



July 6. Photo Credit: *Greg Yamamoto*



Well wishes to Mahe Vakauta our Multimedia Coordinator.



Bishop Award



Congratulations to Rev. Richard Matsushita on receiving the 2025 Bishop Award on July 1.



Celebration in Miyama Hall.

Updates

Worship Service July 20



July 20. Welcome new Multimedia Coordinator, Scott Cervas.



Make Good Trouble



The “Rally for Good Trouble” on July 17, part of a nationwide celebration of John Lewis Day, a national day of nonviolent action to stand up for human rights.



A visit from the Zahler family: Dana, Matthew, Evan & Gracie.

Updates

Camp Mokuleia



Rev. Lea Booth and Diane Matsuura take a tour of Camp Mokuleia.



Song Leaders: Maya & Annie Yoshida, Organist: Kaori Kawabuchi.



Morning Chapel on July 26.

Worship Service July 27



Gift of Movement "The Creation" by the Intergenerational Class at worship service on July 27.

Kids Sunday School



We had so much fun in July learning about the Asian Rural Institute and Vietnamese food and crafts with Mira, Aunty Phuong, and Aunty Diane, and Praising God with Movement with Aunty Mel!

Join us Sundays at 9:30am in Miyama Hall to learn ukulele with Uncle Davy (August 3, 10, 17) and for music (August 24) with Aunty Cindy!

Updates

United Women in Faith: Mission U

Mission U Hawai'i 2025, "Practicing Hope with Aloha," was held at the First United Methodist Church on Friday evening, July 18, 2025 and Saturday, July 19, 2025! It was a gathering of UWF women from across the State, from UMC churches in California and the Mission U 2025 planning team from CA and HI districts. The Opening Worship on Friday evening and the Closing Worship on Saturday afternoon was a joyous time of singing hymns and praise songs, scripture readings and Bible studies led by Rev. Dr. Linita 'Ulu'ave Moa, Ontario First UMC in CA.

We remembered our Baptism and took Holy Communion during these worship services. In true local style, the meals were excellent with generous portions!



Mel presented a CD by Kaori Kawabuchi, our Na Hoku Hano Hano winner and organist to the Co-Deans, Barbara Miller and Theresa Ellis and to Lisa Kadowski, Registrar, as a gift from Harris UMC.

The UWF Adult curriculum used in our breakout session was "Practicing Hope" by Tabatha Holley, a study reflective of the spiritual and political moment we are in, a time when many of our churches are discerning where Christ is calling us to be morally courageous when our world leaders fail us and or communities work to "come back" together after being on the brink of collapse.



Julie Wiggett, a Hawaii District UWF officer and one of the organizers for Mission U, and Mel were in the same study group. Mel learned that Julie's mother was also a retired speech-language pathologist who had worked with similar clients at a center that Julie's mother had established!

Mel Billingsley, the only member from Harris UMC, attended the (English speaking) adult class and Aya and Dane Gentry (Erin Takahashi's children) participated in the children's class led by Deanna Espinas, Lay Leader at Keolumana UMC in Kailua.



Mission U Children's Class on July 19.

With what we experienced, we are called to define hope and find ways to cultivate it and develop a practice of imagination that can lead us to co-create a different reality. The children had fun with Aunty Deanna who used a children's curriculum and they received awesome goodie bags at the end!

Submitted by Mel Billingsley

Updates

Welcome Scott & Cheryl Marlow



Although they're new members to our Harris ohana, Scott and Cheryl Marlow are no strangers to our state! We consider them as kamaainas since they've lived in Hawaii for 33 years.

This couple, raised in the midwest, attended Bowling Green State University where they were married at the city's First United Methodist Church. They are happy to share that they've been together for 45 years! Daughters, Heather and Heidi graduated from St. Anthony's school on Maui. Now the couple have 8 lovely grandchildren to boast about - 3 boys and 5 girls!

Their careers took them to Texas in 1982 where they lived for 11 years. Next, the lure of Hawaii called them to Maui for 10 years and finally, their last move was to Oahu in 2002.

Scott obtained a degree in accounting and found time to serve our country in the Navy. His career focus was in aviation and he worked for the airlines for the majority of his career. Never to be still, he later ran an air conditioning business! Cheryl has her master's degree in social work and was

employed for the Judiciary for nearly 30 years. After all these years of hard work, retirement has given them time to focus on other interests.

You may find them at the beach, hiking Oahu's trails, playing board games in the evening, taking in a movie or two, as well as giving loving attention to Sandy, their Chihuahua. Travels to the mainland and Europe are high on their list, as well!

They began coming to Harris only recently "but decided quickly that we wanted to join a church that was so warm and welcoming and most importantly, filled with people that loved the Lord." Scott lists Isaiah 41:10 as his favorite scripture and Proverbs 3:5-6 is the words that speak to Cheryl's heart.

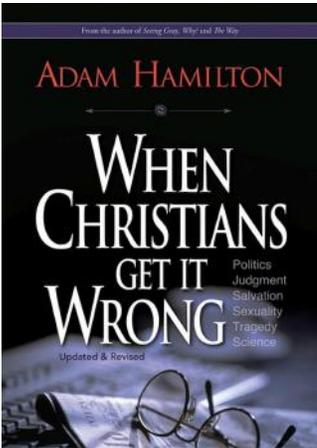
We are blessed by your enthusiasm and commitment to our open and reconciling church. Welcome to the Harris ohana, Scott and Cheryl!

Submitted by Wally Wake



Upcoming

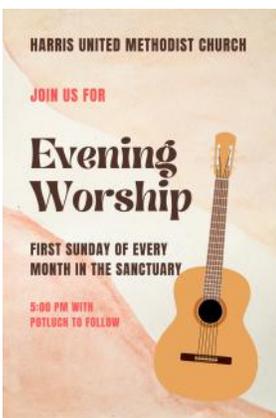
Book Study: When Christians Get It Wrong



Sundays in August, 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.

Evening Worship



Please join us for Contemporary Worship next Sunday, **Aug. 3 at 5 pm**, followed by a potluck dinner. Jo Tanimoto will deliver the message “From Obstacles to Opportunities” based on James 1:2-4.

Gifts of Music Needed

Gifts of Music and Song Leaders needed during our Sunday 10:45 am Worship. These could be a solo, group, vocal, instrumental, as God Speaks to Your Heart. If interested, contact Davy at dlee78@hawaii.rr.com.

Intergenerational Sunday Fun



Intergenerational Sunday Fun continues through August! Uncle Davy will lead intergenerational ukulele/music Sundays at **9:30am** in

Miyama Hall on August 3, 10, and 17. ALL ages welcome! Extra ukuleles will be available. For questions, contact Rene at rene@ohta.us

Hiroshima Peace Bell



Wednesday, **August 6 @ 9:00 am** in the Harris Courtyard.

You are invited to a time of reflection and remembrance of the victims of the Hiroshima nuclear bombing in 1945.

Royukai Senior Fellowship

The next Royukai fellowship will be **Aug. 21 @ 9:30 am**. Contact Jo at the church office for more information.

The Next Church Clean Up

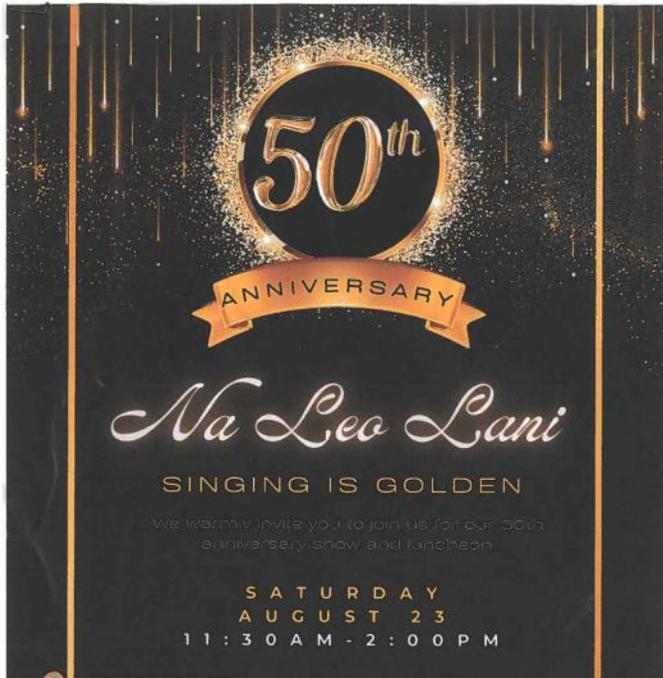


Mark your calendars! The trustees have set **November 15 from 9 am-12 pm** as the next Church Clean Up day. Mahalo for your support!

Multimedia Volunteers Needed

Contact Scott our Multimedia Director at multimedia@harrisumc.org if interested.

Upcoming



Na Leo Lani

Saturday, August 23 from 11:30 am—2:00 pm. Please see Wally Wake if you would like tickets to the 50th Golden Anniversary of her chorus, Na Leo Lani. Because you are friends and family, she can get you a discounted ticket to the concert and lunch (Hawaiian food) for \$30! Deadline for ordering tickets, which will be available at the "will call" desk on the day of the concert, is Wednesday, August 13. Mahalo!

SPAM Donations Needed

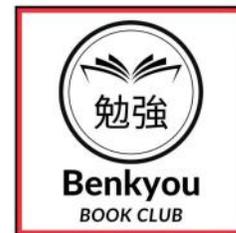


The Soup Ministry was started in 1980 by George and Adeline Fish. We are in need of SPAM donations to continue the ministry today! Please drop off your donations in the Harris kitchen or at the greeters table in the Sanctuary. Mahalo!

Sanctuary Ministry

We are ready to receive personal care items, shoes/sandals, clothing and other apparel in good condition for men, women and children. In addition, donations of gas cards, gift cards from drug stores and grocery stores would be most helpful. There is secured storage available in room 4 to accept your donations each Sunday. If you would like to help in this outreach or have questions about the variety of donations needed, please contact Wally Wake, 808-383-7397.

BBC (Benkyou Book Club)



Coming In August

A Conversation with Bianca Mabute-Louie, author of "Unassimilable: An Asian Diasporic Manifesto for the 21st Century"

12 AUG 2025, 5:00-7:00 PM Pacific Time



The link for Bianca's substack is <https://beyonkz.substack.com> All BBC events are free. ZOOM link: <https://zoom.us/j/91892110040?pwd=wC8ZVn94Ny8xwKTawFPIhyd9KF6WNI.1#success>

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

On break for the summer. Will resume in September.

Youth Sunday School 6th -12th

On break for the summer. Will resume in September.



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

8/3 @ 5:00 pm Evening Worship, Sanctuary
8/5 @ 8:00 am Preschool Meet and Greet Open House, Harris Preschool
8/5 @ 7:00 pm Stewardship Meeting, ZOOM
8/6 @ 7:00 am First Day of School, Harris Preschool
8/6 @ 9:00 am Hiroshima Peace Bell Ringing, Courtyard
8/13 @ 6:00 pm Harris Foundation, ZOOM
8/14 @ 6:30 pm Worship Team, ZOOM
8/17 @ 10:45 am Peace with Justice Sunday, Sanctuary
8/19 @ 6:00 pm Finance Committee, ZOOM
8/21 @ 9:30 am Royukai, Komuro Lounge
8/21 @ 6:30 pm Spiritual Formation Ministry, 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 September 2025 newsletter, please submit any info by **Monday, August 25** 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 Jeff & Jean Yamamoto at 808-536-9602 or 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