

Nu'u Vineyard News

FEBRUARY 2026



UMC members at the State Capitol for the Aloha for Alex rally on Jan. 27. *Continued on page 5.*

You Are Invited to February Services and Events

We look forward to seeing you for Ash Wednesday Service at 12:00 pm on Feb. 18 and the beginning of our Lent Series: *Let's Make Heaven a Place on Earth*, which will run through March 29.



Mahalo to Guest Organist, Miki Yamamoto on Jan. 25!

A Message From the Pastor

Aloha Harris 'Ohana,

I've been thinking a lot this last week about the murders of Alex Pretti and Renee Good, the detainment of ChongLy Scott Thao and Liam Ramos, and the dozens and hundreds of others who have died or faced violence from the United States government in the last year.

I've been thinking of how some of our own, beloved members and their families were accused of being spies and traitors because of the color of their skin and the shape of their eyes, and that they were rounded up and placed in concentration camps because the U.S. government was afraid.

I've been thinking of the violence, injustice, and oppression that happen when we see any one of God's beloved children as a problem to be solved rather than a human being in need of the same things we're all in need of.

Discrimination and all of the "isms" that arise from othering people don't start with concentration camps. They start with turning away from each other. They start with actions that turn into habits that turn into patterns. They start with thinking "I'm not them" or "They're not one of us," and lead us to become people we can't recognize.

But by the same token, overcoming racism, sexism, homophobia, and any other kind of "ism" begins with human connection: learning a name or offering a cup of coffee. It begins with really seeing each other, with leaning into the discomfort we might feel when someone is different from ourselves.

These last few weeks we've been exploring how asking better questions can help us connect. I hope this focus helps us all to use the tools we have to reach out in love and curiosity rather than judgment and "othering". Starting on February 18 and through the season of Lent, we'll share a series focused on Jesus's most famous teachings, contained in the Sermon on the Mount found in the book of Matthew, and using Dr. Amy-Jill Levine's book *The Sermon on the Mount* as a resource. I hope you'll join us for these lessons on what it means to follow Jesus in real life, and how our faith can help us resist injustice and oppression in our day-to-day lives, even in the smallest of actions that help us remain truly, fully human, and invite others to do the same.

See you in church!

In peace,



Pastor Lea



February Worship Services

Sunday, February 1 @ 10:45 am
Human Relations Sunday/4th Sunday After the Epiphany
Genesis 4:1-16
Am I My Brother's Keeper?

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Genesis 4:1-16
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Sunday, February 8 @ 10:45 am
5th Sunday After the Epiphany
Genesis 18:1-15
Why Did You Laugh?

Sunday, February 15 @ 10:45 am
Transfiguration Sunday
Genesis 32:22-32
What is Your Name?

Wednesday, February 18 @ 12:00 pm
Ash Wednesday

Sunday, February 22 @ 10:45 am
1st Sunday in Lent
Matthew 5:1-16
The Beatitudes

Photo by [Rodion Kutsaiev](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Updates

Worship Services



Worship service on Jan. 11. *Photo Credit: Greg Yamamoto.*



3rd Sunday After Epiphany on Jan. 25.

Harris Preschool



Harris Preschool students at the Bishop Museum on Jan. 16.



The Harris Ukulele Fellowship perform the Gift of Music: "Kanaka Waiwai" on Jan. 18.



Updates

United Women in Faith



UWF local leadership training on Jan 17 at Aiea UMC. Reverend Lea Booth gave the message "Finding Good Questions." *Photo Credit: Karen Ginoza.*

Martin Luther King Parade



The Interfaith Alliance of Hawaii invited Harris UMC to join them in the trolley to participate in the MLK parade pm Jan 19. We had a group of thirteen members on the trolley. The Methodist youth, sixty strong, marched in front of the trolley led by Rev. Won-Seok Yuh. We hope to have better planning next year so more people can



join the parade to honor an American civil rights activist who promoted the use of nonviolent resistance and civil disobedience against Jim Crow laws and other forms of discrimination.

Hawaii Immigration Task Force



Harris members joined the community vigil and rally on Jan. 27 at the Hawaii State Capitol. The rally, titled "Aloha for Alex, A time for remembrance & action." People brought leis and flowers to remember 30+ people who died in ICE/CBP custody in 2025.



Join the Campaign for Immigrant Justice in asking Hawaii legislators to pledge support for bills that protect human & constitutional rights of immigrants.



Updates/Upcoming

'Onipa'a Peace March

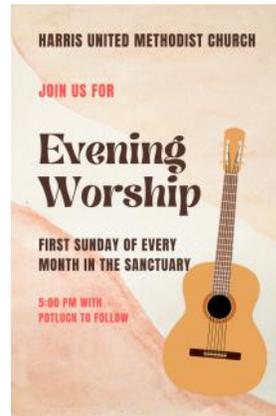


United Methodists during the 'Onipa'a Peace March on Jan. 16.



Thousands filled the streets of downtown Honolulu Friday for the 'Onipa'a Peace March, commemorating the 133rd anniversary of the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy.

Evening Worship



Please join us for Contemporary Worship Sunday, Feb. 1 at 5 pm, followed by a potluck dinner. Jo Tanimoto will deliver the message "Light For a Dark World" based on Mark 9:2-9.

Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18th



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. Harris UMC will observe the beginning of Lent with a Service of the Imposition of Ashes, 12:00pm on Wednesday, Feb. 18th.

Royukai Senior Fellowship

Royukai Meeting on Thursday, February 19, 9:30am - 12:30pm. All are welcome. We will be making simple yarn leis for the church hospitality committee. Supplies will be available. Lunch will be served. For any questions, call Marlene Felsenfeld at (808) 255-2343.

Coffee With the Pastor



You are invited to join Pastor Lea after worship service on the second Sunday of each month. This is a great opportunity to meet Pastor Lea, ask questions, share your story, and discuss ideas over a cup of coffee!

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, 2026**. More information on the scholarship, application, eligibility and submission requirements will be posted to the Harris UMC website.

Extending Our Hospitality...



Kokua Closet is now open! Clients can choose among a variety of free clothing, shoes and personal care items for men, women and children. We are encouraged by the generosity of our Harris ohana who

have donated items in good condition to fill this room! Hours of availability will be Monday through Friday, 9-12 pm. For more information please contact Wally Wake, wakew052563@gmail.com.

Gifts of Music Needed



Looking for Gifts of Music or Song Leaders during our Sunday 10:45 am Worship.

These could be a solo, group, vocal, instrumental, as God Speaks to Your Heart. If interested, please contact Jordan Goto at the office.

Tables 1,2,3 Annual Church Statistics



The deadline to complete the annual church statistics is Tuesday, **February 3, 2026**. This is mandatory and must be completed every year. This project should be a collaboration of the pastor and other leaders with critical information about the church, the Finance Chair,

Membership Secretary, and church administrator.

Multimedia Volunteers Needed



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

Newsletter



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

FRANCISCAN VERSION
SERENITY PRAYER
FOR OUR TIMES

God, grant me the patience
to work with the unjust systems
I cannot change today,
the courage to strategically
enact progress when
I know I can, and
the wisdom to know that,
despite structural oppression,
I still can make a difference.
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 9:00am** in room 3. Contact Aunty Rene 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: Beginning Handbells, Rm. 5
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

- 2/1 @ 11:45 am Potluck, Miyama Hall
- 2/7 @ 9:30 am Handbell Rehearsal, Room 5
- 2/14 @ 9:30 am Handbell Rehearsal, Room 5
- 2/15 @ 10:45 am Worship Service-Hiroshima Jogakuin University
- 2/16 President's Day-Church Office Closed
- 2/18 @ 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary
- 2/19 @ 9:30 am Royukai, Komuro Lounge
- 2/19 @ 10:00 am Royal Hawaiian Band, Miyama Hall
- 2/21 @ 9:30 am Handbell Rehearsal, Room 5
- 2/21 @ 11:30 am Leader's Kick-off Lunch, Komuro Lounge
- 2/24 @ 6:00 pm Finance Committee, ZOOM
- 2/26 @ 6:30 pm SFM, 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 March 2026 newsletter, please submit any info by **Monday, February 23** 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 Missionaries

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 **\$63** 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