

# Iao Pepa

NA MAKANI

*A Monthly Newsletter of Iao United Church of Christ*

2371 W. Vineyard St., Wailuku, HI 96793-1626

February 2018

## Blessings from Pastor Tino | *"We Can Walk On Water"*

What a busy January! In reflecting on our scripture readings this month, a theme seems to have emerged about who we are as a church. A sense of empowerment, faith, and call. After hearing the many accomplishments that our Communities and Committees have done in 2017, 2018 seems to be headed down a similar path. When we thought that we might not make budget, we ended up surpassing our 2017 budget, even after the unexpected expenses of moving me from the mainland and renovating the parsonage. I truly believe that because of our faithfulness, trusting in God and in each other, we were empowered to reach beyond our expectations from deep within ourselves. No words can express my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed in time, talents and treasures in 2017. Together, we have been able to reach out to our Maui communities and partner with the great work they are doing. Because of this, we are beginning to be noticed by many within these communities as we bring forth the Gospel without judgement or finger pointing, but with that of love and acceptance.

Imagine how scared the first disciples of Jesus were when they dropped everything to follow Christ. That took a lot of faith and one can assume, some convincing words from Jesus himself. In 2018, Jesus is still calling us to be a new and innovative kind of church – one that not only leads by reading and studying scripture but brings the gospel of Jesus Christ alive in what we do in our daily lives, and who we are as a church. Faith calls us to believe that God is leading us, and keep believing that somehow, we will find the needed funding to fix the needed repairs on our church grounds. This can be a scary time for many churches, but I have come to know that when Iao UCC pulls together to get something done, it happens and yet we must keep searching for new and creative ways in which we can ALL contribute. If we are to reach our goals this year with needed repairs and moving forward with all the great ministries that we do, we need continued prayer, faith, your time, talents, and treasures to achieve them as a united church.

Coming up for us in February is to think about how we go into our Lenten journey. We will once again have a joint worship Ash Wednesday service on February 14<sup>th</sup> at our sister church Ka'ahumanu Church along with Wailuku Union Church. Joint service for Maundy Thursday will be at Wailuku Union on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Joint Sunrise service will again be at Ka'ahumanu Church. Our Iao Youth will be more involved this year with our Palm Sunday Worship and will be doing a Good Friday skit based on the crucifixion of Jesus. They will also have their annual fundraising pancake breakfast on Easter Sunday before worship.

Finally, as we approach our 1 year (can you believe it!) together, I once again express my deepest appreciation for your call and the enormous trust you have placed upon me as your settled pastor. Rong and I have had such a wonderful ride this first year and the Maui wave just keeps moving us along. We plan to celebrate Iao UCC's 123<sup>rd</sup> year anniversary on April 29<sup>th</sup> so I hope that you can all come and celebrate our past, present and future.

With blessings upon a continued journey in Christ,  
Pastor Tino



A child helps Tino blow out his birthday candles, at an Aloha Hour early last month.

## February Lectionary

### Feb 4 **5<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Epiphany**

Isaiah 40:21-31  
 Psalm 147  
 1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
**Mark 1:29-39**  
*Source of Strength*

### Feb 11 **6<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Epiphany**

2 Kings 2:1-12  
 Psalm 50:1-6  
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
**Mark 9:2-9**  
*Compassionate Community*

### Feb 18 **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 9:8-17  
**Psalm 25:1-10**  
 1 Peter 3:18-22  
 Mark 1:9-15  
*God's Loving Paths*

### Feb 25 **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
 Psalm 22:23-31  
 Romans 4:13-25  
**Mark 8:31-38**  
*Always Close*

The lesson in **bold** is the focus of both the message of the day and any Sunday School lesson; and the italicized title is the theme for the Sunday service. •



Iao Valley dinosaurs emerging from their lairs to inspect this strange totem on the grounds of the church, in early February.



*A blast from the past: the church's 81st anniversary celebration poster. The 123<sup>rd</sup> anniversary coming up in April!*

### February Worship Readers:

*Dawna Krueger & Anela Awai-Stewart*

### Feb. Worship Responsibilities\*

#### Feb. 4

Greeter: *Craig Bode*

Head Usher: *Daniel Kamidoi*

Usher: *Kathy Tanaka*

Hostess: *Carolyn Kamidoi*

Aloha Hour:

*Joy Yamane & Mike Takamatsu*

#### Feb. 11

Aloha Hour:

*Jane Tesoro & Maybelle Hashizume*

#### Feb. 18

Aloha Hour:

*Shannon Furumoto & Jaime Ribao*

#### Feb. 25

Aloha Hour:

*Maui Kosrae Etawi*

*\* ( same greeter, ushers and hostess for the whole month )*

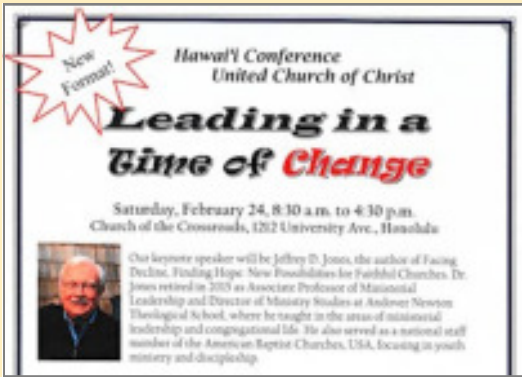
## February Birthdays

- 2/6 Ruby Sakurada  
Lewis Hadley
- 2/7 Brett Yamane
- 2/9 Fred Araki
- 2/11 Rena Hayashi  
Cheryl Hadley
- 2/13 Annette Matsushima  
Suzette Robinson
- 2/14 Bradley Akitake
- 2/15 Goliad Johannes  
Richard Carr
- 2/18 John Yoruw
- 2/20 Jim Robinson
- 2/22 Deann Sonoda  
Betsy Hadley
- 2/23 Carole Toy  
Lynette Shiroma
- 2/25 Barbara Kusuda
- 2/27 Nahulu Nunokawa

## Aloha Hour Supplies

*For Aloha Hour, the Buildings and Grounds Team will have a plastic tub set up with supplies used. There will be supplies such as plates, cups, utensils, and napkins. This plastic tub will be located in Fujitomo Hall.*

*On Sundays, Aloha Hour hosts/hostesses are asked to bring the tub down from Fujitomo Hall and returned to the same location after. Please list on the tub any items needing re-stocking and the Team will make every effort to keep up with the inventory.*



**Pastor Tino and Friends to Attend Church Leaders Event at Church of the Crossroads on O’ahu, Feb. 24th**

Pastor Tino, Shannon Furumoto, Tim Greathouse and Youlida Yoruw will be lao UCC’s delegates to the annual Church Leaders Event sponsored by the Hawaii Conference UCC.

This year, it will be at Church of the Crossroads in O’ahu, Honolulu, on Saturday, Feb. 24th, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

Various lao UCC members and staff have participated in this HCUCC event over the years, and have benefited greatly from the sessions and discussions. This year looks to be even better, with a new format in place, and with issues highly relevant to the life of our faith communities all over the islands.

We look forward to the photos, stories and shared experiences from our delegates, in next month’s *lao Pepa*.

**Upcoming Noteworthy Events for your Calendar**

**Sunday, February 11**  
**Stewarding Community**  
 11 a.m., after Aloha Hour (Fujitomo or Kanda Hall)

**Wednesday, February 14**  
**Finance Committee**  
 5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

**Wednesday, February 14**  
**Ash Wednesday service**  
 Start of Lenten Season  
 6 p.m, joint service at Ka’ahumanu Church

**Friday, February 16**  
**Ladies’ Lunch Bunch**  
 11 a.m. (Kanda Hall)

**Sunday, February 18**  
**Worshipping Community**  
 11 a.m., after Aloha Hour (Fujitomo or Kanda Hall)

**Saturday, February 24**  
**lao Preschool Fun Fair 2018**  
 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (church campus)

**Wednesday, February 28**  
**COUNCIL Meeting**  
 5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

**Sunday, March 11 & 18**  
 New Member Classes #s 1 & 2  
 11 a.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

**Sunday, March 25**  
**Palm Sunday service**  
 9:30 p.m., at the sanctuary

**Thursday, March 29**  
**Maundy Thursday service**  
 6 p.m, joint service at Wailuku Union Church

**Friday, March 30**  
**Good Friday service**  
 6 p.m, joint service at lao UCC

**Sunday, April 1**  
**Easter Sunday**  
 7 a.m. joint Sunrise Service at Ka’ahumanu Church  
 8 a.m. Youth Breakfast, at Kanda Hall  
 9:30 a.m. regular worship service

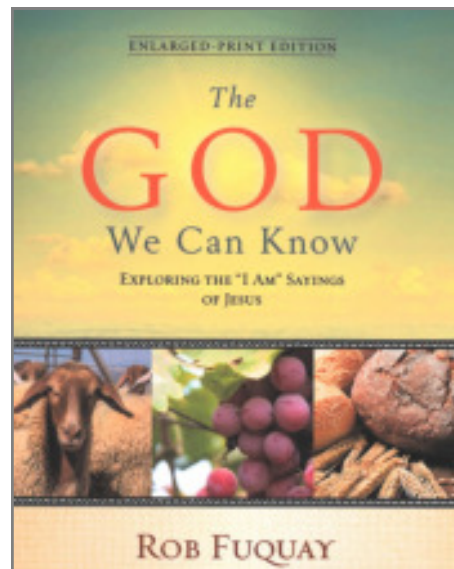
## A Church-Wide Initiative Through Bible Study

by Pastor Tino

Beloved community, as we begin to prepare ourselves spiritually for the season of Lent and Easter, I thought it would be great for us to study the “I am” statements of Jesus. As we explore the “I Am” statements that Jesus takes onto himself, how then do we turn those statements onto ourselves and as a church. I believe that after exploring these statements, we will see why “WE ARE IAO UCC.”

For this Bible Study series, we will be using a 7-week study guide by Rob Fuquay, titled “*The God We Can Know*.”

The study guide costs \$10, and we have 10 scholarships available. The introductory session is scheduled on Sunday, April 8th, at 11 a.m. You can sign up using the sign-up sheet in the sanctuary or call Lloyd at the office, 244-7353.



Sundays—11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
on the dates below  
(Sessions held in the church sanctuary)

<u>First Half</u>	<u>Second Half</u>
April 8th—Introduction	August 12th—Session 4 <i>“I Am the True Vine”</i>
April 22nd—Session 1 <i>“I Am the Bread of Life”</i>	September 9th—Session 5 <i>“I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life”</i>
May 27th—Session 2 <i>“I Am the Light of the World”</i>	October 14th—Session 6 <i>“I Am the Resurrection and the Life”</i>
June 10th—Session 3 <i>“I Am the Good Shepherd”</i>	

## Year-Round, 2018 | Groups & Organizations at Iao UCC

One of the ways that Iao UCC is a faithful steward to the Maui community at large is in its welcome to various local groups and organizations—making the church campus and building facilities available for meetings, classes, events and even tenancy. You may not know exactly how broad and deep your church’s outreach is, so here’s a comprehensive list of groups that regularly meet at the church campus. (This does not include many other groups that have used the church’s facilities over the years, but no longer do.)

Members of the church’s dedicated **Buildings and Grounds Community** oversee these relationships—from the application process (which includes, for example, making sure groups have the required liability insurance coverage), providing keys if need be, providing equipment and furniture, scheduling, etc.. Almost all of these groups make monetary donations to the church; or, in the case of those who meet here regularly, weekly or monthly donations; these funds are very welcome, of course, as regards the upkeep and maintenance of the church campus. But more important than the money are the ongoing relationships with these groups, all of whom find great value in our church campus, and most of all the institution and community behind it.

- *Hawaiian Islands Land Trust* — tenant; Endo Hall  
— [hilt.org](http://hilt.org)
- *Maui Choral Arts Association* — Tuesday evenings weekly; sanctuary  
— [mauichoralarts.org](http://mauichoralarts.org)
- *Al-Anon* — Wednesday mornings weekly; Kanda Hall  
— [al-anon.org](http://al-anon.org)
- *Alcoholics Anonymous* — Saturday evenings weekly; Kanda Hall  
— [aa.org](http://aa.org)
- *Habitat for Humanity Maui* — 4-6 times a year, weekly stays; Kanda Hall  
— [habitat-maui.org](http://habitat-maui.org)
- *Maui Kosrae Etawi* — events, celebrations, worship services;  
— campus-wide (Kanda Hall, sanctuary, church grounds)
- Various statewide *Etawi* groups – conferences on Maui hosted by MKE;  
— campus-wide (Kanda Hall, sanctuary, church grounds)
- *Tri-Isle Association HCUCC* – meetings, conferences, seminars;  
— Fujitomo or Kanda Halls; sanctuary
- *Faith Action for Community Equity (FACE) Maui*  
— 6 p.m., last Thursdays of the month; Kanda Hall
- *Bailey House Museum* – several events annually;  
— upper parking lot
- *Maui Food Bank* – food collection point;  
— sanctuary
- *Rosie Johnson Piano Studio* – annual recitals, incl. rehearsals;  
— sanctuary
- *Hiroshima-Nagasaki Remembrance Day* (David Murata, sponsor)  
— annual event; sanctuary
- *Kamehameha Schools Maui* (Kalani Wong, sponsor)  
— occasional parents’ meetings; evenings, Kanda Hall
- *Rotary Club of Maui* (Paul Tonnessen, sponsor)  
— weekly Thursday breakfast meetings; Kanda Hall
- *Security Officer Training Seminars* (Bobby Hill, consultant & sponsor)  
— several sessions annually; mornings at Fujitomo Hall
- *Old Wailuku Heights Neighborhood Watch* (Yaeko Sasaki, sponsor)  
— occasional meetings; Kanda Hall
- *Delta Kappa Gamma* (Rena Hayashi, sponsor)  
— occasional meetings; Kanda Hall





## Henry Opukaha'ia Scholarship Fund

Henry Opukaha'ia, born in the year 1792, was one of the first native Hawaiians to become a Christian, inspiring American Protestant missionaries to come to the islands during the 19th century. Unfortunately, he died at the young age of 26 from typhus fever while studying in Connecticut before he could return to Hawaii to preach to his people.



The Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ started a scholarship fund in honor of Henry Opukaha'ia to support the training of clergy for Christian mission.

The Stewarding Community humbly ask for your donation to the Henry Opukaha'ia Scholarship Fund. Envelopes for this fund will be on the table in the back of the sanctuary during the month of February, and inserted in the bulletin on Opukaha'ia Sunday, Feb. 18th. Your contribution to the Henry Opukaha'ia fund will be greatly appreciated.

Mahalo from the Stewarding Community!



Neither of the men in the above photo is Henry Opukaha'ia or even a descendant of his. ::chuckle:: That is, of course, our own Warren Orikasa on the right, with his friend Clyde Hamai, owner and proprietor of **Hamai Appliance**. We have Mr. Hamai to thank for the generous donation of the new refrigerator in Kanda Hall. So, members and friends of Iao UCC, if you need new home appliances, do patronize our local store. This is certainly not a paid ad, just words of gratitude to Mr. Hamai and Co. :-)



Iao UCC members: are you spring cleaning? Making space in your overstuffed garage or storage room? Then you probably have items you'd love to donate or contribute to the Iao Preschool bazaar! :-)

If so, please drop off any rummage sale items at Kanda Hall or at the Preschool, any time between now and Thursday, Feb. 22nd. Baked goods are also welcomed, if that's something you'd like to contribute. All proceeds go to the Preschool's yearly fund-raising campaign.

If you have a particularly valuable item or service you can donate, consider doing so for the Preschool's Silent Auction table. Contact Fley Iniba or any of the Preschool staff for this, at (808) 242-1995. Mahalo!

# February 2018

## Iao United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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 iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net



Fallen African tulip blossom near the bell tower...

**Mailed Feb. 8, 2018.**  
**Address Services Requested.**

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, check this box to mark as: "Return to Sender."

**What's inside . . .**

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**iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net**  
**facebook.com/groups/iaoucc/**

<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>9:30 A.M.</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Florentino Cordova</b>
<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Gail Ideue</b>
<b>Secretary/Iao Pepa Editor</b>	<b>Lloyd Nebres</b>
<b>Preschool Director</b>	<b>Flerida Iniba</b>
<b>Choir Director &amp; Pianist</b>	<b>Karyn Sarring</b>

***You are always welcome at  
 Iao United Church of Christ.***