

# Iao Pepa

NA MAKANI

*A Monthly Newsletter of Iao United Church of Christ*

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

June 2018

## Blessings from Pastor Tino | *“Strategic Unity—Through our Diversity & Strength”*

Here we are Iao UCC – seems like we zoomed right through Epiphany, Lent, Easter – and now we’re at Pentecost and entering our Summer season. Of all the jobs that I have been blessed to have worked in my life, coming to work for this amazing church is always something I look forward to every day. Each day has been something new, exciting, and rekindles my spirit to see the Holy Fire of Pentecost at work. Let us always dream our dreams and allow the Holy Spirit to fire up our senses and see the great things that God is doing in our church and in our communities. Let us also see what God is calling us to do – and to see those who God is calling us to tend to as well.

Entering a Summer season reminds me of vacations to come and graduates that are preparing for a summer break before advancing up another grade level or going to college. For Iao, we celebrate Jack Yoruw and Jayven Bathin who are advancing to High School in the Fall. We also celebrate Joshlyn Miteg who has graduated from High School and is going to the mainland for college. We must continue to pray and support our beloved Iao Youth for they are the future of our communities and church as they move on with their lives. Our world/society is at the ready to bombard them with challenges, temptations, and maybe even hardships, which is why we as a faith community must be just as ready with our steadfast support of them and their families. Let us pray for our beloved Iao Youth in this time of transition.

Iao – have you noticed the changes on our church campus lately? I’ve mentioned before, the new retaining wall is up, the handicap ramp is resurfaced, a new water heater installed – and just recently – new kitchen cabinets in Kanda Hall. Once again, a huge *“THANK YOU”* to the Buildings & Grounds Community and all the volunteers that have made these changes possible with their time, talents and treasures. There are many other things coming our way, so if you have some time, talent and treasure to share, please contact our hardworking servants of Christ for more information on upcoming work.

As we move further into our Pentecost journey, let us reflect on what this liturgical season is all about for a church. This is a time of growth – growing spiritually, theologically, personally, and many churches use this time to grow in membership as well. As our Hawaii Conference UCC moves forward with a strategic plan, let us begin our own process and think about who we are as Iao United Church of Christ – where we want to be in 3 and 5 years from now, and with prayer and discernment, what kind of church we want to be/become in the future. I am hoping that we can gather as a community around November or December and begin our strategic planning process that will coincide with the Hawaii Conference and our Tri-Isle Association. Remember from my message on Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Spirit of God asks us to *“Dream Big Dreams Iao”* – think about the work it will take to make those dreams into reality. Holy Spirit of God – with spirits on fire, we are ready, for – *“We Are IAO UCC!”*

Blessings with love and appreciation,  
Rev. Tino



Pastor Tino and the graduating students we celebrated and blessed on Sunday, May 27th: Jack Yoruw and Jayven Bathin from Iao Intermediate School, and Joshlyn Miteg from Baldwin High School.

## June Lectionary

### June 3 **2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost**

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Psalm 81:1-10

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

**Mark 2:23-3:6**

*Stretch Out Your Hand*

### June 10 **3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost**

1 Samuel 8:4-11

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

**Mark 3:20-35**

*The Will of God*

### June 17 **4<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost**

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

**Mark 4:26-34**

*Flourishing*

### June 24 **5<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost**

1 Samuel 17:32-49

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

**Mark 4:35-41**

*In the Boat Together*

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. ●



Pastor Tino and the Worshipping Community decided to order a new set of hymnals for the congregation. The Chalice Praise hymn books arrived last month and were dedicated on Sunday, June 10th.



*Working at the church office is a delight in more ways than one, as folks bring goodies all the time for the pastor and his secretary. The above mangoes were from Howard Ikeda's neighbor's tree, and were super sweet and juicy. 'Tis the season! (for mangoes.)*

### June Worship Readers:

Jayven Bathin & Warren Orikasa

### June Worship Responsibilities\*

#### June 3

Greeter: *Susan King*

Head Usher: *Dennis Hashiro*

Usher: *Javis Yoruw*

Hostess: *Carolyn Kamidoi*

Aloha Hour:

*Anne Hill & Jane Akitaka*

#### June 10

Aloha Hour:

*Betsy Scheller & Linda Case-Tapia*

#### June 17

Aloha Hour:

*Grace Murata & Jackie Murai*

#### June 24

Aloha Hour:

*Maui Kosrae Etawi*

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

## June Birthdays

6/3 Joyce Romero

6/4 Josaiah Warren

6/6 Isaiah Mathin

6/7 Javis Yoruw

6/10 Rita Whitford

6/11 Caroline Belsom

6/13 Sumiko Kuniyoshi

6/20 Corey Tanaka

6/21 Shizue Kadoyama

Grace Mungwaath

6/24 Linda Johannes

6/27 Percival Tapia

6/28 Daniel Kamidoi

6/29 Makelyn Johannes

6/30 Shawn Yinmed

## 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.*

## Iao UCC in the Hawai'i Conference

### At the May Tri-Isle Moku-puni

Iao UCC sent a good contingent of folks to the annual Tri-Isle Association moku-puni meeting last May, at which new TIA president Warren Orikasa and treasurer Tino Cordova were installed. Here's a group picture of our members at the moku-puni at Po'okela Church:



### 196th Aha Pae'aina

This year's statewide annual meeting of the Hawaii Conference UCC was held on June 6th to 9th at the Community Church of Honolulu. Iao UCC's delegates to the Aha Makua (the main meeting on June 8 and 9) included moderator Tim Stewart, Warren Orikasa, Youlida Yoruw, and our youth delegates Francis Yinmed and Maverick Falan. In addition, Tim, Warren and Youlida attended the UCC Polity classes and seminars that took place all day on Thursday, June 7th. The main topic at the Aha this year was a revamping of the the Hawai'i Conference's mission statement and strategic initiatives—an historic and important development in the life of the HCUCC.

## Upcoming Noteworthy Events for your Calendar

**Thur. thru Sat., June 7-9**

### Hawaii Conference UCC 196<sup>th</sup> 'Aha Pae'aina

Community Church of Honolulu, O'ahu

**Sunday, June 10**

### Bible Study (Session #3)

11 a.m. (Kanda Hall)

**Wednesday, June 13**

### Finance Committee

5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

**Friday, June 15**

### Iao Preschool Father's Day Breakfast

8 a.m. (Watanabe Hall)

**Friday, June 15**

### Ladies' Lunch Bunch

11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

**Sunday, June 24**

### Worshiping Community

11 a.m., after Aloha Hour (Fujitomo or Kanda Hall)

**Sunday, June 24**

### Witnessing/Reconciling & Outreach Community

11 a.m., after Aloha Hour (Sanctuary)

**Mon. thru Fri., June 25-29**

### UCC Western Regional Youth Event

UH Manoa Campus, Honolulu, O'ahu

**Wednesday, June 27**

### COUNCIL

5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

## IAO UCC BAZAAR 2018

*The church will once again have its Annual Bazaar  
which will take place this year on*

**Saturday, August 4th, from 8 am to 1 p.m.**

*Please plan on contributing bazaar items and bringing them  
to Kanda Hall during the month of July.*

## Warren's Mana'o {Our own Warren Orikasa is the incoming president of the Tri-Isle Association UCC}

### WHERE ARE WE?

During the Hawaii Conference's recent sessions on strategic planning, we heard consistently that "we are the Conference." This deliberate statement was in response to the concerns of many throughout our state that the previous Conference should have been more closely involved with the individual churches. The strategic planning effort will continue at our Aha Pae'aina this month, and will continue thereafter as implementation efforts develop.



In our Tri-Isle Association, likewise, we are obligated to create opportunities for dialog with all of our member and affiliate churches. A deliberate effort should be made to meet personally with the individual church leaders and members to discuss increasing our interactions with one another. "We are the Association!"

It is my intent to invite our sister/brother churches to appropriate and convenient venues so that we can chat about our UCC denomination and its relevance to us. We can also chat about our perceived relationships, existent or not. We can chat about our future. Most importantly, we can just chat.

### ETCL

The Tri Isle Association has been active with an innovative educational concept entitled "Equipping Tomorrow's Church Leaders," or ETCL. Nationally recognized professors have presented several seminars in the past two years. Many of our Iao UCC members have participated. Most of our association's pastors have participated. ETCL provides an opportunity for our ministers to continue their educational path as well as an opportunity for lay members to have open theological conversations with recognized leaders of our denomination. It's an excellent program. I would encourage everyone to consider attending.

### AND THEN...

Most of us joined a church so we could worship, find peace, practice our faith, and be in the company of like-minded people. Expanding our participation to the Association and Conference levels gives us opportunities to expand our practicing faith in the company of a broader congregation.

Peace.  
Warren Orikasa



May 18, 2018

Dear Members of our Hawai'i Conference UCC,

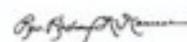
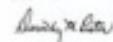
For weeks we have been witnessing the awesome movements of nature disastrously impacting human beings and human built things in the Puna district on the slopes of Kilauea. Those of you reaching out in the midst of smoke, fire, earthquakes, and explosive eruptions to care for those immediately affected are heroes of the human spirit, and we salute you.

Those of us anxiously watching and praying from a safer distance want you to know we are with you and eager to help. The Hawai'i Conference staff fields reports and calls daily about the developing situation and needs. Our national setting of the United Church of Christ is reaching out with One Great Hour of Sharing emergency funds, and many generous folk have been building up our Hawai'i Disaster Relief Fund locally to distribute as impacts are assessed.

Our three churches in Puna, Kalapana Maunakea First Hawaiian Congregational Church, Opihikao Congregational Church, and Puula UCC, have had to cancel or move their services and school programs due to road closures and the red alert, especially affecting Opihikao. Church members, friends and relatives in the area have needed to find new housing and storage as a result of mandatory evacuations and poor air quality. And no one knows how long this will last or how much more or exactly where lava, ash, and vog may yet still erupt.

In all the uncertainty, let us remind one another of what we do know as brothers and sisters in Christ. Through the earthquakes, wind and fire, the "still small voice" of God never ceases. It is a voice that calls us out of our caves of fear and isolation to witness to the presence of Ke Akua among us through acts of healing and self-giving. Let us hold one another close as creation groans—waiting for us, the ones of God—to be revealed as people of active faith, hope, and love.

In Christ's Aloha,

 Gabrielle Chavez, Interim Conference Minister	 Richard Kamama, Associate Conference Minister	 Dorothy Lester, Acting Associate Conference Minister
 Kenneth Makuakane Associate Conference Minister Papa Makuu	 Sherman Hee, Executive Director Hawai'i Conference Foundation	

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Neighbor Islands Toll Free: (800) 734-7609



When Carolyn Kamidoi was visiting with her mom at Leahi Hospital in Honolulu in early May, **Nobuye Nakamura** (Bill's wife), who is also a resident at Leahi, expressed this sentiment:  
*"I miss lao Congregational Church and want to say hello to all my friends there. I want to come visit with all of you!"*  
 (paraphrased)



Photo above is of Our latest high school graduate, our dear **Joshlyn Miteg**

Photos on the right are of **Pastor Tino's family** visiting with him in early June



Above: ladies (angels) of the church preparing meals to be served at the homeless shelter.

Below: a display in the sanctuary on the day after the Santa Fe school shooting.



**Join the Nā Hoaloha ‘ohana**



Nā Hoaloha is a nonprofit agency based in Maui, with a mission to provide services that allow seniors and persons with disabilities to remain independent in their homes.

It is a grassroots organization promoting social responsibility and advocacy by empowering volunteers to nurture relationships with, and meeting the needs of, Maui County’s kupuna.

We are currently looking for a few dedicated volunteer board members to further Nā Hoaloha’s goals.

If you can contribute your time, thoughtfulness, and leadership, and are interested in exploring this opportunity, we would love to meet you. We’re especially looking for individuals who reflect Maui’s diversity, with energy, time and good ideas for programs that will enhance the quality of life of our kupuna.

Please send a resume and short bio by email to [board@nahoaloha.org](mailto:board@nahoaloha.org) or by postal mail to:

Nā Hoaloha  
ATTN: Nominating Committee  
PO Box 3208  
Wailuku, HI 96793,

...by June 30, 2018.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.nahoaloha.org](http://www.nahoaloha.org)

*Mahalo nui loa!*

**A Letter to the Governor**

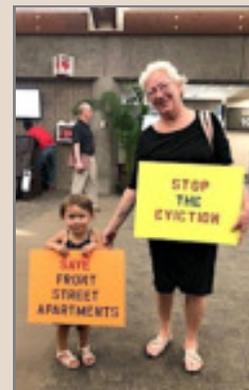
May 12, 2018

The Honorable David Y. Ige  
Governor, State of Hawaii  
Executive Chambers, State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Governor Ige,

As a member of the Tri-Isle Association of the Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ, we at Iao United Church of Christ in Wailuku would like to go on record asking state lawmakers to ensure that the more than 250 tenants at the Front Street Apartments in Lahaina remain in low-income housing.

To allow the raising of rent by more than 100% would effectively evict them from the Apartments and leave them without affordable housing. Many would become homeless, and number of them have children or are disabled.



We understand that promises were made to keep the apartments serving low-income tenants for at least 50 years, but a loophole has allowed the situation to be changed. We pray that you and our state lawmakers will find a way to continue to provide housing for the most vulnerable people in our society.

Blessings,

Rev. Florentino C. Cordova  
Pastor, Iao UCC

# June 2018

## Iao United Church of Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
<p>May 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<p>Jun 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<p>1 6:00 PM Kosraen Women's Fellowship (S)</p>		<p>2 7:30 PM AA (K)</p>	
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<p>10 11:00 AM Bible St.#3 11:00 AM Stewarding (P) Dedication of Chalice</p>	<p>11 Kamehameha Day Pastor's Day Off (Office Open)</p>	<p>12 Support Group Visitations</p>	<p>13 9:15 AM -10:30 AM Ai Anon (K) 5:30 PM FINANCE (F)</p>	<p>14 6:30 AM -8:15 AM Rotary of Maui (Kanda) Flag Day</p>	<p>15 11:00 AM Ladies' Lunch Bunch (Sanctuary) 6:00 PM Kosraen Women's Fellowship (S)</p>	<p>16 7:30 PM AA (Sanctuary)</p>																																																																																					
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### May 23, 2018 Last Day of After-School Tutoring

In the photo to the right, the tutors from left to right: Aunties Anna, Jane, Katherine, Lisa, Carolyn, Heidi & Lynette. (Missing: Aunties Grace, Jody, Kathy and Youlida.)





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*Dramatic skies above Iao, one early evening in late May...*

**Mailed June 11, 2018**  
**Address Services Requested**

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

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[facebook.com/groups/iaoucc/](https://facebook.com/groups/iaoucc/)

**Sunday Worship** **9:30 A.M.**  
 Pastor Florentino Cordova  
 Moderator Tim Stewart  
 Choir Director & Pianist Karyn Sarring  
 Preschool Director Flerida Iniba  
 Secretary/Iao Pepa Editor Lloyd Nebres

***You are always welcome at Iao UCC.***