

A Monthly Newsletter of Iao United Church of Christ

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

September 2018

Blessings from Pastor Tino | "Strategic Unity-Through our Diversity & Strength"

Finally remembered that I hadn't written my September note for you all. What a busy month it has already been for many of us. This month we celebrated a special day that Iao UCC has held sacred for many years – our 30th Anniversary of *Keiro No Hi*. It is heart-warming to see a whole community honor and celebrate our *kupuna* and how the church has taken on a Japanese tradition and made it their own. As we continue with this tradition, let us not do this celebration in just word, but make sure that our *kupuna* are well taken care of, and know that they and their families have us as a church to call upon when a need arises. We truly have been blessed by these bridge-builders who have brought with them the wisdom of the past and continue to be part of our vibrant faith community. This year we honored Larry Whitford–80 years old; Maybelle Hashizume, Sumiko Kuniyoshi, David Murata and Lora Yaeko Sasaki–88-year olds. Let us continue to hold them and their families and all our *kupuna* in our prayers.

There are many other events coming up for our Iao UCC family. We hope that many of you can join us as we begin putting together our Maui Fair Booth beginning next week, the 17th. Also, if you have some time to sign up for a shift from October 4th to October 7th, all-hands-on-deck will be greatly appreciated. I experienced this event for the first time last year and it takes a lot of people hours to put this fundraising event together. Many of our members have done this for many years and I am hoping that our next generation coming up will be willing to learn the process and everything necessary to continue this important fundraiser on that helps with our yearly budget. "Thank you" seems so little at times for those who continue to do so much for our beloved Iao UCC but saying "thank you – how can I (we) help" should be our words to make sure people are not burning out in the process of meeting our financial goals for the year. Anything we can do is a gift so please sign up for booth setup, booth shifts, and booth take-down. Iao UCC is really known for our "Frosty POG" and some people that I spoke with last year mentioned to me that: "I look forward to the Fair every year just to come have your Frosty POG."

On with Pentecost, but can you believe we are about to enter another liturgical year cycle beginning with Advent – WOW! Where has 2018 gone? As I put together the liturgy for Advent and Christmas – yes, your Pastor is a geek when it comes to liturgy – I am moved by the readings that Year C brings us. Again, we are planning our Winter Solstice Worship of "Blue Christmas" which is always celebrated on December 21^{st} of each year at 6 p.m. and Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service on December 24^{th} at 7 p.m. Please mark these on your calendar as we hope you will come celebrate with us – the birth of Emmanuel.

On a personal note from your Pastor — my partner Rong Chao and I would like to thank you all for your steadfast prayers. After a year and six months, Rong Chao has finally been able to move to Maui and is currently employed with the County of Maui as a Civil Engineer. As an added blessing, he was been able to bring his Mama, Zhen, with him. I am so grateful to be able to share the space that was empty for so long, and it just seems to be a home now that it is full. Thank you Iao family for supporting and seeing us through this process.

As we continue with our Pentecostal journey always remembering to love! For – "We Are Iao UCC!"



Blessings with love and appreciation, Rev. Tino

September Lectionary

- Sep. 2 15th Sun. after Pentecost Song of Sol. 2:8-13 Psalm 15 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Be Love
- Sep. 9 16th Sun. after Pentecost Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9 Psalm 146 James 2:1-10 Mark 7:24-37 Be Opened

Sep. 16 17th Sun. after Pentecost Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 116:1-9 James 3:1-12 **Mark 8:27-38** *Who Are You, Jesus?*

Sep. 23 18th Sun. after Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalm 54 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a **Mark 9:30-37** *First in Caring*

Sep. 30 19th Sun. after Pentecost

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10 Psalm 19:7-14 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50 *Courage for Comunity*

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. •



Our worship readers for the month are Dawna Krueger, and Sharon Sigrah. Sharon is a youth member of our Maui Kosrae Etawi congregation.



Larry Manning was the anthem soloist for Sunday, September 16th. He sang "What Can Separate," accompanied by choir director Karyn Sarring.

Sep. Worship Responsibilities*

Readers Donna Krueger & Sharon Sigrah

September 2

Greeter: David Belew Head Usher: Daniel Kamidoi Usher: Paul Obet Hostess: Rena Hayashi Aloha Hour: Jane Akitake & Anne Hill

September 9

Aloha Hour: (none, due to Keiro No Hi)

> September 16 Aloha Hour: Avis & Kalani Wong

September 23

Aloha Hour: Grace Murata & Jackie Murai

September 30

Aloha Hour: Maui Kosrae Etawi

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

September Birthdays

- 9/3 Evelyn Leavitt
- 9/5 Bert Akitake
- 9/6 Avis Teshima-Wong

Carley Defang

- 9/11 Dawna Krueger
- 9/14 Janet Tomita
- 9/15 Misae Kameya Erin Hashiro

Anslan Fugow

- 9/19 Jaime Ribao
- 9/20 Katsuko Matsuo

Mike Takamatsu

Winford Ideue

- 9/22 Emily Murai
- 9/25 Shannon Furomoto
- 9/27 Robert Hartman

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.

Tim's Mana'o | Moderator's Notes



Praise the Lord, our God and Redeemer!

The weather...

As hurricane season is underway here on Maui, it has been our time to get ready for inclement winds and squalls. So far there have been four school days cancelled.

Religious reflections...

At the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ we recently upgraded this statement: "Sent forth by the Spirit, we walk humbly in Christ's footsteps pursuing peace, justice and the renewal of all creation."

Here at Iao UCC, we state: "We will be a more inclusive and faithful community learning: to give voice to the silenced, to celebrate our commonalities, to use God's gifts, to bridge differences, and to practice reconciliation."

It's a joy to see the good that we do and how well we align our vision to the Tri-Isle Association, the Hawaii Conference and the United Church of Christ at the national level.

Kids are the future...

As Donna at Judson Memorial Church once said, "We do want our children to have a fluid temple in their lives. Hopefully the ways we use our buildings raise up our communities and children instead of destroying them." It's obvious that we are doing just that here. As the Tri-Isle Association Confirmation Camp for Youth (taking place Oct. 11-13 at Waiola Church in Lahaina) approaches, it is with great satisfaction to note that we are sending 10 of our youth to the event to develop their religious reflections.

Grace and blessings on your path, Tim Stewart, Moderator

(The selfie above is one Sanoe took on the day Tropical Storm Olivia arrived on Maui; she and Tim went to Wailuku River, near their house, to see how things were over there.)

Upcoming Noteworthy Events

Sunday, September 9 <u>Keiro No Hi 2018</u> 11 a.m., Dani's Restaurant, Wailuku

> Sunday, September 16 Bible Study Session #5 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Sunday, September 16 Stewarding Community

II:00 a.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

Tuesday, September 18 Finance Committee 5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

Wednesday, September 19

Maui Fair Committee 5:30 p.m. (Kanda Hall)

Friday, September 21 Ladies' Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Sunday, September 23

Worshiping Community II a.m. (Fujitomo or Kanda Hall)

Wednesday, September 26 <u>COUNCIL</u> 5:30 p.m. (Fujitomo Hall)

Maui Fair 2018

The church will once again have its popular Frosty POG booth at the Fair this year, which will take place on:

October 4 to 7, 2018

Please sign up for work shifts at the booth. You can view the updated signup sheet online:

www.iaoucc.org/MauiFair2018/booth.signups.html

Iao UCC & Foodland's GiveAloha 2018

For the first time, lao UCC is participating in Foodland's "Give Aloha" Program. This program honors Foodland's founder, Maurice "Sully" Sullivan and continues his legacy of giving back to the community. Since the program began in

1991, over \$20,000,000 has been raised for Hawai'i's non-profit organizations.



How it works:

From <u>September I-30, 2018</u> you are invited as a member or friend of lao UCC to make donations up to a cumulative total of \$249.00 per person at check-out. Foodland and Western Union will match a portion of each donation. Matching gifts will be calculated at the end of the program. Organizations will receive 100% of all customer donations given to their organization, plus their percentage of the matching gift provided by Foodland and Western Union.

How to donate:

Present your *Maika'i* card or phone number at the checkout counter and inform the cashier that you would like to make a donation to lao UCC. Our fivedigit registration code is <u>78972</u>. If you do not have a *Maika'i* card, you may request one. Your donation will be added to your grocery purchase total. Again, you may give up to \$249.00. The amount you donate and the name of the church will appear on your receipt.

Any donation must be made payable to "Foodland" or "Sack-N-Save." Donor names will not be released to the church, so if you would like us to know of your gift, please contact us so that we may properly acknowledge your gift.

Donations are tax deductible.

Your donation will be tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please save your store receipt for tax purposes since it will be the only record you will have of your donation. Total gifts to organizations will be announced shortly after the drive. For more information, you can go to:

givealoha.foodland.com

Consecration Sunday: November 11, 2018

Consecration Sunday will be on November 11, 2018. Please remember to place a special mark on your calendar on this date. *What is Consecration Sunday?* A new member of our Stewarding Community suggested that we put more effort in explaining why we have Consecration Sunday and why we have witnessing stewards and a special guest steward on Consecration Sunday, especially because we have several new members at Iao UCC who may not know what our stewardship drive is about. We took her suggestion to heart. It is always beneficial to revisit our goals and mission and reflect on why we do what we do.

First of all, we need to understand the concept of stewardship. In a secular viewpoint, stewardship is (definition from Google), "the job of supervising or taking care of something, such as an organization or property." What is biblical stewardship? In an article by Chris Brown, titled "What is Biblical Stewardship?", he states that what comes to mind for most Church goers are maybe fundraising or a capital campaign, possibly taking care of the environment. However, he feels the true meaning of stewardship is our ultimate calling as Christ followers. According to Chris Brown, "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness there-of" (Psalms 24:1).

Our stewardship drive is based on the biblical concept of stewardship. We are stewards of God's gifts and we need to take care of God's gifts. God's gifts include our time, talents, treasures, relationships, finance and yes, material possessions. One of our responsibilities as the Stewarding Community team is to educate the congregation about the financial needs of the church and a good time to do this is during our stewardship drive when we encourage members and friends to make a financial pledge yearly as a source of revenue for Iao UCC. However, instead of emphasizing just the financial need of our church, which of course is vital to our church, the Stewarding Community also encourages members to use God's gifts of your time, talents and treasures. This is what stewardship is about.

What is Consecration Sunday? Consecration means a solemn dedication to a special purpose or service. This is the Sunday where we dedicate not only our financial pledges but also our gifts and talents and other commitments of being good stewards of God's church and community.

We, the Stewarding Community team, begin our Stewardship drive three weeks before Consecration Sunday. We first come up with a theme to carry us through 2019. We have decided on "Celebrate Community, Honor Diversity." A very observant member of our team noticed a poster with this saying tacked on a bulletin board in one of the rooms in Fujitomo Hall. I wonder if any of you will be observant enough to find our theme in this particular poster. We feel this theme truly reflects Iao United Church of Christ for we do celebrate community and honor diversity. We then ask three committed members of Iao UCC to serve as witnessing stewards and share a five minute speech to bear witness of being good stewards of God's gifts and talents and also share how Iao UCC has helped them to become good stewards. Our three witnessing stewards are Paul Obet and he will share his calling on Sunday, October 21. Heidi Israel will be our next witnessing steward on October 28 and lastly, Shannon Furomoto will speak on November 4. Thank you Paul, Heidi and Shannon for accepting your calling to bear witness to being good stewards of the church and community.

On Consecration Sunday, November 11, Kahu Wayne Higa, pastor of Kaahumanu Church, will be our guest steward. We are happy and honored that he has accepted to be our guest steward. To be honest, we have no sacred reason why we have a guest steward to fill the pulpit on Consecration Sunday except to give Pastor Tino a deserved break. It is exciting for us to ask different guest stewards year after year to preach on Consecration Sunday. Members get a different view for stewardship and of our calling for us to be truly good stewards.

We will start off our Stewardship drive with a kick off dinner on Monday, October 15, 5:30 at Kanda Hall. All are invited to partake of our humble dinner which Iao UCC serves to the people at the homeless shelter four times a year. Come and meet our guest steward, Kahu Wayne Higa and get acquainted with our witnessing stewards, Paul, Heidi and Shannon.

So, as we plan for Consecration Sunday, please pray and search deeply into what is your calling and hopefully not only give generously of your financial pledge but also give generously of your time and talents.

Blessings to all, from the Stewarding Community, Katherine Hashiro, Rena Hayashi, Lynette Shiroma, Jackie Murai

Keiro No Hi | Sept. 9, 2018 | Honoring our revered kupuna...

The main (80-year old) honorees posing with the traditional hapi coat and cap lent to them by Ruth Mukai:



David Murata



Sumiko Kuniyoshi



Maybelle Hashizume (with Herman)



Yaeko Sasaki (and friends)



Emcee Rita Whitford (husband Larry, an honoree, couldn't make it to the celebration)



Tom Yamada (who wasn't at the event, but Jane Tesoro and friends brought leis to honorees at their homes)



Thelma Iwami



Susie Kadoyama



Nadine Yamamura performing the dance "O Mokage No Sato"





Sumiko Kuniyoshi's family

{ Photos on this page by Anna Mayeda & Lloyd Nebres }

David Murata's grandchildren Maya and Makoto came from Oahu with their families to honor their grandfather. They shared his story in both English and Japanese.



Mike Takamatsu



In Memoriam: George Baybrook

Kahu Baybrook was the pastor here at Iao Congregational Church from 1970 to 1978

GEORGE WILLIAM "KAHU" BAYBROOK (September 23, 1928 – July 28, 2018)



George Baybrook, 89, peacefully entered eternal life on July 28, 2018, in Honolulu, where he had made his home since 2015. George was born to Harold and Edith (Waldo) Baybrook in Kealakekua, Kona, Hawaii, on Sept. 22, 1928. He graduated from Mid-Pacific High School in Honolulu. At Oregon State University, his brother Seymour led him to Christ, and that commitment launched a life-

time Christian ministry. He started his ministry in 1954 in Hilo, at Central Christian Church. In 1970, the Baybrooks moved to Wailuku, Maui, where they spent almost 20 years serving Wailuku Union Church as well as several years with lao Congregational Church.

Kahu Baybrook's decades-long formal ministry ended in 2012, but his daily ministry continued to touch and inspire people for six more years. He was called Kahu *(shepherd/pastor)* because his generous love, true service and deep faith touched everyone he met. He was unfailingly honest about his ideas, his feelings and his convictions. While he stood firm in his beliefs, he was exceptionally open to others'. He had compassion for everyone, and offered kindness and mercy to all. In all things, he gave the credit and the glory to God.

Celebrations of Kahu Baybrook's life were held on Friday, Aug. 31, at Central Union Church in Honolulu. A second service was held Sunday, Sept. 2, at Kalahikiola Congregational Church in Kohala, Hawaii.

Iao UCC Members in the News: Susan King



"Volunteer Helps Others With Mental Health Issues" by Michael Tsai

(This article appeared in the Monday, Sept. 11 issue of the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*)

To read the article, go to this link in your web browser: <u>https://bit.ly/2PICYfm</u>



Can you believe it? It is that time of the year again where we need to start planning for our very popular Frosty POG booth at the Maui Fair. This is the 96th Maui Fair and we have been selling our famous drink for the past 16 years. This is indeed our timeless tradition at the Maui Fair.

As always, we ask for your *kokua* in selling Frosty POG tickets. The tickets are \$5.00 for one 16-oz. Frosty POG or lemonade or two 16-oz regular lemonade or bottled POG. The tickets will be distributed in packs of four for \$20.00 a pack. Hopefully, you can help sell four or more tickets to



your family and friends. Inform them that the price of the Frosty drinks is \$6.00 at the booth and \$3.00 for the regular drinks. So, buying the tickets is really a no-brainer. We will begin distributing the tickets on the last Sunday of August which is August 26 and will continue distribution till the last Sunday of September. The Fair Committee would appreciate it if you can pick up a pack or two before or after service.

Likewise, we are asking for your valuable time in working in our booth. We really need workers to work 3-4 hour shifts from Thursday, October 4, beginning at 4:30 pm till Sunday, October 7 when the fair closes at 11:00 pm. The shift schedule be posted on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary starting August 19 and will remain there till September 23. Hopefully, this will give you lots of time to sign up for a shift and ask your friends and family to join in the fun and fellowship. Yes, working in the booth is more fun than work. On Sunday, September 30, we plan to pass out the free admission tickets for those who volunteer to work in the booth. So, it is a good idea if you come to church that Sunday to get your free admission ticket.

We are again wishing for a very successful year at the Fair and hope to raise \$40,000 for the church. Obviously, we cannot do this without your help and cooperation. Much mahalo!

See you at the fair! Rena Hayashi, Fair Committee Chair

(Photo above by Katherine Hashiro, of the Committee meeting on Aug. 9th.)

September 2018 Iao United Church of Christ							
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30							

The Lillian Maeda Tutoring Program back in session...





All photos on this page by Anna Mayeda









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iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net



One sunset in early September...

Mailed September 17, 2018 Address Services Requested

What's inside . . .



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

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Sunday Worship	9:30 а.м.
Pastor	Florentino Cordova
Moderator	Tim Stewart
Choir Director & Pianist	Karyn Sarring
Preschool Director	Flerida Iniba
Secretary/lao Pepa Editor	Lloyd Nebres

You are always welcome at Iao UCC.