



Iao United Church of Christ
2371 W. Vineyard Street
Wailuku, HI 96793-1626

Mailed:

Address Correction Requested.



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

What's inside . . .

Blessings from Pastor Tino.....	1
May 2021 Lectionary.....	2
Tim's Mana`o Moderator's Notes.....	2
May/June Birthdays.....	3
Stewarding Committee Mahalo.....	3
Mahalo Karyn	3
Liturgical Colors.....	4
Community Activities.....	5
2020/21 Graduates.....	5
May 2021 Calendar	6
June 2021 Calendar.....	7
Share Your Mana	8
Tribute to Nobuye Nakamura.....	9
Just for Fun.....	10
Bits and Pieces	11



Iao United Church of Christ

2371 W. Vineyard Street

Wailuku, HI 96793-1626

Office Phone: (808) 244-7353

Church Cellphone:(808) 740-8368

Email: iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net

Office Hours M-F 9 am-4 pm

Virtual Sunday Worship 9:30 A.M.

At: Facebook.com/IaoUCC.Maui	Website: iaoucc.org
Facebook.com/groups/iaoucc	YouTube: Iao UCC
Pastor	Florentino Cordova
Moderator	Timothy Stewart
Church Secretary	Vacant
Preschool Director	Flerida Iniba
Choir Director/Accompanist	Vacant
Newsletter	Jane Tesoro/Dawna Krueger

You are always welcome at
Iao United Church of Christ

We are a people of God, living and sharing the love of Christ through words and actions.



A Bimonthly News Letter of Iao Congregational Church

2371 W. Vineyard St., Wailuku, HI —(808)244-7353—iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net

May/June 2021

Aloha going out to our House Churches – Friends – Supporters!

Our readings on this Easter journey seem to reflect an important part of our faith – “community!” If there is anything we have learned from this pandemic in the past year is how much we are truly interconnected with each other and those around us. Since I became your pastor, we have become interconnected with many local agencies and after four years (can you believe that?), we are part of the wider community here on Maui. This year, Easter reminds us of the importance in building relationships, being bridge builders – and the diversity of our common tables – our communion tables in our House Churches. As you have heard me say on many Sundays – it is *not humbug* to ask for help, and it really is not!

It does take a whole community to bring you the virtual worship services every Sunday. For over a year, there is a lot that needs to happen every week and there is one thing that we have learned from it all – not everything goes as planned every Sunday. In seminary, we never expected to learn about “*virtual worship*” and all the details that go with such a service. After a year, we have now begun the process of formulating a reopening plan of our Sanctuary. First, we are encouraging everyone to get their Covid-19 shots as soon as possible so that we can reach the 70% goal of community immunity. Second, we will follow CDC guidelines in our reopening plan which calls for no singing, humming through a mask is okay, limited seating capacity, hand sanitizing and other precautionary measures. The good thing about our campus is that we have the capability to broadcast our worship services via Facebook live, the use of our 88.1 radio FM station (within a mile radius of the Sanctuary) – so drive-up worship will also be offered and we will continue to upload our worship services on our YouTube channel. (search for Iao UCC). Lastly, since we do not have the proper ventilation system in the Sanctuary, we ask that only those who are fully vaccinated from Covid-19 enter the Sanctuary. Those who have not will be asked to participate from the safety of their vehicles in the parking lot or through social media.

As you can see, there are many ways to participate in our worship services as we move to our reopening plan. The safest is still from the sanctuary of our House Churches but I know that we are all yearning to see one another and to be in community with each other once again. Please stay tuned for further information. Plan is for a cleanup day on May 15th at 10 a.m., then a soft opening with the Council Members on May 16th at 9:30 a.m. to work out the logistics. Our grand reopening is set for Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd at 9:30 a.m. at which time everyone will need to call the office at 244-7353 to reserve a spot in the Sanctuary. Once all the spots are taken, drive-up is also available along with the other forms to join us. We can do this church! But we must do this as safely as possible and allow science and our faith to guide us.



Blessings with virtual hugs and prayers.

Rev. Floren“Tino” Cordova,
Pastor of this amazing Church we call – Iao UCC!

May Lectionary

May 2 **5th Sunday of Easter** Acts
8:26-40 Ps 22:25-31 Jn 4:7-21 **Jn 15:1-8**

Abiding in Love

May 9 **6th Sunday of Easter** Acts
10:44-48 Ps 98 I Jn:5:1-6 **Jn 15:9-17**

Friends Together

May 2 **5th Sunday of Easter** Acts
8:26-40 Ps 22:25-31 Jn 4:7-21 **Jn 15:1-8**

Abiding in Love

May 9 **6th Sunday of Easter** Acts
10:44-48 Ps 98 I Jn:5:1-6 **Jn 15:9-17**

Friends Together

May 16 **7th Sunday of Easter**
Acts 1:15-17,21-26 Ps 1
I Jn 5:9-13 **Jn 17:6-19**

Guided in Prayer

May 23 **Pentecost Sunday**
Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14
Ps 104:24-34, 35b
Rom 8:22-27 or **Acts 2:1-21**

Spirit for All

May 30 **Trinity Sunday**
Isa 6:1-8 and Ps 29 Rom 8:12-17
Jn 3:1-17

Mysterious Encounter

Mana`a Moderator's Notes

Wishing God's Best for all of you!

A theme inspired by Easter that I would like to focus on for May and June 2021 is stewardship and home. As Christian stewards, we should be aware that Earth is not our permanent home. We act as pilgrims by making our way through the stewardship way of life to heaven (our true home). But as we journey to heaven, God calls upon us to make our home here on Maui.

In other words, stewardship starts way before we set foot on the parish grounds. Our stewardship starts at home. When we lack the proper attitude of service within our homes as well as towards each other in our community, we are not the stewards that God is calling us to be. Stewardship is not just about attending worship services once a week, serving in ministries and giving financially to the parish.

These are essential parts of stewardship, but begins with our families. The family plays a key role because it is the primary place where we practice intimate and selfless love of other persons.

Ultimately, stewardship is not something that we do, but rather it is who we are. Stewardship is a form of living out our congregational call to follow Jesus Christ in parish life, in our social life, in our work life, and in our home life. We should be mindful of the heavenly glory that awaits us and the personal love God has for us in preparing our stewardship and our church's wider mission as we remain faithful to Christ.

We shall respond to this great love by becoming good stewards where we honor God with our prayer, our thoughtfulness to each other and our generous hospitality to all. Let us never forget that stewardship starts at home! And as time passes, let's start thinking about getting back to traditional in-person worship and traditional stewardship as we respond to the challenges of COVID-19.

Warmly,

Tim Stewart, Moderator



Awai-Stewart family: Tim, Sanoe, Alex and Anela. Looks like there has been some growing going on in that house over this quarantined year. Height-wise, that is.



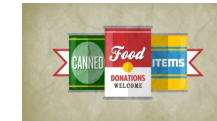
Bits and Pieces



The volunteer staff of the church office wish to send out their love and mahalos to all of those wonderful people who have nourished our bodies over the past few months. We have enjoyed the variety of delicious lunches and treats that have been provided for us, so much more than ever expected. You are so treasured during this time of transition.



The festival of **Pentecost** commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. In the Christian tradition, this event represents the birth of the early church.



Don't forget we are still gathering one can a week.



Cinco de Mayo, (Spanish: "Fifth of May") also called Anniversary of the Battle of Puebla, holiday celebrated in parts of Mexico and the United States in honour of a military victory in 1862 over the French forces of Napoleon III. May 5, 2021



Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia, whose mother had organized women's groups to promote friendship and health, originated Mother's Day. On May 12, 1907, she held a memorial service at her late mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia. Within five years virtually every state was observing the day, and in 1914 U.S. President Woodrow Wilson made it a national holiday. Although Jarvis had promoted the wearing of a white carnation as a tribute to one's mother, the custom developed of wearing a red or pink carnation to represent a living mother or a white carnation for a mother who was deceased. Over time the day was expanded to include others, such as grandmothers and aunts, who played mothering roles. What had originally been primarily a day of honoring mothers, however, and, in protest against its commercialization, Jarvis spent the last years of her life trying to abolish the holiday she had brought into being.



The nation's first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the state of Washington. However, it was not until 1972 (58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official) that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States.

"Word to the Nation: Guard zealously your right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard." - **President John F. Kennedy**

Many Americans celebrate **Flag Day** (June 14) by displaying the Red, White and Blue in front of homes and businesses. The day commemorates the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States. Flag day is not a federal holiday

Armed Forces Day (May 15) is a joint celebration of all six branches of the U.S. military: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, and the newly created Space Force. The day honors all people currently serving in the U.S. armed forces.

Veterans Day (Nov. 11) celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans while **Memorial Day** (May 31) honors those who had died while in military service. Another military holiday that also occurs on May 15, **Armed Forces Day**, honors those currently serving in the U.S. military.

Cinco de Mayo

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the puzzle, using the pictures as clues.

WORD BANK

- Baffle
- Cactus
- Celebration
- Chiles
- Enchiladas
- Flowers
- France
- Guacamole
- Guitar
- Maracas
- Mariachi
- MayFifth
- Mexico
- Music
- Pinata
- Red
- Salsa
- Sombrero
- Tacos

Mother's Day

R I G Y A M C Y N V N H P Z O M K P Q P

E R I K N R H L G D X G W U M K A F S I

A F V S K X I X A U I U B Y O R O S W B

D U I M R J L U P I B A E F E U G Y K L

I J N I H C D I G U C L A N R U L Y Y W

A V G D T E R N N Y W E T N H I L O Q V

Y N N U F E E C I G Y J P N O I E C V F

M O T H E R N Q R P S P O S M S D N N E

K C V M K U Y X A F M K P A G A R A D Z

B Z A H F K I T C O Y G F A U W C D Q Z

K T G Y H B T M M Q M P X G H W P W K O

Y V U X A T V O S V O A H U L F T V V U

Z F Q V P K D G E T H T N L B L G X T Z

K I N D U W I K H G E T O T I K E O F C

P G Q K U J K I S R E W O L F T Q L Z V

CARING CHILDREN DAUGHTER FAMILY FLOWERS

FRIEND FUNNY GIVING HAPPY HUGS

KIND LAUGH LOVE MAY MOM

MOTHER PARENT READ SON SPECIAL

May Birthdays

- 5/5 Maybelle Hashizume
- 5/7 Alana Fernandez
- 5/8 Paul Tonnessen
- 5/9 Anna Mayeda
- 5/12 Thelma Iwami
- 5/16 Melissa Goulart
- 5/18 Diana George
- 5/20 Michael Kaneshina
- 5/22 Lyndon Cornelius
- 5/24 Carissa Yinmed
- 5/28 Zachary Withrow
- 5/30 Noah Johannes, Jr.
- 5/30 Heide Israel



JUNE Birthdays

- 6/4 Josaiiah Warren
- 6/6 Isaiah Mathin
- 6/7 Javis Yoruw
- 6/10 Rita Whitford
- 6/11 Caroline Belsom
- 6/20 Corey Tanaka
- 6/21 Shizue Kadoyama
- 6/21 Grace Mungwaath
- 6/24 Linda Johannes
- 6/28 Daniel Kamidoi
- 6/29 Makelyn Johannes
- 6/30 Shawn Yinmed

Mahalo from the Stewarding Community

A big Mahalo to all of you who contributed to the "One Great Hour of Sharing" drive in March, which raised a total of \$785! We also received \$150.00 for the Henry Opukahaia scholarship fund and \$100 for the Maui Rescue Mission in April. Thank you, Iao UCC, for your generous support of all of these wonderful campaigns. March 30, 2021 brings us to Strengthen the Church of-fering. Let’s continue the amazing job of keeping us on track to be a 5-for-5 congregation in 2021!



June Lectionary

June 6 **2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

I Sam 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) and Ps 138 Gen 3:8-15 and Ps 130

2 Cor 4:13-5:1

Mk 3:20-35

God’s Will

June 13 3rdSunday after Pente-cost

I Sam 15:34 - 16:13 and Ps 20

Ezekiel 17:22-242 and Ps 92:1-4, 12-15

2 Cor 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17

Mk 4:26-34

Flourishing

June 20 4th Sunday after Pente-cost

I Sam 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49 and Ps 9:9-20 or I Sam 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16 and Ps 133

Job 38:1-11 and Ps 107:1-3, 23-32

2 Cor 6:1-13

MK 4:35-41

Pushing the Boat Out

June 27 5th Sunday after Pente-cost

2 Sam 1:1, 17-27 and Ps 130

Wisd of Sol 1:13-15, 2:23-24 or Lam 3:22-33, Ps 30

2 Cor 8:7-15

Mk 5:21-43

Healing Powers

HAVE AN A-MAZE-ING SUMMER!

FROM: _____

Your Iao Church Family



Being a great father is like shaving. No matter how good you shaved today, you have to do it again tomorrow.





The use of colors to differentiate liturgical seasons became a common practice in the Western church in about the fourth century. At first, usages varied considerably but by the 12th century Pope Innocent III systematized the use of five colors: Violet, White, Black, Red and Green. The Lutheran and Anglican churches that emerged from the Reformation retained the traditional colors but they disappeared entirely (along with most other ritual) from the worship of the Reformed churches. During the 20th century, the ecumenical Liturgical Movement prompted the rediscovery of ancient Christian ritual—including the tradi-

tional colors of the Western church. To these have been added Blue and Gold—colors that were used in some Western rites before the 12th century.

Briefly, the colors express emotions and ideas that are associated with each of the seasons of the liturgical year. Violet is the ancient royal color and therefore a symbol of the sovereignty of Christ. Violet is also associated with repentance from sin. White and Gold symbolize the brightness of day. Black is the traditional color of mourning in some cultures. Red evokes the color of blood, and therefore is the color of martyrs and of Christ's death on the Cross. Red also symbolizes fire, and therefore is the color of the Holy Spirit. Green is the color of growth. Blue is the color of the sky and in some rites honors Mary.

Congregations in the United Church of Christ have the freedom to use any combination of colors (or no particular colors) as seems best to them. The use of traditional colors, however, connects us to the wider Body of Christ and provides worship planners with visual aids that mark the transition from one season to another. Colors can be used in altar and pulpit decorations, vestments, banners and tapestries.

From United Church of Christ web page: ucc.org

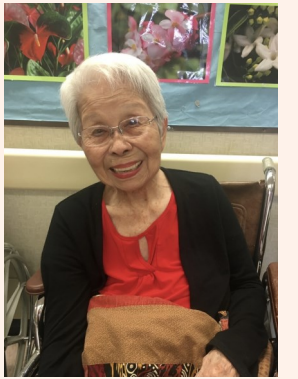


Blest Be the Tie that Binds

A Combined Tribute to Nobuye Nakamura

Submitted by Carolyn Kamidoi, Takako Dickinson and Joy Yamane

It is with great sadness to announce that Nobuye Suemori Nakamura, born on July 23, 1925, passed away at Leahi Hospital in Honolulu on April 16, 2021. She is now at rest with her beloved husband, William (Bill) and leaves behind to cherish her memories



two children: Don Nakamura, Gwen (Stephen) Yoshizawa, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

I have fond memories of Nobuye who was a sweet, loving and faithful servant of God. Nobuye, along with Lillian Maeda, was one of the first to greet me on my first visit to Iao Church in 1982, and made me feel so welcomed. I recall Nobuye always helping with the many projects and fundraising activities from sushi making to lemonade and church gatherings too.. She was also a wonderful artist, sharing some of her paintings displayed in Fujitomo Hall. The beautiful macrame which hangs in the sanctuary was another of her creations which the congregation helped to finish by weaving the ribbons through it to welcome Rev. Jack Belsom and our Covenant with him. He was installed as our minister on Sunday, February 28, 1993.

Takako Dickinson recalls Nobuye's macrame project reflects the open and inclusive ministry of our church. Rev. Jack Belsom and wife Mei Ling first wove a cross in the center of the scroll and the members added ribbons one by one to make their diversity visible. It took several Sundays to complete the weaving and Iao UCC became an open and affirming church.

Joy Yamane says Nobuye was her sponsor more than thirty years ago, when Joy joined Iao UCC. She remembers that Nobuye was so kind and made her feel welcome. She will always be grateful to Nobuye.

In her later years, Nobuye relocated to Honolulu with Bill to live with their daughter Gwen. Iao Church really missed their presence as both Nobuye and Bill were such a vital part of our church's life and our lives. Our paths would cross again, said Carolyn Kamidoi, when Bill became a resident at Leahi Hospital where my mother was also residing. Eventually Nobuye also resided at Leahi and it was always a pleasure to visit with Nobuye and mom. Iao Church was always on her mind as she would want updates about the church ohana. She befriended my mom and other residents and they all became great companions for each other, singing with visitors, playing games and enjoying other activities.

Nobuye is missed dearly by her family and all those whose lives she touched. She is now flying with the other Iao church angels and watching over all of us.



How can we help the Houseless of Maui?

By Anna Mayeda

Matthew 25:44
... “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?”

When the COVID 19 pandemic forced us all into a world of quarantine, mask wearing, social distancing and living with the unknowns of the deadly virus, most of us had a roof over our heads, food on our table, and support from our family and friends. Imagine living on the streets, without access to basic needs such as toilets and showers when all the public parks were shut down! Through Rev. Tino’s association with agencies serving the houseless, lao UCC stepped up to try and assist those in need. Although lao UCC could not provide shower facilities, hygiene items and towels are being donated by many members and friends of lao UCC.

In the past few months, several volunteers of **Share Your Mana**, a nonprofit organization whose mission is “To transform the lives of the homeless through innovative solutions inspired by the community” have mobilized to address a basic hygiene need...laundry! Residents on Amala Place, the road to Kanaha Beach Park, sometimes hand wash their clothes in buckets and dry them over their tents or cars. Many residents do not have access to transportation or funds to pay for laundromats. Dirty clothes and towels are often simply thrown away when soiled, a practical solution for the residents, but causing unnecessary litter. The “Kuleana Clean” laundry project provides fresh towels, donated by lao UCC members, and laundromat service donated by Happy Valley Laundry in Wailuku as well as dry cleaning service donated by Maui Quality Dry Cleaning. This collaboration addresses a service that is so fundamental to most of us, but not one taken for granted by the residents of Amala Place.

Walking on Amala Place is an eye opener for anyone who has never been among those who live in shelters made of cardboard and crates, broken down cars, and make-shift tents. There is one portable toilet and faucet. Residents without cars have to haul their own drinking water by foot. This street is like nowhere on Maui where most of us live in comfort. Do these residents choose to live there? Whatever the reason, the conditions that our fellow brothers and sisters live in are simply not acceptable!

How does our faith community respond to this community where most are unemployed, cannot afford rent, may have mental health and/or substance abuse issues, and are living day to day in a “fight or flight” mode? The solutions are not simple, but what is clear is that we cannot be blind to issues that reflect a community in need. If you would like to help with donations, the Kuleana Clean project is seeking blankets, comforters, towels, laundry soap as well as monetary donations to “Share Your Mana” nonprofit organization to purchase more laundromat services. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Mayeda at 276-7607.



Kathryn Smith and Anna Mayeda with “Share Your Mana, Kuleana Clean”



Deployed, not Closed...

As members of the wider world of the United Church of Christ, as members of the Hawaii Conference UCC, as members of the Tri Isle Association of the UCC and as members of lao United Church of Christ, we are making a difference in the world, our island homes, our surrounding communities, our church family and our neighbors next door.

Think about it. What have you done? The list, I’m sure, is endless. Share that with us. Who knows, you may be doing something that sparks a fire in someone else as to “What a great idea. I can do ...”.

Pictures show what our communities have been doing in the past months.



Feeding those in need. B&G Community, Micronesians deliver drivers, Chaplain Mo, Youlida and boys and all the other volunteers.



B&G always making sure



Shelter dinner prep team.

Preschool is staying safe, wearing masks and washing hands.

To The Classes of 2020 and 2021

High School 2020
Sepehana Hadley
Baldwin
Richard Almos
Lahaina Luna

Elementary to Middle
Dominic Defang,
Ashante Shelton,
RJ Franky Tally,
Hamilton Johannes

Intermedite to High School
Jolyn Yinmed
Sasha Talley
Mohana Jim
Anela Awai-Stewart

High School 2021
Sonny Yoruw
Baldwin
Fausto William
Maui High
Akira Almos
Maui High
Kaitlyn Johannes

Congratulations

Dreams are whispers from the soul.

Love is the most precious thing you can give.

Faith makes all things possible.

May 2021

Iao United Church of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						I Lei Day 
2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo 	6	7 Pastor's Day Off	8
9 Mother's Day 	10	11	12	13 Ascension Day	14 Pastor's Day Off	15 Armed Forces Day 
16	17	18	19	20	21 Pastor's Day Off	22
23 Pentecost 	24	25	26 Council Meeting 5:45 Last Day DOE 	27	28 Pastor's Day Off	29
30 Graduates' (Youth) Sunday 	31 Office closed 					

June 2021

Iao United Church of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Pastor's Day Off	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 King Kamehameha Day Office Closed 	12
13	14 Flag Day 	15	16	17	18 Pastor's Day Off	19
20 Father's Day 	21	22	23	24	25 64th Anniversary of the United Church of Christ Pastor's Day Off	26
27 Summer Solstice 	28	29	30 Council Meeting 5:45 			