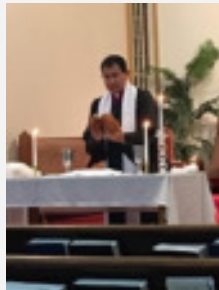


### Epiphany = Still Christmas!

January has flown by quick! You know what has also flown by quick? Our covenantal call Iao Church! Can you believe we are beginning our fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) year together? What a wonderful, bumpy, blessed, God-filled journey it has been. December of 2016 began with a zoom meeting with the Search Committee – 6pm Hawaii time and 9pm California time. January of 2017 began with me visiting with the Search Committee and with some of the Council Members. Preaching at Waiola Church, driving around Maui and really enjoying the beauty of this amazing Island and its people. February of 2017 comes along, and I get to meet many of you the Saturday before I led worship service the following day. Then the Holy Spirit of God moved you and I to say “yes” to God and yes to each other as you called me to be the Pastor of this amazing Church, we call Iao United Church of Christ. What a journey it has been and what a journey it continues to be – Amen and praise be to God! This photo was taken on my first day of work in March of 2017 during our Ash Wednesday joint worship service. Jack Yoruw at the age of 13 is now way taller than the Pastor and has become a great leader amongst the youth and young adults of our Church.



Since March 1<sup>st</sup> of 2017, together we have been able to bring Iao Church out into the community, agencies, and agency leaders and partner with them to fulfill our words into action mission. We have trusted in each other and remained steadfast on that mission, even through the most difficult moments. With the help of God and leaning on each other – we did this, and we continue to do this, beloveds. We brought on new disciples (members), and we lost some – but we continue to trust in God and remained focused on mission. Our visibility grew as we moved beyond the walls of buildings and put more effort and focus into our Maui Community. Were we perfect, no! Did we fall short at times, yes! Did we give up, it seemed easier to do at times but instead we held on to each other’s talents and with the help of God we made things happen through our imperfections.



Pandemic? What pandemic? Iao Church has not only remained open and deployed through our House Churches, but we have also expanded our ministry through our Food Distribution Ministry Program. We expanded our presence through our social media network to a point where we have followers from many different countries and cities. Just as much as the communion table is extremely important for us, feed those in need during this pandemic has given us the opportunity to let everyone know who we are as a church. Where God leads – God feed!

Blessings with virtual hugs and prayers.

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

Feb. 6 **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
 Isa 6:1-8, (9-13)  
 Ps 138  
 1 Cor 15:11-11  
**Luke 5:1-11**  
*A Surprising Catch*

Feb. 13 **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**  
 Jer 17:5-10  
 Ps 1  
 1 Cor 15:12-20  
**Luke 6:17-26**  
*Surprising Teaching*

Feb. 20 **Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**  
 Gen 45:11, 15  
 Ps 37:1-11, 39-40  
**Luke 6:27-38**  
*Love Your Enemies*

Feb 27 **Transfiguration**  
 Ex 34:29-35  
 Ps 99  
 2 Cor 3:12-4:2  
**Luke 9:28-36(37-43a)**  
*Astounding Glory*

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



Feb 6 Lewis Hadley

Feb 7 Brett Yamane

Feb 11 Rena Hayashi  
 Cheryl Hadley

Feb 13 Annette Matsushima  
 Suzette Robinson

Feb 14 Bradley Akitaki  
 Anne Rowehl

Feb 15 Goliad Johannes  
 Richard Carr

Feb 18 John Yoruw  
 Larry Tadakuma

Feb 19 Kayle Matsushima

Feb 20 Jim Robinson

Feb 22 Deann Sonoda  
 Betsy Hadley

Feb 23 Lynette Shiroma  
 Carol Toy

Food distribution numbers for January will be posted next month. We are still collecting canned goods and non perishables. Canned meats, vegetables and fruit are high on the list. And please don't forget personal toiletries for A Cup of Cold Water van.



## I WEAR MY MASK IN PUBLIC FOR THREE REASONS:

1. **HUMILITY:** I don't know if I have COVID as it is clear that people can spread the disease before they have symptoms.
2. **KINDNESS:** I don't know if the person I am near has a child battling cancer, or cares for their elderly mom. While I might be fine, they might not.
3. **COMMUNITY:** I want my community to thrive, businesses to stay open, employees to stay healthy. Keeping



Just a couple of notes from the Hawaii Conference:

The Nominating Committee is looking for qualified candidates to fill positions at the conference level. Positions, qualifications and nomination forms may be requested from IAO UCC office.

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**OH GOD, WHAT NOW?**

2022 Church Leaders Event  
Saturday, February 26, 2022  
9 am-1 pm, online

For more information

[www.hcucc.org/church-leaders-event](http://www.hcucc.org/church-leaders-event)

Register by February 18 at

[www.ezregister.com/events/36039](http://www.ezregister.com/events/36039)

Please inform the office 808-244-7353 when you are



## Altar Flower Dedication

Whether we join together at in person worship or virtually over your devices, one thing you are privileged to see are the beautiful flower arrangements that grace our altar. Cindy Smith and Dale Schwarz travel to Kula every Saturday where they take flower arranging classes from our own Grace Murata. They then donate that arrangement to our Sunday worship service. If you recall in the past you were able to sign-up to provide the altar flower for a special occasion or for God's glory. We would like to start up this tradition again but you would make a donation for the flowers that are provided by Grace, Cindy and Dale Schwarz. Your dedication/donation would be announce at the beginning of that Sunday's service. Birthdays, anniversaries, in remembrance of loved ones, birth of a child/grandchild and of course to Gods glory. Give the office a call at 808-244-7353 to sign-up.



The preschools first open enrollment went well. Fley reports that there is enrollment activity daily. They next open enrollment will be help in

name on the ballot. Our annual meeting will be held February 27th following Sunday Service. Covid numbers will determine what venue the meeting will be conducted on. As of this date, this is the slate of officers to be voted upon at our next annual meeting. Nominations, however, are not closed. They will be accepted up to and including at the meeting with permission of the person being nominated. You can help lao continue to be that Church on Fire.

Moderator – Shannon Ribao

**Vice Moderator – Still Needed**

Treasurer – Warren Orikasa

Secretary – Jackie Murai

Financial Secretary – Gail Ideue

Assis. Financial Secretary –

Katherine Hashiro



Buildings and grounds have been focusing on the North Door Project. They conducted a walk through with Robert Hartman and the three interested contractors. The project bids were due February 1.

The water usage concerns shared with you last month seems to have cleared up after the repairs in Endo Hall and the preschool were completed.

- 4 large diced jalapenos
- 1 large diced yellow onion
- 1 (14 oz) can diced tomatoes  
(same amount 14 oz of water)
- 2 (8 oz) cans of tomato sauce
- 1 tsp garlic salt (or to taste)
- 1 tsp Spanish Paprika (or to taste)
- Salt & Pepper to taste

Dice jalapenos and onion and place in a medium size saucepan. Put diced tomatoes into the pan along with the same amount of water. Put 2 cans of tomato sauce, garlic, Spanish paprika, salt and pepper. Cook on high until the mixture comes to a boil. Reduce heat and cook until jalapenos and onions are tender and the sauce thickens.

Can be served while hot, but best served when it cools off. Salsa will get hotter over night in the fridge....YUM!!!

**WARNING:** It's gonna be HOT!



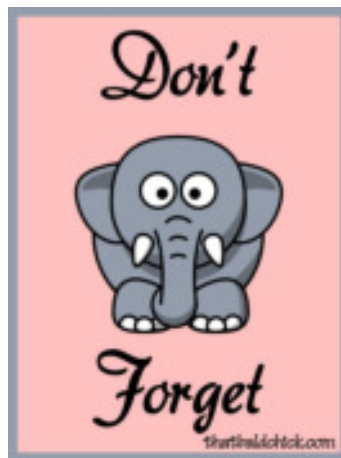
Uganda	6
Federated States of Micronesia	4
Philippines	3
Argentina	3
Tanzania	2
Dominican Republic	2
Brazil	2
Qatar	2

Who we reached by city:

Wailuku, HI	74
Kahului, HI	40
Kihei, HI	35
Albuquerque, NM	20
Honolulu, HI	18
Clovis, NM	10
Kula, HI	10
Pukalani, HI	6
Makawao, HI	6

The largest group by gender and age was 61% women aged 65+ and 39% male aged 55-64.

Just a few reminders



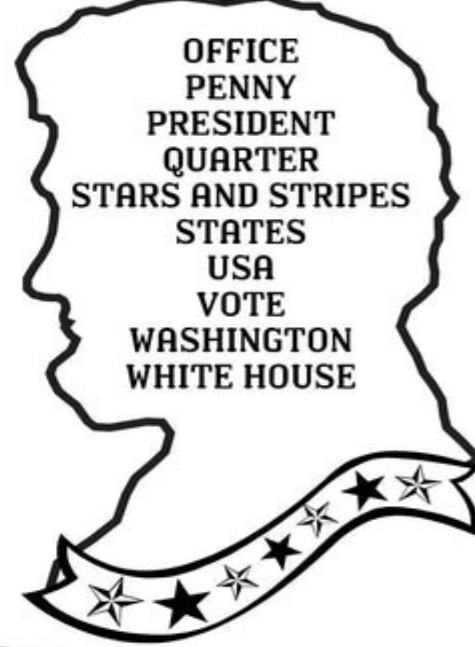
David Murata is still asking for pineapple tops. He propagates, nurtures and when ready, shares the fruit with the community.

Grace Murata is looking for a variety of medium to large vases for plants and flowers that will be shared at our next fundraiser.

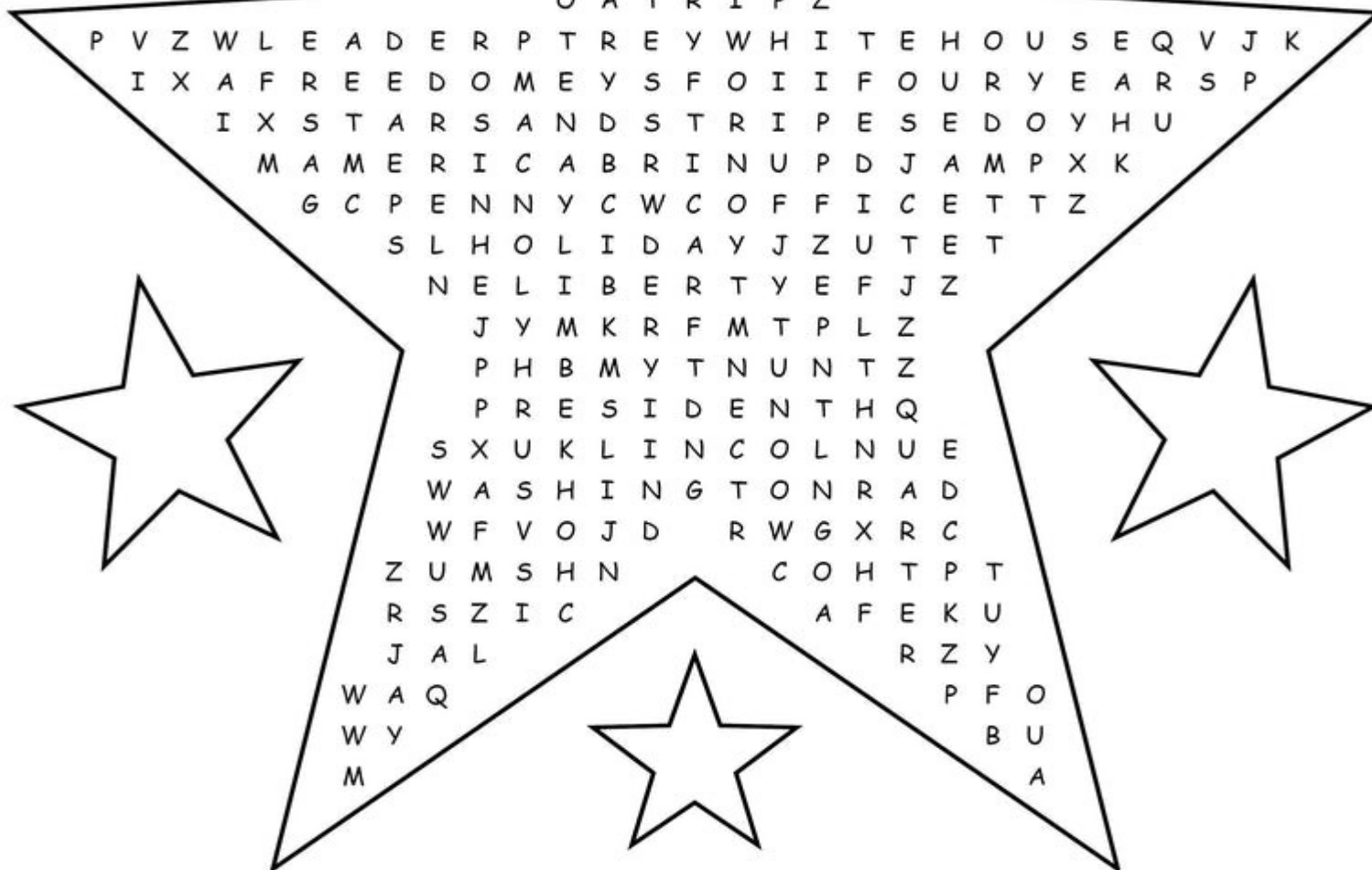




Same products, same prices, same services as the Amazon you know. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to get started.

And did you know, when shopping at Office Max/Office Depot if you give the churches phone number (808)244-7353 at checkout, points are given to the church for redeeming on merchandise they purchase. Ex: our points just covered the cost of the printer ink we needed. Also if you turn in your empty used ink cartridge(s) to them, the church will receive additional points



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O A T R I P Z



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
<b>January 2022</b> 				AA 7-8(K)	Pastor's Day off Micronesia Women's Group 6-7 (K)	Free Keiki Health Fair 9-1
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 				AA 7-8(K)	Pastor's Day off Micronesia Women's Group 6-7 (K)	AA 7-8(K)
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany				AA 7-8(K)	Pastor's Day off Micronesia Women's Group 6-7 (K)	AA 7-8(K)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany	Presidents' Day <b>Office Closed</b>		Council Meeting 5:45	AA 7-8(K)	Pastor's Day off Micronesia Women's Group 6-7 (K)	AA 7-8(K)
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
Transfiguration Sunday after 					<b>March 2022</b> 	

**Address Services Requested**

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

**What's inside . . .**

Blessings from Pastor Tino .....	1
February 2022 Lectionary .....	2
Food Distribution.....	2
February 2022 Birthdays .....	2
Shannon's Scoop.....	3
From Conference.....	3
Altar Flower Dedications.....	4
IPS Happenings .....	4
B&G .....	4
Annual Meeting Reminder.....	4
Food for thought.....	5
A Few Reminders.....	5
Report from Facebook.....	5
Just For Fun.....	6
February 2022 Calendar .....	7
Back Cover Material (this page) .....	8

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

<b>VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP</b>	<b>9:30 A.M.</b>
Pastor	Florentino Cordova
Moderator	Shannon Ribao
Church Admin	Vacant
Choir Director & Pianist	Vacant
Newsletter	Dawna Krueger
Iao Preschool Director	Florida Iniba

***You are always welcome at Iao UCC.***  
***We are a people of God, living and cherishing***