

Iao Pepa

Na Makani

A Monthly Newsletter of Iao United Church of Christ

2371 W. Vineyard Street, Wailuku | (808) 244-7353 | iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net

November, 2022

Shared from "ksbe.edu/article/weekly-devotional-an-abundant-life/"

Heluhelu Baibala

A e luku aku: i hele mai ho'i au, i loa'a ai iā lākou ke ola, a nui loa.
– **Ioane 10:10b**

I came so that they would have life and have it abundantly.
– **John 10:10b**

He mana'o o ke kahu

For a couple of weeks, I've been feeling incomplete. Why? My grill had died. I had this one for over 10 years and it served me well, easily grilling steaks, chicken, seafood, veggies, and whatever I threw at it. It had a side burner so I could fry anything and not be worried about the mess. I knew the end was near when huge flames started coming from the back of the burners while nothing came from the front. In addition, one of the wheel supports had rusted away, so it sat propped up on a brick. It was time for a new one and over a recent weekend, I got one – a four-burner model with a side burner for frying foods outside. As soon as I put it together, I was grilling. My kāne card was renewed and I felt life was full and abundant again.



Have you ever felt like that, like you were missing something, that life wasn't full or abundant? Maybe life was good for a time and you were, "cooking with gas." Slowly things didn't have the impact, maybe even to the point that you were feeling down and out, your flame of life had begun to sputter out. If so, it's time to get a new lease on life with the true source of life.

Second Corinthians 5:17 tells us, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." Our life is in Christ. If we are living through him, we will have the energy, the spirit, and the purpose to live. As our key scripture tells us, Christ came so that we might have life and have it abundantly.

Some mistake an abundant life as one full of possessions, but Jesus warns against that, "For what does it benefit a person to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" Mark 8:36 and Mark 10:25 says, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."

The abundant life means that Christ will give us more than we need, albeit not necessarily what we want. The abundant life means we have a purpose to serve him and only him. The abundant life means life is good ALL THE TIME. So, next time you feel like you are missing something, seek the source of the abundant life, seek Christ, and maybe you'll also get your grill.



November Lectionary

Nov. 5 22 Sunday after Pentecost
Hag 1:12b-2.9 & Ps 145:1-5,
17-21 or Ps 98
Job 19:23-27a & Ps 17:1-9
Thess 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38
Hold on to Faith
(Daylight Savings Ends)

Nov. 13 23 Sunday after Pentecost
Isa 65:17—25 & Isa 12
Mal 4:1-2a & Ps 98
2 Thess 3:6-13
Luke 21:-15
Infinite Possibilities
(Stewardship Sunday)

Nov. 20 Reign of Christ
Jer 23:1-6 & Luke 1:68-79
Jer 23:1-6 & Ps 46
Col 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43
Together In Christ
(Thanksgiving Sunday)

First Sunday of Advent (Year A)
Isa 2:1-5
Ps 122
Rom 13:11-14
Matt 24:36-44
Called to Gift
(United Black Christians
Anniversary)

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

November Birthdays

Nov. 2 Joshua Kenyel

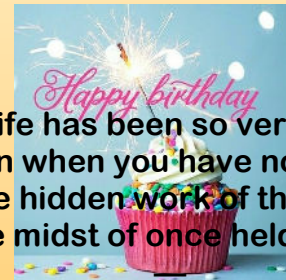
Nov. 11 Lynette Yamashiro

Nov. 16 Lynette Kaneshina

Nov. 16 Rick Hayashi

Nov. 19 Ruth Mukai

Nov. 25 Alan Maeda



Your life has been so very blessed
Even when you have not seen,
The hidden work of the Lord
In the midst of once held dreams

For as another year reveals
A beautiful new dawn,
God paves the way for new begin-
nings

As another dream is born.
So, today, as you celebrate,
Remember, God loves you
And blesses you abundantly
In whatever you may do.

Happy Birthday!

October Worship Responsibilities:

	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 27
Pulpit	Rev.Dr.	Rev.Dr.	Rev.Dr.	Susan
Supply	Roxanne WhiteLight	Jack Belsom	Roxanne WhightLight	King
Usher/ Greeter		Jane Tesoro		
Adult		Bency		
Reader		Benjamin		
Youth		Mohana		
Reader		Jim		
Aloha Hour		Susan King/Sanoe Awai		

Happy November Iao UCC Family & Friends.

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and great spirits. As always, if you need anything, please call our office at (808) 244-7353 or email us at iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net.

Reflecting on October, we were able to celebrate PRIDE in person for the first time since 2019. This year's ALOHA MAUI PRIDE Festival was held in Kahului at The Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. It was a free event open to all people of all ages.

I saw familiar faces and made many new friends. The day was filled with various Local vendors, Community agencies, entertainment, food trucks and games for the kids. The cohesiveness was amazing and the amount of people in attendance was the largest I've ever seen.

I couldn't help but feel bittersweet about my conversations with other members of the LGBTQIA+ community. It was similar in content with a storyline of REJECTION and NON ACCEPTANCE from family members, friends and or churches. All I could think was...we must do better! It is crucial for us as humans to feel loved and accepted.

What is ACCEPTANCE?

"It is the action or process of being received as adequate or suitable, typically to be admitted into a group."

The virtue of Acceptance means that we accept ourselves and others just the way we are. God created us in God's image and God does not make mistakes. Being a part of God's family means that we love and welcome everyone, just the way Jesus did.

What is LOVE?

"An intense feeling of deep affection."

The virtue of Love means the giving of unconditional love and having a positive impact on the lives of others. It is about showing a genuine concern for the good of others, with unselfish acts of kindness such as: compassion, caring, thoughtfulness, service, and other humanitarian and or noble actions.



God created us to love one another despite race, gender, sexuality and color. Love is from God and therefore God is Love.

I have said this before that the "church" is just a building, WE ARE THE CHURCH! To Be the CHURCH we need to provide ALL people with a safe space where there is LOVE, ACCEPTANCE, COMPASSION and KINDNESS in word and action. This may simply mean listening to someone, getting involved in service, having a conversation or even providing a hug.

It is about reminding people that they are loved and accepted no matter who they are, who they love or where they come from. We can carry this gift of LOVE with us wherever we go and share it with all of God's other children.

For all those who have felt unaccepted and unloved at some point in your life, please know that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, YOU are always WELCOME here!!!

Take Care and May God Bless Us All!!!



LGBTQIA+ is an inclusive term that includes people of all genders and sexualities, such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer, intersex, asexual, pansexual, and allies. While each letter in **LGBTQIA+** stands for a specific group of people, the term encompasses the entire spectrum of gender fluidity and sexual identities.

" LOVE and COMPASSION are necessities, not luxuries.
Without them, humanity cannot survive."
-Dalai Lama



"Infinite Possibilities" is the compelling theme for our 2023 Stewardship campaign. It helps us to maintain a positive outlook for the future of our church despite the continuous loom of the COVID situation. Also, because of the COVID situation, the Stewarding Community has once again decided to scale down our stewardship campaign. Unfortunately, we have decided to forego our Kickoff dinner and our special luncheon on Stewardship Sunday which is marked for November 13.

However, on a brighter side, we are excited about our guest steward. He is none other than our former pastor, the Reverend Dr. Jack Belsom. We are eager to hear him expand on the infinite possibilities for the future of our church on Stewardship Sunday. We will also have one of our youths, Kayla Bathin, be our first witnessing steward on October 30 to share her message. On November 13, Stewardship Sunday, we hope that you will turn in your pledge card and talent sheet during the church service or you may mail them to our church office.

We would like to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude for your generous pledges and more importantly, for being good stewards not only to the church but to the neighboring community as well.

Much Mahalo from the Stewarding Community:
Katherine Hashiro, Rena Hayashi, Jackie Murai, Lynette Shiroma

I would like to share my time and talents through the ministry of this church in the following ways:

- ☐ help with shelter dinners
- ☐ organize photos and records
- ☐ Aloha Hour
- ☐ Teach Sunday School/be an assistant
- ☐ dedicate/donate flowers
- ☐ help in the office
- ☐ be a greeter and/or usher
- ☐ be a reader during worship
- ☐ visit the sick/shut-ins, Hale Makua
- ☐ set up/clean-up for church gatherings
- ☐ help with workdays (cleaning, yard work, painting)
- ☐ help with funerals and the bereaved
- ☐ be a choir member, or start up the choir again
- ☐ provide special music for Sunday services
- ☐ become a member of a community:

Worshipping___ Learning ___ Stewarding ___ Buildings
& Grounds___ Witnessing and Reconciling___ Pre-
school___ Endowment___ Finance___ Funeral___ County
Fair___

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I am available: ___ Weekdays ___ Weekends

I want to participate in God's future, and I want to grow in my stewardship and in my giving to God's church and the world.

During 2023, I plan to give:

\$_____per week

\$_____per month or

\$_____ other

My total giving for 2023 will be _____
Since this is an estimate of what I plan to give to the church for next year, if my financial circumstances change, I can change this estimate by notifying the church office.

Name (please print):

Signature:

If you have not received this by mail please fill out and mail back to the church office by Nov 14, 2022.
Mahalo,
Stewarding Community

Guest Stewards of Iao UCC

By the time you receive this newsletter, Jaymina (Kayla) Bathin will have shared her story as our youth witnessing steward on October 30. Hope you were able to listen to her words. Visit Iaoucc.org to view the Facebook live past Sundays. In case you missed it.

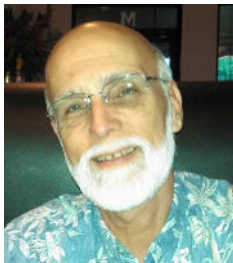
Our adult guest stewards this year will be our watchful neighbors. They all keep an eye on the church grounds and report to Buildings and Grounds anything out of the ordinary.

Those able to join us on Sunday, November 6 are Vanessa Sankaya, Nur Gibson, Uilani Carpio. Karen and Bo Mahoe will not be able to attend our service but will be recognized along with the others.



Karen and Bo Mahoe

Uilani will be sharing a few of her memories of what living across the street from Iao UCC involves.



The 2023 Stewarding Campaign will conclude with our guest steward, Rev. Dr. Jack Belsom bringing us our message and gifting us with his musical talent on the piano.



We give thanks and honor to our living veterans and say *mahalo* for the service they provided to keep us free.

Mahalo to our Living Vets!

Mike Takamatsu

David Murata

Daniel Kamidoi

Dennis Hashiro

Rev. Florentino Cordova

James Morrison

(Please inform the church office if and when we get new Veterans to add to our Mahalo list)



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Search Committee Update

The Search Committee completed the review of our church profile on October 30, 2022.

It will now be submitting, along with three reference letters, to Rev. Dr. Valerie Ross, Associate Conference Minister of HCUCC, for her review and suggestions.

Following her suggestions, we will be presented to our council for approval.

The conference will then send it out to prospective qualified ministers.

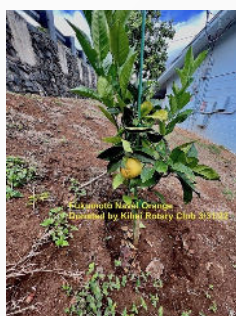


One thing the search committee doesn't want to hear.

Do you remember from your March/April 2022 lao Pepa how B&G planted tiny little fruit trees that had been donated to us by the Rotarty Club?



Well, look at them now only 7 months later!
My how they have grown and are producing fruit!



Buildings and Grounds Community, as always, has been busy keeping our campus safe, secure and clean. Help from the Kosrae congregation is greatly appreciated.



Our ever faithfull Visitation Team made their second Tuesday of the month visit to bring a little son/sun shine to our elderly, shut-ins and others unable to join us for our regular times together. Butter mochi and red velvet cupcakes from Jane Akitake, pumpkin muffin from Jackie Murai, Panda Snack from Lee Murakami and a jack'o'lantern box filled with sweet treats from June Uyetake. The sign-up is on the bulletin board for those willing to help with the visits or make donations. Check in the back of the sanctuary, call the office or Lee Murakami.



Remember to sign-up or call the office if you would like to make a floral dedication. (orchid from the garden of Bert Akitake)

We had a record month for feeding the hungry. New clients almost every day. Some unsheltered, some from senior housing, some from your neighborhood. We may sound like a broken record, but please continue to give as you can. We usually ask for non perishible items, but if your garden has an abdunace, bring the extra to the pantry on Mondays at 10:30; if you have an extra can of food in your pantry, bring it any time. WOW, if you didn't drive as much this week, put that extra money in an envelope and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday marked "Food Pantry." Many of these people do not get serviced by Cup of Cold Water. Therefore, when receive toiletries, we have started to share with them. So on our list is women's hygiene items and all sizes of diapers. Susan could use help in the pantry Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.



October at the pre-school brings Fire Safety, mixing colors, and lots of dramatic play followed up by Halloween fun! And as always, October ends with Halloween caroling around the neighborhood giving out treats not tricks.



Advent Begins

Advent is a good time to remind ourselves that many of the Christian symbols we take for granted have rich meaning that often spans centuries. Ritual symbols are not merely designations. Rather, they are *vessels* that contain storied wisdom and the echoes of history. The tradition of the Advent wreath is no exception

While Christians in the Middle Ages were said to have used wreaths with candles during the Christmas season, historians tell us the first *Advent* wreath was conceived in the early 1800s by a Protestant pastor named *Johann Hinrich Wichern*, a man known for his mission work among the urban poor.

One year, around 1830, Johann noticed that during the month of December, the children in his mission school, *Rauhes Haus*, would inquire daily about whether Christmas had arrived. In response to their impatience and constant questioning, he fashioned a “wreath” from the wheel of a cart. It featured 20 red candles and 4 white ones. To help the children mark time in the buildup to Christmas, a new red candle was lit each weekday, increasing the number lit as each day passed. White candles were reserved for Sundays.

Note: Today, some modern lighting fixtures draw upon Johann’s design concept. Fixtures of this type are now called “Wichern Wreaths.”

While the idea of the Advent wreath caught on in Protestant churches, it didn't reach the United States until the 1920s. It is around this time that Roman Catholics began to adopt the ritual, likely learned from German Catholic and Lutheran immigrants.

As the custom evolved, people began to source materials from the same natural resource used so dominantly for Christmas decoration: *the pine tree*.

a circle of evergreen

From the fragrant pine, comes its boughs. The wreath’s evergreen garland signifies continuous life with no beginning or end, echoing the symbolic meaning of the wreath’s circular shape. Evergreen is also said to signify victory over persecution and suffering.

Pinecones may suggest hope and the seed of life. The small vulnerable pinecone points to the promise of a large towering tree. Holly and berries may also be added. Their red color points ahead to Jesus’ sacrifice, death, and resurrection.



<i>Income September 2022</i>	<u><i>Actual</i></u>	<u><i>Budget</i></u>	<u><i>YTD Income</i></u>	<u><i>YTD Budget</i></u>	<u><i>YTD Expense</i></u>
<i>Regular Offerings and Pledges</i>	<i>\$10,111</i>	<i>\$10,525</i>	<i>\$150,425</i>	<i>\$94,725</i>	<i>\$55,7000</i>
<i>Expenses' September 2022</i>	<u><i>\$21,175</i></u>				
<i>Net Income</i>	<i>(\$11,064)</i>	<i>The full financial report is located in the church office for review.</i>			



Be aware. We do not have a minister or their additional expenses, our insurance has increased by \$2,000 a month over the past five years. Our year to date budget is good. As we look into 2023 we need to look at these additional expenses and how to cover them.

Looking at the bright side we may have a County Fair next year. For further explanation and or questions, contact Warren Orikasa at 808-276-8089 or email, worikasa@gmail.com

Volunteer Position Openings:



Sending out birthday cards: Remembering our members on their birthday. This involves sending out a special birthday card, via snail mail, to members and friends of our beloved church community. Church has a budget for cards and stamps or they may be donated.

Iao Papa Newsletter Editor(s): As of December, our current volunteer editor will be resigning. Help be the one to create, publish, and distribute our newsletter that keeps our members, friends, association, and conference up to date on the happenings of Iao UCC.

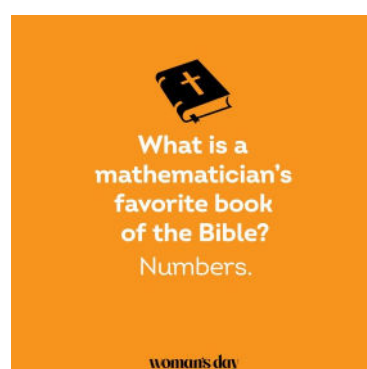
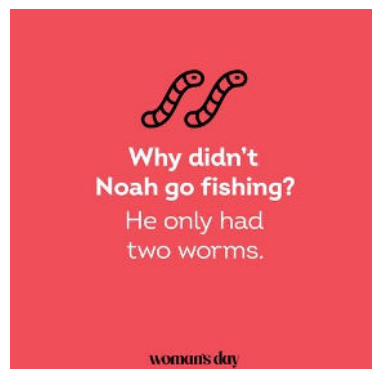
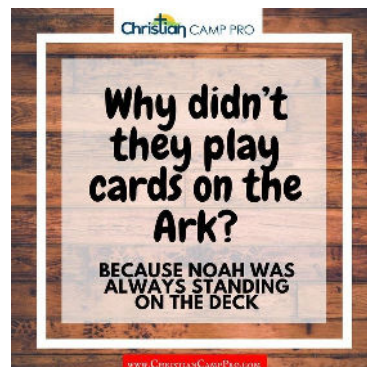
Thank you, Mahalo, Gracias, Merci, Arigatou gozaimasu, Salamt, Kulo, Kamagar, Kalanga, Komol for your participation in Foodland's "Give Aloha".

9/9/2022-9/27/2022

Your donations	\$947.00
Company Match	\$210.83
Partner Match	<u>\$34.85</u>
Grand total	\$1,192.68



give aloha
Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program



HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE?

T H A N K S G I V I N G									
1									11
2									12
3									13
4									14
5									15
6									16
7									17
8									18
9									19
10									20

© Hootoom All Rights Reserved










SUDOKU

8		6			3		9	
	4			1			6	8
2			8	7				5
1		8			5		2	
	3		1				5	
7		5		3		9		
	2	1			7		4	
6				2		8		
	8	7	6		4			3

ANSWER

8	7	6	5	4	3	1	9	2
5	4	3	2	1	9	7	6	8
2	1	9	8	7	6	4	3	5
1	9	8	7	6	5	3	2	4
4	3	2	1	9	8	6	5	7
7	6	5	4	3	2	9	8	1
3	2	1	9	8	7	5	4	6
6	5	4	3	2	1	8	7	9
9	8	7	6	5	4	2	1	3

November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>October 2022</p> 		<p>1</p> <p></p> <p>All Soul's Day</p> <p>MFG District Meeting 5:30-7:30 (K) MCA 6:30-8:30 (S)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Happy Day AFG 9 am (K)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Micronesian Women's Group 6-7(K)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Filling the Pulpit Rev.Dr. Roxanne WhiteLight Guest Stewards Our Neighbors</p> <p></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p></p> <p>VOTE ELECTION DAY</p> <p>Support Group Visitation</p> <p>S MCA 6:30-8:30 (S)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Happy Day AFG 9 am (K)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>	<p>11</p> <p></p> <p>Day of Veterans HONORING ALL WHO SERVED</p> <p>CHURCH CLOSURE</p>	<p>12</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Filling the Pulpit as Guest Steward Rev.Dr. Jack Belsom</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>MCA 6:30-8:30 (S)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Happy Day AFG 9 am (K)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Micronesian Women's Group 6-7(K)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Filling the Pulpit Rev.Dr. Roxanne WhiteLight</p>	<p>21</p> <p></p>	<p>22</p> <p>MCA 6:30-8:30 (S)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Happy Day AFG 9 am (K)</p>	<p>24</p> <p></p> <p>HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</p> <p>CHURCH CLOSURE</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Micronesian Women's Group 6-7(K)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>AA 7-8(K)</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Filling the Pulpit Susan King Certified Peer Specialist</p> <p></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>MCA 6:30-8:30 (S)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Church Council 5:45 ZOOM</p> <p>Happy Day AFG 9 am (K)</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
					<p>December 2022</p> 	



Iao United Church of Christ
2371 W. Vineyard Street
Wailuku, HI 96793-1626
 (808) 244-7353
iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net

Address Services Requested

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

What's inside . . .

A Message from Kahu Kalani.....	1
November 2022 Lectionary	2
November 2022 Worship Responsibilities	2
November 2022 Birthdays	2
Shannon's Scoope.....	3
From the Stewarding Community	4
2022 Witnessing Stewards	5
Mahalo Veterans.....	5
Pastoral Search Update.....	5
Look at them Grow!.....	6
October Visitation's/ Food Pantry Notes	6
Preschool Happenings.....	7
Advent Has Arrived	8
Financial Report / Volunteer Openings	9
Give Aloha Report	9
Just for Fun.....	10
November 2022 Canendar	11
Back Cover Material (this page)	12

Iao United Church of Christ

2371 W. Vineyard Street
Wailuku, HI 96793-1626

Office phone: (808) 244-7353

Office hours: Mon. to Fri., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Food Pantry phone : (808)446-7537

Pantry hours: M,T,TH,F 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Email: iaoucc@hawaiiantel.net

Website: iaoucc.org

facebook.com/groups/iaoucc/

IN PERSON & VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

Pastor	Vacant
Moderator	Shannon Ribao
Church Admin	Theresa Supera
Choir Director & Pianist	Vacant
Newsletter	Dawna Krueger
Iao Preschool Director	Flerida Iniba

You are always welcome at Iao UCC.

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