

Iao Pepa

Na Makani

A Monthly Newsletter of Iao United Church of Christ

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

May 2023



Kahu Kaunaloa Boshard, KS Hawai'i

⁷ No ia mea, 'ōlelo hou maila 'o Iesū iā lākou, 'Oia'i'o, he 'oia'i'o ka'u e 'ōlelo aku nei iā 'oukou, 'O wau nō ka puka no nā hipa. ⁸ 'O ka po'e a pau i hele mai ma mua o'u, he po'e 'aihue lākou a me ka pōwā: akā, 'a'ole i ho'olohe nā hipa iā lākou. ⁹ 'O wau nō ka puka: inā e komo kekahi ma o'u nei, e ola ia, a e komo mai ia i loko, a e puka aku i waho, a e loa'a iā ia ka 'ai. ¹⁰ 'O ka 'aihue, hele mai ia e 'aihue wale nō, a e pepehi, a e luku aku: i hele mai ho'i au, i loa'a ai iā lākou ke ola, a nui loa.- Ioane 10:7-10

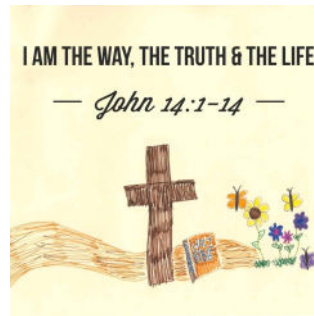
⁷ Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came [a]before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.- John 10:7-10

Have you ever walked into a restaurant with a door plainly stating to the user "This One" and when you go to open the door it pushes against the door jamb and it remains closed, and you feel a bit foolish? Yes, it happens and often I just wish doors to public establishments would just open both ways. In this third "I Am" scripture passage Jesus announces that he is the gateway or the door that leads to eternal life. Using the Shepherd watching over the sheep analogy, Jesus reminds us that when his sheep trust in him they will be able to go in and go out through the DOOR with safety and protection on both sides.

Perhaps the most important feature noted about the Lord's sheep in this parable is that they are keenly aware of their shepherd's voice. Once they hear another voice giving orders, they will not listen and may even distance themselves from the stranger. However, when they hear their master's command to come into the safety of their enclosure through the gate at night to rest and to go back out through the gate in the morning to graze, they do so with confidence. This "I Am" the Door speaks plainly that we do not have to fear the other voices of distraction that we hear if we just listen to the voice of Jesus and follow his directions. How will we know him from the others? Just study his words of guidance that lead to an abundant life. If any voice sounds similar, test their character. Does it match up with the integrity of Christ, who is loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, gentle, kind, good, and never wavering in doing what is right at the right time? Once you know the voice of our Good Shepherd, you will never depart it, and your life will be blessed, forever.

Lectionary

5/7 5th Sunday of Easter
 Acts 7:55-60
 Ps 32:1-5,15-16
 1Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14
Enduring Witness



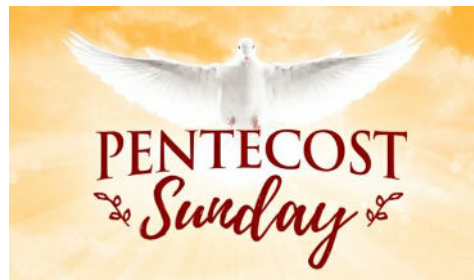
5/14 6th Sunday of Easter
 Acts 17:22-31
 Ps 66:8-20
 1Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21
*Mother's Day/Rural Life
 Sunday*



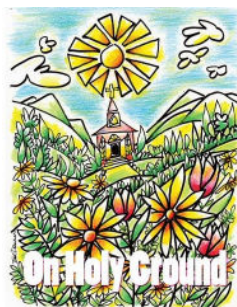
5/21 7th Sunday of Easter
 Acts 1:6-14
 Ps 68:1-10, 32-35
1Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
*Spirit of Witness/
 Mental Health Sunday*



5/28 Pentecost Sunday
Acts 2:1-21 or
 Num 11:24-30
 Ps 104:24-34, 35b
 1Cor 12:3b-13 or
 Acts 2:1-21
 John 20:19-23 or
 John 7:37-39
*Strengthen the Church
 Offering*



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. ●



5/5 Maybelle Hashizume
 5/8 Paul Tonnessen
 5/ Anna Mayeda
 5/12 Thelma Iwami
 5/16 Melissa Goulart
 5/18 Diana George
 5/20 Michael Kaneshina
 5/22 Lyndon Cornelius
 5/24 Carrissa Yinmed
 5/30 Heide Israel
 5/30 Noah Johannes Jr

Worship responsibility

Usher/Greeter Rena Hayashi
 Youth Reader Sharron Sigrah
 Adult Readers
 7th Diana George
 14th Dawna Krueger
 21st Jackie Muria
 28th Diana George
 Flowers
 5/21 Dawna Krueger
 (daughter B.D.)
 Aloha Hour Joy Yamane



Prayer List

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Yourself | Those you love |
| Iao UCC in it's search for a settled Minister | |
| Our Island | Our State |
| Our Country | The World |



| Shannon's Scoop Moderator's Notes

Aloha, Iao UCC, Families & Friends,

Thank you for attending our annual Congregational meeting both here in person as well as virtually. For today's meeting, I would like us to keep it lighthearted and full of love. I was feeling a bit overwhelmed this week while thinking about this meeting. However, I soon realized that today is a gathering in a safe welcoming space...this is our church and we all come here filled with love and light.

It has been quite a challenging year being that we do not have a "settled" pastor. My responsibilities are that of a Moderator and of at Pastor at times. It pushes me to limits that are new and taxing. It is a balancing act, between a demanding full-time job, moderator, "mock" pastor, wife, mom, nana, and a personal life.

With that being said, I have faith that I am in the role, God intended me to be. It is all in God's timing not ours. I am also constantly reminded that we are continually guided by the greatest pastor, GOD!!!

We have also had many other pastors' step in to help us. Thank you so much to Pastor Jack Belson, Rev. Dr. Roxanne WhiteLight, Pastor Robb Kojima, Kahu Wayne Higa, Kahu Kealahou Alika, Kahu Kalani Wong, Chaplain Tim Greathouse, Dennis Barger and many other community partners. It truly takes a village!!! I am so grateful for the collaboration. It is a reassuring feeling that we are all able to lean on one another throughout this process.

It has been almost a year since Pastor Tino left and although it was very difficult, I truly believe that it has made us stronger. We have seen so many volunteers step up to help in one way or another. Thank you so much to all our committees/communities.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart; and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths." - Proverbs 3:5-6

One of our biggest tasks this year was forming a search committee to redo our church profile so that we may look for possible candidates that may be a match for us as our settled pastor. We started the process in June of 2022. Our search committee consists of Suzette Robinson, Jackie Murai, Warren Orikasa, Jaime Ribao, Lee Murakami, Anela Awai-Stewart, Danny Johannes, Gail Ideue and myself. We met every month and went over the entire church profile. Once it was completed, we sent our profile to our associate conference minister, Valerie Ross for her to review. We met with her on March 27th to go over any questions and/or concerns. We then met with our council to get approval on March 29th.

The final draft of our church profile was sent out to our congregation on March 30th. We requested feedback to be sent to the church by April 5th. We did not receive any questions, only positive comments that validated our hard work. I sent an email on April 10th to Valerie Ross giving her the thumbs up to have our church profile uploaded to the UCC website to begin the search and matching of candidates for a settled pastor for our church. This is just a brief timeline. It was a very tedious but such an amazing learning experience.

As we move forward today, may we keep love, patience, openness and light in our minds and hearts. Go forth and be a beacon of light to all. Keeping in mind that whatever our struggles, "This too shall pass." I leave you with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr. "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

Love and Aloha,
Shannon Ribao - Grateful Moderator



Mahalo once again for all your generous donations for the replacement of Kanda Hall roof. From B&G teams temporary repair to the professional repair, It looks so nice. They also reinforced the sagging lanai roof.



Makana Ramos (Shannon Ribao nephew) made a visit to our food pantry on May 1. With him he brought LOTS of canned goods to add to the food we distribute. He attends Wailuku Hongwanji Pack 18. Mahalo to Makana



Our donation for 2023
One Great Hour of Sharing

\$480.00

Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



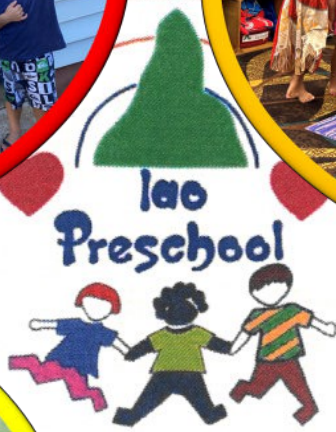
Christ our Lord has Risen Today

Christ our Lord has Risen Today



Easter Sunrise





Earth Day
 Brought the children out
 of the fenced yard to
 take part in a campus
 clean-up.
 One mom shared bee-
 keeping to the next gen-
 eration of keepers.
 Easter prep coumlated in
 that wouderful feeling
 ths finding ththe hidden
 eggs!



The history of May Day and Lei Day in Hawai'i

This Kūkahekahe Cultural Conversations column celebrating May Day and Lei Day is contributed by Ho'okaha Cultural Specialist Nanea Armstrong-Wassel. It is a reprise of an article originally shared in 2017 but the timeless nature of these celebrations merits another read!

Modern May Day celebrations in Hawai'i bring together traditional Hawaiian symbolism and contemporary pageantry. The symbols employed in these celebrations – colors, beloved ali'i, mountains, flora and fauna, and so on – have long-standing associations with particular islands.

These associations continue today, as the symbolic color and floral emblem of each island are often noted in mele and mo'olelo. The first the mele to record all the island symbols was composed shortly after the turn of the 19th century.

Nā Lei o Hawai'i

Reverend Samuel Kapū of Maui wrote “Nā Lei O Hawai'i” (The Wreaths of Hawai'i). This mele was dedicated to the goddess Hi'iakaikapoliopole, whose epic journey took her across Nā Kai 'Ewalu (the eight seas/channels of Hawai'i). The mele mentions the flower symbol of each island. Kapū's mele of the many lei of Hawai'i was set to music by Peleuli Amalu and sung in 1901 in Ho'okena, South Kona, on Hawai'i Island at a concert for Puka'ana Church.

When the Amalus returned to O'ahu in 1903, they continued to perform the mele at church and it quickly became a hō'ike favorite. Six years later, in 1909, the Ka'ahumanu Society members sang the song at the old Opera House, formerly located next to Ali'iōlani Hale, the judiciary building.

The society had young women acting out the song by representing each island while adorned with the appropriate color and lei. The pageant-like event garnered many admirers who soon followed suit by adding in pā'ū-riding royal courts using this song as the template for color and flower assignments.

By 1912, the colors had become customary and the popularized performance of Reverend Kapū's “Nā Lei O Hawai'i” mele by the Ka'ahumanu Society inspired Charles E. King's version of “Nā Lei O Hawai'i” in 1914.



Both versions describe each island with an identifying flower, color, chief, or with a famed seascape or landscape.

Why do we celebrate May Day as Lei Day on May 1st in Hawai'i?

In 1923, the Hawai'i Territorial Legislature passed Joint Resolution No. 1 acknowledging floral emblems. The Outdoor Circle initiated this resolution, which sought to name the hibiscus (aloalo) as the flower emblem of the territory. Their successful reasoning relied on the widely-accepted knowledge of the connection between designated colors, lei, and respective islands.

May Day celebrations as we know them with the royal courts dressed in their island colors, wearing their island lei, find their origin in the first lei contest held on May 1, 1928 – referred to as Lei Day. Don Blanding, originally from Oklahoma, came to Hawai'i in 1915 after seeing a play in Kansas City called "The Bird of Paradise" that depicted a romantic (and completely fictional) Hawai'i. His first local success came in writing newspaper ads for Ajinomoto Foods. From there, he grew into being a successful writer, distinctive artist, and the author of many books.

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In 1927, Blanding and a fellow "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" newspaper writer named Grace Tower Warren came up with the idea of honoring the tradition of the lei, which they thought to be in decline. The first Lei Day was held on May 1, 1928 and was a resounding success.

It took place in the lobby of Bank of Hawai'i and the official judges that day were: Princess Abigail Wahiikaahuula Campbell, Elizabeth Lahilahi Webb (lady-in-waiting for Queen Lili'uokalani) and Ali'i Lucy Kalaniki'eki'e Davis. The festival included a lei competition in which lei were judged based on the appropriate use of flowers and colors of islands as designated in 1923 by Hawai'i's Territorial Legislature's Joint Resolution 1.

Ever since this inaugural lei competition in 1928, we continue to celebrate May Day in Hawai'i as being synonymous with Lei Day. It is our unique and special way to celebrate our shared traditions, as memorialized in song:



Sudoku

Solve the Puzzles

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| | 1 | | |
| | | 2 | |
| 2 | | | 3 |

May 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|  <p>Happy Lei Day</p> <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> | | MFG District 5:30-7:30(K) | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Happy Days AFG 9a (K)</p> |  <p>AA 7-8 (K)</p> | <p>Ladies Lunch Brunch 11:30a-2p</p> <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Micronesia Women 6-7 (S)</p>  | AA 7-8 (K) |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| <p>Guest Minister Jack Belsom</p>  | Food Pantry 12:30-3:30 | <p>Visitation 1:30</p>  | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Happy Days AFG 9a (K)</p> | AA 7-8 (K) | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Micronesia Women 6-7 (S)</p> | AA 7-8 (K) |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| <p>Guest Minister Tim Greathouse</p>  | Food Pantry 12:30-3:30 | | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Happy Days AFG 9a (K)</p> | AA 7-8 (K) | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Micronesia Women 6-7 (S)</p> | AA 7-8 (K) |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| <p>Guest Minister Kahu Dennis Berger</p> | Food Pantry 12:30-3:30 | | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Happy Days AFG 9a (K)</p> | AA 7-8 (K) | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Micronesia Women 6-7</p> | <p>lao & Kosraean</p>  <p>AA 7-8 (K)</p> |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| <p>Guest Minister-Roxanne WhiteLight</p>  |  <p>Office & Food Pantry Closed</p> | | <p>Food Pantry 12:30-3:30</p> <p>Happy Days AFG 9a (K)</p> | | <p>Ladies Lunch Bunch 11:30-2:30</p> <p>Micronesia Women 6-7(S)</p> | |



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Office phone: **(808) 244-7353**
 Food Pantry: **(808) 446-7537**
 Office hours: **Mon. to Fri., 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 Administrator | Theresa Supera |
| Choir Director & Pianist | Jack Belsom |
| 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.