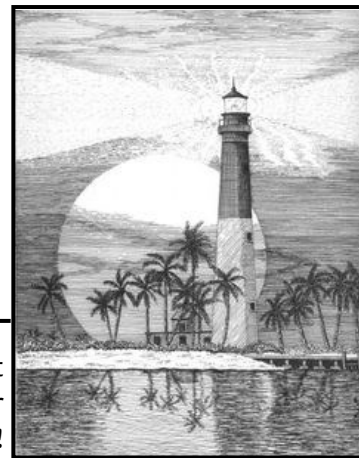


# THE BEACON

The Newsletter of the Waialua United Church of Christ  
67-174 Farrington Highway Waialua, Hawaii  
PO Box 663, Waialua, HI 96791  
August 2023, Vol 1



## *A message from our...*

### *...Interim Moderator*

GREETINGS AND ALOHA!



On behalf of its writers and contributors, I want to introduce you (and to many, welcome you back) to The Beacon, the Waialua United Church of Christ's newsletter!



Since the days of the sugar plantation, our church has recorded the true stories of its members and the doings of God's work here in Waialua on this humble letterhead that has put pen-to-paper the wonders of our small-but-strong community. Now, after a longer-than-expected hiatus, a few church members have taken the lead and brought back the newsletter to 2023!



Much has changed since the last time The Beacon has been published, including the writer of this Moderator's Message, and I for one am honored to be giving its introductory message.

On that note, I'd like to thank my uncle **Sevy Tolentino, Sr.** for his many, many years as this church's moderator and his dedication and service to Waialua United Church of Christ. It's quite the shoes to fill, but with God's help and the support of our church 'ohana, I hope to serve you well as interim Moderator.

Curious to know what else has changed in our church? I bet you are! From staffing changes and new groups meeting, to those who have graduated from high school and college, starting new jobs and new families, and so much more, we welcome you and your family to read on and enjoy this inaugural 2023 issue of The Beacon!

Contributions to this newsletter are always welcome, so don't be shy! Please let us know if you'd like to write something for the newsletter!

May you and your loved ones have a blessed day!

*Chadwick Ulep*

Chadwick "Chad" Ulep

Interim Moderator,

Waialua United Church of Christ



### **SCRIPTURE OF THE QUARTER**

***Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*** (Hebrews 13:5)



## SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Allan Sagaysay

Hello Church Family and Friends. Here is an update to where we are in our Pastoral Search. The Search and Call for our settled Pastor has been a lengthy process so far. During the 2023 Congregational meeting, we were able to solicit surveys from attendees which helped us gain information as to what we as a congregation are looking for in a new Pastor. There were 47 surveys in all that were turned in. This is by far the most surveys filled out that anyone can remember. This helped us get a better idea as to what the congregation is looking for. Strengths and Weaknesses as well as any additional comments were captured on the surveys and were reviewed by the committee.

Thank you everyone again for your time and efforts in this!

This information also allowed us to complete our church profile which was essential in having our Pastor position listed with the Hawaii UCC conference. The listing was posted on 5/14 and is now available on the UCC website.

You can view it here:

<http://oppsearch.ucc.org/id/5729>

We are currently taking applications and are holding interviews with candidates as they come in. We are also open to referrals if you know of any interested candidate.

*We continue to pray for God's guidance and pray that a matching candidate is found.*

*1 Samuel 16:1-13*

-WUCC Pastoral Search Committee



*The Chance of a Lifetime*

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

By Marie Galicinao

*For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them.*

*Matthew 18:20*

The Fellowship Committee faithfully continues to serve refreshments to our congregation on Sunday morning after Worship Service. A time for us to gather and fellowship with one another after being blessed with the word of God.

After Easter Sunrise Service our congregation gathered in the social hall and fellowshiped over light breakfast food.

On Mother's Day and Father's Day after Worship Service our congregation gathered and fellowshiped in the social hall for a potluck luncheon. We were so blessed to have delicious food shared by our members, family and friends.

To gather and fellowship together as God's people is important. God reminds us as believers to worship him and celebrate special occasions too.

May our God continue to use us in ways to serve him and that we are grateful.

May our Lord continue to bless us always.

God's blessing to everyone, from the Fellowship Committee.

July 15, 23  
Evelyn and all WUCC folks,  
A note from Kentucky to let you know I've made the transition to Elizabethton near Louisvillo where the Derby is held. This area is really green and lovely for summer but the change of seasons will be a new experience! There are no palm trees in sight.  
We're going to attend the 1st Christian Church this Sunday. I hope for a new Pastor is going well.  
Evelyn, thank you for your contact with Jenny.  
God bless you all,  
Kathy Lee

# THE TUESDAY MARKET NEWS

By Priscilla Schultheis

Can you believe that soon we will be celebrating the Tuesday Market's 2-year anniversary? It has been quite the journey for us all. We have met most every Tuesday for almost two years with regular team meetings. Most recently, we had the opportunity to reflect on the highs, the lows, and everything in-between. Through it all, we have had some very faithful volunteers who have helped us set up or break down the tents, tables, and equipment every week. They make sure the parking lot is clear and facilities are ready for our guests. We could not open our doors without them!

We have noticed that the market slowed considerably during the summer months, both last year and this year... especially this year. We decided that the market should take a break during the summer months. That means we will continue to meet on Tuesdays up to Memorial Day and resume in September on the first Tuesday on the week following Labor Day.

We also plan to maintain a consistent time of operation, 3-7 pm, throughout the year. We gave the first Friday of the month a trial period this summer but have decided to stay with just Tuesdays moving forward.

We are hoping to see our market pick up both in participating vendors and in foot traffic. We are always

in need of food vendors and farmers. If you know of any, please pass that information on to one of us. Meanwhile, we feel we have a minimum requirement for participating vendors and that number is now 12. That way, when 2 vendors cancel last minute on the day of the market and there is one no-show, we will still have a decent number of vendors for a respectable market. We do expect the market to pick up especially since summer vacations are over and the holiday months are approaching.

We would love to have 3 or 4 able bodied available members of the church help on Tuesdays on an every-other week basis. Many hands make light work and prevent burn out. If students can assist, we are able to give them credit for their service hours.

We are planning on having a Prize Night on September 26th, and on that day, we are hoping church members as well as our market guests will give the North Shore Food Bank a big boost by donating lots of canned goods and nonperishable items.

We continue to support our 4 nonprofits: Take Action Ho'ola Na Pua, North Shore Food Bank, North Shore Chamber of Commerce, and New Horizons Counseling

We would love to see your smiling faces at the Tuesday Market. Are you the creative type or a good cook? Perhaps you would like to share your talents at the market? We love all the ways you can support this market!

Thank you from the Market Team

Pat Pedro, Marie Galicinao, Mia Calaro, Chad Ulep, Chrislyn Andres, Mike Rivers, and Priscilla Schultheis

*The happiest place on the North Shore, every Tuesday*

**Upcoming events**  **2023**

**SUMMER HOURS!**  
4 PM - 8 PM  
TUESDAYS (except first week of month)  
WAIALUA NIGHTS (first Friday of month)

 **Friday August 4**  
**Waialua Nights**  
**Friday Market Event! 4 PM - 8 PM**  
Join us as we celebrate summer with the August Friday night market!  
All are welcome to join in on the fun!

**Tuesday August 1**  
**Market CLOSED**

**Tuesday August 8, 15, 22, 29**  
**Market OPEN from 4 PM - 8 PM**

WAIALUA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST PARKING LOT  
67-174 FARRINGTON HWY - WAIALUA, HI 96791

**VENDOR**  **BAND** 

**LIVE MUSIC - GAMES - PRIZES**  
**FOOD - VENDORS - CRAFTS**

Check us out on social media and online  
waialuaucc.org/tuesday-farmers-market-wucc  
@tuesdaymarketwaialua



**TUESDAYS from 3 PM - 7 PM**

WAIALUA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
67-174 FARRINGTON HWY WAIALUA, HI 96791

**LIVE MUSIC - GAMES - PRIZES - FOOD - VENDORS - CRAFTS**

waialuaucc.org/tuesday-farmers-market-wucc  
@tuesdaymarketwaialua

August Hours: 4:00 PM—8:00 PM

September and all future markets: 3:00 PM—7:00 PM

Closed: August 1st, September 5th, and October 31st

## SHERWIN GERVACIO

### MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

In 1995, our church created the Sherwin Gervacio Memorial Scholarship Program. Sherwin was a very active youth and member at our church, who generously devoted his time and service to the Lord. He was always willing to help a person in need and placed others before himself. He graduated from Waiialua High and Intermediate School in 1991.

Sherwin excelled academically, participated in numerous clubs and committees, and held leadership positions. After high school, he attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Civil Engineering.

During his junior year, he unexpectedly passed on April 12, 1994 at the young age of 21. The scholarship was created in his memory, and to continue his legacy of his love for God and higher education.

We are so proud to be able to help such motivated, enthusiastic promising youth to attain their goals and foster their love and service to God. This year's recipients are:



**Brooke Agsalda** - Brooke is a 2023 graduate of Mililani High School, and the daughter of **Jason** and **Coreen Agsalda**. She will be attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa in the fall majoring in Elementary Education. Brooke states, "At my studio I work with kids. It is something that I look forward to every week. I love seeing their passion and eagerness to learn. As a teacher, I want to be able to nurture kids. I want to help them to grow up to be successful and kind people."

**Kai Rosenbush** - Kai is a 2023 graduate of Kamehameha Schools - Kapalama Campus, and the son of **Troy** and **Vanessa Rosenbush**. He will be attending the University of Oregon in the fall majoring in Environmental Sciences. Kai

states, "Personally, I have done lots of work that involves me caring for the environment. On many occasions, I have participated in many volunteer opportunities, the most notable being the Loko Ea Foundation Internship. This is why I would like to pursue a major that nurtures my passion for the environment."

**Hope Rosenbush** - Hope is a 2023 graduate of Kamehameha Schools - Kapalama Campus, and daughter of **Troy** and **Vanessa Rosenbush**. In the fall, she will be attending Cornell University majoring in Environmental Sciences. She states, "From the time I was in elementary school, I have had a deep appreciation and connection to the environment. I enjoyed swimming in the ocean, hiking in the forest, and looking for insects in the grass. It is the wonder that I have always held for nature that sparked my interest in environmental science. In high school, I further explored my interest in environmental science. I completed multiple science projects dealing with imminent environmental problems in Hawai'i such as ocean acidification and pollution. After experimenting with my passion, I discovered that I highly enjoyed environmental science. I was elated when my teacher told me that there were many careers I could pursue in the field of environmental studies. Pursuing environmental studies would allow me to work in my field of interest while contributing to the Hawaiian community. I hope to become either an environmental lawyer, veterinarian, or scientist in the future. I know that I would enjoy these jobs and hold the satisfaction of giving back to my community and the environment."

**Mira Olivas** - Mira is a 2022 graduate of Leilehua High School, daughter of **Romelia Calaro**. She attended Oregon State University during her freshman year and will be transferring to Honolulu Community College in the fall majoring in Architectural Engineering. Mira states, "Architectural Engineering allows me to use my creative and graphic design background, advanced calculus knowledge, and my problem-solving skills with an architectural engineering degree. I can help plan and construct safe and sturdy buildings."

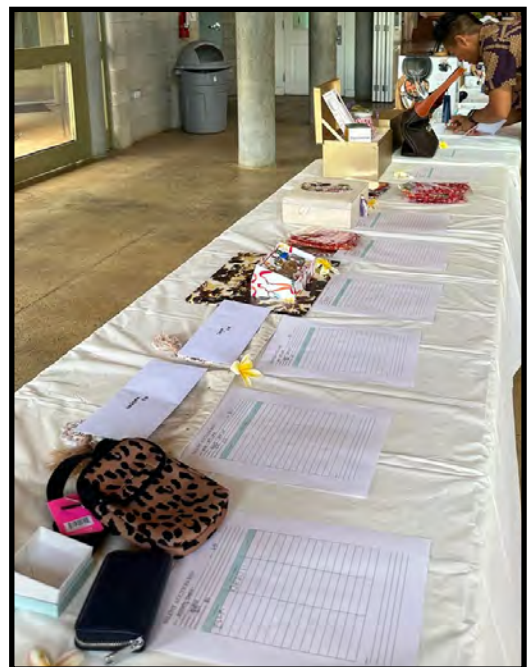
**Haley Pactol** - Haley is a 2019 graduate of Waiialua High School, and daughter of **Marvin** and **Carol Pactol**. She is majoring in Creative Media, concentration in General Creative Media, at the University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu with an expected graduation date of December 2023. She states, "I've always been a creative person and I've always strived to find an outlet to express myself through the arts. At first it was just illustration and design, but now it has evolved into filmmaking and visual and audio media. Each day I find new ways to express my creativity."

On July 8, 2023, the recipients were honored at an inaugural scholarship banquet. A fundraising silent auction was also held in the entrance to our social hall. Guests and honorees were treated to beautiful music by



our wonderful musicians **Dale Andres, Dave Basilio, Virg Basilio, Augustin Matutino** and **Edwin Ramones**. Sounds by **David Nahinu**. We were also blessed by the motivational words from our keynote speaker **Dr. Randall Suzuka**, inspirational messages from our first recipients (and parents of three 2023 recipients), **Jason Agsalda** and **Vanessa Agsalda-Rosenbush**, delicious Hawaiian foods from **Leilani Fujinaga**, and tasty desserts from **Marie Galicinao, Sabrina Tolentino Rivers** and **Michelle Sagaysay**.

We appreciate all of your generous donations and support of the scholarship program. Thank you to the scholarship committee: **Jason Agsalda, Melissa Agsalda-Garcia, Alan Garcia, Brittney Pasion-Almeida, Allan Sagaysay** and **Michelle Sagaysay**, and everyone who donated and helped with our first banquet and silent auction. To date, the program has awarded over \$50,000 to dedicated and deserving recipients.



Congratulations to our 2023 recipients, their parents and families! We wish you success and God's blessings on your education and college journey.

## LABOR OF LOVE

By Dale Andres

*“Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty expanse... Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.”*

*Psalm 150:1,2*

God is ever present and everywhere. Whether we gather in the church sanctuary or outdoors



on our sprawling green lawn, we are reminded of the presence of the Lord. It is with this mindset and vision of stewardship that the church grounds are lovingly tended to and maintained.

Throughout the years, the Yard Fellowship has provided the muscle and sweat equity to nurture and maintain the two plus acres of the Waialua United Church of Christ. The Yard Fellowship started many years ago with a handful of retired church members and continues to the present with a dedicated crew which includes **Evelyn Miyata, Hanako Takahashi, Dolly Subia, Florida Subia, Dave Basilio, Rosemary Basilio, Laurie Oishi, Dale Andres, and Eddie Pedro.**

In the past several years, much of the grounds have been transformed with the addition of new landscaping. Starting in October 2020, during the middle of the pandemic, the entrance area to the social hall from the existing parking lot was created into a welcoming portal with a mixture of new tropical plants, rocks and grass. Prior to that, the area



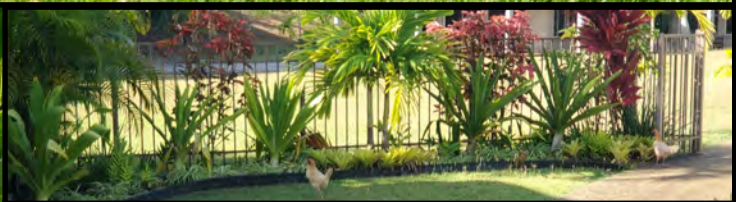
did not do justice in paying tribute to our generous donors, the Weinberg family, and welcoming people to the beautiful new facility as the starkness of the area did the opposite.

A year later, the courtyard area between the church entrance and the administration building was greatly enhanced with new palm trees and a variety of more tropical plantings. Towards the



end of 2021, manila palm trees generously donated by **Renie Aagsalda,** were planted throughout the lawn between the church and the social hall and now give the grounds a resort feel. Other recent landscape improvements include planting new shrubbery along the social hall/preschool lanai areas, planting new grass and landscape behind the social hall office and kitchen, and new landscaping adjacent to the maintenance shed.

The planting and maintenance work continues and we welcome the helping hands and sweat equity of the church family as work dates and Tuesday Yard Fellowship are scheduled throughout the year. With only a handful of volunteers, their work allows the church family, visitors, Tuesday Market and social hall users to enjoy the beautiful landscape vistas that adorn the grounds. It is by being faithful and diligent in our work of stewardship that we offer up our praise for His excellent greatness.

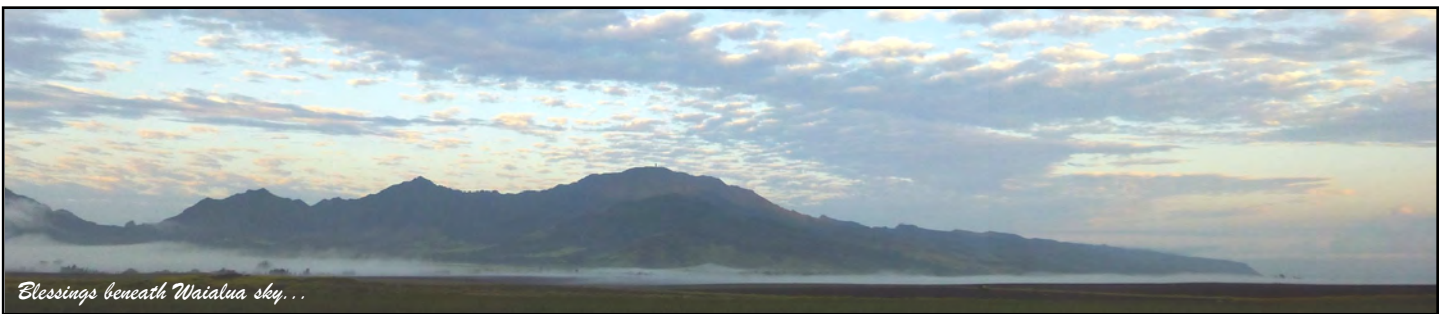


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Mia Calaro, Administrative Assistant

The Beacon is published quarterly for members and friends of WUCC.



## **Worship Leaders** **& Altar Flowers**

We're looking for individuals who would like to participate in our Services by being the Worship Leader and/or providing a floral arrangement for the altar.

If you have any questions or if you'd like to participate in any way, please contact us at [waialuaucc@yahoo.com](mailto:waialuaucc@yahoo.com) or come to service and talk to Pat Pedro.



## **Join us!**

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/waialuaucc/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WaialuaUCC/>

## **Recurring Events...**

**Worship Service** – every Sundays at 10:30 AM  
(Communion every 1st Sunday)

**Sunday School** – every 2nd & 4th Sunday during  
worship Service (after Children's Message)

**Yard Fellowship** – every Tuesdays & Saturdays  
from 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

**Tuesday Market Waialua** – every Tuesdays from  
4:00 PM–8:00 PM (August Hours) & 3:00 PM–7:00  
PM (new hours beginning from September)

**Bible Study** – every Wednesdays from 10:00 AM–  
11:00 AM in the Administrative Conference Room

**Finance Meeting** – every 2nd Sunday

**Council Meeting** – every 3rd Sunday

**Property Team Meeting** – every 4th Sunday