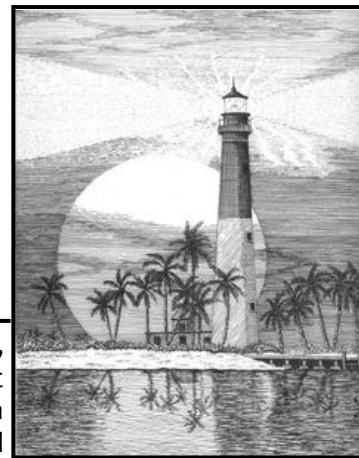


# THE BEACON

The Newsletter of the Waialua United Church of Christ  
67-174 Farrington Highway Waialua, Hawaii  
PO Box 663, Waialua, HI 96791  
August 2024, Vol 3



## A message from our...



### ...Pastor

Greetings Waialua UCC!

We arrived on July 15th and have been doing our best to settle in: learning new routes, attempting to pronounce street names correctly, and doing our best not to eat too much local food – if you don't know by now, your pastor likes to eat. Our sense of “home” is evolving daily, and we anticipate that God will continue to shape our hearts and minds. There is so much to learn yet, and we're excited to follow God in the process.

One way God is rooting us is through our new family – Waialua United Church of Christ. You guys! Oahu is our new home; you are our new family. My wife and I were humbled and felt loved and affirmed by your positive vote in April, and we now look forward to living into that. God has aligned our hearts, and I trust that together we can work alongside Him to build His Kingdom here in Waialua and beyond.

As I said in my first sermon as your pastor, “I desire to be like Paul and that Waialua UCC be like the Philippian church” – namely, that we enjoy and love one another. The apostle writes, “I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy...” (Philippians 1:3-4). Just by the mere memory of the Philippian church, Paul's mind is rushed with affection. He was both thankful and joyful, and these affections were mutual. Why was this the case? He continues and writes, “for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” (Philippians 1:5). Since the beginning, the church and the apostle were on gospel mission together. This is my hope for us – not a surface-level form of thankfulness and joy, but thankfulness and joy that emerge from our commitment to shared ministry. Amen?

We see through a later text that Paul was supported by the church while he was imprisoned. Unlike modern American prisons, food and clean clothing were not always provided, so the church would support Paul by

frequenting the prison, bringing along basic necessities for him. It was a partnership that extended beyond the “four walls” of the church and beyond the hour on Sunday. This is what I want for our church – not that I'll be in a prison dungeon (God forbid! But if I do, can someone bring me loco moco?) – but that our work, growth, and love extend beyond what we do here on Sunday mornings. While as a church family we have yet to learn and navigate what a mission partnership looks like for us, I hope we're excited to see what the Holy Spirit will reveal.

Waialua UCC, I'm excited to serve and lead you. Through conversations and my observations so far, I gather that Waialua is a special place. I pray that I continue to learn all its contours and history of both the town and our church. The song Waialua Sky (Hi, Uncle Edwin!) alludes to how simple things, like a little island rain, evoke wonderful memories of Waialua. I hope and pray that through our shared ministry our church adds to what makes Waialua as a whole special. Let's go!

Beneath Waialua Sky,  
*Pastor EJ*



## MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Dear members and friends,

Summer is in full swing - and so are we! After a much-anticipated wait, the Ravago 'ohana will be joining our congregation as Pastor E.J. officially becomes our full-time minister! If you see them in church, or out in our community, be sure to say hello and welcome them to the islands as they continue their big move and transition to Hawai'i!



With our pulpit finally filled for the long haul, I would like to thank all of our guest preachers for assisting with our Sunday services and sharing the word of God with our congregation. Truly, there are no words to describe how thankful we were over the last few years to have EVERY single one of those Sundays be filled with the spirit of God's presence - even in the uncertain days of the pandemic. We want to give a big MAHALO to those who answered the call to preach for us!

As we begin a new era at Waialua United Church of Christ, it will be a time of change - some big, some small, some familiar. None of it, however, cannot be done without each and every one of you. If you feel called to serve the church, now is the time! Even if you haven't been in service in awhile, we want to welcome you back with big open arms because we definitely miss you!

Speaking of welcoming back, we are also bringing back an oldie, but goodie to the mix. On August 25, our church will be hosting a return to Rally Sunday! Join us at Puuiki Park and bring the lawn chair and family as we give praise and worship at the beach! It's a potluck, so bring food to share too!

I can't wait to see what the future holds for us. Let us begin!

May you and your family have a blessed day!

*Chadwick Ulep*  
Chad Ulep, Moderator

## THE CROSS

By Cecilia Andres

"It's more than just a shiny gold ornament adorning the altar!" were my thoughts as I polished the cross. Suffering from pain acquired while cleaning up after a day of celebrating our nation's birthday at the park, the range of motion in my left arm was severely restricted. The discomfort in my left shoulder prompted me to consider the significance of the cross and how it is a reminder of God's great love for us. The pain that I was experiencing, however, pales compared to the agony that Jesus endured as He carried the heavy wooden cross along the Via Dolorosa with blood dripping down his forehead from the crown of thorns which was forcefully placed on his head. Particularly in hidden or hard to see parts of the cross were built up tarnish and polish that required further attention. Similarly, we carry emotions brought on by current and past experiences which threaten to "tarnish" our faith and challenge our resolve to take up our cross and follow Jesus. More than just a decoration, the cross on the altar is a reminder that there is true hope. Our hope and trust in the Lord results in joy and peace in all circumstances. To God be all glory and honor!



## ***SCRIPTURE OF THE QUARTER***

***I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.***

(Philippians 1:3-6)



## **BLAST FROM THE PAST...**

Bible Study Outdoors (L)  
& Matutino Ohana (R)



## FELLOWSHIP NEWS

By Priscilla Schultheis

The Fellowship Committee has certainly been busy! Our committee members continue to provide refreshments for the congregation each week. They also meet to plan and prepare for some major events. Here are some past and upcoming events.

On May 7th, with the help of the men who prepared Chicken Hekka, we hosted the Mother's Day luncheon.

On June 16th, we hosted a potluck luncheon to celebrate Father's Day and Graduate Sunday.

On July 28, we will have hosted a potluck luncheon to welcome Pastor EJ, JL, and their family to our church ohana.

Coming up on August 25, we will celebrate Rally Day at Puuiki Park on Waiialua Beach Road. We will have our worship service there followed by a BBQ lunch. We will supply the drinks and the grill. Church members will sign up to bring food to be grilled, side dishes, salads, and desserts. More details will be announced as we get closer to this event.

September will be relatively quiet as we prepare for the end of year celebrations.

October will allow time for us to prepare for our Thanksgiving luncheon to be held in November and to prepare for our cookie baking fund raiser which will likely take place on the last Saturday in November and the first two Saturdays in December. More details will be provided at that time.

Many thanks to the committee members for their faithful service and to the many helping hands who provide amazing food for all of our events. Mahalo!



# DEACONS NEWS

By Cathe Elsa Aldueso

Here at Waialua United Church of Christ, the May, June and July quarter flew by in excitement. Each Sunday was filled with both first-time and return Pastors. **Pastor Gerald Chinen** started off on May 5th, 2024 with his message on "The Good Shepherd." Members shared their feedback on enjoyment of his delivery, always satisfying. Then for Mother's Day, our own member, **Pastor Blake Spinak**, shared a children's message, entitled "Foolishness", a story told in a play done by our precious children from our congregation and his main message on "Not of this World" showed his easy going persona and showed his intense love for Christ. On May 19th, **Pastor Joshua Duvaucelle** teamed up with his



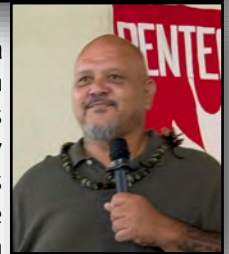
his children's message titled, "What's it Worth" using coins and currency and getting help from his handsome sons three and adorable daughter. His sermon was "Journey to the Golden Rule" and I enjoyed his message. **Pastor Jonathan Roach**, with the Hawaii UCC



conference, was with us on Father's Day and gave a talk on "For Such and Time of This", he was good! Then later we shared a meal with him at our social hall. **Pastor George Keamo** came to us on June 23rd, with a children's



message given by his wife **Lana Keamo** "EMOTIONS is a gift from GOD". His message was on "God's Purpose". My grandchildren enjoyed his message. Toward the later part of his sermon he called on his friend **Wil Molina** who shared his testimony with passion. On



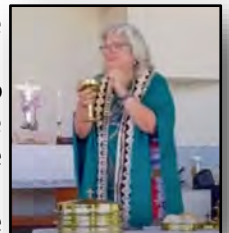
lovely wife **Maria** to first share the children's message on "Think Before You Speak". Then he finished his portion on "The Power of Words" with an example of receiving and giving blessings. They gifted Bibles to three of our members. He also met with our members after the service to offer prayer over them. On May 26th, **Pastor Keith Winterowd** and **Pastor Vicky Winterowd** shared the stage



and focused on children's message "God Sees You with eyes of love", "Jesus Sets You Free" and healing to members who responded. He and his wife **Zoe** also offered prayer over the Youth of our congregation. On June 7th and 14th **Pastor Lauren Buck Medeiros** visited us again to



Sunday, a message on "The Body and the Blood". They are a wonderful couple who loves the Lord so dearly. On June 9th, our dear friend, **Pastor Makana Milotta** shared



share a children's message on "Transformers", "The Two Sentence Sermon" and "Terminators, Transformers and a Dancing King". My sister Sharon said, "I liked it". **Pastor Brian Crowley III**, wrapped up our open Sundays before our permanent Pastor EJ came on board. His message for the children was, "To Honor and Obey GOD, We must first, Honor and Obey our Parents". Pastor Brian shared his message, "In All things, Keep Your Eyes on God" with clarity and ease to understand.



All our visiting Pastors each shared their message displaying their love of our Father God, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Clearly God brought them in the most timely way and to the most perfect place. Surely a connection was made by giving a wealth of information for members in our congregation, and to members and friends on-line and in the future these messages will continue to serve as long as the YouTube videos are on Waialua United Church of Christ's channel. The Word was spoken. As Co-Chair of the Deacon committee with Co - Chair Cecilia Andres, this reflection is humbly submitted.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

**"Mom"**

Sung by Erika Baguio



**"Thank You Lord"**

Sung by Chrislyn Andres



**"He Is Here"**

Sung by Elizabeth Ramones



**"God Will Make A Way"**

Sung by Peter Matutino



Welcome Pastor EJ and family! The long anticipated day occurred on July 28, 2024 when the members of WUCC excitedly welcomed Pastor EJ as its settled Pastor. Exhilarated by Pastor EJ's much anticipated arrival, the Little family generously donated plumeria from their farm so that the church could welcome Pastor and his family with fresh flower leis.



Taylor, Camden, Natalie, JL, Pastor EJ, and grandma Linda



## YOUTH SUNDAY



Kai Rosenbush shares the Children's Message "Empowered For Greatness"



Alana Sagaysay as the  
Worship Leader



Kacie Baguio & Kai Rosenbush play the role of Deacons as they collect the offering and present it to the worship leader

Pastor Makoa prays over our youth



"O Praise The Name"

Sung by  
Erika Baguio &  
Hope Rosenbush  
Danced by  
Brooke Agsalda

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## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Erika Baguio  
Angel Calaro  
Gwendalyn Dale  
Joseph Giles  
Taite Leinau  
Selene Matutino  
Haley Pactol  
Daylan Registe



Graduates were recognized on June 16th by Christian Education representatives Faith Calaro and Chrislyn Andres. Cathe Elsa Adlueso stepped in for Selene Matutino along with the graduates Haley Pactol, Angel Calaro, and Erika Baguio.

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## A NEW CREATION

By Faith Calaro

*<sup>18</sup>Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."*

### **Matthew 28:18-19 (NLT)**

On Sunday, 30 June 2024, I got baptized in the powerful and mighty name of Jesus. Furthermore, I have received and surrendered prayer more than I have ever experienced in my life. God moved through Pastor Makoa Galletes and his family, as well as their friends JayJay and Keora to fulfill Jesus' command in Matthew 28:18-19.

According to Blue Letter Bible, there are three different translated definitions of the word "baptize" from Greek to English:

- I. to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge (of vessels sunk)
- II. to cleanse by dipping or submerging, to wash, to make clean with water, to wash one's self, bathe
- III. to overwhelm

*<sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

### **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)**

*<sup>17</sup>Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.*

### **Colossians 2:12 (NIV)**

Baptism is a public declaration that one has died to their old self and old ways, and through Jesus has been made new. The act of submerging one in a body of water represents dying with Christ. Moreover, the act of emerging from the water represents being raised up to new life in Christ as such in the resurrection.

The trials and temptations don't magically disappear when one decides to surrender their life to Christ. But it is because of stepping into authority and a new identity that one carries themselves in the power of the mighty name of Jesus. If you are a follower of Christ, the enemy has no power or stronghold over your life and you need to know it!

*<sup>11</sup>The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Jesus Christ from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by the same Spirit living within you.*

### **Romans 8:11 (NLT)**

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray for the people reading this message right now that they may invite you in their heart. Jesus, I pray they would surrender their whole life to you... not a little bit, or a half, but their whole life. I pray they would see you and know who you really are, Lord. Thank you so much for shedding your blood on the cross that we may have eternal life and forgiveness of our sins. Father, we can't get to you without faith and grace in Jesus alone so I pray that everyone maybe believe wholeheartedly in you, Jesus. I pray a blessing and a hedge of protection over them now. Thank you for who you are and we bless your mighty and powerful name Jesus. Amen!

# THE TUESDAY MARKET NEWS

By Priscilla Schultheis

In May, the Tuesday Market Waialua held the market on May 7, May 14, and May 21. Each time we had 15 or more vendors and the markets were well attended.

We did not meet on May 28 as it is the Tuesday following Memorial Day, and we learned from past years that most folks and vendors are ready for a rest following all the festivities that come with the holiday weekend.

We stepped into our summer schedule where we only met once a month. These market dates are June 4, July 23, August 20, and September 10.

On June 4th, we gave out beach balls to our guests to celebrate our theme, Summer Days.

On July 23rd at the market, we collected donations of school supplies from the community in collaboration with the North Shore News' Operation Backpack, where we acted as a drop-off location for the community and church members. We plan to offer school supplies to both our church keiki and to the keiki in the community.

On August 20th, we will celebrate an Aloha Summer Food Drive by wearing our Aloha shirts and by encouraging everyone to bring canned goods and other nonperishable items to the market for the North Shore Food Bank.

On September 10, we will celebrate our community's Homecoming. We will be offering our guests a Waialua Bulldogs pep rally poster attached to a handle for easy display. That way, Bulldog enthusiasts can show their support at school events by holding up their Waialua Bulldogs. Go Waialua!

On September 17th, we return to our weekly schedule.



On October 29th, the market will hold a Halloween Trunk or Treat.

On November 19th, we will celebrate our 3rd anniversary by offering prizes to our guests donated by local businesses and vendors as well.

Thank you to all volunteers who keep this market running and to the Yard Crew that mow the grass and keep our parking lot looking great. We are grateful!

**MONTHLY MARKET DAYS**  
(all other Tuesdays this Summer are closed)

<b>AUG 20</b>	3 PM TO 7 PM	<b>"ALOHA NS FOOD BANK"</b> Donate canned goods and nonperishable items to the market!
<b>SEPT 10</b>	3 PM TO 7 PM	<b>"HOMECOMING"</b> Help celebrate with BULLDOG Pride! FREE HOMECOMING items, while supplies last!

Tuesday Market Waialua will return to a weekly schedule on September 17, 2024!

**TUESDAYS FROM 3 PM to 7 PM**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SCHEDULE AND UPDATES!  
FB | IG : @TUESDAYMARKETWAIALUA

HOSTED AT THE  
**WAIALUA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
67-174 FARRINGTON HWY- WAIALUA, HI

**VENDOR SIGN-UP**

WE COLLECT FOOD AND HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE NORTH SHORE FOOD BANK!

On behalf of the North Shore Food Bank, we also collect donations for non-perishable food and hygienic products during the market.

PLEASE DONATE!

**MUSICIAN SIGN-UP**

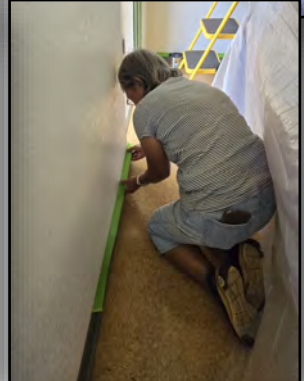
\*\*\* THIS IS A DRUG-FREE AND ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT \*\*\*



# PROPERTY & GROUNDS

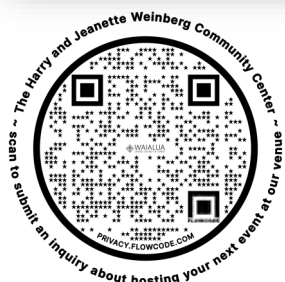
Projects before pastor's arrival:

- Yard work
- Wash screens
- Fix storage roof
- Paint pastor's office



## VOLUNTEER TO BE A PART OF TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Sing with the praise team, donate flowers for the altar, be a worship leader, manage the soundboard, livestream our service, project the slides, greet guests, fellowship, and so much more.



### HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT AT OUR VENUE

Please scan the QR Code on the left to submit an inquiry to rent our social hall.

### WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Articles and Photos Wanted for our next newsletter. Please scan the QR Code on the right to upload your article and photos

WUCC-The Beacon



Upload Articles/Photos

*If you would like to participate in our Services by being the Worship Leader and/or providing a floral arrangement for the altar, please email waialuaucc@yahoo.com or see Pat Pedro.*

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

**August**

8/4: Vanessa Agsalda-Rosenbush  
 8/11: Dolly Subia (B)  
 8/18: Melissa Garcia (B, A)  
 8/25: Juanita Andres (M)

**September**

9/1: Dave Basilio  
 9/8: Ramones Family (M)  
 9/15: Baguio Family (A)  
 9/22: Helen Kumasaka (M)  
 9/29: Sandra Sagaysay

**October**

10/6: Brittney Pasion-Almeida (A)  
 10/13: Jason Agsalda (B)  
 10/20: Hope & Kai Rosenbush  
 10/27: Subia Family (M)

**WORSHIP LEADER**

8/4: Marvin Pactol Jr.  
 8/11: Rosemary Basilio  
 8/18: Haley Pactol  
 8/25: Chrislyn Andres

9/1: Marvin Pactol Jr.  
 9/8: Logan Pactol  
 9/15: Dave Basilio  
 9/22: Cathe Elsa Aldueso  
 9/29: Florence Tamane

10/6: Marvin Pactol Jr.  
 10/13: Chadwick Ulep  
 10/20: Rosemary Basilio  
 10/27: Chrislyn Andres

**FOODLAND—GIVE ALOHA**

GIVE ALOHA is an annual program through which Foodland stores direct its charitable giving to organizations. Once again, our church will be participating this year.

Through the month of September, one can visit any store location and support Give Aloha at checkout and make a monetary donation. A portion of each donation will be matched by Foodland (one must be enrolled as a Maikai' member). Donations are tax deductible.

We kindly ask you to participate and support this program. Thank you for your continuous generous support.



Waialua UCC Code:

**77136**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS...**

**Saturday, August 3:** Sherwin Gervacio Memorial Scholarship Awards Banquet

**Tuesday, August 20:** Tuesday Market Waialua 3-7PM

**Sunday, August 25:** Rally Sunday at Puuiki Beach Park | Potluck Luncheon

**Sunday, September 1—Monday, September 30:** Foodland's Give Aloha Fundraiser

**Monday, September 2:** Holiday: Labor Day: Office Closed

**Tuesday, September 10:** Tuesday Market Waialua returns to weekly schedule from 3-7PM

**Sunday, October 6:** Collection of Neighbors in Need Offering

**Sunday, October 20:** The Beacon Articles and Photos Due

**ANNOUNCEMENTS...**

**Help Wanted:** Looking for a janitor to clean our community center hall, classrooms, kitchen, and restroom. Inquire within.

**Photos Wanted:** Wanna send a pic for our newsletter? Use QR Code on page 10 to upload. Don't forget the caption too. It could be featured in our next newsletter.

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Pastor: EJ Ravago  
Ministers: All Church Members  
Administrative Assistant, Editor: Mia Calaro  
Photos taken by: Sandra, Rosemary, Chad, Mia, Pastor Lauren

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

To our brothers and  
sisters in Christ



*Blessings beneath Waialua sky...*

### Volunteers always Welcome

We're looking for individuals who would like to serve the Lord in any way...

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| Greeting   | Live Stream     |
| Teaching   | Social Media    |
| Newsletter | Slide Presenter |
| Graphics   | Sound Tech      |
| Cleaning   | Lei Makers      |
| Yard       | Event Security  |
| Market     | Maintenance     |
| Website    | Opener/Closer   |

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 speak with a member.



### Join us!

- @WaialuaUCC
-  facebook  Instagram
- @WaialuaUnitedChurchofChrist
-  YouTube

### Recurring Events...

- Worship Service** – Sundays at 10:30 AM  
(Communion 1st Sundays)
- Sunday School** – 1st & 3rd Sunday during worship  
Service (before pastoral prayer)
- Yard Fellowship** – Tuesdays & Saturdays from  
9:00 AM–12:00 PM
- Tuesday Market Waialua** – Tuesdays from 3:00  
PM–7:00 PM (monthly during the summer)
- Bible Study** – Wednesdays from 10:00–11:00 AM
- Finance Meeting** – 2nd Sundays after service
- Deacons Meeting** – 2nd Sundays after service
- Council Meeting** – 3rd Sundays after service
- Property & Grounds Meeting** – 4th Sundays after  
service