

#### THE VOICE OF UNITED METHODIST

## Ka Leo Mekokiko

**Hawaii District** 

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## **SMALL CHURCH ACADEMY**

Saturday, September 10, 2016 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Did you know the majority of churches in the United States are small churches with the median church having 75 regular participants. So how do we strengthen the small churches in today's world?

Please join Nicole Reilley, Director of New Ministries for a time of learning and discussion on strengthening the small church. This Conference is for churches under 200 in worship. This workshop will encourage you and give you practical tools for small church ministry. May we all work together to building our churches to their full potential in spreading the God's word and in his service reaching those in his need.

9:00 am - 11:45 am Morning Session

- Welcome and Worship
- Does Size Matter & The Strengths of a Small Church
- Why You Need Small Groups
- The Foundation of Small Church Life:
  - ⇒ Health
  - ⇒ Discipleship
  - ⇒ Conflict & Change
  - ⇒ Reaching New People
- Small Church Leadership Development
- Money and Stewardship

11:45 am - 12:15 pm Lunch

- Small Church Questions: Panel w/3 Pastors
- Family Ministries How does a small church reach families?
- Action Items and Next Academy

2:00 pm Group Photo & Closing Prayer

Registration fee is \$15.00 and lunch is included. Please RSVP by Wed., August 24, 2016. Please make your check payable to "HUMU" and mail it to the Hawaii District Office by August 24th.

It should be a very interesting and informative workshop with ideas that we hope you can take back to your church.







## Ministry Musings from the District Superintendent

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE MISSION STATEMENT: Inspiring the World as Passionate Followers of Jesus Christ So All May Experience God's Life-Giving Love

It was a while ago I saw the movie, "Mr. Holland's Opus" which I enjoyed very much. When they advertised that movie, newspaper ads included the saying, "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans." It attributed to John Lennon, but it has been around a lot longer than John Lennon. In fact, no one knows for sure who originated it, but that doesn't really matter. The truth of it is something we learn over and over again.

And while there can be a "down side" to it in terms of frustrating interruptions, lost dreams and disappointing turn of events, it is overwhelmingly positive, with an exciting "up side." We refer to the positive dimension of such interruptions and surprises as "serendipities," a term coined in 1754 by Horace Walpole after reading a fairy tale called, "Three Princes of Serendip" -- Serendip being the island named Ceylon and now known as Sri Lanka. Walpole wrote "as their highnesses traveled they were always making discoveries by accident and discernment of things they were not inquest of."

Yes, if life is what happens when we are making other plans, what happens can often be a happy serendipity. By this time, most of you learned about these serendipity moments in Western jurisdiction including the change of our episcopal leadership effective September 1st.

It was my privilege to work with Bishop Carcaño in her cabinet and learn of her passion for God and God's people. She is indeed decisive and a strong leader who always is promoting the wellbeing of marginalized people in the society including undocumented immigrants and the issue over human sexuality. She also challenged us to be passionate followers of Jesus Christ and that we need to inspire the world in order to share God's life-giving love.

There will be no general farewell planned. However, you are invited to send her "well wishes" and /or make donations to "Imagine No Malaria" in her honor. You may also send your well wishes to her office at the Annual Conference. The address is P.O. Box 6006, Pasadena, CA 91102-6006. Your offering for "Imagine No Malaria" in her honor could also be sent to the Conference with mono noting "Bishop Carcaño's Honor." We will share the Imagine No Malaria numbers of the gifts during the Conference Center Farewell Lunch on August 22nd. So please send the offering to the Conference by August 15th.

On September 1st, we will welcome Bishop Grant Hagiya as our new Episcopacy Leader who is back to his home Conference. We will share moments of Serendipity as we journey together for God's Kingdom. I am grateful for your prayers and your commitment for the journey.

Peace & Aloha!

Rev. Dr. Se Hee Han District Superintendent



#### "AS WE JOURNEY"

"May our journey lead us into a new place, a place where new life and new beginnings are waiting to be discovered."

Aloha and E Komo Mai! "Therefore Go!" be disciples of Christ

I trust all is well with our souls, as we continue our journey in faith hear the Psalmist. Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God"

"Thanks be to God!" "Alleluia!"

"AS WE JOURNEY" we reach into our backpack and grab hold of the bible. We thumb the pages, the Gospel of St. Mark 6:8-9 is before us. Let me paraphrase verse 8 and 9.

As Jesus sent his disciples out on their first journey, he gave them some instructions:

- no need to pack material things, no bread, no bag, no money;
- take with you, a staff, wear sandals, and not an extra tunic. A tunic is a loose garment, like a robe.

Jesus is implying, on our journey there's two major concerns we need to address. One is materialism and the other is our spirituality.

Jesus said, the material things are not important, it will be provided, not to worry. Materialism is an invitation for distraction which causes conflicts.

But the spiritual elements are what we need to take with us.

A staff, wear sandals, but not an extra tunic. These are symbols of the divine, the "Three in One."

♦ The staff; symbolizes the Holy Spirit.

"AS WE JOURNEY" Jesus reminds us of the promise, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate will lift us up in our low moments and motivate our attitude, behavior, an our action. In time of uncertainties and unanswered questions, the Holy Spirit, The Counselor will give us direction. The Holy Spirit, the Teacher will teach us all that we need to know in ministry and more.

We are led by the spirit into a place that is unfamiliar, strange, and unwelcoming. A place that is filled with challenges and excitement, filled with the expectation of great things yet to be revealed.

The staff, a walking stick will support us, guide us, and lead us into this unfamiliar, strange, and unwelcoming place.

The staff, the Holy Spirit will fill us with God's wisdom of discernment. The staff, the Holy Spirit will fill us with God's knowledge and understanding.

• The sandals are a symbol of Jesus. We wear the sandals of Jesus.

"AS WE JOURNEY" Jesus reminds us of his journey in ministry. Beginning with his Baptism, temptation experience in the desert, walking on water, the mystery of the bread and cup, the mystery of the cross and resurrection.

Our journey before us, we will follow the foot prints of Jesus' sandals. Leading us into that unfamiliar, strange and unwelcoming place Jesus once visited. Eating with the poor, visiting and connecting with those in need, healing and caring for the sick.

♦ The tunic symbolizes the divine. Yahweh, Jehovah, Elohim, El-Shaddai, Jehovah-Jireh. The God of the past, God of the future, and the God of the present time.

"AS WE JOURNEY" we put on the garment of the divine, the tunic. Like the blood of the lamb on the door post, identify the Passover. The tunic we wear identify our passover. Emmanuel, God is with us, keeping watch over us, and continue to surround us with love.

May the tunic we wear be a sign of who we are in Christ Jesus. And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

You will lead and we shall follow,
You will be the breath of life,
Living water, we are thirsting for your light.
Amen.

(the forth verse from No Ke Ano' Ahi Ahi, music. Traditional Hawaiian melody adopted by David Hass)

One in Christ,

Francis Fukumoto Hawaii District Lay Leader

#### Bits and Pieces...

#### PRAY FOR:

- Our Bishop Carcaño as she transitions to her new assignment with the California-Nevada Conference. Pray that she will be a blessing to them.
- Our new Bishop, Grant Hagiya will be assigned to the California Pacific Conference effective Sept. 1, 2016 from 2016-2020. Let us pray for his transition into his position and in serving our Conference.



- We are saddened by the news of the loss of Mrs. Kathy Sano who is the spouse of Bishop Roy Sano. We pray that God will grant her family and friends the strength to get through this time of loss.
  - ♦ Please pray for Sam Nam's newborn twins who both had staph infections and were recently discharged from Queen's Hospital.

#### **CONGRATS TO:**

- ◆ Congratulations to Pastor Sam Nam of Christ UMC and his wife, who just received two little ones delivered on June 7th! Baby boy Yohan Ha-young Nam and baby girl, Eliana Ha-yule Nam! What a blessing!
- Rev. Piula Ala'ilima of Wesley UMC, who has been appointed to serve on the Board of Discipleship representing the Western Jurisdiction.

## Goto Memorial Scholarship Fund

#### Qualifications:

- If you are a member of the United Methodist Church.
- A High school graduate with a 2.5 grade point average.
- ♦ Applicant must submit a certification/recommendation from: (a) Hawaii District Committee on Ordained Ministry, and from your (b) pastor.

#### **Conditions:**

• Application must be submitted before semester starts.



- Upon receiving scholarship, you must maintain a 2.5 grade point average; minimum of 12 credits to qualify for full scholarship; summer school sessions will be considered 1/4 semester; proof of attendance and copy of transcript must accompany application.
- Recipients are eligible for scholarship up to four years and must reapply each semester.
- Recipients are expected to keep the Goto Scholarship Committee informed of any changes in their status.
- The number and amount of scholarships will depend on available funds.

Please contact Ms. Sakae Loo at 239-8166 for more information or your local pastor.

## "LED by the SPIRIT"

A Prayer Revival Weekend - To Deepen our Relationship with God through Prayer

Kailua UMC will be hosting a weekend of renewal to connect us with God through teaching, worship, prayer and fellowship. Learn about the Holy Spirit and gain firsthand experience in "listening prayer."

- Friday, Aug. 5-6:45pm to 8:30pm (an evening session of worship, teaching, and ministry)
- Saturday, Aug. 6-8:30am to 2:30pm (three sessions of worship, teaching and ministry-breakfast refreshments and lunch included)

Teaching and ministry times will be led by Rev. Larry Eddings, a retired UMC pastor from Seattle and founder of Wind of the Spirit Ministries and by Jeremy and Joy Ellington, Church planters in Kerala, India.

### **DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2016**

Sat., Aug 6	UM Men's Volleyball/ Barbeque Event, 9:00 am- 1:00 pm	Blaisdell Park, Aiea/Pearl City	Sep. 18-22	Strength for the Journey Camp	Camp Mokuleia
Sat., Aug. 13	HUMU Meeting, 9 am - 12:00 pm	District Office	Sat., Sep. 24	Hawaii UMW Annual Mtg & Mission Festival	Wahiawa UMC
Sat., Aug. 27	Hawaii District Leadership Team Meeting (All Day)	District Office	Nov. 24 & 25	Thanksgiving Day	District Ofc Is Closed
Mon., Sep. 5	Labor Day	District Ofc. Is Closed	Dec. 2-4, 2016	Bishop's Confirmation Retreat	Camp Mokuleia
Thu., Sep. 8	HCOM Meeting 9:00 am	District Office	Mon., Dec. 12	Clergy Advent Dinner	Place TBA
Sat., Sep. 10	Small Church Conference, 9 am - 2 pm	Wesley UMC	Sun., Jan 15	Ho'oku'ikahi Day of Reconciliation & Remembrance	Place TBA

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		KA LEO MEKOKIKO July - August 2016

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