



# Ka Leo Mekokiko

Hawaii District

THE VOICE OF METHODISM

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## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY PARADE

It is not too early to be gathering your friends to participate in the Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade on Monday, January 20, 2014. The group will gather at the Magic Island parking lot and march to the Kapiolani Park Bandstand.

## 2014 Layperson of the Year...

The Nomination Form for the Lay Person of the Year is now available. It can be accessed on the conference web site, under "Forms and Documents". Among the guidelines are that the nominee must be an active member of a congregation submitting the application, should exemplify strong leadership skills within the congregation, should be active in service or evangelism beyond the local church. Be prepared to provide comments about current activities indicating why this person should be the Lay Young Adult, Lay Man or Lay Woman of the Year,

**ATTENTION: The 2013-2014 Hawaii District Directory has been posted on the district website. Only members have access. Sign up to become a member.**

### *Looking for a summer experience for your youth?*

The Sierra Service Project, which is a Christian youth service ministry organization, provides a challenging and safe faith-rich Christian service (learning) experience for youth. Their mission is to build faith and strengthen communities through service to others.

SSP runs week-long summer service programs that take place at various locations around the western United States. SSP also provides weekend programs in Los Angeles, Portland and Sacramento.

SSP charges students a fee to cover the expenses associated with their involvement, but has a scholarship fund to help low income youth who would like to participate. SSP is committed to making sure that no one be excluded due to financial reasons. Visit their website: [www.sierraserviceproject.org](http://www.sierraserviceproject.org). Kailua UMC sent a group this summer.



### A CORRECTION to "This Holy Mystery" article in the October-November Ka Leo Mekokiko

On page 4 of last month's Ka Leo Mekokiko, the Reverend Dan Benedict invited church leaders and pastors to go online for a resource entitled "This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion." Unfortunately, the hyperlinks that were listed did not work. The correct link is:

<http://www.kintera.org/atf/cf/%7B3482e846-598f-460a-b9a7-386734470eda%7D/THM-BYGC.PDF>



## ***Ministry Musings from the District Superintendent***

*FOCUS: Through Discipleship and Witness  
We Strengthen Churches for the Present,  
Build Churches to Ensure the Future.*

### **THE GAY MARRIAGE DEBATE—HOW DO WE ACT AS UNITED METHODISTS?**

By the time this issue is published, the Hawaii State Legislature likely has made a decision on the Same Sex Marriage Bill. It will spark strong feelings from all sides—elation for some, great disappointment in others. The differences in opinion are profound, and there will be temptation for the “winning” group to gloat and the “losing” group perhaps to lash out in harmful ways.

United Methodists are not of the same mind on this issue. But where we can be of the same mind is to follow the words of Paul, who, in the first letter to the Corinthians, urged a divided church to be of one body and not reject a different part of the body.

We must continue to be in holy conferencing with each other, to show grace and mercy, and despite profound differences, have the kind of faith that will say that we are eternally connected to each other by the Holy Spirit that Christ has given to us.

We may not ever be able to agree with other on this and other issues. But we can continue to be faithful to each other in the covenant that was initiated in our baptism, and upheld in Holy Communion. As the words of the order of Holy Communion say: “Let us be one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.”

### **REV. MIKE SLAUGHTER WILL BE THE 2014 BRITT LECTURER**

The Rev. Mike Slaughter, the pastor of the Ginghamburg United Methodist Church in Ohio, will be the 2014 Britt Lecturer. In 1979, Pastor Mike took over a congregation of 90 people in the outskirts of Dayton, Ohio. By the end of one year, there were 60, as many did not like the direction that Pastor Mike was taking the church. Fast forward to the present day, and over 5000 people worship each week at the church. In addition, Ginghamburg UMC has coached several churches, most notably, the Fort McKinley UMC. A dying congregation of 40 people, all over 70 years of age, it has, in less than four years, grown to 450 in attendance with a diverse range of ages and ethnicities.

You will not want to miss the lectures! As a bonus, Pastor Mike’s wife, Carolyn, will offer a workshop on how to do effective membership classes.

The Britt Lectures are held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings during Presidents Weekend (February 14-16, 2014). A workshop designed for clergy will be held Monday morning.

### **REVISED FOCUS FOR THE COMING YEAR**

As we anticipate a New Year, I am distilling all that I have been encouraging to a short sentence, seen above. To me, it crystallizes the Wesleyan approach to ministry to the most important aspects: an emphasis on discipleship and the resulting call to witness through social holiness and evangelism.

You will notice that strengthening for the present and building for the future are separate phrases. My observation is that churches tend to choose one over the other: either the people who are already in the church are the priority (an inwardly focused church); or are so focused on reaching people not in the church (usually youth, young adults, and families), that the existing missional needs are neglected.

It is not an easy task to balance the two. But I think these two priorities need to be held in dynamic (as opposed dysfunctional) tension in order for our churches to flourish.


I feel that we are in the midst of 21st version of the American Frontier of the 19th century when the Methodist (and EUB) churches grew rapidly, except that the frontier is not so much geographically challenging as it is spiritually challenging. The focus was on discipleship and witness, led by strong clergy and laypeople. May we bring about a 21st revival in the Hawaii District!

### **OAHU ADVENT CLERGY DINNER ON DECEMBER 6**

The Oahu clergy Advent dinner will be held on Friday evening, December 6, 2013, at Wesley UMC, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We will continue to find ways to celebrate neighbor island clergy.

### **A SEVENTH HAWAII DISTRICT CHURCH HAS REACHED 100%**

Christ UMC has become the seventh church in our district to reach 100% in apportionment giving. Let’s continue to have 100% throughout the district!

Grace and aloha, 

## **BITS N' PIECES...**

**\* \* \* PERSONAL \* \* \***

### **Congratulations to...**

...the Reverend Sam Nam and his wife, Mrs. Min H. Cho, upon the birth of their first child, Elizabeth on October 22, 2013. Pastor Nam leads the English-language ministry at Christ UMC. Congratulatory notes can be sent to: 1212 Nuuanu Ave., #1809, Honolulu 96817.

### **Deepest sympathy to...**

...Mrs. Anesiu Fine and family upon the passing of her husband, the Reverend Langi Fine on October 5th in Tonga. A memorial service was held in Hawaii on October 10<sup>th</sup> and a funeral service was held in Tonga. The Hawaii District apologizes for not listing the Fine's adopted daughter, Mrs. Fusi Koli together with their other children: Frank, Wesley, Mrs. Sima Atualevao, Mrs. Kolone 'Leslie' Sooalo and Ahokava. Notes of sympathy may be sent in care of Mr. Frank Fine, 45-571 Alokahi St., Kaneohe, HI 96744

...the Rev. Taike Lolohea and the family upon the passing of his wife, Fai'ana. Mrs. Lolohea passed away on Monday, October 14, 2013 in Colton, California. The memorial service was held on Friday, October 25 at Colton UMC where Rev. Taike serves. Before going to Colton, Rev. Taike served in several Hawaii churches - Lihue UC, Ala Lani UMC, and Trinity UMC. Notes of sympathy can be sent to: the Reverend Taike Lolohea, 898 Valencia Dr., Colton, CA 92324-2157.

...Mr. Sione "Lilo" Vakauata, Hawaii District Lay Leader and his family upon the passing of his uncle, Mr. Sione F. Vakauta (whom Lilo was named after). Mr. Vakauata died on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the age of 92 years old. Notes of sympathy can be sent to Lilo at: P.O. Box 1109, Pearl City, HI 96782.

...the Rev. Panepasa Fifita, Tongan pastor for Ala Lani UMC and Kihei Tongan UM Mission, and his family. His nephew, Christian, passed away on October 25 at the age of 24 in Maui and his brother, Tevita, died on October 28 in Tonga. Notes of condolences can be sent to: 129 Kuhuoi St., Kahului, HI 96732

### **Please continue to pray for...**

...Retired Pastor Roby Correa's youngest daughter, Mrs. Michelle Dekle. Michelle suffered a stroke and has been diagnosed to have Moyamoya Syndrome. She has had a recurrence of the stroke symptoms. She continues to be under the loving care of very dear friends in Texas while her husband, Frank, is working in Afghanistan.

... Chris Kemoeatu, son of the Reverend Manako and Mrs. Ahea Kemoeatu of Kahuku UMC. Chris is waiting for a kidney transplant. The transplant surgery has not been scheduled yet; his brother, Maake, will be the donor. Please pray for both of them.

... Mr. Mark Britt, the adult son of Mrs. Caroline Britt, benefactor of the annual Britt Lectures.

... Mr. Dick Englar of Waianae UMC, our former District Lay Leader.

... Mrs. Dot Bloom of Keolumana UMC and former District Camp Secretary.

... Retired Pastor Misipati Karapani.

... Rev. Colleen Chun and Rev. Kana Shimasaki who are both on Incapacity Leave.

## **HOLD CHURCHES, MINISTRIES AND THEIR PASTORS IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

11/17 - **Trinity UMC** - Pastors Robert Miyake Stoner & Solomone Uluave

11/24 - **Parker UMC** - Pastor Andrew Lee

12/1 - **Pacific Islanders UMC** - Pastor Faaagi Taufetee

12/8 - **Olive UMC** - Pastors Sangman Shin & Suega Leui

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**DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**November 2013**

Sat., Nov. 9; 9:00 am: Immigration Workshop;  
First UMC

Mon., Nov. 11: *Veterans' Day*; District Office closed

Tue., Nov. 12; 7:00 pm: **Windward Oahu JOINT Charge Conferences**; Parker UMC

Thu., Nov. 14; 7:00 pm: **East Honolulu JOINT Charge Conferences**; Wesley UMC

Sat., Nov. 16; 9:00 am: HUMU Board meeting.,  
Wesley Foundation.

" " " ; 12 noon: ??Dist. UMW Team meeting

Sat., Nov. 23; 10:00 am: **Central Oahu JOINT Charge Conferences**; Bethany Korean UMC

Sun., Nov. 24: *United Methodist Student Day*  
" " " ; 1:00 pm: **Maui JOINT Charge Conferences**; Lahaina UMC

Mon., Nov. 25: Deadline for Dec.-Jan. 2014 Ka Leo Mekokiko

Thu.-Fri., Nov. 28-29: *Thanksgiving holiday*; District Office closed

**December 2013**

Sun., Dec. 1: Deadline for Pastor's 2014 Salary Form

Fri., Dec. 6: Oahu Clergy Advent Dinner;  
Wesley UMC

Sat., Dec. 7; 10:00 am: DS Committee mtg.;  
District Office

Tue., Dec. 24: *Christmas Eve; District Office;*  
*closed 1/2 day*

Mon., Dec. 25: *CHRISTMAS*; District Office closed

Mon., Dec. 30: Deadline for Jan.-Feb. 2014 Ka Leo Mekokiko

**January 2014**

Sat., Jan. 11; 11:00am: Mekokiko Chapel Dedication

Mon., Jan. 20: *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; District Office closed*

Mon., Jan. 27: Deadline for Feb.-Mar. Ka Leo Mekokiko

**February 2014**

Fri.-Mon., Feb. 14-17: **Britt Lectures**; First UMC

Sat., Feb. 15; 8:30 am: UMW Mid-Winter Event

Mon., Feb. 17: *Presidents' Day; District Office closed*

Mon., Feb. 24: Deadline for Mar.-Apr. Ka Leo Mekokiko

**March 2014**

Sat., Mar. 22: **Visioning Hawaii District with Bishop; District Conference** [Tentative]

Wed., Mar. 26: *Prince Kuhio Day; Dist. Office closed*

Mon., Mar. 31: Deadline for Apr.-May Ka Leo Mekokiko

**April 2014**

Sun., Apr. 13: *Palm Sunday*

Thu., Apr. 17: *Maundy Thursday*

Fri., Apr. 18: *Good Friday; District Office closed*

Sat., Apr. 19: HUMU Board mtg. [tentative]

Sun., Apr. 20: **EASTER Sunday**

Mon., Apr. 28: Deadline for May-Jun. Ka Leo Mekokiko

**May 2014**

Sat., May 3: Ann. Conf. Pre-Conference Briefings??

Thu.-Sun., May 22-25: **Walk to Emmaus for Men**

Mon., May 26: *Memorial Day; District Office closed*  
" " " : Deadline for Jun.-Jul. Ka Leo Mekokiko