

First United Protestant Church-UCC

1350 Waianuenue Avenue
Hilo, HI 96720
808/935-5914
fupchilo@hawaiiantel.net
www.fupchurch.org



Return Service Requested



Welcome to First United Protestant Church Hilo, Hawaii

In this season of Ordinary Time we welcome you and your loved ones (including children) to join us as we grow in faith, hope, and love. We are a part of the United Church of Christ and affiliated with the Hawai'i Conference of the UCC. Our roots in Hawai'i are the congregational church of the early missionaries. First United Protestant Church was organized as The First Foreign Church and Society in 1868.

Sunday Worship Service

Communion

Kosraean Mid-Week Service

Kosraean WCA Service

Kosraean Sunday Worship Service

Children's Ministry offered during worship Service

10:00 am

First Sunday of the Month

7:30 pm Wednesdays

7:00 pm Fridays

1:30 pm Sundays

Other education, youth programs, and activities offered throughout the week.

Weekly schedules are listed in the Sunday worship bulletin.

This is a place to BELONG... We're all in this together. No matter our history, circumstances, or goals, we're all human and all need love and acceptance. That's why the church exists and why you belong.

July 2018

First News – Newsletter of First United Protestant Church, Hilo, HI

July 2018

Sermon Themes for July

July 1

God Speaks Your Language

Gen. 11.1-9, Acts 2 selecte

We all have a “heart language”. This is the language in which we think our deepest thoughts, express humor, sadness, anger, and fear... and proclaim our love for another. Our “heart language” is the one that arises from our soul spontaneously. How amazing to know that God speaks our “heart language” and if we listen, there is a communication beyond words that penetrates to the deepest places of our spirit. The Tower of Babel and Pentecost were both significant events about the power of language.

July 8

Our Firm Foundation: Learning

2 Timothy 2.1-2

Since the early days of First Foreign Church, education and learning have been important values as they started various pre-schools and private schools that inspired many to aspire to gain an education. From biblical knowledge to secular education, the church became a center of learning and enabled many to attain professions and careers that would not have been possible otherwise. Paul writes to young Timothy to be a “teacher of the word”... to make learning and instruction a foundational element of his pastoral leadership. Its in our DNA too.

July 15

Our Firm Foundation: Compassion & Mission

Matthew 25 & 28

Why are we here? Only for ourselves and our enjoyment and convenience. Our early founders considered their new church as a source of compassion and mission toward the less fortunate, people living on the edge, neighbors in the pacific islands, and local citizens going through difficult times. They were living out the words of Jesus that “inasmuch you have shown compassion to the least of these my brethren, you have shown c ompassion to me.”

July 22

Our Firm Foundation: Worship and Music

I Peter 2

The first church after “The Bethel” stone house was no longer used, was a New England style meetinghouse, complete with high steeple with bell, and formal church décor that included stained glass, pews and hand-made pulpit furniture. There were also organs, some hand-pumped, and choirs. Inspiring music was there at the beginning as church members raised their voices to sing and pray in the language of their hearts. We are still blessed with the value of good music and a sanctuary that echoes with the sounds of inspiring worship, in addition to concerts and recitals.

July 29

Our Firm Foundation: Values That Endure

John 15, I Thess 1-2

Though separated by decades and generations that have come and gone, the values and priorities of our early spiritual ancestors lives on in our life together as a church. We hold a respect for differences of experience in our individual spiritual journeys, We hold compassion and kindness as guiding lights in our attitude toward those living through difficult times. We honor the traditions of the past by singing familiar hymns that continue to inspire. We believe the Word of God is our guide for daily practice in the living of our faith. Values that were there at the beginning endure still in our church today.

Thinking Out Loud...

This is a big month for our church! On July 27, a Friday night, at 6:00 p.m. we'll gather to celebrate our 150th Anniversary. We began on January 14 this year with a wonderfully inspiring worship service that included a brass ensemble and large choir.

The gathering on July 27 will be a bit different.

There's no brass ensemble but we will have a wonderful choir of talented singers. We will present monetary gifts to three community non-profit organizations. We will hold a roll-call of faith in which we honor those who have gone before. We will be joined by choirs from other Hilo-area churches and we'll join in fellowship afterwards on the lanai to continue the celebration and conversations with delicious light pupu.

Why do we do this? What's so significant about 150 years of ministry as opposed to 149 years or 151 years? I suppose that it has something to do with our mathematical attraction to that "0" on the end of a number. And its divisible by 5. But beyond the mere numbers, its important to stop and reflect more deeply on where we came from, what's happened during the intervening years, and why we're still here.

In July, I'll be focusing on five themes that emerge from our history that helps to explain who we are, where we've been and where we might be going. They are Language, Learning, Compassion & Mission, Worship & Music, and Values that Endure. You can read the sermon and worship themes on the front page of this newsletter (inside). On the next page of this newsletter, please find the Proclamation signed by Mayor Harry Kim in honoring our 150th Anniversary.

For your information, some folks from our church gathered to plant four azalea bushes at Queen Liliu'okalani Gardens near the Tea House on Thursday, June 28. Not too many showed up but those who did worked hard and had a good time. This planting was in honor of Mr. C.C. Kennedy and wife Laura Kennedy, members of First Foreign Church, who were very important supporters and benefactors of the Garden in the early 1900's.

On Sunday July 22, you'll want to look for a copy of the Sunday paper in Hilo because we are scheduled to have an 8-page full-color TAB insert in the paper that day. It will be full of stories, photos and announcements about our church Ohana. If you can bring a friend to the July 27th Vesper Service,, so much the better. Let's fill the sanctuary!!

Its an exciting time and we need everyone's presence and participation. Its our party and we're the hosts so I'm hoping many will step up and volunteer to help out in providing a warm welcome to our guests and to be available to provide gracious hospitality to all who come. Mahalo nui loa for your kokua!!



COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

Proclamation

WHEREAS, early immigrant families from New England, many of them missionaries, settled in Hilo, Hawai'i, and desired a place of worship in the English language; and

WHEREAS, Christians began an outreach to sailors on whaling ships in Hilo harbor at the Seaman's Bethel across from Haili Church, a stone structure that was used by the sailors as well as early English-speaking immigrants; and

WHEREAS, 14 leading community members made an application to the Monarchy for a royal charter to establish a church to be called "First Foreign Church"; the charter was granted and signed on July 27, 1868 during the reign of King Kamehameha IV; and

WHEREAS, construction of the new church, located on the corner of Haili Street and Kino'ole Street was completed and dedicated in 1868; and

WHEREAS, the original church was replaced by a larger house of worship in 1897 at the same location, as its membership grew in numbers and diversity; and

WHEREAS, the church was renamed "First United Protestant Church" in 1954, in recognition of the diverse composition of its membership; it was moved to its present location in 1969; and

WHEREAS, the church continues to be open and welcoming to a broad spectrum of people, offering a meeting place for Al Anon and Narcotics Anonymous, as well as providing space for the Kamehameha Schools' Pi'ihonua Preschool;

WHEREAS, First United Protestant Church carries on its tradition of compassion and generosity set forward by the church's early founders in loving service to all,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY KIM, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, hereby proclaim July 27, 2018, as

A DAY OF CELEBRATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF HILO

in the County of Hawai'i and urge all citizens to recognize the many ways the congregation has ministered to people of all ages through music, education, spiritual inspiration and generosity towards those in need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 27th day of July, 2018, in Hilo, Hawai'i.



Harry Kim
Harry Kim
MAYOR

Green was the silence, wet was the light, the month of June 2018

Kosrae Hilo Happenings

We all, in our physical bodies, represent just one stop on our soul's everlasting journey. Start where you can. Use what you have. Do what you can.

I take this chance to thank you all for your immeasurable contribution in making June 2018 a fun-filled month of treasured memories.

Kulo Na Maluhlap,

Nipastu Fay



Welcome to this Sacred Prayer Corner

Light a candle
to make your prayers
visible and real.
Behold the Light and Believe!
Written prayer requests will be lifted
in prayer by this Church Ohana.
May all who hold a prayer in their
heart find Comfort and Peace!



Please include the following people and situations in your prayers:

Sheldon Asejo
Mike Gardner
Maria Valido & the Queja Family
Doris Toma
Sylvia Hammer
Rev. Nixon & Fay Jack
Aulani Humphers
Janet Lang

Agnes Perreira
Margo Aguiar
Michael Russell
Lei Semana & Family
David Lee
Marlo & Ella Fontanilla

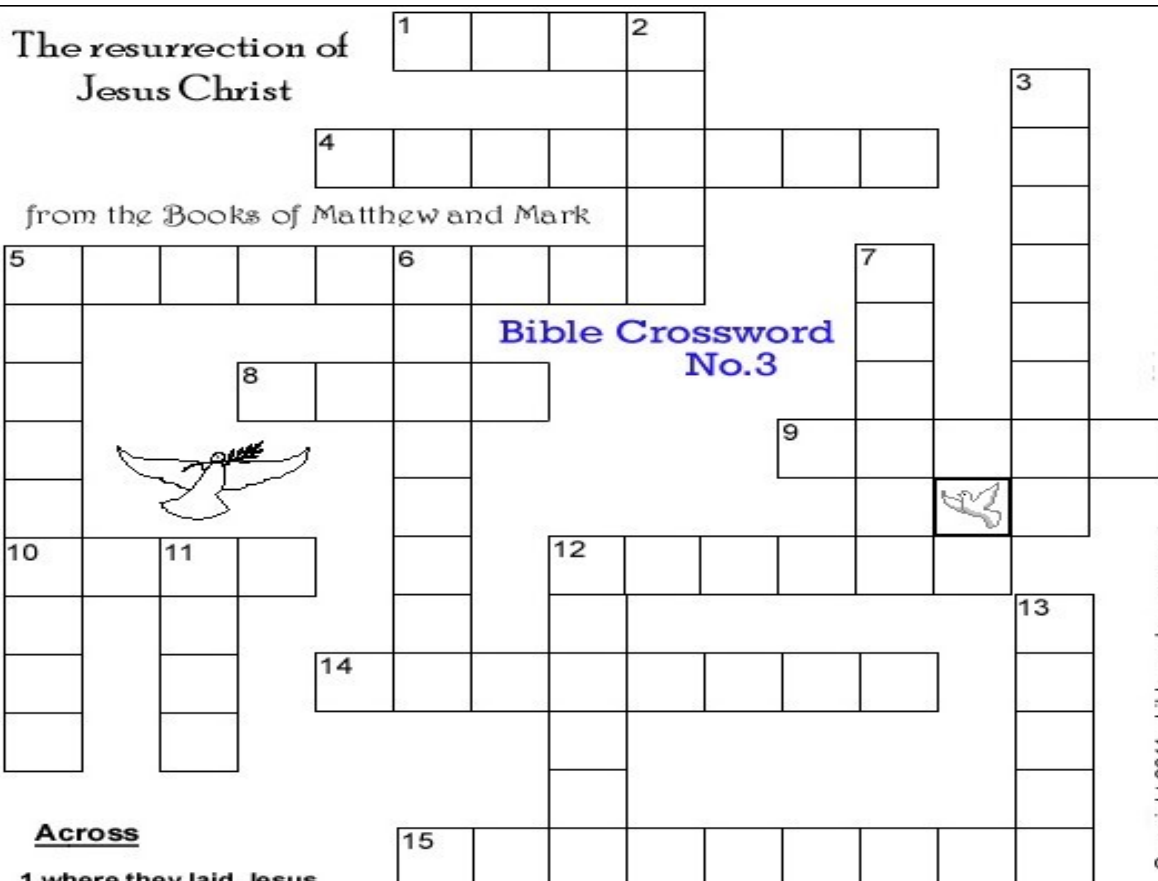
Happy July Birthday to the following Friends and Members



Phoebe Wyatt (3rd)
Racheal Castro (12th)
Drenzen Queddng (12th)
Curtis Green (14th)
Chad Wasserman (21st)
McArthur Tumanang (25th)
Sheldon Asejo (30th)

Karena Solmerin-Asejo (3rd)
Jade Iokepa (12th)
Barbara Thusrston (14th)
Benjamin Wyatt (15th)
Debra Payao (23rd)
Crystal Ha'a (25th)
Erik Wyatt (31st)

Activity Page



Across

- 1 where they laid Jesus after He died (Matt.27:60)
- 4 the place where Jesus died (Matt.27:33)
- 5 Jesus and two thieves were _____ together (Matt.27:38)
- 8 mother of Jesus
- 9 The angel said "He is _____ He is not here" (Mark 16:6)
- 10 They made Jesus wear a scarlet _____ (Matt.27:28)
- 12 Jesus was betrayed for _____ pieces of silver (Matt.27:3)
- 14 Jesus was _____ of any crime (Matt.27:4)
- 15 The 12 companions of Jesus

DOWN

- 2 Jesus shed His _____ for our sins
- 3 Judas Iscariot _____ Jesus (Matt.27:4)
- 5 Roman commander of a hundred men (Matt.27:54)
- 6 Jesus said " My God, My God why hast thou _____ me" (Matt.27:46)
- 7 a title of Jesus (it means anointed one) (Matt.27:17)
- 11 They laid the _____ of Jesus in a tomb (Matt.27:59)
- 12 Jesus wore a "crown of _____"
- 13 our Lord and Saviour

Pickled Chinese Spare Ribs

From the kitchen of Barbara Thurston

1.5 lbs. of spare ribs
1 C. water
3/4 C. brown sugar
1 T. flour

1 1/4 C. vinegar
1/2 t. salt
1 T. shoyu

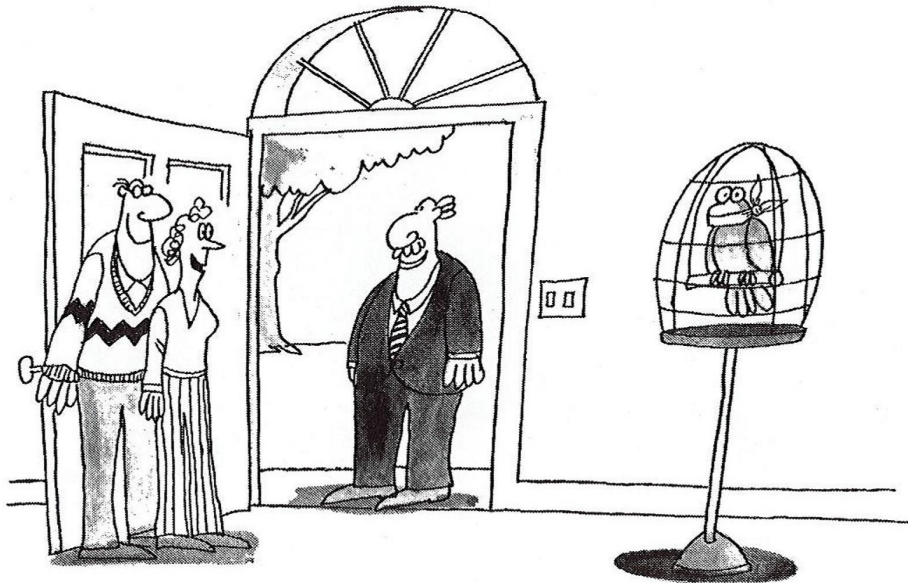
Cut spare ribs in pieces and roll in mixture made of shoyu, flour and salt. Let stand a few minutes. Fry in well heated oil until golden brown. Drain excess oil, leaving 2 tablespoons of oil in the pan with the spare ribs. Then add vinegar, water and sugar. Cook until tender over medium heat. Serves 2

****All Recipe's are from "Heirlooms from our Church Family" published in 1998



Did You Know.....

- That our next big 150th celebration event will be an evening Vesper Service on July 27th at 6:00 pm here in the Sanctuary. Please see the invitation on the next page.....July 27th is also the date our church Charter from King Kamehameha V in 1868 was signed. This Charter has been enlarged and framed, and will be displayed on the walls in the Sanctuary for the Vesper Service.
- That on July 28th at 7:30 pm the Na Wai Chamber Choir will be having a concert in our Sanctuary.
- That the Tahitian Gardenia tree behind the Sanctuary was planted, mid 1998, in honor of Rev. Elden Buck's service to FUPC. Also the Ti leaf plants planted in front of the church were planted there by Jeremy Agag, Nipastu Alice Buck and Rev. Elden Buck on Rev. Elden Buck's last Sunday of worship here at FUPC in January 1998. The Ti Leaf plants were received by Jeremy Agag, our Youth Representative, at the Hawaii Aha Pae'aina, in Honolulu, in the late 90's, as a gift from the Hawaii Conference, honoring the sacred plant and designating FUPC as a sacred place of worship.
- That on July 22nd an 8 page tab will be inserted into the Hilo Tribune Herald devoted entirely to the history and life of our church. Please be on the lookout for it, there will be some very interesting pictures and articles about the history of our church in this tab.



"Come in, Pastor, we were expecting you."

Please join us and bring a friend!

A Special Vesper Service and Celebration

First United Protestant Church



With Gratitude for God's faithfulness...

We invite you to join us in celebrating our

150th Anniversary

at a Special Vesper Service of Worship and Celebration
on Friday evening, July 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

(light pupu to follow)

Many well-known Hilo Singers and Musicians
will honor the church's ministry
under the direction of Michael Springer, church organist.
This service will mark the date on which the Church Charter
was signed in 1868 during the reign of King Kamehameha V.
We pay tribute to our Founders and other Leaders
whose devotion and hard work inspire us forward!
Join us in celebrating one of Hilo's Historic Landmarks ---
150 Years of Ministry!

1350 Waianuenue Ave. Hilo, HI 96720 808-935-5914 www.fupchurch.org email: fupchilo@hawaiiantel.net

COUNCIL KORNER

“I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH HIM WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH”

Philippians 4:13

- The FUPC Council meets every third Sunday of the month. We will share with you current events that are happening through the newsletter and by posting the monthly meeting minutes on the Narthex bulletin board.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COUNCIL KORNER

- A big Mahalo to Rev. Richard Alger and Rev. Nixon Jack for providing pulpit supply while Rev. Kent and Priscilla were on vacation in beautiful Taiwan.



Rev. Nixon Jack and Rev. Richard Alger

- On Sunday, May 27th we honored our graduates during worship. Congratulations to Kepola Ishikawa (Kamehameha Schools), Karin Alokoa, Belma Tosie and Selin Alik (Waiakea High School) and Bill Yang (University of Hawaii Hilo). We pray for God's blessings upon you as you journey through your next chapter in life.
- On Sunday, May 13 and Sunday, June 17, we honored and gave thanks to all our mothers and fathers on their special day with flowers, gift cards and leis. We continued that celebration on the church lanai with wonderful fellowship and great food. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.
- We were blessed to be able to send one church member to the 196th Aha Pae'aina 2018 conference on Oahu in June. Thank you Rev. Nixon Jack for representing FUPC at this year's conference.
- We are asking for your assistance in helping us support the Pearl Buck International pen pal mission. We currently send \$75.00 per quarter to Raymark Gutierrez Dela Cruz in the Philippines. Please consider donating the money you receive from recycling towards this mission. Your donations from recycling will provide Raymark with food, school supplies and other basic needs. Please feel free to call the church office at 935-5914 if you would like more information regarding this mission or go to www.pearlbuck.org.

Council Korner Continued on next page.....

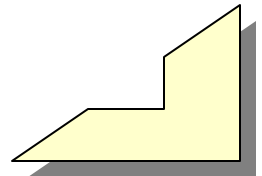


Moderator, Debbie Sasan and FUPC member, Dusty Cardinas getting our Puna Partnership donations ready to deliver to Puna.

- Our Puna Partnership through the leadership of Gwynn Sosa, Mission Chairperson, was able to provide much needed items to four families in the Puna district. Through your generosity we were able to make this happen. So far we have raised \$650.00 and 66lbs of Food for the Food Basket. We continue to accept donations for this on-going project and ask that you keep all of them in your daily prayers. The picture on the left shows some of the donations that were purchased for the 4 families per their specific requests, such as, sleeping bags, food storage containers, gas masks, coolers, head lights, rain jackets, tents, tarps, grills, security safes, and Home Depot Gift Cards.

- The Pastoral Search Committee continues to meet regularly and is actively moving forward in the process of selecting a new Pastor.
- Come join us every **second Saturday** of the month for Congregation Appreciation Day. Bring the family, a friend and if possible a refreshment to share. Next congregation appreciation day will be **July 14, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
- Please feel free to approach/share with me or any of your Council members suggestions, questions or concerns that you would like to address in your church life. You can also contact me at: debbie-fupc@gmail.com

God Bless You,
Debbie Sasan,
Moderator



He Walks with me and he Talks with me.....

SERVANT LEADERSHIP PARTICIPATION

July 2018

USHERS/GREETERS

Zandrix Queja & McCharles Tumaneng

COMMUNION PREP

Bob Ahia

LITURGISTS/LAY READERS

*June 1 June Dela Cruz
July 8 Royalyn Solmerin
July 15 Tyler Dela Cruz
July 22 Kosraean Fellowship
July 29 Bob Ahia*

COMMUNION SERVERS

*Team 3: June Dela Cruz,
Tyler Dela Cruz,
.OKathleenKim &
Royalyn Solmerin*

COFFEE HOUR

*July 1 Jeremy Agag
July 8 Jane McLean
July 15 Gail Kagawa
July 22 Kosraean Fellowship
July 29 Debbie Sasan*

ACOLYTE

Aiden Benjamin

Oshen Misamel ~ Kosraean Acolytes on 4th Sunday. (July 22nd)