

First United Protestant Church

United Church of Christ

1350 Waianuenue Avenue

Hilo, HI 96720

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www.fupchurch.org



Return Service Requested



Welcome to First United Protestant Church Hilo, Hawaii

First United Protestant Church of Hilo is part of the greater United Church of Christ and was founded in 1868. We were originally named the First Foreign Church, and were known early on for our hospitality and welcome to sailors who came to the Big Island of Hawaii. Today, as a community of faith we are committed to the personhood of Jesus Christ, we are committed to being in unity with the Body of Christ, and we are committed to the work Christ calls us to in the world. On Sunday's we have meditation beginning at 9:50am and worship begins shortly after 10:00am. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!!

Sunday Morning Meditation	9:50 am
Sunday Worship Service	10:00 am
Kosraean Mid-Week Service	7:30 pm Wednesdays
Kosraean WCA Service	7:00 pm Fridays
Kosraean Sunday Worship Service	1:30 pm Sundays
Children's Ministry offered during Worship Service	

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

Weekly schedules are listed in the Sunday worship bulletin.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

November 2019

First United Protestant Church

Sermon Themes for November 2019

***Sermon themes and Scripture texts may change at the Pastor's discretion.**

****Meditation begins every Sunday at 9:50am during the prelude.**

Sunday, November 3rd, 10:00 AM - Scriptures: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4. Sermon Title: *"Are You Willing to Question God?"*

In these two scriptures the prophet Habakkuk is having a conversation with God. The prophet is speaking with God because he is deeply troubled and concerned about what he sees happening in the world. The prophet sees injustice happening around him, and he sees the breakdown of moral and social order happening. And so he questions God, because if God is all-powerful, if God is sovereign, if God is good and just, why hasn't God done anything to fix this situation?

Sunday, November 10th, 10:00 AM - Scriptures: Haggai 1:15b-2:9. Sermon Title: *"The Presence of God is Among Us."* **Stewardship Sunday.**

In this scripture the prophet Haggai packs a power message to its readers about the past, the present, and the future. The Israelites have returned home after decades of being held in the captivity of exile. Their return home was the beginning of a time of great promise and excitement for them. However, when they arrived home the land they once knew and that existed in their memories was destroyed and gone. When they arrived, the Israelites were slapped in the face by the reality that if they wanted thriving lands, a vibrant community, and a glorious temple again they would have to work at rebuilding it.

Sunday, November 17th, 10:00 AM - Scriptures: Isaiah 65:17-25. Sermon Title: TBA

Where God is there can only be victory and life, such things as evil and negativity have no place. Such a time will allow the Israelites to enjoy their homes and the fruits of their lands, and will live long lives because of God's blessing. This text from Isaiah creates a paradise like scene where people are living jointly with all of God's creation. The creation described in this text is not necessarily about the formation of a physical universe, but of a people that are committed to following God's ways.

Sunday, November 24th, 10:00 AM - Scriptures: Luke 1:68-79. Sermon Title: TBA **Reign of Christ Sunday.**

In this scripture Zechariah shares a prophecy of the coming Messiah. He paints a picture and portrait of strength, one who protects people and defeats opponents. He likens the Messiah to a King who saves and cares for his people in the kingdom. The prophecy includes a promise that involves rescue: God will save his people from their enemies and from all who hate them. Such rescue reflects the mercy of God and the recollection of the covenant that was made with Abraham.

In The Name of Truth, Life, and Love:

A Monthly Message from the Pastor

Beloved of First United Protestant Church,

If you haven't heard yet, our Visioning Retreat on October 16th was a huge success! After some open discussions and much planning, we set out that day with the intention of trying to answer the question, "Who is God calling First United Protestant Church to be?" To answer that question we went through something called "The Life Visioning Process," which was developed by Dr. Rev. Michael Beckwith. It is a unique process that is designed to open people to hear, feel, see, and catch God's vision for their lives, or in this case our church.

What we each received that day were visions we believed we could accomplish together and begin to live out as a church. The group was able to narrow down many of the key themes, topics, and ideas that came out of each person's vision. Afterwards, the group was able to paraphrase them into answers, and I have to say, "The answers were exciting!" I am happy to share them with you here: God is calling First United Protestant Church to be a church that is welcoming, culturally aware, a church where people can grow in faith together, a church where you have the freedom to be yourself, a church that embraces diversity, a church that embraces a changing world, a church that is a loving family, and a church that is committed to following the life, teachings, and ministry of Jesus.

Due to the care and amount of time we took to make sure we recorded each person's responses, we were unable to finish the complete Visioning Process that Saturday. Our next steps are for the group to use those answers as a framework for drafting a possible mission and vision statement for the church. A mission and vision statement that gives the church a sense of purpose and direction, and one that tells people who we are. So we will continue where we left off and hold our next Visioning Retreat on Saturday November 16th at Easter Seals from 9:00am to 4:00pm. All are invited and welcome, even if you did not attend the previous visioning retreat. I want to remind people to please RSVP by Friday November 8th by contacting the church office at fupchilo@hawaiiantel.net or 808-935-5914.

If it has felt like there has been a great deal of focus on our mission, vision, and future, it is because Jesus was someone who had a clear mission and vision for his ministry. Do you remember what his mission statement is? It is found Luke 4:18-19 where he says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.



He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. (ESV)” And what about the vision he held that drove his mission statement? Could that vision be found in scriptures such as Matthew 22:37-40, “And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. (ESV)”

I bring up his mission and vision because when Jesus was talking about the Kingdom of God (his “church” for lack of better words), he was thinking of concrete realities on earth that were possible for people to experience. He was thinking of the creation of an alternative reality and social order where people would embody his mission of helping to liberate and free others, and he envisioned people doing it through their love of God. Jesus was thinking of a clear direction and purpose for his people, one he believed they could get behind. He believed this would guide them as they sought to live together in community. A life where they would experience the relationship of being different people together, being responsible to one another, and committing to God and all God’s creation. Part of our purpose as people faith is to try to take Jesus’ mission and vision and make it our own.

Since the future of our church, and its stewardship, is so important, I want to encourage you to please attend and participate in three upcoming events in November. The first, is the Question & Answer Session on the church’s annual budget on Sunday November 3rd. This is a great place to be if you have questions about the annual budget or finances of the church. The second, is to join us for Stewardship Sunday on November 10th. On this day I want to invite members and friends of the church to return their pledge certificates during the offering. These annual pledge commitments are demonstrations of our stewardship to the church and they properly help the church make financial plans and decisions for the following year. Lastly, is the Annual Congregation Meeting on Sunday November 24th immediately following worship. Yes, even Jesus was asked to attend meetings!!

Our newsletter is filled with some exciting upcoming events like the Interfaith Council in Action (ICIA) Thanksgiving Celebration, our Thanksgiving Luncheon, a new book study for the Advent Season, a Christmas party and potluck, and our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. As these events approach us, I want to encourage you to ask, “Where God is calling you to be?”, and “How is God calling you to participate, volunteer, and join in?” If you have questions about anything we are doing, please don’t hesitate to ask, whether it is me, the church office, or a council member. We are here to support you, and help you growth in your faith and relationship with God. The best way for us to do that is to hear from you, because you matter to God, to Christ, and to us!

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki



Rev. Christopher's Installation of Service

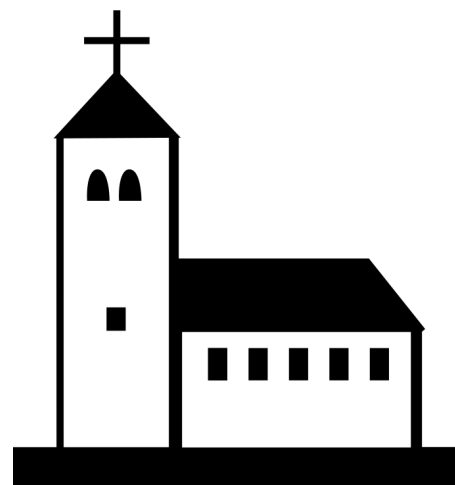
Rev. Chris's Installation of Service as the new Pastor is scheduled to take place on **Saturday November 2nd at 12:00pm** right here at First United Protestant Church. Visitors will include Associate Conference Minister Richard Kamanu, the Vice President of the Hawaii Island Association Diane Hultman, Chair of the Committee on Ministry Rev. Eric Anderson, and Rev. Becky Turner from Christ Church UCC in St. Louis, Missouri. We are expecting to have some outstanding music that day as well, including a choir led by Michael Springer and the Kosraean Congregation. A reception is to follow on the lanai. **Please RSVP by contacting the church office at fupchilo@hawaiiantel.net or 808-935-5914.**



An installation service is a special service for a newly appointed minister of a church. It is an occasion that recognizes the call of the pastor to that particular church. During the installation service the Pastor's responsibilities and duties in the care of the church and for its congregation are acknowledged. There is also a charge to the congregation to commit to following the pastor's lead and guidance as they seek out God's will for the church.

2nd Visioning Retreat

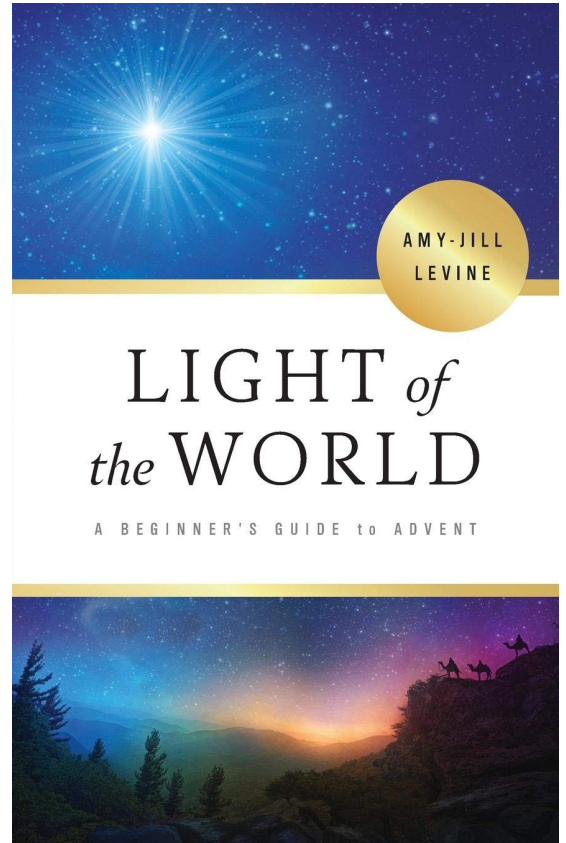
If you haven't heard yet, our visioning retreat in October was a huge success!! On that day we began to answer the question, "Who is God calling First United Protestant Church to be?" And we are excited about many of the answers we received!! However, due to the care and time we put into the process we were unable to finish the complete Visioning Process that day. The next step is for us to begin forming a mission and vision statement that tells people who we are as a church. **We will hold our next Visioning Retreat on Saturday November 16th at Easter Seals from 9:00am to 4:00pm. All are invited and welcome, even if you did not attend the previous visioning retreat. Please RSVP by Friday November 8th by contacting the church office at fupchilo@hawaiiantel.net or 808-935-5914.** A handout has been made available listing the visioning process questions, our results, and what our next steps are.



3-Week Advent Group Study

In December we will begin a three week Advent group study on “Light of the World” by Amy-Jill Levine. In the book *“Light of the World: A Beginner’s Guide to Advent”*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. She traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary’s visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary’s Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

The cost of the book will be \$14.00. If you would like to purchase the book and participate in the group study a signup sheet will be located in the narthex or you can contact the church office at fupchilo@hawaiiantel.net or 808-935-5914. The group study will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. **The last day to order the book will be November 15th.**



Interfaith Council In Action Thanksgiving Celebration

First United Protestant Church will be hosting the **Interfaith Communities In Action (ICIA) Thanksgiving Celebration on Tuesday November 26th at 7:00pm.** Faith communities from around the local area will be coming to share a song or performance. The theme for this year’s Thanksgiving celebration is *“Gathering & Grateful: Together in Harmony & Thanks”*. There will also be a food drive for non-perishable items that will be collected and donated to Hawaii Food Basket. From past years events we estimate that nearly 200 people will be attending. We would like to ask for volunteers to help with setup, greeting, and directing those who come. Please contact the church office or see Pastor Chris if you would like to volunteer to help with this event.



First United Protestant Church Happenings



On Sunday October 6th we celebrated World Communion Sunday at the church by decorating a table behind our altar with different loaves of bread and globes of the world. During Communion we also had different colored breads to symbolize our unity with Christians all over the world. (photos by Pastor Chris)



First United Protestant Church Happenings

On Sunday October 13th the church had a going away party for longtime member Margo Aguiar. Margo had been a member of First United Protestant Church since 1992, and served in several areas of the church including council member, vice moderator, and chair of the worship committee. Margo moved to Iowa this month to be closer to her daughter and grandchildren. Her zest, humor, and light will be deeply missed at the church! Below the Youth Group blessed Margo with a going away gift. (photos by June Dela Cruz)



Join Us For These Important Events Regarding the Church

Sunday November 3rd after worship the Church Council will host a **Question & Answer Session on the church's annual budget**. Pledge certificates and the annual budget were mailed during the first week of October. If you did not receive a pledge certificate or annual budget please contact the church office or see a council member. If you have questions about the annual budget or finances of the church please come!!

Sunday November 10th will be Stewardship Sunday. On this day we would like to invite members and friends of the church to return their pledge certificates during the offering. If you did not receive a pledge certificate please contact the church office or see a church council member. These annual pledge commitments properly help the church make financial plans and decisions for the following year. You may return your pledge certificates to the church office before November 10th.

Sunday November 24th the church will hold its Annual Congregation Meeting immediately following worship. At this time church members will vote on the proposed budget for 2020 and the new slate of Council Members who will begin serving their terms. We will also be saying goodbye to the faithful and dedicated leaders who are ending their terms of service in the church council.



First United Protestant Church extends its deepest sympathies to our office administrator Chris Oda and her family in loving memory of Kele Oda. Kele Oda is responsible for fixing lots of odds and ends around the church, and is the crafter of the wooden placards on our church sign and the beautiful wooden cross that was just dedicated to our church on August 25th, 2019. A candle was lit in his memory during worship on October 6th. (photo by June Dela Cruz)

*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:

Doris Toma	Mike Gardner
Fay Jack	Cullen Chee
Pedro Queja	Lei Semana
Michael Russell	Ella Fontanilla
Maria Valido	Margo Aguiar
Sheldon Asejo	Janet Lang
Royal Solmerin	Fillmore Lorenzo
Traveyion Taylor	Gabrielle Marlo

Happy November Birthday to the following Friends and Members



Daveyion Simmons (8th)	Hanna Alakoa (8th)
Frank Alakoa Jr. (8th)	Ola Ha "a (9th)
Karin Alokoo (11th)	Fred Gacula (17th)
Michael Springer (17th)	Fillmore Lorenzo (22nd)
Izaiah Queja-Bidad (23rd)	Sylvia Hammer (24th)
Tulpe Dizon (26th)	Eric Hopfe (28th)
Kurt Iokepa (29th)	Melody Padilla (29th)

Food & Fun

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 265

Matt. 14:1-15

P	R	N	E	S	I	R	I	J	R	N	T	S	E	D
O	R	D	E	R	E	D	P	O	E	O	S	B	W	N
W	B	U	P	T	O	L	G	H	Q	S	I	U	A	U
E	M	O	T	H	E	R	O	N	U	I	T	R	N	O
R	D	A	D	A	U	G	H	T	E	R	P	I	T	B
S	L	J	S	Y	O	U	P	S	S	P	A	E	E	Y
P	H	E	R	O	D	B	D	R	T	U	B	D	D	A
D	D	E	I	R	R	A	C	E	O	S	S	H	R	D
R	R	G	D	A	N	C	E	D	D	P	E	E	E	H
S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	E	A	H	U	J	T
C	N	M	T	H	A	E	T	L	L	T	E	E	G	R
R	N	K	O	Y	H	O	P	E	O	C	N	H	T	I
O	I	E	I	T	W	O	D	R	A	A	R	A	E	B
W	D	N	A	N	E	T	B	L	K	R	O	W	R	B
D	G	O	S	P	G	H	P	L	U	F	W	A	L	G

Death of John the Baptist

BOAT	BAPTIST
BODY	BEHEADED
BOUND	BIRTHDAY
BURIED	BROTHER
CROWD	CARRIED
DANCED	DAUGHTER
DINNER	DISCIPLES
GUESTS	GRANTED
HEALED	LAWFUL
HEROD	MOTHER
JESUS	ORDERED
JOHN	PLATTER
KING	PLEASED
OATH	POWERS
PEOPLE	PROPHET
PLACE	REMOTE
PRISON	REQUEST
RISEN	SAYING
TOWNS	WANTED

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

WORK

Pumpkin Swirl Bread From the kitchen of Lorraine Davis

Filling:

1 (8oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened 1 egg, beaten
1/4 C. sugar

Batter:

1 3/4 C. flour	1 1/2 C. sugar
1 t. baking soda	1 t. cinnamon
1 C. canned pumpkin	1/4 t. ground nutmeg
1 egg, beaten	1/2 C. margarine melted
1/3 C. water	

Combine dry ingredients. Add combined pumpkin, margarine, egg and water., mixing until moistened.

Reserve 2 cups batter; pour remaining into a greased and floured loaf pan. Pour cream cheese filling over pumpkin batter; top with reserved pumpkin batter. Cut through the batters with a knife several times for a swirled effect. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour & 10 minutes.



Please mark your calendar for these upcoming events Happening at First United Protestant Church...

November 2019

Saturday Nov. 2nd - Rev. Christopher's Installation at FUPC at 12:00pm. Rev. Becky Turner, all the way from Christ Church UCC in Maplewood Missouri, will be presiding over the installation ceremony.

Sunday, Nov. 3rd - Question & Answer Session on Annual Budget after worship.

Sunday Nov. 10th - Confirmation Class 6:00pm-7:30pm.

Saturday Nov. 16th - 2nd Visioning Retreat at Easter Seals from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Do not forget to RSVP with the church.

Sunday, Nov. 17th - Church Council Meeting following worship at 11:30am.

Sunday Nov, 17th - Youth Group will host coffee hour and have a fundraiser to raise funds to attend the National Youth Event at Purdue University.

Sunday Nov. 24th - Annual Congregation Meeting after worship. Our Annual Thanksgiving luncheon will follow the annual meeting.

Sunday Nov. 24th - Confirmation Class 6:00pm-7:30pm

Tuesday Nov. 26th - ICIA Community Thanksgiving Celebration & Concert at FUPC at 7:00pm. Volunteers are needed to help that day!!

Thursday Nov. 28th - Thanksgiving Day! The Church Office will be closed.

December 2019

Tuesday Dec. 3rd - Light of the World Book Study 6:00pm-7:30pm.

Sunday Dec. 8th - Confirmation Free Day Activity

Tuesday Dec. 10th - Light of the World Book Study 6:00pm-7:30pm.

Sunday Dec. 15th - Church Council Meeting following worship at 11:30am.

Tuesday Dec. 17th - Light of the World Book Study 6:00pm-7:30pm

Sunday Dec. 22nd - Christmas Party & Potluck after Worship.

Tuesday Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:00pm.

Wednesday Dec. 25th - Christmas Day! The Church Office will be closed.

Sunday Dec. 29th - Kosraean Mahs following worship service.

Worship Participation for November 2019

Greeters/Ushers

Nov. 3 Cori Dela Cruz & Shanel Simmons
 Nov. 10 Dusty Cardines & Gwynn Sosa
 Nov. 17 Phoebe Wyatt & Tyler Dela Cruz
 Nov. 24 Bobby Dale Skilling & Stevenson Ittu

Sunday School Teachers

Nov. 3 Volunteer Needed
 Nov. 10 Akeera Czarnecki
 Nov. 17 Fay Jack
 Nov. 24 Volunteer Needed

Lay Readers

Nov. 3 Phoebe Wyatt
 Nov. 10 June Dela Cruz
 Nov. 17 Ben Wyatt
 Nov. 24 Danny Dizon

Gift of Music

Nov. 3 Sali Queja & Loui Dagiau
 Nov. 10 Michael Russell & Michael Springer
 Nov. 17 Volunteer Needed
 Nov. 24 Kosraean Congregation and Joanne Pocsidio & Doug Albertson

Acolyte

Nov. 3 Aiden Benjamin
 Nov. 10 Shanel Simmons
 Nov. 17 Cori Dela Cruz
 Nov. 24 JayAnn Tosie

Special Events & Worship Services

Nov. 2 Pastor Christopher Installation Service
 Nov. 3 Carter Glen Czarnecki will be baptized

Communion Preparation Oct. 6

Nov. 3 Joanne Pocsidio

Coffee Hour

Nov. 3 Betty Nekoba
 Nov. 10 Gwynn Sosa
 Nov. 17 Youth Group
 Nov. 24 Kosraean Congregation

Communion Servers Oct. 6

Nov. 3 Daveyion Simmons, Ben Wyatt, Joanne Pocsidio, & Gail Kagawa

If you are unable to be at church on the Sunday you are scheduled to participate, please find a substitute and let the office know as soon as possible so we may print their name in the worship bulletin. Thank you!

Altar Decorations

Nov. 3 blue cloths that we will use to look like water pouring out of a pitcher into a bowl

