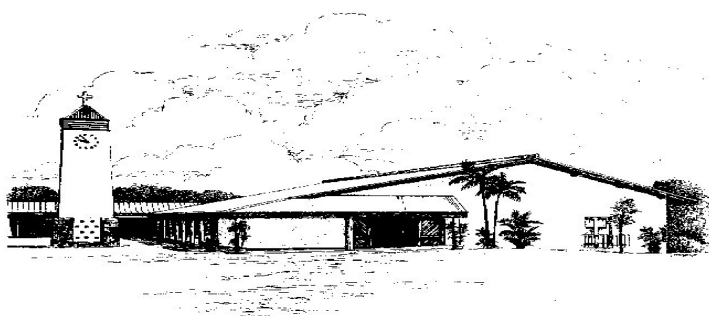


## First United Protestant Church-UCC

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 between Pentecost and Advent, 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.*

OCTOBER 2015

*FIRST NEWS – NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH, HILO, HI*  
*OCTOBER 2015*

## **Sermon Themes for October**

**October 4**

**Someone Has to Pay For the Roof**

**Mark 2.1-12**

Jesus healed a bed-ridden man who was let down through the roof of a home because there were too many people jamming around the front door. The man's friends cut a hole in the roof to lower him into the room where Jesus healed him. Think about the owner of the house. When all the commotion died down, when all the people had gone home, when the dishes were put away and the house was put back in order, the homeowner still had a hole in his roof. Question: Who's going to pay for the roof? There's always a cost to fulfilling our mission, loving others, getting involved. Are we willing to pay it?

**October 11**

**You Should Have Heard Them Sing**

**Acts 16.20-24**

Sometimes we get ambushed in life by something we wish had never happened and we're never the same after it happens. God allowed something unpleasant to happen to Paul and Silas in Philippi, they were thrown into prison. But in the midst of their pain, they began to sing. As they sang, something happened to the other prisoners and the guards. An earthquake opened all the prison doors but no one ran away. The Roman guard fell on his knees in gratitude... and his whole family became followers of Jesus. From that beginning the church in Philippi was born.

**October 18**

**A New Twist on an Old Parable**

**Matthew 25.14-30**

Jesus respected the power of money and knew that we could easily be possessed by our possessions. He said that the depths of our joy could never be measured by the size of our bank account. It was the poor widow who gave her half-cent who was his hero. It was the penniless woman pounding at the door asking for bread who received his praise. It was the woman who had spent everything to find a cure and was still sick who was blessed when she touched his garment. Let's reflect together on how and why God might be blessing our church for mission and ministry in 2016.

**October 25**

**Planting Seeds, Harvesting Abundance**

**I Corinthians 3.1-9**

Our church is always planting seeds in peoples' lives. We may not be here to see the harvest, but someone someday will see it. And they'll trace that harvest of abundance back to this church, your prayer, your words of encouragement, your life and faith and the ways in which you inspired them. God is the gardener, the one who makes our efforts grow into a beautiful garden of justice, righteousness, compassion, acceptance and caring. We are God's garden, intended for the blessing and nourishment of many in our community and world.

**November 1**

**Living With Leftovers**

**Mark 6.30-44**

Feeding thousands of people with a few fish and pieces of bread was an amazing miracle. But maybe the deeper miracle is what happened when everyone had eaten their fill. Jesus told his disciples to gather the leftovers, the bits and pieces of bread that we might consider useless and only worth throwing away. Sometimes in life, we can feel like a pile of leftover crumbs as we grow tired and depleted spiritually, emotionally, mentally and physically. But Jesus never wastes what he has blessed. Somehow, Jesus uses even our weakness to touch and bless the lives of others.

## THINKING OUT LOUD.....

In order for the lame man to be healed, he needed four friends to carry him up to the roof of a house so crowded that no one could get in. Jesus was the guest of honor. There was no way the lame man could get close enough to catch Jesus' attention. The front door was blocked with people.

The four friends had a plan. They would take their friend up to the roof and make a hole in the roof big enough to lower the poor guy into the house.

I can just see the boards and straw and dust falling down on the heads of everybody in the house. The man's bed was lowered into the room – and everyone watches to see what will happen next. The crowd is primed to see a miracle. It happens! The man is healed by Jesus and leaves the house carrying his bed.

Here's my question: Who paid for the roof? The homeowner had a big hole in the ceiling. How did he deal with that? Did he pay for the repair? Did the four friends? The man who was healed? Jesus?

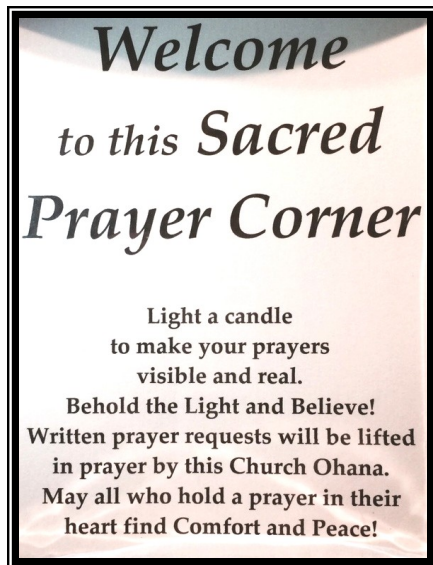
Good question. For God's work to get done.... somebody has to pay for the roof. Are we willing? Our budget says a lot about what we're willing to do in order to fulfill our mission. Loving others in Christ's name can be expensive. There's our physical plant, the building and grounds that consumes quite a lot of our resources. The usual costs of utilities, supplies, insurance, repairs and cleaning all soak up some of our resources. There's the staff to pay, Pastor, Organist, Administrative Assistant. There's our direct giving to mission – that often gets what's left over...help for the homeless and hungry, support for the marginalized and victimized of our community, giving for the national offerings, donations to individuals and groups that seek our financial help.

God's work is rooted in a vibrant and muscular love that is not sentimental or syrupy. Counting the cost for the love God calls us to live out through our church Ohana means hard work and sometimes disappointment. It may include getting angry at injustice and standing against the dominant powers that be in order to be true to our beliefs and calling.

In order for the lame man to be healed, he needed four bold friends who weren't afraid to tear apart a roof and lower him into Jesus' presence. But in the end, somebody had to pay for the roof. That's what our church budget is about....



Pastor Ron Kent



## A Special Prayer Request

Please include the following people and situations in your prayers:

Fay Jack  
Joe Wahl  
Song Soon Lee  
Dennis Salmo  
Doris Toma  
June Kaetsu

Agnes Perreira  
Steve Humphers  
Pedro & Petra Queja  
Mike Gardner  
Ray Stewart  
Eric Wyatt



## Kosraean News

### KOSRAE LIBERATION DAY



#### Kosrae Hilo Community Celebrate Liberation Day in Pink & Blue

Liberation Day is a holiday in Kosrae (one of the States in the Federated States of Micronesia) that is annually celebrated on Sept. 8th, marking the end of World War II and the suffering it caused. The Kosrae Hilo Community celebrated a day filled with good fellowship, lots of food, games, and most especially, the love and joy shared amongst all that were present.

Deacon Danny, Deaconess Tulpe, Yukiko and Pat Sephin were filled with the spirit as the "Dizon" family dressed up for this special occasion. They were awesome, super and "SUPERMAN".

Kulo Ma Luhlap for taking time out of your busy schedule to come and help the Kosrae Hilo Community celebrate this memorable event.

Pastu Nixon K. Jack



\*\* A special **THANK YOU** to Deaconess Tulpe for the use of her photo's.



## ***Did You Know...***

- That World Communion Sunday is celebrated all around the world in Christian churches as a day of unity and celebration of our common connection to Christ in spite of differences in language, culture, and spiritual practice? We will celebrate Holy Communion on Oct. 4.
- That the roof leaks over the organ pipes were repaired in September by John Wolf? He was able to stop the leaks and make sure there were no remaining leaks despite all the rain we've been having. Big Mahalo John!
- That Jeremy Agag, Froilan Queja, Marlo Fontanilla, Nixon Jack and Bob Ahia donate time and energy for the upkeep of our church grounds, mowing, weeding, trimming, fertilizing and making sure everything looks great? Mahalo guys!
- That the Big Island Mokupuni will be held at the Imiloa Church in Waimea on Saturday, October 24? We hope to have two representatives in attendance.
- That Margo Aguiar made new curtains for the balcony doors in the church office? The old ones had served well but were falling apart and needed replacing. Mahalo Margo!
- That some of our stained glass windows are in need of repair because of broken glass or separating frames? We are currently gathering estimates for the repair of these windows that have been a part of this church for many years.
- That our the children of the church will lead us in worship on Sunday, October 18? They are excited to take part as worship leaders through spoken word, music and prayer. Mahalo to our children!



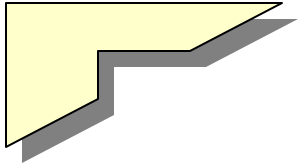




**Happy October Birthday to the following Friends and Members**



**Elmer Robinson (3rd), Yukiko Dizon (7th),  
Melecia Lorenzo (8th), Brandon Arruda (8th)  
Agnes Perreira (11th), Royal Solmerin (13th),  
Kamaile Kaupu (14th), Margo Aguiar (17th),  
Magdalena Dayoan (18th), Sheven Asejo (22nd),  
Karisa Solmerin (23rd), Gilbert Castro (23rd),  
Courtney Sasan (26th), Leticia Tumaneng (31st).**



## COUNCIL KORNER

“BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD”

Mahatma Gandhi

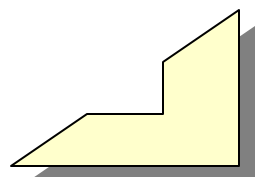
The FUPC Council meets every fourth Sunday of the month. We will continue to share with you current events that are happening through the newsletter and by posting the monthly meeting minutes on the Narthex bulletin board.

### HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COUNCIL KORNER

- The 2016 Church Budget has been approved by the Church Council. Thank you to everyone on the Budget Committee and to Chris Oda for taking on this big task.
- A Stewardship Letter to the Members with an attached overview of the 2016 Budget will be mailed the week of 10/18/15.
- A second Stewardship Letter will be mailed out to Members with an attached Pledge Card on 11/6/15. Final date to turn in your Pledge card to the church office 11/29/15.
- The first Congregational Meeting will be held on 11/15/15. There will be a Question and Answer session on the 2016 Budget at this meeting.
- The Congregational Annual Meeting will be held on 11/29/15. At this meeting the Members will vote on the 2016 Budget and the slate of new Council Officers and Council Members. In addition, the new and updated 2016 Church Directory will be handed out at this meeting. This is last Sunday to turn in your 2016 Pledge Commitment.
- The FUPC Pastoral Search Committee continues to review profiles.
- We continue to address the on-going Manse maintenance repairs.
- The leak in the organ room has been repaired. A big THANK YOU to John Wolf for taking the time out of his busy day to complete this repair.
- We continue to look for caretakers for concert rehearsals and concert events. This responsibility pays \$10.00 per hour. If you are interested please inquire through the church office or approach any of the Council members.
- If you would like to be a part of worship on Sundays, we are looking for individuals to serve as usher/greeters, lay readers, communion servers and coffee hour hosts. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex next to the flower sign-up sheet. **Every little way you are able to serve is much appreciated. Feel free to partner up with others for coffee hour or find someone to serve alongside you as an usher/greeter.**
- The Council is in the process of getting estimates to re-surface the FUPC parking lot. We will keep you posted as details become available.

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. I also have a FUPC e-mail address that you can contact me at: [debbiefupc@gmail.com](mailto:debbiefupc@gmail.com)

God Bless You,  
Debbie Sasan,  
Moderator





## SERVANT LEADERSHIP PARTICIPATION

OCTOBER 2015

### USHERS/GREETERS

Betty Nekoba & Bobby-Dale Skilling

### COMMUNION PREP

Debbie Sasan

### LITURGISTS/LAY READERS

Oct. 04     Jeremy Agag  
Oct. 11     June Dela Cruz  
Oct. 18     Margo Aguiar  
Oct. 25     Danny Dizon

### COMMUNION SERVERS

Team #3   Jeremy, Zandrix & Joanne

### COFFEE HOUR

Oct. 04     Jane McLean  
Oct. 11     Debbie Sasan  
Oct. 18     Bob Ahia  
Oct. 25     Kosraean Fellowship

### FLOWERS

### ACOLYTE

Ben Wyatt

### *Note*

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. Mahalo.