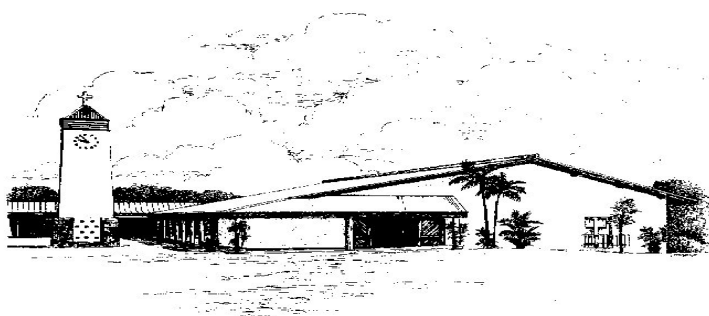


First United Protestant Church-UCC

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

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

Weekly schedules are listed in the Sunday worship bulletin.

10:00 am

First Sunday of the Month

7:30 pm Wednesdays

7:00 pm Fridays

1:30 pm Sundays

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 2016

FIRST NEWS – NEWSLETTER OF FIRST UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH, HILO, HI
JULY 2016

Sermon Themes for July

- | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| July 3 | Don't Kick the Donkey | Acts 9.1-9, Luke 22.47-51 |
| <p>A man, a donkey and an angel come together to teach us a profound lesson about acceptance of that which feels like failure or disappointment. When things don't go our way we have two choices: 1. We can force our will upon the circumstances or people and get our way at all costs. Or 2. We can change our plans, accept the reality and go in a different direction. It is the gift of divine wisdom to know when to back off, change course, make adjustments and look for the deeper meanings of why we've been stopped in our tracks. The story of a man, a donkey and an angel can be found in Numbers 22-24.</p> | | |
| July 10 | Shake It Off and Step Up | Psalm 30 |
| <p>We all, at one time or another in our life, face the question of suffering and why we suffer. It is one of the most profound questions we ask as human beings. Why do we suffer? Why do our loved ones suffer? Why do good people suffer? Why do innocent people suffer? When we face our problems and respond to them positively, refusing to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity, the adversities that come along to bury us also have within them the power to bless us! It may take many nights of crying, but the promise of our faith is that there will one day be a morning that comes when joy will rule our hearts.</p> | | |
| July 17 | The Relentless Love of God | Luke 15.1-10 |
| <p>Have you ever been "lost"? When we've lost our way, whether on a trip to a new place... OR when we lose our way in life, being lost leaves us with feelings of fear and panic. Jesus told three stories about being lost that have much to teach us about the relentless love of God. The lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son all run the gamut of emotions from fear, sadness, and despair to a conclusion that usually involves a party and noisy celebration. The stories tell us that God never gives up, and that we're all worth being found by grace.</p> | | |
| July 24 | Jesus: The Turn Around Specialist | Mark 5.21-34 |
| <p>When a company is spiraling downward toward negative earnings and heading toward bankruptcy, usually the board of directors looks for a turn-around specialist. This is a person who has special skills as an outsider to that business's culture, is a realist who can see both the details of the present and the big picture of the future, and who can make tough decisions that not everyone may embrace. Jesus was a turn-around specialist in the lives of the people he healed, brought back to life, forgave and salvaged. What situation in our lives, our world, our community needs to be turned around?</p> | | |
| July 31 | Life in the Middle Lane | Luke 16.19-31 |
| <p>Driving in the middle lane is usually safer than driving in the right or left lanes. Most accidents happen along the edges of the road, so the middle lane offers a little more safety. What's true of driving can also be true of life: We can stay pretty insulated from trouble by avoiding the distractions and demands of the edge of the road. The story of the Rich Man and Lazarus is about playing it safe and avoiding the ugly, needy suffering that occurs along the edges of our journey through life. One man ends up in heaven. The other in hell. Which is which? It's a story about seeing and not seeing. It's a story about paying attention and living with mindfulness. Jesus never spent much of his time in the middle lane.</p> | | |
| August 7 | Rev. Richard Alger, Guest Speaker | Communion Sunday |

Pastor Ron and Priscilla will be away from August 2 – 11 visiting family in Washington and Minnesota.

THINKING OUT LOUD.....

What are you afraid of? What makes your palms sweaty and your heart beat faster? What makes your stomach do back flips and your breathing come shallow? Here's a short list of some answers I've heard:

- singing a solo before a group of people,
- speaking in front of a group of people
- taking a driving test
- going through an IRS audit
- showing up for work knowing it'll be your last day on the job
- seeing your retirement fund shrink as the stock market tanks
- a Doctor's appointment in which you'll hear the results of a test that may signal cancer

There are other fears that aren't so easy to describe:

- what is it like to die?
- what happens in that first moment after my last breath?
- does life have any meaning or are we merely cosmic accidents with no direction or purpose?
- am I worth loving?
- does God really exist or are we just fooling ourselves with wishful thinking?

And in this election year, we are bombarded with fears about the economy, immigration, terrorism, and the suitability of the presidential and congressional candidates for political leadership. Seems like we can find something to be afraid of any direction we turn. I don't have an easy answer for these fears. But I do have a couple of favorite Bible passages that always seem to help put things in perspective and quiet my heart. They were written by David, a young man who faced the giant named Goliath carrying only a slingshot.

Psalm 34 "I sought the Lord and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man cried and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them."

Psalm 56 "When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?"

God never removed David from the situations that made him afraid. That's usually our prayer isn't it? "God solve this problem for me and I'll owe you big time!" "Fix this God, heal this illness, and then I can get on with my life." A big part of fear is rooted in our inability to control our life or the way things turn out. Finding peace begins in letting go of our need for control. "Letting go" is the hardest part. The corollary to the statement above is this: **God never abandoned David in the situations that made him afraid.** At the darkest moment, in the most impossible situation, God was present to give David the skill and resources he needed to survive and thrive despite his fears.

Remember this: Our fear may be a gift to us containing purposes too mysterious to know at the time.

Remember this: God will never abandon us in the darkest passage imaginable.

Remember this: Letting go of the outcome is to trust God in the most profound way possible.

And in that may your heart find its deepest peace!



Pastor Ron Kent

Did You Know...

- That our new Resource Chair, Pastor Nixon Jack, has created a Work Day for the congregation on the second Saturday of each month from 9am to 11am? In July our work day will be July 9, 2016. Come and join the fun! Our members are getting lots done, creating a beautiful campus and having some food and fun along the way!
- That Ray Stewart shared his history with FUPC with our congregation on Sunday, May 29th? This interesting story can now be found on the Sermon page of our website. Just look for Ray's picture!
- That Pastor Nixon Jack's Mother, Louisa Jack age 78, passed away on June 21st in Kona, while vacationing here from Kosrae. Our love & prayers are with Pastor Nixon and family in their time of loss.
- That we received a note from Mrs. Clara Robinson with the news that her beloved husband, Elmer Robinson, had passed away in early May. Along with the note was a nice gift to the church in Memory of Elmer. Her address is in our Church Directory if you would like to send her a note. We extend our sympathy and prayers to her on the passing of her husband.
- That Michael Springer, our Organist will be on vacation for 3 Sunday's in July? Our guest Organist for all 3 Sundays will be Bonnie Alger. A big MAHALO goes out to Bonnie.
- That we are reviving our Stamp Project for the Women's Board of Missions? What is the Stamp Project? Please read below:

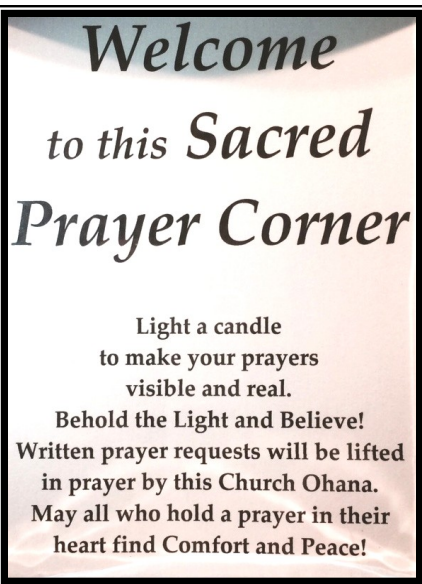
*The **Stamp Project** to help handicapped workers learn skills and earn money continues to thrive because people like you and others from all over the U.S. regularly save all their postage. The handicapped workers trim, soak, sort, package, and sell these stamps. Buyers in the U.S. especially want foreign stamps, and foreign buyers want U.S. stamps. Duplicate stamps are used to create maps and other items on request.*

The handicapped workers in a sheltered workshop in Germany (where some of the stamps are sent) do the same jobs but do not personally need money because they are subsidized by the German government. Instead, the money they earn from the sale of stamps is used to support African communities of handicapped individuals.

*Each boxful weighs at least 9 pounds and takes about 1½ to 2 months to fill with about 62,000 stamps on paper. The stamps must be intact, with **generous margins of paper around the stamp**. Stamps with damaged perforations are valueless.*

First United Protestant Church has historically supported this mission and we would like to start it up again. If you work in an office, get everyone involved. Get your relatives and friends involved and please remember to save the postage from your Christmas mail. When you get a reasonable number of stamps, bring them or mail them into the office and leave them with Chris to send off to the Women's Board of Missions.

A no cost opportunity to participate in a Mission Program!



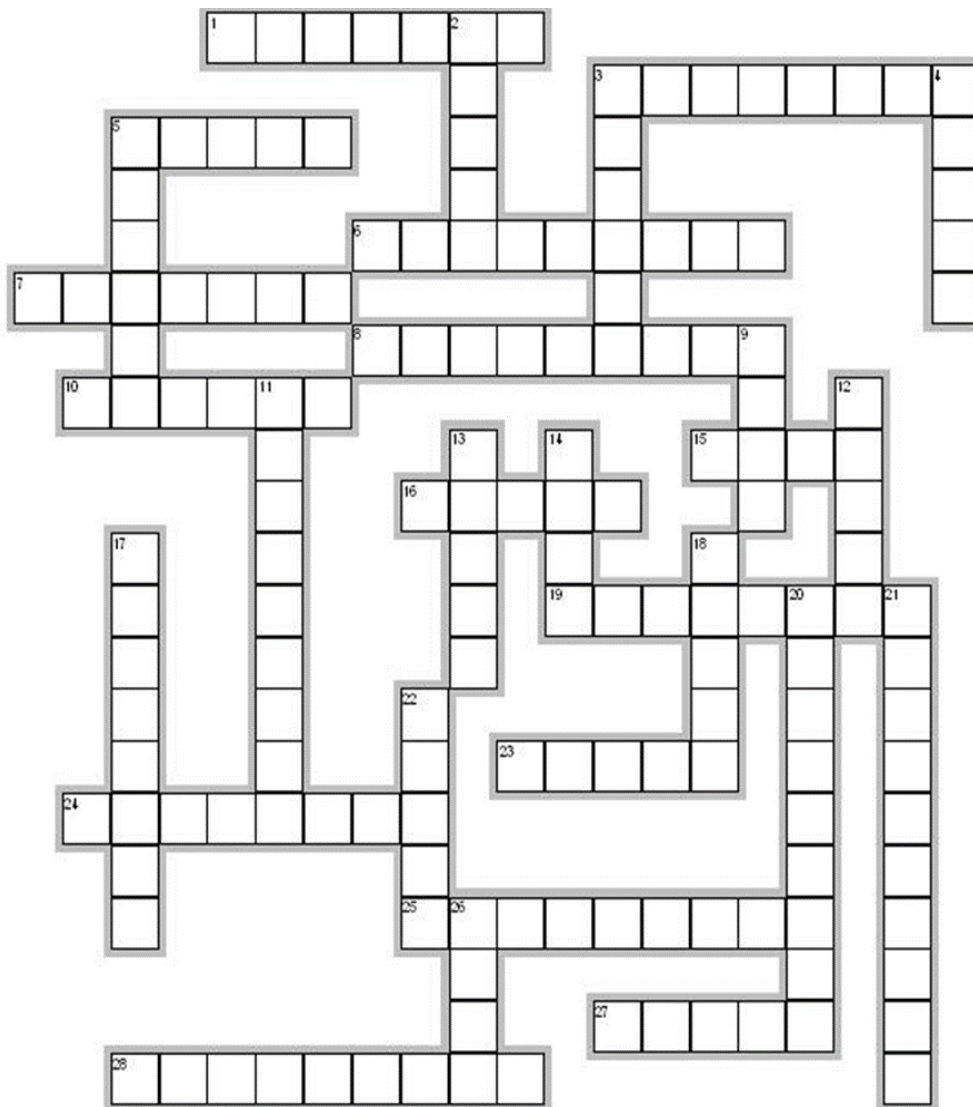
Please include the following people and situations in your prayers:

Nixon Jack & Family	Agnes Perreira
Song Soon Lee	Ray Stewart
Mike Gardner	Pedro Queja
Doris Toma	Sofia Bumanglag
Eric Wyatt	

Happy July Birthday to the following Friends and Members



Activity Page



ACROSS

1. Angel who told Mary that she'd have a Son
3. "The holy one to be born will be called the ____."
5. Old Testament prophet who said a ruler over Israel would be born in Bethlehem.
6. Where Joseph and Mary went to register for census
7. "Glory to God in the ____"
8. Governor of Syria when census was taken
10. Occupation of Elizabeth's husband
15. Wise men from the east
16. The angel told Mary she had found ____ with God.
19. Town in which Mary was living before the birth
23. The king of Judea at the time of Christ's birth
24. Name of the Caesar who called for a census
25. What Mary and Joseph offered at the Temple
27. The Wise Men brought gold, incense and ____ to Jesus.
28. Elizabeth's husband

DOWN

2. An angel told Joseph to flee to this country to keep the Baby safe
3. Devout man who waited at the Temple to see the Christ
4. God warned the Wise Men in a ____ to take a different route home.
5. Where Mary laid Jesus after wrapping him in cloths
9. What led the Wise Men from the East to Jesus
11. They were tending flocks when an angel told them of Christ's birth
12. Number of days after his birth when Jesus was presented at the Temple
13. "He will be great...and he will reign over the house of ____ forever..."
14. Name of Elizabeth's baby
17. Name for Jesus that means, "God with us."
18. Jesus would be given the throne of this father
20. Mary's relative who was also expecting a child
21. Elizabeth was filled with the ____ when Mary visited her.
22. Name that was to be given to Mary's son
26. Prophetess at the Temple who gave thanks for the Child

Bread Pudding

From the kitchen of Agnes Perreira

- | | |
|-------|--------------------|
| 2 C | Milk, scalded |
| 3/4 C | Sugar |
| 1/2 t | Cinnamon |
| 3 T | Butter |
| 5 C | White Bread |
| 1 t | Vanilla |
| 1/2 C | Raisins (optional) |
| 2 | Beaten Eggs |

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Pour scalded milk over bread. Add eggs, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon and raisins and mix. Pour into 8-inch pan. Dot top with butter and bake for 45 to 50 minutes or until knife inserted comes out clean.



COUNCIL KORNER



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

God Bless You,

Debbie Sasan,
Moderator



SERVANT LEADERSHIP PARTICIPATION

JULY 2016

USHERS/GREETERS

Bob Ahia & Ray Stewart

COMMUNION PREP

Joanne Pocsidio

LITURGISTS/LAY READERS

July 3 June Dela Cruz
July 10 Betty Nekoba
July 17 Joanne Pocsidio
July 24 Danny Dizon
July 31 Fay Jack

COMMUNION SERVERS

Team #4 Betty, Joanne, Zandrix & McCharles

COFFEE HOUR

July 3 Kathleen Kim
July 10 Bob Ahia
July 17 Debbie Sasan
July 24 Kosraean Fellowship
July 31 Tumaneng Family

FLOWERS

ACOLYTE

Tyler Dela Cruz