



Ka Leo Mekokiko

"The Voice of Methodism"

Volume 26 Number 7

July - August 2010

Celebration of Welcome on August 14

Everyone in the district is invited to welcome the new District Superintendent Thomas Choi and his family and the new pastors at a celebration at Christ UMC on Saturday, August 14 at 10:30 a.m. The event will include a luncheon and worship service.

There is a possibility that the worship service will be broadcast via the internet and live video streaming to the neighbor islands.

Included in the worship service will be a sign dance led by Becky Choi. For those wishing to participate, rehearsals will be on Saturday mornings at Kailua UMC on Saturday mornings beginning on July 17. For details contact Becky at BeckyAloha@aol.com



A luncheon is being catered by Christ UMC for the cost of \$7 per person.

The new pastors being welcomed into the Hawaii District are: J.T. Greenleaf to Kailua UMC; Johann Osias to Guam UMC; Andrew to Parker UMC; and Millie Carroll who has been serving Immanuel UMC on Saipan since February. Mike Tolbert is new appointed associate pastor of Kailua UMC..

General Conference 2012 Theme and Logo Selected

The Commission on the General Conference has selected "Make Disciples of Jesus Christ to Transform the World" as the theme for The United Methodist Church's 2012 General Conference. The event is scheduled for April 24-May 4 in Tampa, Florida.

The theme echoes the mission of the United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world as a way of aligning the General Conference with the denomination's central mission--so that the conference is not a one-time event, but a part of the ongoing ministry of the church.

"We sensed that people across the church are longing for clarity about our mission, and we believed that the theme of the General Conference should reinforce and celebrate that mission," said Jim Harnish, a member of the commission and chair of the committee that selected the logo and theme. "We hope that the Spirit of God will use this theme to unite and energize our people to fulfill this mission and enable us to set clear priorities for the use of our resources."

The commission also announced that the official General Conference 2012 website will be gc2012.umc.org. The site is expected to be available by early fall. (Source: Cal-Pac Update)

The Ka Leo Mekokiko is published eleven times a year. It is the publication of the Hawaii District, The United Methodist Church 20 S. Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96813 PHONE: (808) 536-1864 FAX (808) 531-7354
EMAIL hiumc@hawaii.rr.com District Superintendent: The Rev. Dr. Thomas Choi
Editor: Marilyn Van Gieson (email: vangiesom002@hawaii.rr.com)

Dear Friends in Christ of the Hawaii District:

It is a great honor and blessing to be appointed by Bishop Mary Ann Swenson as your new District Superintendent. I pray that in the next several years, we will bring about fruitful ministry for the sake of Jesus Christ in Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan.

1. We welcome the new pastors to our district: J. T. Greenleaf to Kailua UMC; Johann Osias to Guam UMC; Andrew Lee to Parker UMC; and Millie Carroll, who has been serving Immanuel UMC on Saipan since February. Mike Tolbert is now the appointed associate pastor of Kailua UMC. Please pray for them as they minister to those congregations and the mission fields surrounding the churches, as we pray for all of our congregations and pastors.

2. I invite you to the celebration of welcome to new pastors and DS on August 14, at 10:30 a.m. at Christ UMC, Honolulu. A delicious luncheon will follow, catered by Christ UMC, for a cost of \$7 per person.

For those who are on the Neighbor Islands - we are exploring the possibility of broadcasting the service via the internet through live video streaming. If that is not feasible, we are planning to record the service and making DVD's available. Expanding the options for technology is one of the goals of my time with you.

3. At the worship service there will be a sign dance that will be taught by my wife, Becky. All are welcome to participate. The rehearsals will be on Saturday mornings at Kailua UMC beginning on July 17. Please contact Becky at BeckyAloha@aol.com <<mailto:BeckyAloha@aol.com>> for details.

4. I want to give the options for contacting me. As always, you can call the district office Monday through Friday during business hours and if I am not there, you can leave a message with our wonderful staff.

My cellphone No. is 808-351-2464. You can text me at that number as well. Please know that because I am often in meetings or other matters, I am not always able to respond to phone calls.

The best way to reach me is by my new email address for district and conference matters: DSHawaiiUMC@aol.com <<mailto:DSHawaiiUMC@aol.com>> . I receive emails on my phone as well as my computer, so I will be able to be contacted most of the time that way. Again, this is by far the best way to reach me.

5. One of the joys and challenges of this new position is that I will be the first Hawaii DS with young children. My wife Becky, my 6 year old daughters Marina and Sierra, and I will look forward to visiting different churches. I will also try to protect as much of the weekends for family time as is possible. Thank you in advance for respecting these times.

As I get to know you better and understand the mission fields you are all working in, I hope that we can come up with many ways we can proclaim the Gospel and provide life changing ministry together!

Grace and aloha,

Tom Choi
Hawaii District Superintendent



2010 California-Pacific Annual Conference Focuses on New Ministries

**By Dr. Larry R. Hygh, Jr.*

More than 1,700 laity and clergy from across Southern California, Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan gathered at the University of Redlands in Redlands, Calif., for the 2010 California-Pacific Annual Conference. This year's theme continued the conference's vision "To Be the Cup Overflowing," with this year focusing on new ministries, one of the denominational Four Areas of Focus.

During opening worship, Bishop Mary Ann Swenson proclaimed, "We come in the spirit of Jesus Christ to order the life of our church." She told those gathered, "I am still hopeful and my hope is fueled by your faithfulness."

This was the 26th annual conference session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference which was created out of the Pacific and Southwest Annual Conference. This session marks the 159th session since the organization of The Pacific Conference in 1851, the oldest of the merging annual conferences.

The conference welcomed the Rev. Eun Pa Hong, senior pastor of Bupyeong Methodist Church of Korea. Bupyeong has a membership of approximately 4,000 adults and 2,200 children. Hong led the annual conference in traditional Korean Tongsung Kido morning prayer each day at 5:45 a.m. At his church in Korea, average morning prayer attendance is 4,200. "The early church gathered together to pray," said Hong. "When we are obedient to be in prayer, God will work," he added.

During the 2009 annual conference session, a motion was approved to devote a significant amount of time on the agenda for United Methodist gay and lesbian families to share their stories with the annual conference. Seven different presentations titled "Telling Our Stories" were received during plenary sessions. The speakers represented a range of ages and included married couples and long time partners; clergy and laity; gay, straight, and transgender; family members; men and women.

The conference voted to establish five essential ministry teams to carry out the work of the annual conference. The vote commenced a year-long process in which 48 existing conference boards, committees, and agencies, will come together around leadership, new ministries, justice, resources and "the ministry of navigation." The result of this process will be a proposal to the 2011 Annual Conference which will detail the responsibilities, membership, staffing, and accountability for each team.

Members adopted a 2011 apportionment budget of \$12,471,668 representing a 3.31 percent decrease from 2010.

More than 175 youth participated in the annual Youth Day with the theme, "Greater Things Have Yet to Come," based on Romans 10:14-15.

During the service of commissioning, ordination, and sending forth, Swenson welcomed Bishop Murray Finck, bishop of the Pacifica Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which includes 127 congregations and over 60,000 baptized members in Southern California and Hawaii.

During the 17th annual conference missionary luncheon, the conference was presented a plaque from The Advance for the highest amount of designated giving and highest amount of missionary support in 2009 in the Western Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church.

In other business, conference members:

- Collected offerings: UMCOR for Southern US tornado relief, and Haiti and Chile earthquakes, \$4,404; Seraphim Manor, providing safe sanctuary, education and housing aid to victims of domestic abuse in Southern California \$2,688; Tongan Ministry \$447; Youth Service Fund, \$1,795; United Methodist projects in Tanzania being sponsored by the Pasadena District \$5,384; and, new ministries of Leadership in El Salvador, \$3,262;

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. Passed a resolution entitled, "Welcoming the Sojourner," in support of Bishop Minerva Carcano and the leadership of the Desert Southwest Conference in their opposition to Arizona's recent immigration legislation; and,

. Passed a resolution making the development of Hispanic Ministries a priority of the annual conference.

During the conference session:

. Bishop Swenson ordained seven elders in full connection; commissioned ten as probationary elders, ordained one deacon in full connection, and commissioned four probationary deacons, and celebrated the retirement of 18 active clergy.

. Membership stands at 81,194, down 2,173 from the previous year. Worship attendance stands at 48,584, down 309 from the previous year. Church school attendance stands at 12,364, down 410.

**Hygh is Director of Communications for the denominations California-Pacific Annual Conference which includes 390 local churches in Southern California, Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan with a combined membership of 81,000.*

**HOPE PRAYER HOUSE -
FORMERLY HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Hope Prayer house perched at the top of a gradual hillside sloping towards the ocean off Kamehameha Highway in the quiet town of Kaa'awa was a perfect site for a monthly meeting/retreat for thirteen Keolumana Untied Methodist Women recently. "We need to meet here at least once a year, " "It was a most enjoyable day – the site is perfect for a quiet day apart," "I enjoyed the coastal drive to this beautiful setting," were some comments from members as the gathering ended following lunch and worship.

A personal friend and retired public health nurse whose mother lived at this home before it became Hope UMC, as guest speaker related experiences and neighbors her mother had living there for nearly three decades.

Three other bookings have been made for upcoming use. Please consider using this site for your own groups – youth, young adults, UMW, UMM, church committees - to name a few. Maximum number of people allowed there at this time is 20 Tables, chairs, refrigerator, bathroom, kitchen facilities, and for worship, a cross and candles are available for your use. Please call the District Office for specific information and details.

***Drive carefully!!
Beware of keiki going to school!***



AROUND THE CONFERENCE ---AND BEYOND

The Hunger Walk at Annual Conference brought in \$4,222 from the 25 churches that participated. The Hawaii District came in second in the amount contributed. The money collected will be distributed as grants to applicant churches who feed the poor.

The official 2011 United Methodist Program Calendar--the United Methodist Communications' top-selling resource--is new available in 10 convenient designs--from electronic to pocket-size. To place an order, call toll free (888)-346-3862, or visit www.umcom.org/calendars.

About 350 youth and young adults representing 32 countries--from Angola to Zimbabwe--are registered for the Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly in Berlin, Germany, on July 21-26.

Dan Gara, Cal-Pac Executive Director of Finance and Administration, reported that sixteen Hawaii District Churches gave 5.12 of their apportionments as on May 31. Of the five churches, two from Hawaii District are already at 100%. Congratulations!

Upper Room celebrated its 75th Anniversary by distributed commemorative devotional guides produced specifically for the 2010 Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church. It includes devotionals from each of the eight decades it has been in publication.

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BITS N' PIECES

** Personal **

With deepest sympathy to...

...family of Pastor Rona Mangayayam, Assistant Pastor at Harris UMC, on the passing of her father, Mr. Dumagos on July 6, 2010 in the Philippines. Notes of sympathy can be sent to her at: Harris UMC, 20 S. Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96813

Please continue to pray for...

...The Rev. Nobuko Miyake-Stoner of Harris UMC. She is slowly recovering at home from complications that resulted from a digestive problem.

...Isaiah James, great-grandson of retired Pastor Barbara Grace and James Ripple. There has been much improvement in his condition.

...Brenda Kolone Po'uli born premature on May 23, 2010. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Viliami Pouli, members of First Tongan UMC. Mr. Pouli is a new Exploring Candidate for the Ministry in our district.

...Dr. Frank Butterworth, and for Rev. Colleen Chun and Rev. Kana Shimasaki - both are on medical leave.



The Rev. Bob Fiske clan at Camp Mekokiko

Hold the following churches and their pastors in your prayers:

7/18 - Kam-Nam UMC - Pastor Sanyong Jung

7/25 - Kailua UMC - Pastors J.T. Greenleaf, Mike Tolbert, and Sam Cox

8/1 - Kahuku UMC - Pastor Manako Ke-moeatu

8/8 - Kahaluu UMC - Pastor Bob Nakata

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2010

Thu.-Fri., Jul. 15-18: **YPC (Young People Convention);** Kokokahi Camp
 Sat., Jul. 17; 9:00 a.m.: Div. Of Discipleship meeting; Wahiawa UMC
 Sat., Jul. 24; 1:00 p.m.: D.S. Committee meeting; District Office
 Mon., Jul. 26: Deadline for Aug.-Sept. Ka Leo Mekokiko
 Thu.-Sun., Jul. 29-Aug.1: **Walk To Emmaus for Women**

August 2010

Sat., Aug. 7; 10:00 a.m.: Div. of Evangelism; Dist. Ofc.
 Sat., Aug. 14: **D. S. Welcome Event;** Christ UMC
 Fri., Aug. 20: Statehood Day; District Office closed
 Fri.-Sat., Aug. 20-21: **QUEST: A Training for Christian Educators and Youth Workers;** First UMC
 Sat., Aug. 21; 9:00 a.m.: HUMU Board mtg.; Harris
 Sat., Aug. 28: DLT meeting; SWCC?
 Mon., Aug. 30: Deadline for Sept.-Oct. Ka Leo Mekokiko

September 2010

Mon., Sep. 6: Labor Day; District Office closed
 Sat., Sep. 18: District UMW Annual Meeting
 Mon., Sep. 27: Deadline for Oct.-Nov. Ka Leo Mekokiko

October 2010

Sun., Oct. 3: *World Communion Sunday*
 Fri.-Sun., Oct. 8-10: *Children's Sabbath*
 Sun., Oct. 17: *Laity Sunday*
 Mon., Oct. 25: Deadline for Nov.-Dec. Ka Leo Mekokiko

November 2010

Mon., Nov. 1: *All Saints Day*
 Thu., Nov. 11: Veterans Day; District Office closed
 Sun., Nov. 14: *Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday*
 Sat., Nov. 20; 9:00 a.m.: HUMU Board mtg.; Harris
 Thu.-Fri., Nov. 25-26: Thanksgiving holiday; District Office closed
 Sun., Nov. 28: *UM Student Day; 1st Advent Sunday*
 Mon., Nov. 29: Deadline for Dec.-Jan. Ka Leo Mekokiko

December 2010

Fri., Dec. 24: Christmas holiday; Dist. Ofc. closed
 Sat., Dec. 25: **CHRISTMAS**
 Fri., Dec. 31: New Years holiday; Dist. Ofc. closed.

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