



The Agape Herald

April 2018

We are now in LENT. Lent refers to a 40-day period. For 40 days, we need to remember Jesus' suffering, pain, death, and resurrection. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. Lent is the time from Ash Wednesday to Easter Eve. The reason why the first day of Lent is called "Ash Wednesday" is that in the past, people kept a tradition of putting ashes on their heads as a sign of repentance on this day.



Rev. Dr. David Choi

The number "40" is regarded as a symbolic period of suffering and renewal. Jesus stayed in the desert for 40 days. After his resurrection, he visited people for 40 days before he ascended to heaven. During Lent, the Early Churches took time to awaken spiritual awareness to the suffering of Jesus. Especially, fasting has been strictly observed for centuries. Only one meal was allowed during the day, and meat, fish, milk, and eggs were banned. However, it began to ease a lot after the 8th century. We will have a Good Friday service (April 19th) and watch a Christian movie. And we will eat sandwiches and fellowship afterward. One member suggested to me that, since it is Good Friday, we should refrain from eating that day. I said, "fasting is based on each individual's decision, and we don't have to force everyone to fast." One important thing is that during Lent, we must take time meditating on the suffering of Jesus on the cross and the grace of salvation.

There are only 12 days left to keep the Lent. How can you spend your time in a gracious way during Lent? First, live a pure life. Above all, you should have a pure mind. Do not judge others or condemn them for wrong. If you think that you are always right and with that thought, if you judge others wrong, you are guilty of hypocrisy before God. Second, live in the sufferings of Christ yourself. Work with more loyalty to your duties in the church. Humbly serve people who need help. Remember the suffering neighbors, visit them, and serve them best. Jesus did this ministry when he was on earth. Third, read the Bible and concentrate on your prayer life. This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday. And next week is Passion Week. How do you plan to spend your time this week and next week? One member asked me if she could come and pray in the sanctuary on Good Friday. I was so happy with her request, and of course, I said she could. We will open the sanctuary on Good Friday. I'd like to encourage you to come, pray, and meditate on the suffering of Jesus and God's grace for you on Good Friday.

I hope and pray that your life will be filled with God's grace and blessings during the Lenten season, as you pray and meditate on God's grace for you.



Wahiawa United Methodist Church
presents

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, April 21st
11:15 a.m. after church

Children age 1-5th grade & 6th-12th grade
bring your baskets and meet by the grass fronting the social hall

Aloha Reception will be in the social hall, come on
over for light lunch and snacks for everyone!

No baskets to fill but we will have food, games
and group dancing!!

About the onolicious local style plate lunches-----

First of all a “house” was erected for us the evening before the meal preparation. A large tent and a smaller tent were erected by a handful of people under the guidance of tent experts Lisa and Ryden Valmoja and relatives. Being under the tent and seeing from abroad gave it a party-ish and a something is going on ambience. After the event, the Rydens and few others dismantle the tents. Thank you Rydens, your help has added to the success of this event.

Observing all the busy bodies preparing the lunch under the tent was something to behold! It was like Willy Wonka chocolate factory in action. There were large woks and deep fryers in action at the same time. The featured dish, the chicken hekka was prepared by our talented cook, Mr. Naia Sua.

Several people were seen filling the containers with rice, chicken hekka, fried fish and cabbage kimchee in the assembly line. Masina Kauha spearheaded the assembly line with finesse, hence the smooth movement of containers until it got to the customer’s hands. The strong legs and hands of Teli, Emma, Yong Suk, Benita, Lenie, Lydia, Nisa and Dina kept the line going by packing the containers of food in an orderly fashion. Our cashiers, Charlotte Watanabe and Roger Williams did a meticulous job handling the tickets and selling random lunches. Sisters Lori and Sheri did an efficient job of packing containers in bags and distributing to customers.

The intense labor started the night before the cooking and selling the following day. Thanks to Naia (da boss man) and his gang Chu Pedro, Betty Ickes, and Christy who’s efficient hands sliced the multiple produce. Alan and Mrs. Tanji also prepared the ono cabbage kimchee. Imagine cooking 90 lbs of rice at 5:30 am. Thanks to Alan Tanji and Tave Veikune.

At the end of the day, nearly 400 plates were sold and in addition, extra bowls of hekka and mini bags of kimchee were sold. There were numerous comments of how delicious the lunches were. How cool is that? We are truly grateful and

thanks to all, workers and customers alike.

Mahalo and Blessing,
Flo Maruyama and Outreach committee



The Word tells us that it is “more blessed to give than to receive,” and in our generous giving we have been rewarded an abundance.

As a new-comer to the church, I was quite intimidated by participating in such a massive undertaking as the Annual Spring Fair. Having attended many different churches, I have concluded that every congregation has what I call the “*usual suspects*.” The *usual suspects* are all the congregants and members who show up for everything, big and small. They are the backbone of the church. Thankfully, the Wahiwa UMC Spring Fair is a long-standing tradition in the church and all of the *usual suspects* dutifully and joyfully showed up already knowing where they were needed and what they needed to do. So, a big thank you to all of the *usual suspects*!

When we offer our time, and use our hands to labor for the Lord’s sake, that is a form of worship.

Given my new-comer perspective, I was also deeply moved by the number of family and friends of the church who spent time with us gathering, sorting, and pricing items. Friends who don’t often worship with us on Sunday mornings spent their entire day worshipping with us on Saturday during the Spring Fair. That is truly something to rejoice about!

The Spring Fair provided us an opportunity to be generous while at the same time being rewarded with abundance. All of the items were charitably priced and will certainly be a blessing to their new owners. The final numbers reflecting our net return from the Spring Fair sales are still being tallied, but have surpassed the \$7,500 mark.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all of your heart, as we are working for the Lord, not for human masters.” –

Colossians 3:23

Well done, church! Grace and Peace,
Abby Modlin



Jesus is my Best Friend

Jesus loves me, this I know. What a Friend we have in Jesus. Jesus loves the little Children. Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine. Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound. Just as I am, Without one Plea. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. These songs helped me learn about Jesus. I know there are other songs that you know and love, too. Much of our Christian songs are testimony to the truths that the Bible and our great preachers tell us about. We are so lucky to live in a country that allows freedom of religion. There are many places around the world that want you to think only "their way" and no other. I'm glad we are a country of immigrants who are free to pursue life, liberty, and happiness, as long as we do not infringe on another's rights. Let us remember the military and churches that are working for these rights! Someone asked the question, "What would Jesus say?" when he is faced with decisions to make. I think that is a great way to think! To do that, we have to be of one mind with Jesus. To learn Jesus's thinking, we need to read the Bible, know people who "practice" the bible and love unconditionally!! This is the AGAPE love in the Greek language. Universal love. Love bigger than you and me. Love that will not let you rest, but helps you right the wrong you see. PBPWM, GINDWY (Please be patient with me, God is not done with me yet). Did you have a button like that? I remember wearing it and enjoying the questions people asked. Your life is also a reflection of Jesus. Be it by the way you smile or give a word of comfort to an ailing friend. When you take a goodie bag to a child or give a flower to someone you don't know. Your acts of kindness is noted by someone and they in turn can pass it on. I believe the Lord gives each of us a need to know Him. If our parents know Him already, we are at a better place to know Him too. Your life is better for your decision to become a Christian. We all need to believe in something. Let us believe in Jesus Christ, and His teachings. Love-in-Christ Jesus.

The Evangelism Committee



WUMC Scholarship 2019

Applications Due by Sunday, April 27th at 11 am to

WUMC Scholarship Committee member.

Presentation of Scholarship to Recipient on

Sunday, May 5th at 10 am at WUMC



Scholarship applications for students and for any women interested in attending Mission U in July are now available from Atina Pascua by emailing her at atina@hawaii.edu or from the church office. Applications are due on Sunday, April 27 by 11 am to Atina or any member of the scholarship committee at WUMC.

Wahiawa United Methodist Women's Corner...

March was a very busy month! We helped with the Spring Fair and still were able to have a meeting on the 16th. The big news is our Spiritual Life Retreat at Trinity United Methodist Church on APRIL 6, Saturday, at 8:30 am. Our women are using that date in place of our regular April meeting. Please make a point to come and join the girlfriends for a very interesting time. We will have an "Ubuntu" project that day! We will be making "To go emergency kits" for the seniors living in Waikiki.

Remember April 14 is Palm Sunday, April 19 is Good Friday, and Easter is April 21st Everyone is getting ready for that special day and the children are getting excited about the Easter "EGG" hunt. Hope you all are preparing for that day!! John 3:16 explains it all. Invite your friends and relatives and let us celebrate our Lord, Jesus Christ, and His great sacrifice to save us. Remember to bring flowers for our "CROSS" that we decorate on our front lawn.

SUNDAY



MORNING

Damein Woods
Call Story for United Methodist Elder Ordination

My name is Damein Woods I come from a single parent family of three sisters and one brother. My mother was very strong and rooted in her Christian faith. It is through the struggle of my family that I too followed my mother in my faith. In college, I attended Bethune-Cookman University, a small private Methodist College in Daytona Beach, FL. At Bethune-Cookman I was a business degree major and all I was thinking about was financial stability and wealth. Through joining Air Force R.O.T.C and being a leader in campus organizations I began to pay attention to myself. I became aware of myself and where my spiritual gifts where.

In R.O.T.C and in the campus organizations where I served in Chaplain roles most of the time. I begin to see how much people put trust in me and opened up to me with their confidential issues. It was in identifying this that I realized God wanted me in an area of leadership that dealt with counseling. From that moment, I begin to pray and talk to my campus mentors about what it meant to identify my gifts and God's role in all this. Throughout this entire phase of discernment, I questioned if I really had a gift. I even asked mentors what they thought about me and even saw in me. The feedback I received was positive and affirming that God was speaking to me. I prayed more and searched for more advise. I even reached out to the campus Chaplain for more positive feedback.

After all the discernment and advising, I was now a sophomore in college and was getting into the core of my major. At this point I was ready to change majors and commit to Religion and Philosophy as my major with a focus in Christian Studies. The move was refreshing and just what I needed. God was preparing me for something in the military, and at the time I had learned it was military chaplaincy. I was willing but was still in denial of the lack of other gifts the ministry required... like preaching and administrative roles.

Nevertheless, here I am today, after entering Seminary post undergraduate school in 2012, where I attended Wesley Theological Seminary. Upon completion of one semester of Seminary in the fall of 2012, I dropped out and enlisted in the Army. Almost a year into enlistment, I was stationed in Hawaii. After finding a Church home in Hawaii, God was still calling me. Things come full circle and God doesn't close a door that he opens for you. No man can close that door and God will equip you with what you need. My testimony has revealed that to me. Currently I am serving in the United States Army Reserves as a Chaplain Candidate First Lieutenant.

I've been a part of the Hawaii District for six years now. I serve as Youth Leader at Wahiawa UMC and I'm seeking ordination in the United Methodist Church in the Cal Pac Conference, Hawaii District. I believe I am called to be an ordained elder ministry in the Army Chaplaincy. Thank you for hearing my call story. I hope this story is evidence of Gods call as I've experienced every bit of it.



Did you know that if you attended church at least 4 times a month you will add 4-14 years to your life? **Come talk story with Cynthia Au** and learn how faith and scripture align with lifestyle factors of those living the longest in the world, in Blue Zone areas. Find out what the Blue Zones Project is and how they are helping Wahiawa to make healthy choices easier. BZP is a community-wide well-being improvement initiative that helps make healthy choices easier for everyone in Hawaii. When our entire community participates, the small changes contribute huge benefits for all of us: lowered healthcare costs, improved productivity, and a higher quality of life. **Join us for a healthy lunch and conversation.**

Cynthia Au Short Bio:

Cynthia Au was born and raised in Honolulu and graduated from Occidental College in Los Angeles with a degree in Economics for Business Management. Her early work in non-profits related to child and family service. She has gone on mission to India and has lived amongst the orphans in Mozambique Africa. Cynthia learned to love and serve the Wahiawa community as the office manager for former State House Representative Marcus Oshiro. Currently, she engages the public on health and wellness in Wahiawa as the Engagement Lead for the Blue Zone Project. Her Power 9 is to live with purpose.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 GriefShare 9-11am	5	6 UMW Spiritual Life Retreat @ Trinity UMC 9am
7 Blue Zone Talk 11:30am in the Social Hall	8	9	10	11 GriefShare 9-11am	12 Book Bunch 5:30pm	13 Church Work Day 8-10am
14  Service 10am	15 Holy Week	16 Holy Week	17 Holy Week	18 Holy Week Maundy Thursday GriefShare 9-11am	19 Holy Week Good Friday Office Closed Movie Day 10:30am	20 Holy Week
21 Easter Sunday Egg Hunt 11:30am	22 Finance Council Meeting 7pm	23	24 Admin Council Meeting 7pm	25	26 Agape Deadline Lay Servant Classes @ Harris UMC 6:30-9pm	27 District Annual Conference Kilohana UMC 8:30am
28 XYZ Fun & Talk on Homeless 11:30am in the Social Hall	29	30				

PUZZLE

Jesus gives us *life*

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)



Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)



Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)



This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)



Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)



Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)



Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)



While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)



This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)



These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)



These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)



Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)



Answer: palm branches, perfume, bread, crown of thorns, dice, cross, nails, vinegar on a sponge, stone, spices, linens, silver coins

Puzzle!

Follow the arrows and fill in the blanks to discover what the women found at Jesus' tomb on Easter morning.

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Answer: The stone was rolled away from the door.
An angel said to them, "He is not here; he has risen!" (See Luke 24:1-8.)



Remember God's special gift of Jesus by making this craft.

What you need:

- Large piece of blue paper
- Large bowl
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint (green and red)
- Paintbrush
- Wet wipes
- 3 wooden craft sticks
- Craft glue
- Black marker
- Bible

What you do:

1. On the paper, trace around the bowl. Cut out the circle.
2. Paint your palms green, one at a time, and press them in the circle side by side. (Clean your hands with wet wipes.)
3. Dip a finger in red paint and make a dot on the center of each handprint.
4. Between the handprints, glue two sticks end to end vertically. Glue the third stick horizontally to make a cross.
5. In marker, write the words of John 3:16 around the blue circle.

God so loved the world

John 3:16

Bible Quiz

After Jesus raises Lazarus from death, what does his family do to thank Jesus?



- A. They host a dinner for him.
- B. Martha serves the meal.
- C. Mary anoints Jesus' feet with an extravagant amount of expensive perfume.
- D. All of the above.

Answer: D (See John 12:1-3.)

Christ has triumphed!

Tomb, thou shalt not hold him longer; Death is strong, but life is stronger. Stronger than the dark, the light; Stronger than the wrong, the right. Faith and hope triumphant say, Christ will rise on Easter Day.
—Phillips Brooks



+Christian Symbol+

Calvary Cross (Graded Cross)
This Latin cross with three steps symbolizes both Jesus' climb up Calvary's mountain and the three gifts of faith, hope and love. Those gifts are intrinsically connected to Jesus' death and resurrection and are ours by sheer grace. "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV).



1. Colossians 3:1-14
2. John 5:1-9
3. 1 Samuel 16:1-13
4. Matthew 6:24-34
5. Hebrews 12:1-3
6. Romans 12:9-18
7. Proverbs 4:1-9
8. Psalm 62:1-2,5-8
9. Psalm 92:5-15
10. Romans 8:1-11
11. Nehemiah 8:1-10,18
12. Psalm 40:1-5
13. Mark 10:13-16
14. Psalm 30:1-12
15. Matthew 22:1-14
16. Luke 10:38-42
17. Mark 2:1-12
18. Luke 22:14-20
19. John 11:17-27
20. Isaiah 41:9-13
21. 2 Timothy 1:8-10
22. Genesis 1:26-31
23. Ephesians 2:1-7
24. Psalm 100:1-5
25. Matthew 10:28-31
26. Psalm 23:1-6
27. Romans 2:17-21
28. Job 1:13-22
29. 2 Kings 4:1-7
30. Philippians 2:14-16



Vulnerable yet victorious

While taking boxing lessons, Timothy Keller was warned to never put his hands at his side. That position leaves one's face and torso exposed to the opponent. In a video on ChurchLeaders.com, the pastor and author notes that Jesus' hands weren't just out to the side on the cross; they were nailed there. "How much more vulnerable could he be?" That vulnerability, Keller says, makes Jesus' death the ultimate act of friendship, which should encourage people who feel far from God. Defining friendship as candor and consistency, Keller notes that friends always let you in, never let you down and always have time for you. Jesus didn't let us down on Good Friday – or on Easter. Although Jesus "had all of hell coming down on him," Keller says, our Savior proclaimed to his Father, "Not



- 5) Edna Ng
- 5) Allen Salausa
- 9) David Ramrlb
- 13) Leo Pascua
- 19) Jeff Macatiang
- 22) Liam Valdez
- 22) Landen Valdez
- 22) Leah Valenzuela
- 23) Annette Kono
- 28) Keith Isaacson
- 29) Edith Cambra



- 14) Gary & Sawako Lemann

FOOD BANK SUNDAY
April 28th

AGAPE DEADLINE SUNDAY
April 28th

Wahiawa UMC
1445 California Ave
Wahiawa, HI 96786
Church Office Phone: 622-4361
Church Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8am-Noon
Friday 8-11am
Email Address:
wahiawaumc@gmail.com

Liturgies:
Corky Yoshina

Offering Counters
7) Carolyn Steuer & Daisy Misaka
14) Edna Ng & Chuck Tengan
21) Paul Misaka & Elliott Inamasu
28) Keith Isaacson & Bob Lormand

ALOHA RECEPTION
7) Blue Zone Outreach Committee
14)
21) EASTER POTLUCK
28)

ALTAR FLOWERS
7) Charlotte Tanji (FACE)
14) Emma Brown (FACE) Wedding Ann of Parents Mr. & Mrs. J Seawell Williams
21) EASTER LILIES
28) Rose Yamauchi (FACE)