

✝ ✝ **THE MESSENGER** ✝ ✝

The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ
440 West Lanikaula St., Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone 808-935-1283

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August 4, 2013



The Church of the Holy Cross

440 West Lanikaula St. Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4038

Phone: (808) 935-1283

Thomas W. Olcott, Senior Pastor

August 4, 2013

Ms Suzanne Smith, Moderator,
and the Members of the Church of the Holy Cross
440 West Lanikaula Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Aloha,

It is with deep appreciation and respect for the life, Christian faith, commitment and shared experiences of our members and our many friendships at Holy Cross that I announce my intention to retire from full time active pastoral ministry. In keeping with our by-laws, I therefore submit my resignation as your Senior Minister to be effective on or about November 3, 2013. I have personally enjoyed our many experiences together. I thank God for the gift of your presence in my life and the life of my family. We have cherished our sharing in what for us has been a rewarding opportunity to express faith in Jesus Christ and sense the blessings of your spiritual steadfastness and mutual grace.

Earlier this year I celebrated my 72nd birthday. This September also marks the completion of my ninth full year as your Senior Minister. I have been in professional ministry for 49 years and have been ordained for 45 of these fruitful and personally rewarding years of service and adventure with churches engaged in many aspects of the public expression and personal integrity of our Christian Faith.

I know that The Church of the Holy Cross, United Church of Christ, Hilo, is an excellent and solid congregation and that you are fine people who express dedicated leadership and who have opened the doors and resources of our congregation to serve and embrace our wider community. I prayerfully know that you can choose to continue in the great legacy that brought our congregation into being and has been strengthened from God's compassionate blessing through our members' love for one another and your sense of mission and service in following Jesus Christ.

May God always abundantly bless every one of you, as I have
been blessed to serve as your Pastor, with Aloha and
Thanksgiving,

Pastor Tom Olcott

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The Church of the Holy Cross, UCC
440 West Lanikaula St., Hilo, 96720

Message from Sue

Aloha to my brothers and sisters in Christ,

You have read Pastor Tom's letter of resignation / retirement as of November 3, 2013 as pastor of our church. I am happy that he will get to share in the life of his family and to be with them through the joys of everyday life and times of trouble.

We as a congregation now begin to make the plans, programs, and processes that will be needed for our transition.

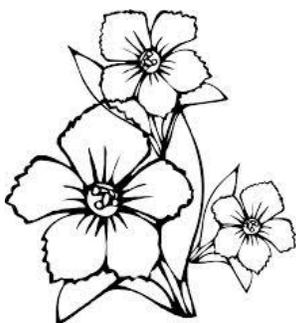
The process of transition will involve:

- Working with the Hawaii Conference to find an interim minister to provide coverage during the search process and support the congregation through the time of transition. The first meeting with Conference Minister Charles Buck has occurred and more will follow.
- Determining whether during this time we will continue to have a Visiting Associate[s] to provide support. This will be discussed in the September moderators meeting and council meetings and we will welcome your input.
- A time of discernment and prayer, which will include grieving the departure of our pastor. This has already begun and will continue as we move through the process.
- Creation of a pastoral search committee in the months ahead.

As we begin the transition, I, as moderator, and the search committee will keep the congregation updated and involved in the process. Keep our church and its members in your prayers.

Aloha Pumehana,

Sue



Message from Pastor Cliff

"Mahalo" is such a powerful word when it captures and expresses a deep sense of gratitude. We can say "mahalo" to God, because God sees us just as we are (with both vices and virtues), and loves us in spite of the former and in light of the latter.

So when I say "mahalo nui loa" to the members of the Church of the Holy Cross for your innumerable kindnesses to me, I am expressing a sincere and deep sense of thankfulness. I have been affirmed and enriched serving as your Visiting Associate this summer, and I will miss you very much.

If you should like to contact me, my e-mail is Cliff.Cain@westminster-mo.edu. My classes at the university start soon, so I will be flying to Missouri toward the end of this week.

I am also aware that I am not the only person who will eventually depart Hilo: Pastor Tom has announced to the congregation in this issue of *The Messenger* that he will be leaving after the first Sunday of November, in order to join his extended family on the mainland.

I know how much he means to you, and I know how much you mean to him. For nine years he has loved you, cared about you, and ministered to and with you. Now is your opportunity to love, care about, and minister to him: Express "mahalo" for the hard work and faithful ministry he has demonstrated in his time here; affirm his decision; and send him off with much appreciation and great affection.

You—the members of the congregation—and Pastor Tom will be in my thoughts and prayers as I arrive on the sacred turf of the Show-Me State.

Aloha,

Pastor Cliff

Dr. Clifford C. Cain
Harrod-C.S. Lewis Professor of Religious
Studies
Westminster College
501 Westminster Avenue
Fulton, MO 65251

Aloha Ke Akua!

You are cordially invited to join in the celebration of

Henry `Opukaha`ia's 20th Homecoming Anniversary

Saturday, August 17, 2013
10 a.m. Kahikolu Congregational
Church Napo`opo`o, Kona,
Hawai`i

We hope you can join us for this historic event honoring Hawai`i's first Christian and scholar.

Please contact Deborah L. Lee at
keoheolahou@yahoo.com or
(808) 443-1268

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

The annual church picnic will be held in the Building of Faith this Sunday, August 11, 2013 following the morning church service. It will be our old fashioned Hilo style picnic with lots of bingo prizes, guessing games, watermelon weight guessing and lucky number prizes. For the children we will have a giant water slide so come with swimming attire and towels.

Lots of good food will be offered through our bento filled with "happy rice", baked shoyu chicken, potato-mac salad, fried hot dogs, takuan and kamabuko. Also available will be juice, watermelon, and shaved ice to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Come to the picnic for an afternoon of fun, excitement, good food, good fellowship, and a bag full of prizes. Please bring your own bag! See you there!

Lost & Found

"If anyone found a black designer shawl left draped over a pew in June, the owner will be very happy to get it back. Perhaps, it was put aside for safekeeping and didn't know what to do with it. Please turn it in to Dennis in the church office. Your help in returning the shawl will be very much appreciated."

Chinese Civic Association of Hawaii Moon Festival Dinner, Annual Membership & Election of 2014 Officers Meeting

Sunday, September 22, 2013

At

Church of the Holy Cross
Building of Faith
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, HI
Registration: 5:00 p.m.

Food: Main Dishes & Moon Cakes
Will Be Provided by CCAH; Members
& Guests Are Asked to Bring a Dessert
Election of Officers and Board
Directors for 2014
Please submit nominations via
TELCON or EMAIL ASAP!

Cost & Reservation

12 & UP: \$8.00

5 – 12: \$5.00

Under 5: FREE

(Cost of Food is partly subsidized by
Association)

Reservations Must Be Made with
Newton Chu's Office at
961-0406 by September 15, 2013 for
head count!

Electronic Messenger

If you would prefer to receive the Messenger via email please contact the Church office at holycrosshilo@hawaii.rr.com

Need TVs

The Church of the Holy Cross is requesting donations for working old flat screen TVs to replace our old TVs. If you have a TV that you would like to donate, please contact the Church office at 808-935-1283.

Senior Ministry

The next Senior Ministry will be
August 22, 2013.

Worship & Scripture for August

**Ushers: Kay Kawachika, Jane Kawazoe,
Newton Chu, Cindy Debus**

***Sunday August 11:
All Church Picnic***

Heb 11:1-3 & 8-15

Sermon: "Walking into Tomorrow"

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Barbara Iwami

Flowers: Margaret Ushijima

Child Care: Molina Pitiol

Sunday August 18:

Ps 80:1-2 & 8-19

Sermon:

**"Re-Condition Us - Restore Us –
Re-build Us"**

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Stefan Tanouye

Flowers: Barbara Iwami & Dr./M Bill Chen

Child Care: Reiko Masutomi

Sunday August 25:

**Jason Chu's First Sunday
with us as Visiting Associate**

Luke 13:10-17

**Sermon: "Let the Healing Wholeness
Begin"**

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Newton Chu

Flowers: Herbert Watanabe

Child Care: Millie Daikawa

Sunday September 1:

COMMUNION

Labor Day Sunday

Luke 14:1, and 7-14

Sermon: "Open Table-Food for Everyone"

Pastor Tom Olcott

Lay Reader: Reilly Narruhn

Flowers: Carol Morioka

Child Care: Eric Tanouye

AUGUST PRAYER LIST: Birthday

Please pray for and send a greeting to these Birthday people

07	Brothers, Joan
09	Taniguchi, Lisbeth
10	Hoota, Shelby Nada, David
15	Hernandez, Cara
18	Torigoe, Edgar
19	Dodo, Beverly
22	Kawata, Teruo Smith, G. Robert
25	Yamauchi, Kay
27	Kurohara, Randall Shiraishi, Eileen Shiroma, Amy
28	Akim Seu, Susan Sadayasu, Anne
29	Okabe, Merle Watanabe, Herbert
31	Hayano, Hajime

*Weekly activities at
your Church of the Holy Cross*

- **Choir Rehearsal** Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
- **Sunday School** 8:45am in the Lounge
- **Annual Church Picnic** on Sunday, August 11 after service in Building of Faith
- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** meets in the sanctuary on Sunday at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei – Hilo** worships in the BF meeting room at 9am on Sundays.
- **Chuukese Church** worships in the BF meeting room at 1pm on Sundays.
- **The Samoan Church** worships in the sanctuary at 3 pm Sundays.
- **Bible Study** Monday 6:30-8:00 PM
- **Gentle Yoga** Monday 9:30-10:30am (BF Meeting Room)
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class** meets Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. (BF)
- **Bible Study** Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. (Pastor's office)
- **IYAA Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. (Lounge)
- **Qi Goong exercise class** meets Friday morning 9-10:30 a.m. (BF)



