

## NCC's Vision Statement

(Approved at the Special Congregational Meeting on September 16, 2007.)

*Nu‘uanu Congregational Church is a diverse, open congregation of faithful Christians who seek to:*

- *affirm all persons as children of God;*
- *respond to the needs of the community and congregation;*
- *respect all views and ideas;*
- *make and nurture disciples; and*
- *spread God's word using our talents and resources.*

## “Hallelujah! Amen!”

*By Pastor Mary, Senior Pastor*

On Easter Sunday, three teenagers made their public profession of Christ. **Matthew Chun, Brandon Hayashi, and Preston Iha** successfully completed a three-month Faith Formation class in which they learned about the Christian faith within the context of the United Church of Christ and this congregation. They read parts of the Bible, explored where they see God in their lives, and learned about the meaning of God coming to humanity in human form.

During this faith formation class, they didn't “get” faith. On the contrary, they were already claimed by God and already incorporated into the

faith of Christ. In addition, their faith was already being formed through their loving families and through the church family. What they did during the Faith Formation Class was to begin to understand the love and grace that they have already experienced so that at the end of the class, they made the decision to be baptized and to become members of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church. It has been an absolute joy to journey with these young men and witness how excited they are about their faith!

One of the exercises that we did in class was to write a creed together – a statement that says what we believe. We each wrote what we believe and we put it all together. Even as we were writing this creed, we talked about how what we believe will change over time because we will experience new things and we will continue to grow. So what follows is a snapshot of what they believe today which I share with you in gratitude:

God is love.

I believe that God created all things.

I believe that God loves all of us no matter what.

I believe that we are all children of God.

I believe that we are gifts from God.

I believe that we are equal in God's eyes.

I believe that God is in everyone.

I believe God loves all of us no matter what or who we are.

(Continued on page 2 - “Creed”)

Nu‘uanu Caller is a monthly publication of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church, founded in 1885 and organized in 1892 (United Church of Christ, a 1957 union of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Churches).

Rev. Mary Paik, *Senior Pastor*; Paula Yamamoto, *Administrative Coordinator*; Nelson Fujinaga, *Custodian*; Le Huynh, *Groundskeeper & Security*.

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## Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

1st Sunday of the month:

9:00 a.m. Communion Service

10:15 a.m. Healing Service

## Church Council Highlights for April 15, 2014

*By Lori Yamashiro, Clerk*

- Approved Matthew Chun, Brandon Hayashi, and Preston Iha into membership.
- Trinity Samoan Church will be holding their worship services in the sanctuary from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Sundays, beginning April 27, 2014.
- Pastor Mary is being nominated to serve on the National Nominating Committee of the Presbyterian Church.

## Creed - Continued from p. 1

I believe that God has created a wonderful place for all of us.

I believe that I am what God intended for me to be.

I believe that God is a loving God.

I believe God loves me.

I believe that God loves even those who don't believe.

I believe God's love never fails.

God's not dead.

I believe that God sent Jesus down to earth for us to show us how to live.

I believe that Jesus was fully human and that he even had pimples.

I believe Jesus died on the cross for me and my sins.

I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and savior; and that all who believe in him will go to heaven.

I believe that Jesus is with us all the time and that He will come again.

I believe that Jesus loves me because the Bible tells me so.

I believe that there would be no Easter without Good Friday.

I believe that God is greater than all my sins.

I believe in forgiveness.

I believe that we are forgiven.

I believe that we can forgive.

I believe that there are many ways to worship.

I believe the Bible should not be taken literally.

I believe that the Holy Spirit lives in my heart, and inside all people.

I believe that God calls each of us to use our gifts for good.

AMEN.

## Trinity Samoan Church

*By Howard Mau, Board of Trustees Chair*

Beginning Sunday, April 27, Trinity Samoan Church will be utilizing our sanctuary for worship. Trinity Samoan Church is a UCC congregation in the Hawaii Conference, UCC. The congregation has about 60 members. Our Church Council approved the use of our sanctuary from noon to 2 p.m. on Sundays by Trinity Samoan Church. The interim pastor for Trinity Samoan Church is Pastor Nofotolu Alo. Let us welcome a sister church and offer our hospitality.

## Meet Our Newest Members



Matthew, Preston, and Brandon.  
Photo courtesy of Kristen Young.

**Matthew Chun** is the son of Eileen Ogasawara-Chun and Geary Chun and brother of Mari. He is currently in the eighth grade at Hawaii Baptist Academy. Matthew enjoys playing the drums. In fact, one of his favorite Christmases was when he received a drum set. Mom wasn't too pleased, but Matt was happy! Matt's favorite food is bacon. Maybe one day we'll see bacon on the refreshment table!!!



Chun Family  
Photo courtesy of Lori  
Takeyama-Goshi.

**Brandon Hayashi** is the son of Ty and Dawn Hayashi and brother of Phoebe and Jared. He is an eighth grader at Kawanānākoa Middle School and will attend Roosevelt High School next school year. Brandon's favorite food is pizza (any kind). He plays the violin, is in the school orchestra, and enjoys going to the movies.



Iha Family  
Photo courtesy of Kristen Young.

**Preston Iha** is the son of Garrett and Susan Iha and cousin of Andres Montiel, one of this year's interns. Preston will be a freshman at Hawaii Baptist Academy next school year. His favorite class is American History, especially the American Revolution and Civil War. Preston's most memorable NCC moments are the activities with friends in the youth lounge.

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## Reflections on the Kaua‘i Mission Trip

*By Kristen Young and Youth Participants*

Over Spring Break back in March, three of our youth spent four days on Kaua‘i to do some mission work with our fellow UCC churches and go on a quest for God. We focused on the passage of salt and light from Matthew 5, as we found new ways to experience and capture God’s presence. Relationships were strengthened and memorable experiences were made. Hear what they have to say!

“As Christians, there are many ways we can be salt. We can add flavor to the world, preserve goodness in the world, and even create a thirst for God. But to be salt, we must be salty—be true to ourselves—because the essence of salt is its saltiness, and the essence of us is made up of all the little things that make us who we are.

We worshipped at Hanapepe Hawaiian Church for only one Sunday, yet I learned what their essence is. They are very welcoming and kind to even strangers like us, letting us witness and participate in their baptism as a congregation. They even invited us for their potluck lunch after the baptisms, after serving us a delicious breakfast. There is less than half of our NCC congregation in their entire congregation at Hanapepe Hawaiian, but they take twice as long to pass the peace of Christ because they have to greet everyone in the sanctuary, and I mean EVERYONE. So I'm challenging this congregation to try and greet somebody new every time we pass the peace of Christ. On this trip I learned that everyone on Kauai is super nice and very welcoming. For me, because it was my first experience on Kauai, this is the essence I get of Kauai, and I thank you all for allowing me to experience that.”

—Trevor Serna, 13

“There are many sources of light. Electricity, the sun, and fire, but WE can also be light. Light has many characteristics. It dispels darkness, leads people when it is dark, and it warms things. In the same way, we are light in times of darkness. We can illuminate the dark. We warm others by being caring. We lead others to God. As Christians, the light that we shine should come from God. Sometimes, other people shine lights and reveal God to US.

Many people were light to us on Kauai. One morning, we were just going to eat cereal for breakfast, but a few people from the church we were staying at came and brought us food. They woke up early to make us food themselves. Then they stayed and ate with us. They talked with us and shared their stories. They didn’t have to do that, but they took time out of their busy lives to make us breakfast. We went to Kauai to do mission work and be lights to others, but the people we met were lights to us as well.”

—Matthew Chun, 13

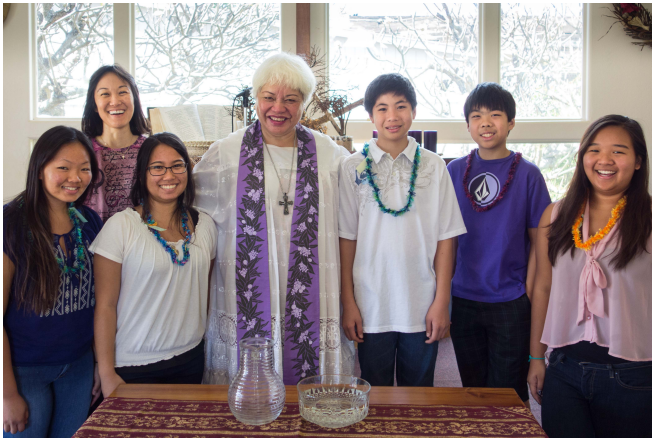
“Because this was my first time going to Kauai, I didn't exactly know what to expect, but nonetheless this was a great trip to experience. Throughout the trip we were continuously blessed with an unbelievable amount of hospitality from all the churches that we went to. We were blessed to have met so many great people that took really good care of us.

(Continued on page 5 - “Reflections”)

## Reflections - Cont'd. from p. 4

The whole time we were on Kauai I felt the love and care that you can't get anywhere else but Hawaii. I'm very happy I went on this trip and got to meet the amazing people that we were blessed to meet. Without them, we wouldn't have the memories and experiences that we were blessed to have on this trip.”

—Deanna Wong, 16



Mission group with Kahu Nani Hill of Hanapepe Hawaiian Church.



NCC youth reparing to work in Lihue United's community garden. Posing here with Rev. Wesley Elmore and Mrs. Ellen Hurley.



Meet Mrs. Kauai Kookie - Mrs. Mabel Hashisaka, founder of Kauai Kookies.



Trevor planting lemon grass in Lihue United's community garden.



Matthew vacuuming the pew cushions at Kapaa UCC.



Enjoying a Kauai sunset.

Photos courtesy of Lori Yamashiro and Kristen Young.

## 2014 College Summer Interns @ Nu‘uanu Congregational Church



**James “Kimo” Akinaka** just completed his second year at Haverford College in Pennsylvania, majoring in English with a Creative Writing Concentration. Kimo is passionate about writing and playing the violin. Through this year’s internship, Kimo hopes to be involved in developing leaders among the youth on Lana‘i. Kimo’s parents are Bob and Velma Akinaka; and he is a member of Nu‘uanu Congregational Church.



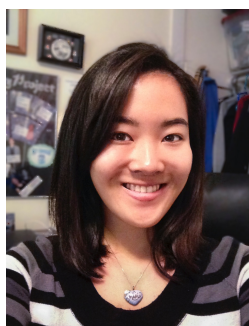
**Melinda “Mindy” Bullock** is a student at Merced College in California. Mindy is a member of Fresno First Church of the Nazarene; and she heard about the internship through her friend Alex Montiel. Mindy’s father was the pastor of Alex’s church for many years. Through the internship, Mindy hopes to gain opportunities to strengthen her planning and communication skills while developing her leadership skills. Mindy’s parents are the Rev. Scott and Paula Bullock.



**Andres Montiel** is just completing his first year at the University of California in Santa Barbara where he is studying film. Through the internship, Andres hopes to discern a vocational path in which he can use his skills in film for God’s work. Andres also looks forward to hanging out with his Aunt Susan, Uncle Garrett and cousin Preston Iha and to returning to Lana‘i where he has made many friends. Andres’ parents are Edward and Corinna Montiel.



**Lia Yamashiro** just completed her first year at University of Hawai‘i in Hilo, majoring in Criminal Justice. Lia is a graduate of Mililani High School. Lia hopes to develop skills in communication, organization, and all around self-directedness and use her passions of art and writing to help people build relationships across differences. Lia was baptized at Nu‘uanu Congregational Church. Lia’s parents are Evan Yamashiro and Rosanne Horikawa.



**Mari Yoshida** just graduated from California State University in Fullerton with a degree in Child and Adolescent Development. Through the internship, Mari is stretching herself beyond her comfort zone to discover her gifts and passions and to develop self-confidence and leadership skills. Mari’s mom is the Rev. Mariko Yanagihara who is a Presbyterian pastor and her father is Glenn Yoshida. They live in Temple City, CA.

# May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>27</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>■ 4:00 PM Vesper Service</div> </div>	<div>28</div> <div> <div>■ 8:30 AM Tai Chi</div> </div>	<div>29</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Sew Fun</div> </div>	<div>30</div> <div></div>	<div>1</div> <div></div>	<div>2</div> <div></div>	<div>3</div> <div> <div>■ 8:00 AM Diaconate Board</div> <div>■ 8:00 AM Board of Trustees</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Board of Christian Nurture</div> </div>
<div>4</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Worship Service</div> </div>	<div>5</div> <div> <div>■ 8:30 AM Tai Chi</div> </div>	<div>6</div> <div></div>	<div>7</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Hui Malama</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Sew Fun</div> </div>	<div>8</div> <div></div>	<div>9</div> <div></div>	<div>10</div> <div> <div>■ 10:00 AM TCCI Extravaganza</div> </div>
<div>11</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>■ 10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> </div>	<div>12</div> <div> <div>■ 8:30 AM Tai Chi</div> </div>	<div>13</div> <div></div>	<div>14</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Sew Fun</div> </div>	<div>15</div> <div></div>	<div>16</div> <div></div>	<div>17</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Sew Fun</div> </div>
<div>18</div> <div> <div>Family Promise</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Church School</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>■ 10:30 AM Chancel Choir</div> </div>	<div>19</div> <div> <div>■ 8:30 AM Tai Chi</div> </div>	<div>20</div> <div> <div>Caller Deadline</div> </div>	<div>21</div> <div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Hui Malama</div> </div>	<div>22</div> <div></div>	<div>23</div> <div></div>	<div>24</div> <div></div>
<div>25</div> <div> <div>Family Promise</div> <div>Start of CSI Program</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Worship Service</div> <div>■ 9:00 AM Church School</div> </div>	<div>26</div> <div> <div>■ 3:00 PM Service of Remembrance</div> </div>	<div>27</div> <div> <div>■ 5:00 PM Personnel Committee</div> </div>	<div>28</div> <div></div>	<div>29</div> <div> <div><b>Planning Ahead.....</b></div> <div><b>May 25</b> - Start of College Summer Intern Program</div> <div><b>May 26</b> - Office Closed; Service of Remembrance</div> </div>	<div>30</div> <div></div>	<div>31</div> <div></div>

## Deadline for Articles

*Nuʻuanu Caller* (monthly)

**20th of each month.**

*NCC News* (weekly)

**Wednesday noon.**

Articles will be edited on a space available basis.

## Food Drive

In keeping with Missions Sunday, the Hawaiʻi Food Bank collection is held on the **last**

**Sunday** of every month. For the month of March, we collected 107 lbs.

of assorted food items. Our next collection will be **May**

**25, 2014.** Monetary donations accepted, too. Checks may be made to Nuʻuanu Congregational Church with Hawaiʻi Food Bank on the memo line. Mahalo.



## Recycling

*By Wayne Kobayashi*

Bring your items on **Sunday, May 25**

The pick up day is the first **Thursday of the month.** Please help our volunteers by removing caps from bottles, rinsing and separating all containers. Only HI-5¢ items are accepted.

Proceeds go toward Hui Malama.



## In Loving Memory



Last month, three of our beloved members passed on to life eternal. **Donald Nakamura** died peacefully on April 4, 2014 at Kuakini Hospital. He is survived by wife Julia, daughter Donnie Ann (Ricky) Wong, sons Warren (Michelle) and Ross Nakamura, mother Ethel Nakamura, and grandchildren Rachel and Deanna Wong and Taylor and Jonah Nakamura. A private service (family only) will be held in May.

**Nobu Fujioka** passed away at home on April 5, 2014. He is survived by wife Kimie, sons Ken (Bridget), Arnold (Mayumi), and Stuart (Gayle), and grandchildren Elena, Anthony, Beau, Lane, and Haylee. A service celebrating Nobu's life was officiated by Pastor Mary Paik on April 19 at NCC.

**Betty Nomura** passed away on April 7, 2014. She is survived by husband Francis, daughter Sherri (Francis) Achiu, son Alton (Lyndia), and grandchildren Karl (Aya) and Kurt Achiu and Matthew and Jason Nomura. A private service was held in April.

Let us remember these families in our prayers.

## Pastor Mary on Vacation

**Pastor Mary** will be on vacation April 29 - May 24. Contact **Rev. Howard Yoshida** for pastoral emergencies. He may be reached at 285-2102 (cell.) or 487-8795 (home).

## 2014 Refreshments (Bring, Serve & Clean Up)

**January** - Church Council

**February** - Missions

**March** - Nichigobu

**April** - Sew Fun

**May** - Board of Trustees

**June** - Christian Nurture

**July** - Hui Hoaloha

**August** - Chancel Choir

**September** - Diaconate

**October** - Women of Nuʻuanu

**November** - Committees

**December** - Youth

Please dispose all trash into the dumpster. Mahalo!

## Ohana Ministry

By Marge Honjiyo



If there are needs that Ohana Ministry can help you with, call one of the coordinators:

### Ohana Ministry Coordinators

Mae Au, 988-4802 Mary Ann Saito, 839-0895

Marge Honjiyo, 550-3075 Sets Takahashi, 550-3062

Alice Ishihara, 550-3187 Joyce Uyehara, 523-3483

When you pray, remember the following and their caregivers: **Ann Akama, Kimiko Bristow-Canfield, Carol Hamada, Mack Hamada, Edna Ito, Fumiko Kamita, Leonetta Kinard, Yuriko Konno, Rev. Armin Kroehler, Janet Kurokawa, Michael Kurokawa, Leslie Lum, Ethel Nitta, Florence Osumi, Eiko Soranaka, Terry Stone, Matthew Stucke, Mayee Wong, and Marie Yoneshige.**

**Reminder:** Names are added or deleted in the Prayer Corner by the individual, family members or friend. Please help us and inform the Ohana Ministry coordinators if you want your name included or deleted.

### **Prayer Corner**

By Alice Ishihara

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He leads me in right paths for paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me.*

**Psalm 23:1, 3-4**

Dear Lord, our shepherd, when we walk through dark valleys and cry out to you, thank you for hearing and listening to our call. Thank you for helping us when our trials and pains drain us of hope and strength. As we pray and feel your loving arms around us, thank you for filling us with strength and courage. We will not despair for we are people of faith. Be close to us in our need. **Amen.**



## Special Gifts

*Give thanks to God whose steadfast love endures forever!*

### **Birthday Offerings**

Gloria Gainsley

Wayne Kodama

Francis Nomura - for Betty Nomura

### **Memorial Offerings**

Dorothy Kusumoto - IMO Faith Sasaki

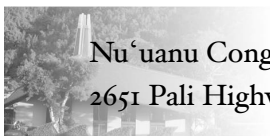
Akiye Oishi - IMO Shizuyo Oishi

Micki Sasaki - IMO Nobu Fujioka

### **Thanks Offerings**

Itsuko Kaneshiro

Francis Nomura



Nu'uano Congregational Church  
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May 2014

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### Lectionary Readings for May

**May 4:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41 • Ps 116:1-4, 12-19 • 1 Pet 1:17-23 • Luke 24:13-35

**May 11:** Acts 2:42-47 • Ps 23 • 1 Pet 2:19-25 • John 10:1-10

**May 18:** Acts 7:55-60 • Ps 31:1-5, 15-16 • 1 Pet 2:2-10 • John 14:1-14

**May 25:** Acts 17:22-31 • Ps 66:8-20 • 1 Pet 3:13-22 • John 14:15-21