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Building the Kingdom



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From One Servant Leader to Another

Aloha Hawaii Pacific Baptists,

As I look back on our 83rd Annual Meeting in Kailua-Kona, my heart overflows with gratitude to God. From the first song on Thursday night to the final “amen” on Friday, we sensed the Lord’s kindness, His Spirit’s unity, and His steady hand leading us together.

Our theme, **“All Authority in Christ” (Matthew 28:18)**, reminded us that the future of Hawaii Pacific Baptists does not rest on our wisdom, our plans, or our strength. The Great Commission is framed by a declaration and a promise—“All authority has been given to Me” and “I am with you always.” Those are the bookends. Between them, Jesus commands us to make disciples of all nations.

If we rush past the declaration of His authority or forget the promise of His presence, ministry quickly becomes exhausting. But when we rest in both, ministry becomes partnership—partnership with the One who holds all power in heaven and on earth.

This will be our theme throughout the coming year: **living and serving under Christ’s authority and in Christ’s presence**. My prayer is that, together, we will respond with dependence, prayer, trust, and obedience:

- Depending on Christ’s strength rather than our own.
- Breathing prayer as our first response, not our last resort.
- Trusting His sovereign leadership more than our capacity or resources.
- Obeying His call because He is with us, not because we feel adequate.

As you read the stories and reports in this issue—about our Gateway Seminary partnership, church planting, missions, Association meetings, and more—remember the bookends. The same Jesus who holds all authority is the One who walks with us across islands, nations, and generations. Thank you, churches, for your faithfulness in giving, sending, and going as we follow Him together across the Pacific.

All authority. All nations. Always in His presence.

By His Authority and In His Presence,

Craig Webb
Executive Director-Treasurer
Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention



Contents

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The *Pacific Connector* highlights people and churches that work to spread the Good News of Jesus by reaching the Pacific and Asia.

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- 2 Building the Kingdom**
Update from our executive director-treasurer.
- 4 HPBC 2025 Annual Meeting Recap**
Hawaii Pacific Baptists were challenged to pursue revitalization, renewal, and gospel faithfulness.
- 6 Pastors and Wives Gather for An Evening of Encouragement**
The event was created to express gratitude to the couples who faithfully shepherd churches across Hawaii and the Pacific.
- 7 Theological Training Comes Closer to Home**
A Partnership Agreement was signed by Gateway Seminary and Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention at the November 2025 annual meeting.
- 8 Hawaii Pacific Baptist Church Planters Gather**
Church planters gathered for fellowship and encouraging words from NAMB Director of RePlanting, Mark Clifton.
- 9 New Pastors Gather for HPBC Orientation**
Eight new pastors gathered at Kona Baptist Church for the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention's New Workers Orientation.
- 9 Women in Leadership Are Encouraged**
A special Women in Leadership Breakfast helped kick off this year's Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention annual meeting in Kona.
- 10 Foundation and Waterhouse Co-Sponsor Luncheon**
Guests enjoyed lunch while learning how the Hawaii Baptist Foundation and the Alex & Belle Waterhouse Lecture Series are serving churches across the islands.
- 11 OBN Churches Celebrate Unity**
At their annual meeting, OBN churches focused on strengthening cooperation and advancing gospel mission.
- 12 Big Island Baptists Gather at Waikoloa**
Big Island Baptist Association (BIBA) leaders gathered on Saturday morning, October 25, 2025 at Waikoloa Baptist.
- 13 Maui County Baptists Gather in Kahului**
Messengers representing six churches gathered for the Maui County Baptist Association Annual Meeting at Kahului Baptist Church.
- 13 Kaneshiro Brothers Honored**
Brothers, Paul Kaneshiro and Stephen Kaneshiro were honored for their nearly half a decade years of service to Maui churches.
- 14 South Pacific Baptist Association**
Church leaders and members from six South Pacific Baptist Association (SPBA) churches assembled for their Annual Meeting in American Samoa.
- 15 Baptist Association of Micronesia Unites in Guam**
BAM celebrated God's work, conducted business, and renewed their shared commitment to the Great Commission across Guam and Micronesia.
- 16 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Week of Prayer**
Your gifts at work by taking the Gospel to unreached people every day.

83rd Annual Meeting *Recap*

Hawaii-Pacific Baptists Celebrate Unity, Launch Seminary Partnership

by Karen Willoughby for Baptist Press

KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii – A partnership between Gateway Seminary and the Hawaii-Pacific Baptist Convention was codified during the regional convention’s 83rd annual meeting November 21-22 at the Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa. Gateway President Adam Groza was present (with other Gateway leaders) to sign the partnership agreement during the historic event.

When Dr. Groza asked, “Why don’t we have a Gateway campus in Hawaii?” my response was simple: “There’s no good reason. We’re ready,” Hawaii Pacific Executive Director Craig Webb told Baptist Press. “Dr. Groza’s vision for theological education in underserved regions aligns perfectly with our need to equip leaders across Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and Asia.”

As the seminary starts the accreditation process, the Hawaii campus will offer classes in the fall 2026 semester. This is Gateway’s fifth regional campus in addition to the main campus in greater Los Angeles.

At least 210 messengers from 61 of Hawaii-Pacific’s 136 churches, plus 81 guests, attended the annual meeting. The total includes 110 Southern Baptist churches in the Hawaiian Islands, 7 in American Samoa and Samoa, 7 in Guam, and 12 across the Asia Baptist Network that includes Okinawa, Mainland Japan, South Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines.

“Anchored in the theme **All Authority in Christ** – Matthew 28:18 – this year’s annual meeting

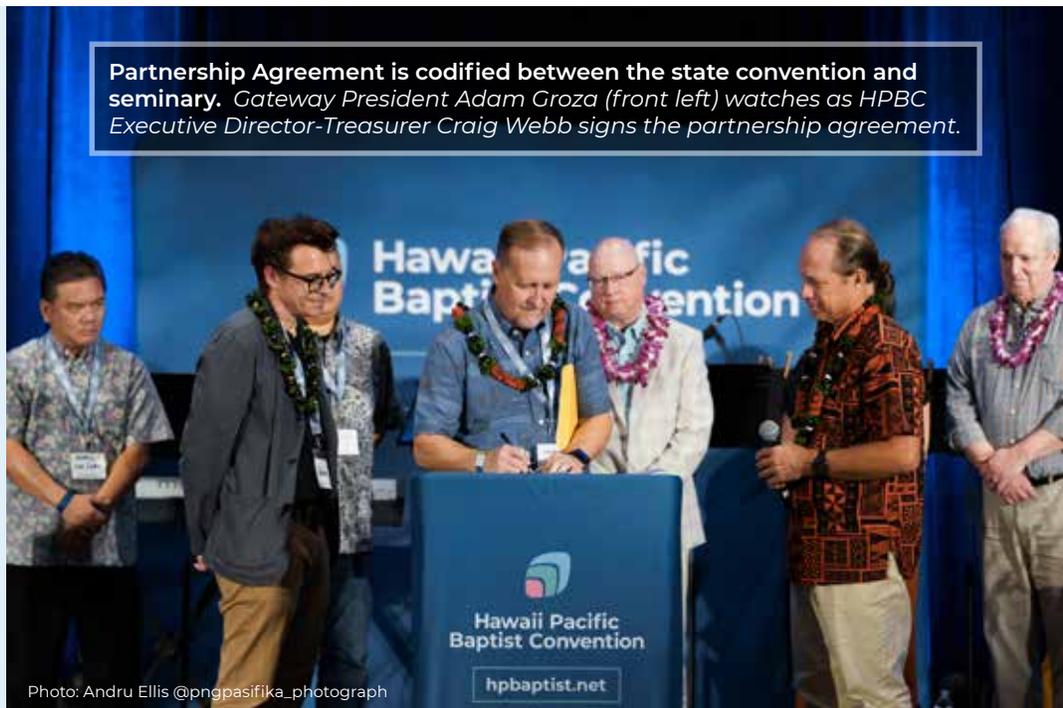


Photo: Andru Ellis @pngpasifika_photograph

reminded Hawaii Pacific Baptists that our confidence for ministry flows not from our strength, but from the sovereign leadership of Jesus,” Webb said. “As we gathered from islands and nations across the Pacific, we experienced a Spirit-led unity and renewed sense of purpose under the authority of the One who sends us.”

Outgoing HPBC President Brian Frable preached the opening message. He emphasized that Christ’s declaration of “all authority” was powerfully positioned at the opening of the Great Commission to address both worshipers and doubters, establishing the foundation for the meeting’s theme that believers “go in Christ’s authority, not our own, and endure through His presence, not our strength.”

Mark Clifton, NAMB’s Executive Director of Replant, Revitalization and Rural strategies, brought the closing message. “His challenge to pursue revitalization, renewal, and gospel faithfulness blessed and encouraged our churches,” Webb said.

In addition to greetings from SBC entities were state convention staff reports.

Four churches affiliated with HPBC in 2025; one plant started services. Six endorsed church planters are building core teams, and several new works are in early stages.

Business consisted of election of officers, approving four resolutions, and passing a \$1,110,000 budget for 2026, down \$57,005 from last year’s budget, with 20 percent of that again next year being forwarded



Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention's new officers for 2026. From left: Karla Jennings, Henry Hanale Lindo, Larry Hale, Shane Tanigawa, and Executive Director-Treasurer Craig Webb.

Photo: Andru Ellis @pnpasifika_photograph

to global missions causes through the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee.

Four resolutions of appreciation were approved by messengers: to Kona Baptist Church and the Outrigger Resort and Spa; to convention officers and executive board members; to SBC entities; and to the Committee on Arrangements and Order of Business as well as to HPBC staff member, Dawn Akutagawa.

New officers: President Shane Tanigawa, pastor of University Avenue Baptist Church in Honolulu; First Vice President Larry Hale, pastor of Eleele Baptist Church on Kaua'i; Second Vice President Henry Hanale Lindo, pastor of Kaunakakai Baptist Church on Moloka'i; and Recording Secretary Karla Jennings, a member at Kaunakakai Baptist Church in Moloka'i.

In a spotlight on Asia, Ben Howard, pastor of Yokohama International Baptist Church in Japan, moderated a panel featuring leaders from Koza Baptist in Okinawa, Tokyo Baptist Church, and Pyeongtaek Community Church in South Korea.

The panel highlighted ministry challenges and opportunities across Japan, Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines—emphasizing trends with young adults, doors opened

to unreached people groups, and church planting and missions partnerships.

In a spotlight on Guam and American Samoa, HPBC's Robert Miller facilitated a panel with Pastor Mel and Rachel Hennegan of Gospel Life Guam and Pastor Ian and Amanda Richards of Guam Christian Life Fellowship, who shared the unique challenges and opportunities of ministry on Guam and how HPBC churches can pray and partner with them.

A three-year partnership with Tennessee has come to a conclusion. "It resulted in strong church-to-church relationships, Deaf Camp Hawaii leadership support from Tennessee churches, and significant investment in pastor training and VBS ministries," Webb said. Steve Freeman, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Springfield, Tenn., brought greetings and prayed for Hawaii Pacific Baptists.

The Maui Fire Caring Ministry also concluded, building on the foundation laid by Hawaii Pacific Baptist Disaster Relief in the first months after the fires.

"The Maui Fire Caring Ministry, led by Pete and Donna Beal, took the extraordinary step of contacting 748 fire survivors over 14 months," Webb

said. "This systematic follow-up ministry communicated the love of Christ, shared the Gospel message, distributed Bibles, and provided practical assistance while building relationships that continue today."

The state convention's Pu'u Kahea Camp and Conference Center has been refreshed with the help of many volunteers and donations, and this year's camping season saw nearly triple the number of attendees as last year. HPBC director of finance, Monica Kang, anticipates Pu'u Kahea breaking even for the first time in years.

"Messengers consistently told us they felt a deep, Spirit-led unity this year, and we experienced that same sense of God's favor as we met together," Webb said. "The passionate worship, the remarkable comeback of Pu'u Kahea Camp, gathering outside O'ahu for the first time in nearly a decade, and launching a historic partnership with Gateway Seminary made this year's meeting truly unforgettable."

The **84th annual meeting** of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention is set for **November 19-20, 2026**, at Olivet Baptist Church in Honolulu.

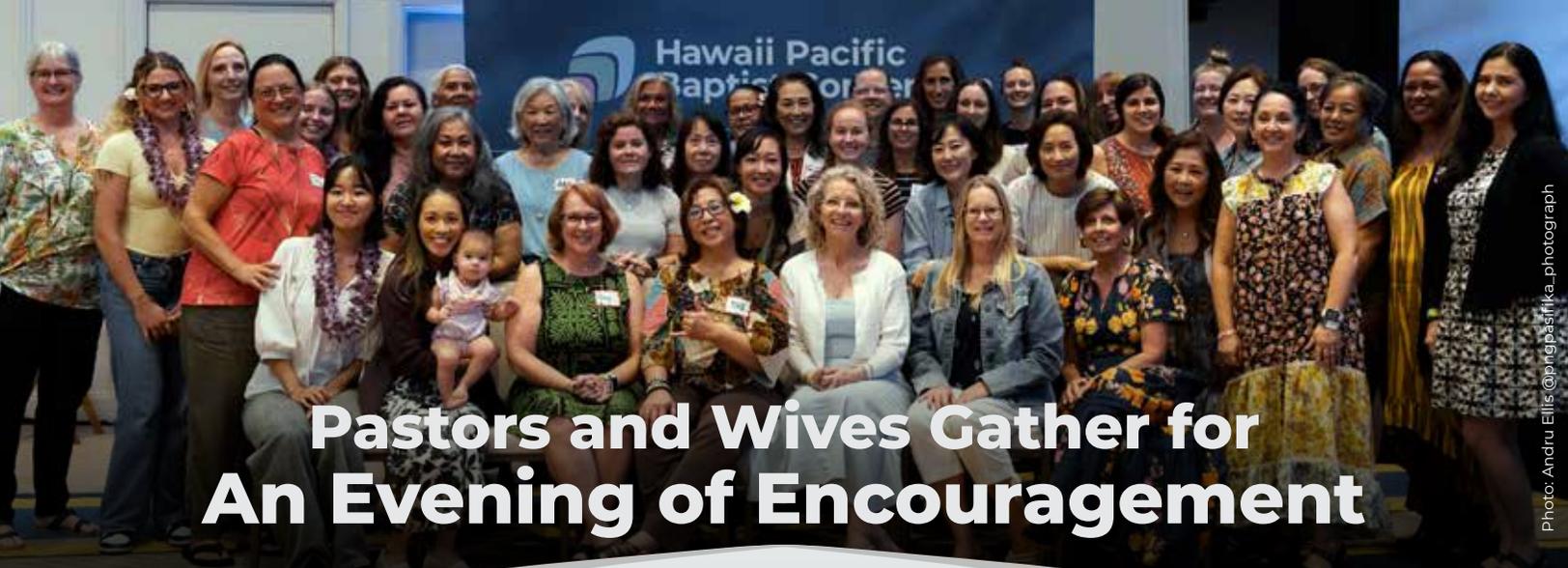


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Pastors and Wives Gather for An Evening of Encouragement

By Craig Webb

On Wednesday evening, November 19, 2025, the day before the HPBC annual meeting commenced, Hawaii Pacific Baptist pastors and their wives gathered at the Outrigger Kona Resort on the Big Island for a special Pastors and Wives Appreciation Dinner. Now in its third year, the event was created to express gratitude to the couples who faithfully shepherd churches across Hawaii and the Pacific and to remind them that they are not alone in the work. Planned by the HPBC staff team, with Diana Ventura leading the effort and Arjay Gruspe serving as master of ceremonies, the evening was warm, joyful, and deeply encouraging.

Sponsored in part by the North American Mission Board, the dinner opened with Christ-centered worship led by student leaders from the Baptist Collegiate Ministries at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, directed by Anita Bice. Their leadership helped weary servants slow down, sing, and rest in God's presence.

Keynote speaker Mark Clifton, Executive Director of Church Replanting and Rural Strategy at

NAMB, shared a deeply personal, hope-filled message drawn from decades of ministry in what he calls "normative-sized churches." He reminded pastors that most Southern Baptist churches have fewer than 150 in attendance, and that these congregations are not "small" but normal, dearly loved by God, and vital to the advance of the Gospel.

Clifton spoke candidly about discouragement and the spiritual warfare many pastors and wives quietly face, pointing them to Matthew 11 and Isaiah 35 and to the sure hope found in Christ alone. Mililani Baptist's Pastor Dennis Andrews shared, "Last night, being with everyone was more of a blessing than I could have anticipated. The message was perfect ... it was like a weight was lifted." Couples left the Keauhou Ballroom strengthened, reminded that not one sermon, visit, or act of care is wasted in God's hands, and renewed to serve their churches with fresh courage and joy.



Photo: Andru Ellis @ongpasifika_photograph

Gateway Seminary Partnership Brings Accredited Theological Training Closer to Home

During the 2025 Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention's Annual Meeting at the Outrigger Kona Resort & Spa, messengers witnessed a historic moment as HPBC and Gateway Seminary formally signed a partnership to launch a new regional campus in Hawaii.

This journey began when the HPBC Executive Board voted on August 22, 2025, to empower Executive Director-Treasurer Craig Webb to pursue a partnership with Gateway. On October 15, 2025, Gateway's trustees unanimously approved the establishment of a new regional campus serving Hawaii Pacific Baptists, with classes planned to begin in the fall of 2026.



Gateway president Adam Groza shares the history and vision of the seminary.



Signed Partnership Agreement. From left: Pastor Harlan Nakasone, director of Oahu Bible Institute; Pastor Shane Tanigawa, incoming HPBC president; Dr. Adam Groza, Gateway Seminary president; Pastor Steve Davidson, Gateway Seminary trustee; Dr. Craig Webb, HPBC executive director-treasurer; Kevin Caruthers, Gateway Seminary board chairman; Dr. Kristen Ferguson, vice president for enrollment and student services; Dr. Robert Miller, HPBC director of regional ministries; and Pastor Brian Frable, outgoing HPBC president.

The new campus, to be known as the Hawaii Pacific School of Theology, will be centered at the HPBC offices at 2042 Vancouver Drive on O'ahu, with additional in-person classes offered at HPBC churches and ministry locations across the islands and throughout the convention's wider region—including Guam, American Samoa, and parts of Asia. Wherever at least eight students can gather, Gateway hopes to bring a class, using creative schedules designed for busy ministry leaders.

Gateway President Dr. Adam Groza shared Gateway's mission of "shaping leaders who expand God's kingdom around the world," highlighting the seminary's long history of contextualized, biblically faithful training and its commitment to keeping students in their local churches and communities

while they study. Because of Cooperative Program support, every Southern Baptist student receives an automatic 50% tuition discount, and Gateway seeks to help students graduate without seminary debt.

On stage, the partnership agreement was signed by Webb, Groza, Gateway board chairman Kevin Caruthers, and outgoing HPBC president Brian Frable, surrounded by leaders from both HPBC and Gateway. Webb shared his prayer that, in the years ahead, every Hawaii Pacific Baptist church will have the option of calling a pastor raised and trained in its own community.

"This is your campus," Groza told Hawaii Pacific Baptists. "Together we can raise up a new generation of ministry leaders to serve Christ and His church long after we are gone."

Hawaii Pacific Baptist Church Planters Gathering



Shane Critser, Director Send Network Coastal West Region

During the HPBC Annual Meeting, Hawaii and Guam Send Network and HPBC-endorsed Church Planting couples gathered for fellowship and encouraging words from NAMB Director of RePlanting, Mark Clifton. Hawaii can be a place of beauty and wonder while simultaneously be a place that provides feelings of loneliness and cultural stress. So lunch gatherings like this are vital for these planters to come together whenever possible to remind each other that they are not alone in this church planting journey.

Mark Clifton added extra words of encouragement from the apostle Paul to "stay faithful and finish the race with endurance," but realize "planting and replanting is a marathon, not a sprint." He encouraged the group to remember that "you first just love people," then you plant or replant your church by making disciples who make disciples.

It's super exciting to see the missionaries that God has been raising up over the past two years to plant churches in the Islands. Churches interested in getting involved in church planting can contact **Send Network's Coastal West Director, Shane Critser**, at scritser@namb.net.

Our seven endorsed church planting couples include:

Craig and Maggie **Coppenbarger**, Oahu
Eric and Dani **Naylor**, Maui
Mike and Monica **Brennan**, Hawaii
Nasa and Caroline **Sete**, Oahu
Elise and Lucy **Tafao**, Oahu
Chris and Kathy **Alsup**, Oahu
Mel and Rachel **Hennegan**, Guam

Also attending the luncheon were retiring church planters David and Nancy Whitehead; Revitalization Pastor Eddie and Faleiva Hunt; and church planting advocates Zeke and Layne Tomaselli.



NAMB's Mark Clifton brings encouragement to church planters and replanters.





Starting Well

New Pastors Gather for HPBC Orientation in Kona

By Craig Webb

On Thursday morning, November 20, 2025, eight new pastors gathered at Kona Baptist Church, (Pastor Brian Frable) for the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention's New Workers Orientation.

Led by Dr. Robert Miller and Dr. Craig Webb, the morning introduced leaders to what it means to be a Hawaii Pacific Baptist church—our theological convictions, cooperative structure, and the role of the HPBC, Executive Board, associations, Hawaii Baptist Academy, and the Hawaii Baptist Foundation.

Participants met HPBC staff and heard how we serve churches through grants, training events, communications, and other resources.

A final session walked through the Southern Baptist family, highlighting SBC entities, missions partnerships, and benefits for local churches. HPBC staff, board officers, and families joined the group for a fellowship lunch.

Photo (above): HPBC staff, board officers, and families joined the group for a fellowship lunch. Photo courtesy of Andru Ellis @pngpasifika_photograph

Women in Leadership: Encouraged, Equipped, and Connected

By Diana Ventura

A special Women in Leadership Breakfast helped kick off this year's Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention annual meeting in Kona. The gathering honored and encouraged women serving in leadership across the HPBC and provided space for connection, inspiration, and networking over a light breakfast, worship, and a message of encouragement tailored specifically for women in ministry.

Dr. Kristen Ferguson, Gateway Seminary's Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services, brought a powerful word focused on ministering as partners in Christ and embracing the "ministry of suffering"—learning to

meet Christ in hardship and to comfort others out of what we ourselves have received.

Julia Haggard, BCM staff, guided the women through a time of personal reflection and prayer, and the BCM Hilo worship team led in Christ-centered worship.

The morning emphasized the heart of a woman serving where God has called her: living well in order to lead well, and not forsaking personal time with the Lord. We



Guest speaker, Dr. Kristen Ferguson, vice president for enrollment and student services

thank the Lord for HPBC women in leadership and deeply appreciate all you do to serve Christ and His church.



Photos: Andru Ellis @pngpasifika_photograph

Foundation and Waterhouse Co-Sponsor Luncheon at Annual Meeting

By Craig Webb

At this year's Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, about 120 pastors and leaders gathered at the Outrigger Kona Resort for a special luncheon hosted by the Hawaii Baptist Foundation and the Alec and Belle Waterhouse Lecture Series. Guests enjoyed a delicious plated lunch while learning how these two ministries are serving churches across the islands and beyond.

Dr. Matt Sanders (Foundation president and Waterhouse director) opened with a devotional titled "What Does God Treasure?" from Luke 12:22-34. Sanders challenged leaders to make decisions—especially about money and ministry priorities—that reflect what God treasures. He cautioned against reducing stewardship to merely "saving versus spending," urging churches to seek God's kingdom through prayerful, transparent, and mission-focused conversations about resources.

He then highlighted how the Hawaii Baptist Foundation, an HPBC entity, helps churches practice kingdom stewardship. The Foundation is not an "ATM" but a partner that connects churches, associations, and individuals for long-term gospel impact. Services include short-term funds management at no management fee and charitable gift planning for believers who want to leverage growing assets, such as appreciated property, for eternal purposes.

Sanders also introduced the Alec and Belle Waterhouse Lecture Series, a ministry of Wai'alaie Baptist Church that equips leaders and others in the islands. Upcoming Waterhouse events include a marriage conference led by Chris and Jen Schultz in January, a doctrine of the Trinity conference in spring 2026, and an apologetics



Foundation president Matt Sanders challenges luncheon guests to make decisions—especially about money and ministry priorities—that reflect what God treasures.

conference in May 2026 on the theme "Is Christianity Good for the World?" On the day prior to the marriage conference, pastors and other ministries leaders are invited to meet with the Schultzes to learn more about "Re|Engage," a program that helps Christians develop stronger, more Christ-centered marriages.

He shared that Pastor Phil Kim, the new associate pastor of Next Generation at Wai'alaie Baptist, is also the Waterhouse program administrator. The luncheon closed with thanks for Foundation staff (including new admin, Cindy Arakaki), Waterhouse leaders, and volunteers—celebrating growing partnerships that help Hawaii Pacific Baptists invest their lives and resources in what God treasures most: His kingdom.

*HPBC leaders
enjoy delicious
food and
fellowship.*



Photos:
Andru Ellis @pngpasifika_photograph



New OBN pastors were introduced.

OBN Churches Celebrate Unity, Adopt a New Budget and Calendar, and Continue Bylaws Review

The Oahu Baptist Network (OBN) held its 18th Annual Meeting on Friday, October 24, 2025, hosted by First Southern Baptist Church of Pearl Harbor. Guests gathered from across the island, along with 110 messengers from 26 churches, for an evening of fellowship, worship, and business. The evening was focused on strengthening cooperation and advancing gospel mission.

The evening began with a dinner fellowship, followed by worship led by an inter-church worship team and special music from Malama Christian Fellowship. Rev. Michael “Bong” Abagon, moderator of the OBN, welcomed attendees and opened in prayer. Dr. Craig Webb, executive director-treasurer of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, brought greetings and shared updates from across the convention.

During the business session, messengers approved the 2026 OBN operating budget and annual minis-

try calendar and received an update on the ongoing bylaws and constitution review. Moderator Michael “Bong” Abagon was reelected to serve another term, along with Vice-Moderator Dr. Jamie McElrath and Clerk Charlene Vaughn. The treasurer position remains vacant.

Reports from the OBN Leadership Team highlighted another active year of partnership and ministry among Oahu churches, including youth camps, the Aloha Stadium Swap Meet outreach, and new discipleship and leadership initiatives. The network continues to focus on encouraging revitalization, supporting pastoral health, and strengthening relationships among member congregations.

The annual meeting message was brought by Pastor Bob Gierhart of Nu‘uanu Baptist Church, who reminded churches from Revelation 2 to “remember our first love” and to keep Christ central in every ministry.

The evening concluded with prayer, worship, and thanksgiving for God’s continued work among Oahu Baptist churches as they move forward in unity and mission.



OBN Leadership Council (Back, L to R): John Dionisio, Mike Procter, Jamie McElrath, Harlan Nakasone, Bong Abagon, and Matt Sanders. (Front, L to R): Annie Lam, Faith McFatrige, Charlene Vaughn, and Tess Mindo. Missing: Sungho Kang

Big Island Baptists Gather at Waikoloa, Approve Gift for HPBC Annual Meeting

By Craig Webb

Big Island Baptist Association (BIBA) leaders gathered on Saturday morning, October 25, 2025 at Waikoloa Baptist. Moderator Jeff Buchholz (Pastor of Cornerstone Christian Fellowship) led the meeting.

A key ministry of BIBA is the HiloBCM (Collegiate Ministries) under the leadership of Director Anita Bice. Anita reported that strong next-generation leadership is emerging among the students, especially young men who are hungry for God and eager for depth. She added that the students are deeply engaged spiritually, often meeting for Bible study, worship, or prayer nearly every night, even during midterms and periods of emotional stress. She noted that many of these students are actively serving in Southern Baptist churches (running sound and slides, leading worship, children, and youth), and she expressed gratitude for financial support from BIBA, HPBC, the Sue Nishikawa Offering, and the “aunties and uncles” who provide food that helps sustain the ministry and draw students in.

Jeff asked HPBC's Craig Webb to bring the devotional along with greetings and an update from HPBC. Along with approval of the financial report and the 2026 budget, a motion was brought from the BIBA executive board to the messengers to approve a gift of up to \$15,000 to HPBC to help cover expenses related to the HPBC Annual Meeting, which was being held on their island. It was unanimously approved.

Pastor Jeff Buchholz (Cornerstone) was affirmed to serve another year as moderator, Tim Elisaga (Ohana Church) as vice-moderator, and Mark Tagami (Kaumana Drive) as treasurer. A fellowship lunch followed the meeting.



Waikoloa Baptist Pastor Trent Thompson leads worship.



Pastor Jeff Buchholz, BIBA moderator, leads the meeting.

Partnering for the Gospel: Maui County Baptists Gather in Kahului

by Robert Miller

Messengers representing six churches gathered for the Maui County Baptist Association (MCBA) Annual Meeting on November 15, 2025, at Kahului Baptist Church. Moderator Wes Higuchi reminded messengers that the purpose of MCBA was to partner for the sake of the gospel. Wes Higuchi (Moderator), Chris Komatsu (Vice-Moderator), Joyce Higuchi (Clerk), and Clarice Kaneshiro (Treasurer) were reelected to serve in 2026. Pete and Donna Beal gave a closing report from the Maui Fire Ministries, and Robert Miller of HPBC reported on Convention events and resources. Paul and Stephen Kaneshiro were recognized for their years of service to Maui churches. Five gave testimonies, thanking God for the two pastors.



Pastor Chris Komatsu (Lanai Baptist) was reelected as vice moderator and Wes Higuchi (Kahului Baptist) was reelected moderator.

Kaneshiro Brothers Honored for Nearly Half a Decade of Pastoral Ministry

by Robert Miller

Brothers Paul Kaneshiro and Stephen Kaneshiro were honored for their years of service to Maui churches. Both men have served in ministry for over 45 years. Between them, they have pastored

churches in California, Oahu, and Maui. They have also served as Maui Police Chaplains. In retirement, Paul, June, Stephen, and Clarice are members of Pukalani Baptist Church.



Pastor Paul and June Kaneshiro



Pastor Steve and Clarice Kaneshiro

South Pacific Baptist Churches Unite for **Worship and Encouragement**

By Robert Miller

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12: 1-3



SPBA messengers worship together at their annual meeting.

On **October 26, 2025**, church leaders and members from six South Pacific Baptist Association (SPBA) churches assembled for their Annual Meeting in American Samoa. Approximately 175 messengers came together on a Sunday morning for joint worship. To accommodate a large attendance, the Annual Meeting was held at a Methodist multi-purpose center.

Saufoi Tavete, Pastor of Happy Valley Baptist Church, and his worship team, led the joint worship. In addition, each congregation shared a musical presentation led by its pastor.

Robert Miller, Hawai'i Pacific Baptist Convention Director of Regional Ministries, brought the annual message. Miller challenged the messengers to keep running the race (Hebrew 12: 1-3). He encouraged them to remain faithful to the Lord's work as they press on toward the new year.

SPBA comprises five Samoan churches, one Chinese church, and one Korean congregation. Pastor Aufata Fonoti of Emmanuel Baptist Church was elected moderator.

SPBA leaders presented Robert and Bev Miller an appreciation gift at the annual meeting.



Baptist Association of Micronesia Unites in Guam for Annual Meeting

Tamuning Christian Fellowship • October 18, 2025

The Baptist Association of Micronesia (BAM) gathered in Guam for its annual meeting, hosted by Tamuning Christian Fellowship (TCF). Messengers and leaders from TCF, Calvary Baptist, Guam Christian Life Fellowship, and Gospel Life Church joined to celebrate God's work, conduct business, and renew their shared commitment to the Great Commission across Guam and Micronesia. The meeting opened with Scripture, prayer, and worship, then significant time was given to reports from each congregation.

Tamuning Christian Fellowship continues vibrant ministry while searching for a new pastor, with outreach through Bible study, Celebrate Recovery, and the Friends in Need feeding ministry.

Calvary Baptist Church celebrated its 66th anniversary and welcomed Pastor Francis Lazaga, emphasizing discipleship, prayer, and outreach to military families and H-2 workers.

Guam Christian Life Fellowship is returning to its Mangilao location, focusing on simple, multiplying discipleship under Pastor Ian Richards.

Gospel Life Guam, led by Pastor Mel Hennegan, continues to grow and serve alongside Agana Heights Baptist Church, with families returning and new gospel opportunities opening.

During a time of reflection from Philippians 1:27, HPBC's Craig Webb encouraged church leaders to live as citizens of heaven—standing firm in one spirit and striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel.

In business, BAM members affirmed strong stewardship and elected new officers: Moderator Francis Lazaga (Calvary), Vice Moderator Ian Richards (GCLF), Secretary Laura Berba (Calvary), and Treasurer Gil Bagiac (Tamuning).

The meeting closed with gratitude, prayer, and confidence that Jesus continues to build His church across Guam and Micronesia.

Officers (l to r): Vice Moderator Ian Richards (GCLF), Secretary Laura Berba (Calvary), Moderator Francis Lazaga (Calvary), Treasurer Gil Bagiac (Tamuning), outgoing Moderator Mel Hennegan (Gospel Life)



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