

from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Aloha Kākou,

As the 158th Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention drew to a close in St. Louis last month, there appeared to be a new urgency among the messengers to the task before us. Along with the preceding SBC Pastor's Conference, two of the overarching themes were the need of a marked increase in evangelistic efforts and unity among Southern Baptists of today.

Throughout the course of the past century in SBC life, evangelism was a hallmark of our identity. When previously asked about the core characteristics of Southern Baptists, 'missions, evangelism and cooperative work' was often the immediate answer. But, over the past several decades, the emphasis on evangelism has been sidelined for many assumed reasons.

In a 2015 article by LifeWay's Trevin Wax, the decline in evangelism is related to a lack of intentional personal involvement by Southern Baptists. Wax states, "There's no way to prove or disprove this statement. But considering the drop in the SBC's baptismal numbers, it seems clear that Southern Baptist outreach efforts are diminishing—either in effectiveness or intensity, perhaps both."

Although church planting is growing alongside revitalization efforts, baptisms are still declining at a rate greater than any time in the last 50 years. According to recent statistics shared by the North American Mission Board, church plants generally average one baptism per 12 members, as compared to a one per 50

member average among existing churches. This statistic reflects the need for church plants to reach new believers to continue. But the number of recorded evangelistic efforts with existing churches and church plants are relatively low! We must reverse this trend if we are going to see our communities reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

On the topic of unity, I am thankful to report that this effort is bridging many different levels of SBC life, such as multigenerationally, multi-ethnically, and even through minor theological differences. We will never find true unity before Christ returns, but this renewed energy to unify is being embraced across lines with strong success. As we choose to support each other in the vast Kingdom work ahead of us, we will find the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish greater things than we could ever envision by ourselves. I applaud the leadership across our convention of churches in engaging the world around us, hand in hand, to see Christ glorified and to see His Kingdom transform our communities.

Now we find ourselves at a daily crossroads of sorts. Do we strive for God's plan to unfold in us, or our plan? I pray that as we dedicate ourselves to allow His plan to unfold, we will see greater unity among us and a fresh determination to personal evangelism in our lives. I pray that this will reflect a larger movement that God is bringing across the SBC as a whole.



Chris MartinExecutive Director
& Editor

I see a brighter day ahead in which we see an incredible increase in sharing the truths of Christ evangelistically that will bring thousands to Christ across our HPBC congregations and bring an unprecedented unity across our land. I believe this day could be now!

I encourage you to join together and help us make Gospel-centered conversations with non-believers a part of our daily lives. Let us prepare to lead these conversations to a detailed explanation of choosing life in Christ through repentance and salvation. Pray for the strength and anointing of the Holy Spirit to guide our every action to fulfill His intended purpose every day.

Your HPBC staff team exists to serve you and your church that we may assist you in maximizing the vision that God is giving you to reach your world with the power

of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please contact me or any member of our team when you have a need or request. We are here for you.

Remember: We are always better together! We are the HPBC!

Aloha in Christ, Chris

Hawaii PACIFIC hpbaptist.net

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4 Bento Retires from HBA

- 6 Hurricane Season: Are you prepared for it?
- 7 The Gathering City-wide Church
- 8 By All Means: Sue Nishikawa
- 9 Around the Islands
- 10 Coming to Hawaii
 - 11 Jessica's Story
 - 12 Oahu Bible Institue Begins Classes
 - 13 Pau Hana Ohana
 - 13 Sunday School Teacher Appreciation
 - 14 Around the SBC



Richard Bento Retires from Hawaii Baptist Academy

by Faith McFatridge, staff writer

I'M GLAD THAT
THE LORD WAS
ABLE TO USE ME
TO EXPAND HIS
EARTHLY KINGDOM
THROUGH CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION.

Hawaii Baptist Academy (HBA) President Richard "Dick" Bento retired June 30th, after more than three decades of service at the school.

Dick's service to HBA began in 1978 when he became chairman of the HBA School Programs Committee (of the Hawaii Baptist Convention Executive Board), which is known today as the board of directors. In 1981, he joined the Properties Development Committee, and in 1985 he was hired as the vice president of development. He became president in 1994, succeeding Dr. Dan H. Kong.

Dick led in the acquisition of the elementary school property on Bates Street from the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts in 1987. He had a long relationship with the Sisters from the time his daughter Janet (adopted from Taiwan) attended that school because English as a Second Language was offered.

At the retirement celebration held June 3rd at the elementary campus, it was announced that the campus would be renamed the Richard Bento Elementary School Campus.

In 2006, Dick oversaw the completion of the Dan Kong Middle School campus. Most recently, he headed the \$17 million capital campaign to fund the high school expansion project, which includes the new Arts and Science Building, renovated Learning Resource Center and Senior Pavilion.

Dick directed HBA to full accreditation, grades K-12, by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). Additionally, he has stewarded the school to its firm financial position. An HBA staffer noted that among his other tough decisions was the adoption of standard school attire.

In a letter to The Aloha Council (TAC), the HBA Board of Directors also announced that the board has named alumnus Ronald Shiira '75 as the next president. Ron brings more than 30 years of



corporate business and nonprofit experience to HBA. For five years, he served as chairman of the HBA Board of Directors. In 2011, he was hired as the executive assistant to the president and promoted to vice president in 2013. Over the last four years, he has been given increased responsibilities and further assumed the role of executive vice president and chief operations officer in July 2015.

Ken Hensarling, chair of the Board of Directors, wrote, "The appointment of Ron as our next president affords the school a seamless transition.

As Ron's colleague and brother in Christ, I believe that his love for the Lord and our school are clearly evident, and under his leadership our school will continue to thrive."

"As we look ahead to the future, we ask that you join us in celebrating Dick's

legacy, as he has been a wonderful example to all of us about what it means to be a faithful servant of God. Please join us in congratulating both Mr. Bento and Mr. Shiira for all they have done and will continue to do for HBA in service to Christ."

HBA opened its doors in 1949 under the leadership of Hugh and Mary McCormick in refurbished Army barracks in Makiki. Under the leadership of then president Col. Stanley Sagert, the school was saved from closure in 1970. With the help of The Committee of Three consisting of Mori Hiratani, Allen Au and Col. Sagert, the school gained much needed financial footing. In 1972, Dan Kong, then president of the Hawaii Baptist Convention and Edmond Walker, HBC executive director, made a successful bid for the property on Pali Hwy. Upon his retirement in 1987, the

high school campus on Pali Hwy. was named the Stanley A. Sagert High School. In 1973 Dan Kong began his service at HBA as vice president of development and from 1988 to 1993 served as the school's president. During his tenure, funding opportunities grew especially on the mainland. In 2006, the Middle School campus was completed and named the Dan H. Kong Middle School.

Dick and his wife Alice are members of University Avenue Baptist Church. He plans to spend more time with Alice, golfing and traveling. In reflection, Mr. Bento noted, "I'm glad that the Lord was able to use a simple minded person like me to expand His earthly kingdom through Christian Education. All glory and honor goes to Him and thanks to my fellow workers who were so supportive over the years."

HBA COMMENCEMENT

One-hundred-ten seniors received diplomas in Hawaii Baptist Academy's 63rd commencement, June 4th at the Blaisdell Concert Hall.

President Richard Bento made his last address to a graduating class before his retirement which began June 30.

Jantzen Nakai made "tolerance" the theme of his valedictory address.

Isaebl Weirnken (Miss HBA) and Chster Hui (Mr. HBA) led the turning of the tassels ritual.

Ty Wakabayashi and Adam Murakami directed the singing of the class song, "Whole Lotta History" (One Direction). They also directed the singing of the alma mater which concluded the commencement exercises.



The Bentos view plans for the campus renamed in Dick's honor



Hurricane Season starts ARE YOU PREPARED FOR HURRICANE SEASON? STARTS JUNE 1

by Faith McFatridge, staff writer

June 1 and will continue into November this year.

Are you prepared for a hurricane or a storm?

In May, the Central Pacific Hurricane Center announced that it predicts near- or abovenormal central Pacific hurricane season which includes tropical depressions, tropical storms and hurricanes.

Last year, a record-breaking 2015 hurricane season brought 15 tropical cyclones close to the Hawaiian islands. Darrell McCain, HPBC Disaster Relief Director, says disasters can strike anytime and will hit the Hawaiian Islands eventually.

Darrell encourages church members to be ready for disaster

by having a preparedness kit for your family. According to Darrell, "we need 7 days of provisions because it will take at least that much time to deliver goods just to Oahu." Here is a brief list for you to consider: One gallon of water per person per day, flashlight with fresh batteries or crank type, emergency radio, whistle, non perishable foods (nuts, beef jerky, energy bars, MREs, freeze dried foods) medicine, first aid kit, and some small bill cash.

Are you prepared to assist when disaster strikes?

Alan Tamashiro, pastor of Puna Baptist Church the Big Island of Hawaii, knows all too well the power of a storm. Tropical storm Iselle hit the Puna District of the island in 2014. Following the aftermath of Iselle, Kilauea lava flow threatened the town of Pahoa and Pastor Alan's church, Puna Baptist, was without power for 5 to 6 weeks. Darrell and Teresa McCain, DR coordinators, were immediately on the ground assessing the situation and coordinating relief efforts.

Darrell and Teresa McCain have traveled to our Hawaii Pacific Baptist churches on the Big Island, Maui, Kauai, American Samoa and Guam to train volunteer church members to help survivors in disasters. In May, Mililani Baptist Church on Oahu hosted a training session. DR volunteers must renew their certificate with a training session every three years. Contact Darrell if you or your church

would like to be trained as a DR volunteer. Darrell's email is Darrell@hpbaptist.net or call him at 808-356-8341.

According to the North American Mission Board, "Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is Christian love in action. This ministry meets the urgent needs of hurting humanity in crisis situations. Christ calls for believers to demonstrate His love to those affected by disasters through our timely use of resources, talents and time. We provide many different types of relief, including food, water, child care, laundry, repairs, rebuilding and more. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief has gained national and international recognition for our work in crisis situations across the country. State convention leaders invest significant resources to provide proper training for our volunteers. They stand ready at a moment's notice to help the hurting and bring hope during a catastrophe."

Your church can get involved in Disaster Relief. Go to www.namb.net/disaster-relief for more information. As volunteers respond to disasters, your faith and commitment is used by the Holy Spirit to draw others to Him. When we care for others we become not just people who talk of missions, but people who put our words into action.

You may get more information at our web site: www.hpbaptist.net/dr or you may go to:

http://www.scd.hawaii.gov/prepareinfo.htm http://www.honolulu.gov/getreadyhawaii.html



In 2014, Hurricane Iselle heavily damaged the Puna district on the Big Island of Hawaii. Hawaii Pacific Disaster Relief teams helped in recovery efforts and through the lava flow that threatened the surrounding towns.



The Gathering | Citywide Church

The Gathering in Mililani is starting a Honolulu campus, known as Citywide Church.

by James Shiroma, staff writer

itywide Church began meeting monthly for prayer this past January. From April through June, Citywide held monthly worship services and will begin weekly worship in July. Worship times are 5:30 p.m. on Sunday nights. Citywide's official start date is September 18, 2016. Citywide meets at OlaNui's facilities (760 Halekauwila St).

James Shiroma, pastor of The Gathering, will oversee both the Mililani and Citywide campuses.

"I know this sounds cliche but we are here out of a strong sense of calling from God," Shiroma said. "We believe God is calling us to impact the city of Honolulu with the Gospel."

Shiroma said that Citywide is called to be

CALLED TO BE A MULTI-GENERATIONAL. MULTI-CULTURAL CHURCH

a multi-generational, multicultural church that focuses on reaching and raising up the next generations.

"We will share with the city that Jesus is the world's only hope," Shiroma said. "My heart grieves over the lost condition of Hawaii. If we can reach Honolulu, we have a great chance of reaching Hawaii."

Citywide plans to build on strong Bible teaching, lifechanging worship, community building small groups, and ministries that allow Citywide to be the hands and feet of Jesus in Honolulu.

left: Anthony Hatchell shares his testimony middle: Andrew Shra leads worship right: James Shiroma sharing a message









By All Means Sue Nishikawa





LIKE SUE NISHIKAWA: LET'S PRAY, GIVE, AND DO MISSIONS RIGHT WHERE WE ARE!

BY ALL MEANS...

Sue Nishikawa helped her family. She started working at age 13 or 14 to help support her family of nine. Her parents were Japanese immigrants and Itsuko "Sue" Saito was the second oldest child of seven.

BY ALL MEANS...

Sue believed in getting an education. After graduation from high school, she attended Baylor University where she acquired the nickname "Sue" because Itsuko was too hard to pronounce. After graduation from Baylor, she became the first woman from a Hawaii church to graduate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Master's in Religious Education..

BY ALL MEANS...

Sue spread the word about mission work in Hawaii her whole life. While she was still in Texas for

college, she wore her kimono and spoke to many churches about the mission work in Hawaii. Sue spoke to many churches locally about missions education and ministry. But Sue didn't just talk, she did! She initiated opportunities to bring children to church and to teach them about missions

BY ALL MEANS...

Sue served in our local churches, first at Olivet Baptist Church as missions education director and then at the newly formed Hawaii Baptist Convention as secretary. From there, she became the first woman elected to serve as the executive secretary of the Hawaii Baptist Convention's Woman's Missionary Union in 1954. And after she married Nobuo Nishikawa when she was 50, she began serving alongside him at Waikiki Baptist Church until his death in 1991.

BY ALL MEANS...

Sue never tired of pointing out the importance of missions education at the local church as she served and spoke to many churches and WMU groups. Her passion was seeing young children involved and serving in missions education.

BY ALL MEANS...

Sue didn't let a stroke in 1980 slow her down. While she did end her 26 year service of State Convention work, she began her work as the volunteer editor of the State Baptist paper. She also continued her work on the State WMU Council and the Aloha Council at Hawaii Baptist Academy. Even though Sue passed away in 2004, her life is still a legacy of missions and ministry.

BY ALL MEANS...

We can continue Sue's legacy through the Sue Nishikawa Offering for Hawaii Pacific Missions. Every dollar given to this offering goes to help Hawaii Pacific Baptist ministries. Every church that gives to this offering is eligible to receive funds for evangelistic outreaches in their communities. So By All Means ... let's be like Sue Nishikawa: let's pray, give, and do missions right where we are!





If you have news you would like to share, you may like us and post it at: facebook.com/hawaiibaptist or email us at info@hpbaptist.net

CORNERSTONE KOREAN **BAPTIST CHURCH**

has moved to a new location in Honolulu. THE OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH has opened up the 3rd floor of its education building for the Korean church. Located at 1775 S. Beretania Street, the church started meeting at its new location in June with services at 7 am and 12:30 pm. According to pastor Jae Young Koo, the church members plan to hold regular prayer and Bible study sessions at the new facility. They also will have the children's camp in July and August. The church celebrated its 14th anniversary and official move-in service on June 19



SYMPATHY TO

The Aoki family on the passing of their mother, Gladys Aoki. A memorial service was held in May at Pali View Baptist Church. Mrs. Aoki was the mother of Dr. John Aoki and motherin-law of Deanna Aoki, retired HPBC WMU director. Mrs. Aoki was a charter member of FBC Wahiawa and the last surviving charter member of Pali View Baptist Church. She was active at her church playing the piano and organ even after losing her hearing. She was also active in WMU ministries.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

HAWAII CHRISTIAN BAPTIST CHURCH as it celebrated its 9th Anniversary and ordained three deacons.







CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

held a tea for the women of the church and guests. Guest speaker was Dr. Ruby Ovitt, retired principal of the Hawaii Baptist Academy's elementary campus. She gave her testimony about her battle with ovarian cancer and the healing methods she has used to overcome her battle. The tea was hosted by Jeanine Sowers at their home near the church. Melanie Hom spoke about the WMU World Craft ministry.



BRYAN WITTEKIND

Aloha to Pastor Bryan and Kim Wittekind who were honored during their last Sunday on May 22, 2016 after 13 years of ministry at Waianae Baptist Church. They have begun a new ministry at Springfield Baptist Church in Springfield, KY.



MAJOR KITAGAWA

Ray Kitagawa, a chaplain with the Hawaii Army National Guard was promoted to the rank of Major in May. Maj. Kitagawa serves as an SBC endorsed chaplain with the 487th Unit on Oahu. On the left is his wife, Caroline. Maj. Kitagawa also accepted the position of chaplain at the Ilikai/Dounbletree Ministry of Olivet Baptist Church beginning in August.



JAMES KEANU-REICHEL

On June 5, 2016, James Keanu-Reichel was commissioned at Wai'alae Baptist Church to serve as an Army Chaplain (2nd Lt). As a chaplain candidate, he has also been endorsed by the North American Mission Board, SBC. After completing his studies at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in California James will return home and serve with a unit on O'ahu. James has been an active member of Wai'alae Baptist Church since 1996 and has served as a semester missionary with our Baptist Collegiate Ministries (2008-2009). He is a graduate of UH Manoa and Kaiser High School.



DAVID & ANNETTE HOCKNEY

West Oahu Community Church gathered in fellowship for their last Sunday of worship on June 19. Please be in prayer for David Hockney and Annette in this time of transition and as they get ready to move to Virginia. You may send your encouragements to David at dhockney@hawaiiantel.net

Johnny Griffith Jr, church planter for Pillar Church of Kaneohe, asks for prayers as they reach people in and around the military community, and that God would meet their needs. For a list of their needs, go to registry.com and look for Pillar Church under nonprofit, or contact Johnny at jgriffith@pillarchurchsbc.com

Kaunakakai needs a computer. You may contact Jennifer Hawkins at kbcjen@gmail.com.

Coming to Hawaii!





with Acteens from Mississippi and California who are On Mission

who are On Mission here in the Islands

> SATURDAY JULY 16 6 PM-9 PM

HPBC Chapel 2042 Vancouver Dr.

- Coffee House
- Open Mic
- Painting
- Shave Ice
- Pupus

RSVP to teresa@hpbaptist.net or Lisa at 356-8325 Two Acteens groups are set to arrive in Hawaii on Saturday, July 9th to begin a week-long mission of service here on Oahu. Thirteen high school girls and their leaders from Mississippi will be joining Fellowship Baptist Church, pastored by Harlan Nakasone, to conduct VBS during the week in Waipahu. A group of 11 Acteens and sponsors from California will be working with Hamama Community Church in Kahulu'u, also conducting VBS and working in the community with church planters Ikaika and Stacey Higa. One of the Acteens sponsors wrote, "We are all very excited. I truly see God's hands in this Mission Trip."

In addition to their VBS work, the Acteens will join the youth at the Oahu Baptist Network Summer Youth Camp during their Thursday afternoon community outreach to the homeless encampment at the Waianae Boat Harbor. Following the outreach, they will join the youth camp for the rest of their evening activities.

On Saturday, July 16th, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, the Acteens will host a free Coffee House party, called "Bloom," for all local girls, grades 7-12, at the HPBC Chapel. There will be music, open mic, painting fun, plenty of coffee, sodas and tea, and food for everyone! All Oahu churches are invited to bring their youth girls and friends to this event. In order to have enough food and coffee, please RSVP to Lisa in the HPBC Office at 356-8325 or Teresa McCain at teresa@ hpbaptist.net no later than noon on Wednesday, July 13th. A good turnout of local girls will help show them the Aloha spirit of our islands.

On the two Sundays while the Acteens are here, they plan to worship with some of our local churches. The groups are excited about getting to know more about ministry here in our islands.

Acteens enjoy opportunities to worship, Bible study, serve in the community, and learn about the Hawaii culture—including how to make Hawaii leis.

Photo courtesy of Baptist Press.





Jessica's Stor

by Kurt Simon, pastor of Voyage Church, Big Island

Roll back the months to August of 2015. Abby begins to work at Hawaii Preparatory Academy as a part time coach for the cheerleaders. Abby's role at Voyage is simply to learn how to start small groups and start them. This process begins by finding your "third space", showing up there and developing relationships, hoping to turn those relationship groups into small groups where disciples are made.

The young cheerleaders at HPA gravitated towards her. One young lady in particular, Jessica, developed a great friendship with Abby. Abby began the process of investing in her as a friend, finding out her spiritual story and seeing how God is working in her life.

Jessica comes from a Korean background and grew up as a Buddhist. Her parents sent her to HPA for her high school education. Living in Hawaii, she also began to embrace the beliefs of the Hawaiian culture. Jessica also began to

develop a belief in Tarot and the mysticism that surrounds those cultic practices. Many belief systems converging into syncretism and universalism leaving a difficult path for disciple-making.

Abby continued to have conversations with Jessica as she unearthed what she truly believed about God, life and how things work in the world. Jessica even began coming to a Bible study that Abby had started.

Through 9 months of prayer and friendship, Jessica finally opened up. It started with Abby noticing bruises and scratches on Jessica's legs.

Jessica recalled that it was from a night when she and her friends rented a hotel room while attending a concert. It was a strange night to say the least. They began to have an ominous feeling pass over them that terrified them. The room grew cold and increased their fear. They went to turn on the lights and viewed for a moment a dark shadow in the corner of the room that frightened them even more.

Abby shared with her the power of Jesus and his authority over demons and the spiritual world.

> After a while they managed to fall asleep. Jessica woke up with the bruises and scratches after an uneasy sleep. She said to Abby. "They did this to me I know."

Abby questioned her about who, "Your friends?" "NO," she said, "the demons in the room." Jessica then said "I don't want them to take me, what can I do?"

Abby then shared with her the power of Jesus and his authority over the demons and the spiritual world. She shared how believers in Christ have His protective covering against such things. How Christ, with Him as Lord of our lives, can rely on Him to guide and protect in all circumstances.

Jessica knew that this was exactly what she needed. She needed Jesus as Lord of her life. She prayed and received Christ and she knew that being baptized should be done urgently before she moves on to college at Syracuse.

I don't know where this story hits you: the reality of spiritual strongholds here on the islands, God's timing, spiritual warfare, the act of building friendships that lead to spiritual conversations. All true and valid. But maybe we just need to say God is working and moving and wants everyone to come to know him. As always, our story is your story. Jessica's story in now part of your story as well.

Ke Akua pū me 'oukou

Oahu Bible Institue Begins Classes

SHAPING LEADERS INTO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST

by David McQuitty, OBI Teaching Professor

Honolulu, HI -- The Oahu Bible Institute officially launched this past April with biblically based classes in "Faith and Family Issues" taught by Dr. Marcia McQuitty at Nuuanu Baptist Church and training in "Missions, Evangelism and Church Planting" taught by Dr. Sungho "Steven" Kang and from the Hawaii Pacific Baptist staff and other guest speakers.

The Oahu Bible Institute (OBI) is an education ministry of The Oahu Baptist Network in partnership with Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary's (GGBTS)Contextualized Leadership Development (CLD) training courses. Through the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, classes will be available to provide Biblically based, culturally relevant, and evangelistically missional training to develop effective leadership for church and ministry.

Dr. Jeff lorg, president of GGBTS, says, "Developing leadership within our local churches has been the issue and shaping leaders has been the priority at Golden Gate. We will strive to join God in the process of shaping leaders into the image of Christ and increasing their effectiveness at accelerating the fulfillment of the Great Commission."

The OBI will provide Certificate Courses in Bible teaching, missions, pastoral ministry and education leadership for ministry and church leaders. Classes will be taught by seminary trained instructors and ministry specialists.

Designed to fit the needs of the churches, the OBI has begun to provide leadership development especially for lay leaders. Harlan Nakasone, pastor Fellowship Baptist Church, made a request to have a New Testament Class focusing on The Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) with the purpose of sharing the life and work of Jesus Christ. Pastor

Harlan also asked for the classes to be taught in Chuukese and English. He wanted the Chuukese leaders who he has been mentoring to be trained theologically and empowering them spiritually for a worldwide ministry of outreach.

The bilingual class met in April and May once a week at Kalihi Baptist Church in Honolulu. Seven students came to the first session but the class doubled in enrollment. The instructor, Dr. David McQuitty, praises God for the zeal of the students to know the Biblical truths about Jesus, to live more Christ-like and to be a daily witnesses of the Good News of Jesus. Pastor Nakasone said, "God is working! He answers our prayers. I have been praying for two years to start a seminary training school. God has answered with Oahu Bible Institute. God is allowing us to train leaders to effectively teach and preach the Word." Gary Enlet, one of the students who took part in the training, noted, "I am very grateful for this wonderful opportunity that the Lord has blessed us with through OBI to learn and study His Word and serve Him better as servants of His Holy Word."

If you and your church leaders want to learn God's Word to teach and reach others and be equipped for every good work, please take advantage of this opportunity. Second Timothy 2:2 says, "And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (HCSB)

You can contact the OBI by email, obi.obn@gmail.com. The Fall Semester schedule will also be posted on the OBN website at www.oahubaptist.net.

photo courtesy of Clyde Kakiuchi

DESIGNED TO FIT THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCHES



Pau Hana 'Ohana

by Clyde Kakiuchi, staff writer

hat's a Pau Hana 'Ohana? For those who are not familiar with the Hawaiian Language, it loosely means a family who has completed the work. Pau means "finish, done or completed." Hana means "work." 'Ohana means "family." It fits this group of retired pastors and leaders along with their spouses, widows, widowers and retired missionaries. Although they have retired from an occupation, their work for God continues. As this group reminds us, "There is no retirement in God's kingdom work."

The Pau Hana 'Ohana group started on December 6, 2003 in the home of Ken and Alice Newman. The group of 18 discussed what they wanted to do, how often to meet and a name for the group. Kats and Helen Taura along with Laura Itokazu were tasked with the name of the group. After consensus from the group, the official name is "Pau Hana 'Ohana."



Since 2003 the group has grown to 50 with 20-35 who attend on a regular basis. This lively group meets about 4 times a year including special occasions like Valentines and Christmas. Some of their outings are planned to accommodate neighbor island ministers and spouses and those who live far away. Past ministries included cleaning, volunteer work, Food bank, and assisting the Seafarers Ministries with people and basic necessities. They love to serve and make their lives useful. There is great joy in being together but there is also great

sadness when someone moves or goes to be with the Lord.

Recently, the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention staff was treated to a special luncheon where the Pau Hana 'Ohana group shared what ministry was like during their time, the joys, struggles, cooperation and advice they had to young and

new pastors. The sharing time was videotaped by Jerry Saludez and will serve as a training resource and historical reminders. Special thanks to Alice Newman for ordering the lunch and coordinating our rich time together.

If you want to be a part of this active group, you can contact Alice Newman at TutuAlice1934@gmail.com or call 808-395-3487 or 808-358-4200 (cell). Thank you Pau Hana 'Ohana for your years of faithful service and shaping ministry within the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention. You are a living witness!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER Appreciation

by Diana Davis, pastor's wife, author, and speaker

hey're on the front line of ministry in your church. They dedicate many hours every week to Bible lesson preparation, outreach contacts, and ministering to class members. From preschool to senior adults, lives are impacted by your church's Sunday School leaders. How can your church demonstration sincere appreciation for their ministry?

First of all, ascertain that each Sunday School teacher is assigned to an adult class for encouragement and support. Usually, this would be the Bible class they would attend if they didn't teach in Sunday School. Challenge that class to honor their members-in-service regularly, using some of these ideas:

WALL OF HONOR. Create an attractive "wall of honor" display in your classroom, featuring their photos and class names. Leave room for additional teachers God may call out.

PRAY. Faithfully pray for them weekly.

ENCOURAGE. Send encouragement notes, signed by members of the class.

SUBSTITUTE. Help provide a substitute teacher when they go on vacation.

GOD REPORTS. Invite them to report annually to their home class about how God is working. The testimony could be given with a short video, or during a class fellowship.

GIFT. Give an appropriate gift, such as a Bible commentary. All class members sign inside the cover.

INVITE. Be intentional about inviting the member-in-service to your class fellowship events, and welcome them warmly.

PROVIDE. Help with a specific need, i.e. equipment, transportation, snacks for a fellowship, Bibles for newcomers to their class

FIELD TRIPS. Take a brief class "field trip" one Sunday morning, strolling past the classrooms of those class members who serve in Sunday School.

EMBRACE. Keep their names on class phone lists, newsletters and email lists. Put a star by their name to remind members to pray for them.

Here's an idea to express appreciation for all the Sunday School teachers during worship one Sunday. Research the past year's statistics to determine the class or department who had the most firsttime guests, most new Christians, most new Sunday School workers deployed, and most new classes birthed. Prepare a briefvideo clipof thirty-second testimonies by those leaders. As eachshares a sentence about serving in Sunday School, display a subheading, such as "Bill Beaird, 5th grade boys Bible teacher, class with most firsttime guests." Play the video during worship, then ask all Sunday School teachers and directors in your church to stand. Lead a prayer of thanksgiving to God for their ministry.

No, those leaders in Sunday School don't expect your words of appreciation, but, believe me, a simple "thank you" can be a great encouragement. Will you show God's love to one of His servants today?

Diana Davis, dianadavis.org, author of Deacon Wives, and wife of North American Mission Board Vice President/Midwest.

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AROUND the SBC



SEND — Trustees of the North American Mission Board (NAMB) met June 13. NAMB is prepared to provide Send Relief trailers to partners who are actively engaged in compassion ministry in their communities. "We want people to have a vested interest. If they are going to commit to Send Relief and actually use it, then we would like to partner and provide that equipment."

Read More: https://www.namb.net/news/namb-trustees-approve-budget-celebrate-send-relief-launch





STANDING STRONG — For more than 170 years, God has blessed the IMB for the spread of the gospel among the nations—and by God's grace, 170 years later, the IMB is "standing strong," IMB President David Platt reported to SBC messengers at the 2016 Southern Baptist Convention, June 15.

Read More: http://www.imb.org/updates/storyview-4526.aspx#.V22XB1dUNVo

CROSSOVER — Hundreds come to faith through St. Louis Crossover events. More than 4,000 volunteers from scores of churches across the U.S. and Canada participated in Crossover events throughout metro St. Louis on Saturday, June 11. At least 85 host churches and event sites were included and saw volunteers share the gospel more than 8,000 times

Read More: https://www.namb.net/news/hundreds-come-to-faiththrough-st-louis-crossover-events









view the online calendar at hpbaptist.net/calendar

JULY

- 3 Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sunday
- 4 Independence Day
- 17 Serving Your Community Sunday

AUGUST

- 7 Social Issues Sunday
- 7 Student Evangelism Day
- 19 Statehood Day
- 24-27 Worship Music Week

SEPTEMBER

- 4 Single Adult Sunday
- 4-10 Week of Prayer Hawaii Pacific Missions Sue Nishikawa Offering
 - 5 Labor Day
 - 18 Anti-Gambling Sunday
 - 19 Discipleship Rally
 - 24 HPBC Executive Board
- 30-10/1 Missions in the Hawaii Pacific

OCTOBER

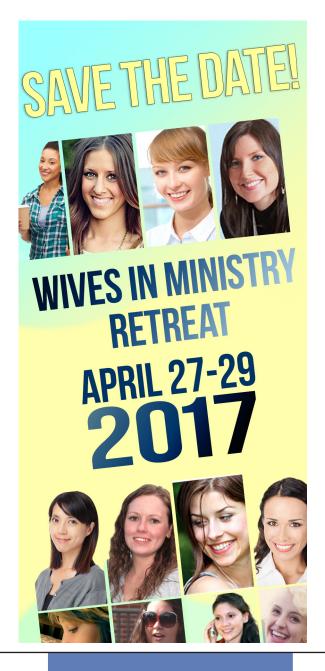
9-30—10-1 Missions in the Hawaii Pacific

- 1-31 Cooperative Program Emphasis
 - 2 Soul Winning Commitment Day
 - 9 World Hunger Sunday
- 21-22 HBEEA Conference

NOVEMBER

- 4-11 Disaster Relief Appreciation Day
 - 9 General Election Day
 - 11 Veterans Day
- 16-17 New Workers Orientation
- 17-18 HPBC Annual Meeting, Courtland King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel
 - 24 Thanksgiving Day





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