# Pacific CONVECTOR

## LET THEM GIVE GLORY

TO THE LORD AND PROCLAIM HIS PRAISE IN THE ISLANDS.

ISAIAH 42:12

Waimea Canyon, Kauai

2016 | VOLUME 46, ISSUE 5 | NOV DEC

### from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Aloha Kākou,

As I have travelled across our convention of churches, connecting with you in ministry, missions, celebrations and more, I have become convinced that God is preparing us for a greater work than we have ever seen in our days. The work in the days ahead of us are going to be filled with surprises and challenges, but are promised to be guided by God's hand in all areas. This work will come at a high cost – it will take our complete dedication to the truth of the Bible, our complete submission to the Holy Spirit and our complete commitment to the Church.

In noting a complete dedication to the truth in the Bible, we must constantly apply the teachings of the bible in every instance. Many believers today have a great knowledge of Scripture, but lack the dedication to Scripture that motivates us to see the teachings fulfilled in our lives. With the falling of personal evangelism in our lives, disciple-making on a daily basis and living through the love of Christ to those we encounter in our day, our dedication has been shown to be lacking.

Regarding our complete submission to the Holy Spirit, we must constantly strive to trust and obey His leading through every moment. This radical lifestyle is absolutely contrary to the world's lifestyle in which we are immersed. The comforts of following the world can draw us into a numbing complacency that shields us from the power of the Holy Spirit in us. Time begins to move us down that desolate path quickly and easily, slowly leading us away from Him.

The complete commitment to the Church, the Bride of Christ, requires that we must constantly look to meet the needs and concerns of each other, that we may see the Church strengthened and encouraged to pursue Christ fully. The selfishness of the world has brought its damaging effects into every area of the body of Christ, restricting and suffocating our love for each other. As the desperate world looks for true love and acceptance, the Church should be a shining example.

Although the coming work of God will be costly for those of us who have allowed ourselves to be comfortable in the world, we realize that this price is not too high. The incredible life in Christ Is incomparable with anything that this world could offer. No one could find greater meaning and purpose except in Christ. But, upon this realization, how do we begin the road back to the power and contentment found in Christ?

Scripture teaches us that repentance of our sin, reengaging the knowledge of a life in God's will and an active pursuit of that will is readily available to us. As our eyes are opened to our plight, we admit our disobedience to Christ



**Chris Martin** *Executive Director*& *Editor* 

and resist any desire of returning to the world. As one body, in our obedience and submission to Him, we will find ourselves fulfilling the work ahead.

My dear friends, let us lay down everything that is holding us back and run this race ahead of us with endurance, looking to Christ in our every step, knowing that He has joyfully given His all for us to be empowered and triumphant in this life. And then, get ready—the greater work that God is calling us to is at our door!

Remember, 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. We want to share with you in God's great plans for the churches of the HPBC. Please contact me or any member of our team when you have a need or request. We are here for you.

We are always better together! We are the HPBC!

Aloha in Christ, Chris

## Hawaii PACIFIC hpbaptist.net

The *Pacific Connector* magazine highlights people and churches working to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by reaching the Pacific region.

This publication is provided online, free of charge and is available at: hpbaptist.net/pacificconnector

#### Executive Director Editor

Chris Martin chris@hpbaptist.net 808-356-8329

#### **Associate Editor**

Faith McFatridge faith@hpbaptist.net 808-356-8326

#### Questions and Feedback:

Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention 2042 Vancouver Drive Honolulu HI, 96822 Phone: 808-946-9581 Fax: 808-941-2309

#### **Contributing Editor**

Brandon Pickett

#### **Design** Patti Spencer

#### **Contributors** Bong Abagon

Clyde Kakiuchi Chris Martin Teresa McCain

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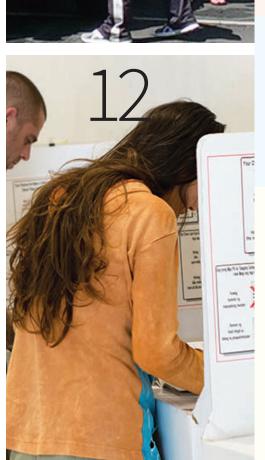
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## An Impossible Request

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WAHIAWA

by Bong Abagon, staff writer

Steve Gray, Pastor of First Baptist Church (FBC) of Wahiawa got a call from one of his church attenders with an impossible request. "They're going to close the hospital and we have to do something to help!" said the anxious voice on the other line. "Herman," Pastor Steve replied, "they need 6 million dollars. You can't raise that kind of money!"

Herman Kiili, 35, has been coming to FBC of Wahiawa and is dearly loved by the community. He makes friends easily with his unguarded smile. He recently competed and won a gold medal in the Hawaii Special Olympics. But what happened next, proved that his faith was far greater compared to his developmentally disabled body.

It was in a public meeting where Herman learned about the struggles of Wahiawa General Hospital. It was also in this meeting that he asked Marcus Oshiro from the Hawaii House of Representatives and Don Olden, CEO of Wahiawa General Hospital to consider doing a car wash. "You could have heard a pin drop in the room," Oshiro said.

Pastor Steve could have easily written off the request as soon as the call came. However, he felt ashamed and asked himself the question, "Who am I to question such faith?"

FBC of Wahiawa helped print flyers and presale tickets. They were also joined by Leilehua High School students, hospital nurses, and others who helped to wash cars. A local senior citizens group passed out refreshments to the volunteers.

"Our prayer was that God would open doors for the gospel through Herman and through this car wash" said Pastor Steve, who is now in his 5<sup>th</sup> year as a pastor of the church. When the event was over, Herman's Car Wash raised \$12,000.00.

With the faith of one, \$12,000 was raised! What more could be done with the faith of many?

HERMAN KIILI LAUGHS
WITH PASTOR STEVE GRAY
OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,
WAHIAWA. THANKS TO FIRST
BAPTIST, HERMAN'S DREAM OF
RAISING SUPPORT FOR WAHIAWA
GENERAL HOSPITAL BECAME A
REALITY. HERMAN'S CAR WASH
RAISED \$12,000.

Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention

Missions Celebration
and WMU Annual Meeting
FEB 4, 2017
8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Hale Koa Hotel

Special breakout sessions in Korean
Led by Esther Shin,
Multicultural Consultant
WMU of Virginia

Plated lunch will be served

Come hear Laurita
Miller as:



## **Cutting** Edge

MAUI OFFERS: ISLAND BIBLE INSTITUTE

by Clyde Kakiuchi, HPBC staff writer

you have attended a Bible College or seminary, how excited were you? Carlos and Bonnie Aleman exclaimed, "We enjoy our classes at the Island Bible Institute (IBI) so much that we come 30 minutes early and so do most of the other students. The information we receive is cutting edge. We love the open discussion format of our classes." Whether young or old, you can still learn if you have the desire and commitment. Patricia Moore states, "I've been blessed to attend the Island Bible Institute for the past two semesters. I'm a senior citizen, and never thought I'd be able to return back to school. The Bible has come alive and my walk with the Lord has grown stronger as a result of taking classes through the Island Bible Institute."

The Island Bible Institute began in 2015 under the leadership of Jay Armstrong and David Courson, pastors at the Kihei Baptist Chapel. Students can enroll and earn degrees from either the Eternity Bible College or Gateway Seminary. All classes are held at the Kihei Baptist Chapel in Kihei, Maui.

In addition to the natural beauty of Maui, there is another gem. Jay Armstrong, Lead Teaching Pastor of Kihei Baptist Chapel and IBI Instructor asserts, "The Island Bible Institute is a real gift to the churches on Maui. Having a place where men and women of all ages can learn, grow and develop their gifts for service to God's kingdom has been an incredible blessing to our church family." David Courson, IBI Director and Instructor declares, "We affirm the Bible provides a mandate, the message and the model for training leaders who reverberate with the call to ministry. Our vision is to become a globally influential institute that dynamically shapes Christian students into ambassadors of Jesus Christ, saturated in Scripture and prepared to plant and lead culturally-engaging mission-driven churches in Hawaii, the Pacific Rim and throughout the world. An IBI education is an incredible value. I encourage you to apply for the upcoming semester. You'll be glad you did." Pastor Jay Wright of the Lahaina Baptist Church adds, "The Island Bible Institute is a much-needed compliment to the work of the local church. Each student is encouraged, empowered and equipped to respond to a crisis of truth within our culture."

Applications for the 2017 Spring Semester are now being accepted. The Spring Semester begins on Monday, January 23 and concludes on Friday, May 12. For more information on enrolment, schedule or scholarship please visit IslandBibleInstitute.com

"And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust them to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." (2 Timothy 2:2).



CALL US: +1.8088752112 EXT. 211

#### **OUR AFFILIATIONS ...**

Island Bible Institute is established through a cooperative agreement between Gateway Seminary, Eternity Bible College and Kihei Baptist Chapel.



#### Biblically Balanced ...

We affirm that the Bible provides the mandate, the message and the model for training leaders who reverberate with the call to ministry.

#### Culturally Relevant ...

We prepare our students to minister effectively within other cultures through "real-world" cross-cultural ministry opportunities.

#### Mission Intensive

We serve the church by providing opportunities for students to be directly involved in making disciples of Jesus Christ at home and around the world.

For more information or to register for classes, visit:

## Basics of Bud

This article was taken from LeaderLife magazine, 2005; LifeWay Church Resources; used by permission.

he financial report was the same every month—four pages, each with eight columns, listing debits and credits. Formatted with accounting software, it provided good information. The problem was that no one except the treasurer understood it. Each business meeting was taken up with questions. Finally, a few frustrated church members circulated a petition requesting a simpler report showing the financial condition of the church.

Another church struggles over finances for a very different reason. Every year when the annual budgeting process begins, people passionately argue over how much the church should allocate to particular areas of ministry. Choir members want to see more dollars for the music ministry. Youth workers press for more money for fellowships and trips. They also see the need for a bus and frequently remind the finance committee of this. The Sunday School director insists on more money for training. And a small but vocal group of older members expresses concern that too much of the budget goes to personnel expenses. This conflict occurs every year and leaves many members with hurt feelings.

Certainly it doesn't have to be this way. Whatever size church, you can handle the finances without hampering its fellowship or impeding its ministry. People generally want to know seven things about he church's finances. Every annual budget and financial report should be prepared, processed, and presented with five goals in mind.

#### MAKE IT CLEAR

Budgets shape financial reports and both should be clear enough that any church member can understand them. Leaders need to know what the budget provides for and how it's arranged.

Budges and financial reports don't have to include specialized terminology to convey this information. There may be a lot of detail under each heading, but simply using words such as *income*, *expenses*, *under-* or *over-budget* and *balance* will communicate what you need to share. Those who prepare a budget benefit form clarity as much as those who are in the pews.

#### MAKE IT CORRECT

Mistakes create a sense of uncertainty and uneasiness on the part of church members. People get the impression that other financial data being presented has been prepared without care or without verification. In addition to thorough proofreading every month, the budget should be audited annually. Audits identify deficiencies and help prevent mishandling of funds.

#### MAKE IT COMPLETE

A good budget covers every facet of the church's stewardship, from personnel to properties, missions to music, and education to evangelism. It includes designated and undesignated receipts

1. What we **started with,** 2. What we **received,** 3. What it is **intended** for *(designated or undesignated),* 4. What we **spent,** 

5. Where it went, 6. What we have left, 7. How we are doing

and expenditures. It shows savings and checking accounts, certificates of deposit and loan balances. Nothing should be omitted or there will be an incomplete picture of the church's financial position and needs.

#### MAKE IT CONCISE

Avoid clutter. Organize the budget logically, making it easy to work with and to present through reports. Though complete, it should not overwhelm or focus on minutia. Make sure to answer the essential questions without creating unnecessary distractions.

#### MAKE IT COMPELLING

Budget discussions lose focus without compelling reasons for spending, saving, or receiving. Focus on what the church intends to do. Use a ministry-based budget. Don't simply add a percentage or reduce last year's budget. Let your plans drive your budget.

Talk about ministry, not money. Money is a tool to accomplish what God has called you to do. Budget for the fulfillment of God's vision for your church. Include minstries that support that vision. When a ministry is no longer viable, use the money elsewhere.

Develop an annotated budget explaining what each ministry will accomplish.

Monthly reports have the same categories

as the annual budget, but also include columns to show actual income, expenses and variances from budget amounts. You'll find that handling financial data this way is time and effort well spent.



## Heavenly Results Are In

our sweet new babies. One hundred and sixtyfive new believers in Christ. Thirty-one baptisms.
One hundred and eighteen lives rededicated to
Jesus. These are just a few of the many answers
for why we give to the Sue Nishikawa Offering for
Hawaii Pacific Missions. And those statistics are from just
four of the many ministries who received funding from this
offering. Through your generous gifts to the Sue Nishikawa
Offering last year, many ministries were able to reach out
into our communities and make a difference for Christ.

This isn't just any other offering. One hundred percent of the offering stays here in the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention to do missional work here. Work done by us. And what a return on our investment-an eternal difference for so many!

In the Baptist Collegiate Ministries across our convention last year, 4,324 collegians were impacted by BCM. Twenty-eight new small group Bible studies were started. Fifty-two college students were involved in leadership development. Seven others are preparing for church-related vocations. Three students served on summer and semester missions and 34 more served on short-term missions. And out of that ministry, thirteen made decisions for Christ!

What a transformation is taking place at the docks of Honolulu Harbor! In the past year and a half since the At the Crossroads Seafarer's Ministry began, drastic changes have taken place on the piers. Where there was once drinking and fighting, there are now Bible studies, baptisms, and the Lord's Supper. Lives have changed! One hundred and nine seafarers have prayed to receive Christ. Seventeen of those have been baptized right on the docks! Rededications have taken place in one hundred and eleven lives. Five of the seafarers have been trained and commissioned as Christian Spiritual leaders on their boats.

In Lihue, a five-week VBS was held this summer at Lihue Baptist Church. Using funds to purchase supplies and needed items, they were able to reach 142 children. Thirtynine made decisions for Christ and fourteen have been baptized.

Also on Kauai, the CARE Crisis Pregnancy Center used the funds received from the Sue Nishikawa offering to support their ministry to women with unplanned pregnancies and led four women to Christ and four women chose life rather than abortion for their babies. Also funded by this offering, abstinence education was offered to 460 students this year.

After only a glimpse at just four of the many outreaches supported by this offering, 165 new believers in Christ and four new babies is an excellent return for our gifts. If your church would like to request funds for an evangelistic outreach, the application form is on the HPBC website under the Ministries tab, click on Mission Offerings and then Sue Nishikawa Offering. The application and information is located at the bottom of the page. Mahalo for giving to the Sue Nishikawa Offering for Hawaii Pacific Missions and let's be challenged as HPBC churches to find ways to use those funds to reach our communities for Christ!





## TATH ANNUAL MEETING NOV 178 18

Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel 75-5660 Palani Rd, Kailua-Kona, HI

> This year's annual meeting will be held on the Big Island in anticipation of the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in 2017 which will be held on Oahu.

#### THURSDAY EVENING

#### **November 17**

Celebrating the Past Year Presiding: **Vice-President Robert Uyeda** 

5:00 p.m. Registration6:00 p.m. Program Begins8:25 p.m. BenedictionFellowship and Refreshments

#### **FRIDAY MORNING**

#### November 18

Taking Care of Present Business Presiding: **President John Endriss** 

7:30 a.m. Registration & Refreshments

8:30 a.m. Program Begins 10:00 a.m. Refreshment Break 10:30 a.m. Program Resumes

11:55 a.m. Benediction

12:00 p.m. Cooperative Program Lunch w/Executive Committee for Pastors & Pastors' Wives

2:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Discussion on East Asia Mission Opportunities

3:00 p.m. HPBC Executive Board Orientation

& Organization

#### FRIDAY EVENING

#### **November 18**

Looking at a Vision for the Future
Presiding: **2nd Vice President Wes Higuchi** 

5:00 p.m. Registration & Refreshments

6:00 p.m. Program Begins 7:40 p.m. Benediction Fellowship and Refreshments



#### **EAST ASIA 1 DAY CONFERENCE**

Wednesday ● November 16 9 a.m. — 4 p.m.



#### Save the cost of shipping!

For your convenience...Gary Eaton of LifeWay has offered to bring LifeWay products for pick up at the Annual Meeting, for Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention churches registered to attend.

To take advantage of this offer, EMAIL: gary.eaton@lifeway.com (by Nov. 1)

Please include in the email:

- 1. Church name and address
- 2. LifeWay account number
- 3. Purchaser's name
- 4. PO number, if required
- 5. Product name or title
- 6. Product ISBN or product number
- 7. Quantity

#### Ongoing curriculum excluded:

The Gospel Project Explore the Bible Bible S<u>tudy for Life</u>

For more information and to register, go to: hpbaptist.net

#### **RESOLUTIONS TO 74th ANNUAL MEETING**

#### **RESOLUTION 1:**

The messengers and guests of the 74th annual session of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention have enjoyed the hospitality of our gracious host, the Big Island Baptist Association, whereas, we acknowledge and appreciate the many courtesies, services, and accommodations which have made our stay a pleasant one, be it resolved, on this 18th day of November, that the messengers of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention express our profound gratitude to the Big Island Baptist Association, whose efforts contributed to the gracious spirit, evangelistic impact, and overall effectiveness of this annual meeting.

#### **RESOLUTION 2:**

Whereas the continuing ministry of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention is dependent upon volunteer leadership; and whereas the convention officers: President, John Endriss; 1st Vice President, Robert Uyeda, 2nd Vice President, Wes Higuchi, Recording Secretary Hazel Capinpin; have served with dedication and faithfulness for this past year; whereas members of the executive board: Blane DeLoach, Mike Inouye, Annie Lam, Martin Zialcita, Beverly Nagano, Andrew Large have served with dedication and faithfulness and are now completing their elected term of service; whereas members of convention committees: Arrangements: Shirley Matsumura; Credentials: Arjay Gruspe,

Michelle Metcalf; Historical: June Duffer, Nominating: Liana Benn, Shane Sowers, Sterling Lee, have served with dedication and faithfulness, be it resolved, on this 18th day of November, the messengers of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention express appreciation to the men and women who have completed their terms of office as Convention Officers, members of the Executive Board, and members of Convention committees; be it further resolved that we recognize these members for highly effective service in guiding our convention with personal sacrifice of time and energy.

#### **RESOLUTION 3:**

Whereas the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention serve as sources of encouragement to the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention by providing financial assistance and program expertise, and, whereas, the North American Mission Board, the International Mission Board, GuideStone Financial Resources, LifeWay Christian Resources, and the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Board have added information and inspiration for our annual session; be it resolved, on this 18th day of November, the messengers of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention express appreciation to these Southern Baptist Convention leaders and extend to them our warmest "Aloha" and most sincere "Mahalo."

MESSENGERS SHOULD BRING A MESSENGER CARD, signed by the moderator or church clerk, to the Credentials Committee prior to the business sessions. Messenger Cards are available from your church. Each church may have up to 10 voting messengers at the annual meeting, a church may increase thie number of messengers by one for each 100 members or fractional part thereof up to 20.

## HAWAII PACIFIC BAPTIST CONVENTION — MESSENGER CARD One Messenger Per Card (Please Type or Print) Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_\_

Located at \_\_\_\_\_

Our church is allowed \_\_\_\_\_\_ messengers.

The person named below has been elected a messenger to the HAWAII PACIFIC BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Name of Elected Messenger \_\_\_\_\_\_

Title First Last

This appointment is made on the basis of and in agreement with the Convention's constitutional requirement, as follows:

#### I. Procedure

- 1. The messengers shall be elected in the churches on the following basis:
  - a. Ten voting messengers from each church;
  - b. One additional voting messenger for each one hundred members or fractional part thereof beyond the first one hundred members, not to exceed a total of 20.
- 2. The Committee on Credentials and Resolutions will, upon receipt of a messenger card duly signed by a cooperating church, certify messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention.
- 3. Only certified messengers may vote on issues before the Convention.

Date	, 2016. Signed:		
		Moderator or Church Clerk	

Bring This Card — November 17 & 18, 2016



### Reasonable Faith In An Uncertain World

Celebrate and be inspired on how CHURCHES ARE GROWING through **evangelism** 

# ANNUAL VANGELISM

NOV. 17, 11:00 A.M.

Courtyard King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort 75-5660 Palani Rd. Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 Hotel Phone: (808) 329-2911

for more information, visit: hpbaptist.net/EvangelismLuncheon by Bong Abagon, staff writer

#### "We are a sub-culture

today because we fail to prepare to give an answer, to persuade people and use the tremendous wealth and evidence that proves that Christianity is testable and reasonable." This was part of Dr. Craig Hazen's opening, at the Reasonable Faith Conference held in Kaneohe, Oahu and later in Kona, Hawaii. Dr. Craig Hazen is the founder and director of the M.A. Program in Christian Apologetics Director at Biola University.

He also spoke about Islam and encouraged Christians to see the basics of Islam and its startling contrast to Christianity. "It's all based on works" reiterates Dr. Hazen. He cites how the 9/11 terrorists partook of forbidden pleasures hoping to balance it off with their acts of Jihad.

"But we have the answers." Dr. Hazen used the magical slippers of Dorothy of the Wizard of Oz as a picture to emphasize that critics and Islam are within our



reach. "We have them all along, though there is nothing magical to understand them—we need to study them—and offer these truths to others with kindness and gentleness" as Dr. Hazen pointed the audience to 1 Peter 3:15.

With him was Dr. Paul Spears, author and professor at Biola University, and he focused on *Knowing the Truth in a* World Gone Mad and Hope for Christians on the LGBT Issue. He pointed out that truth, belief and justification makes a person think well. Unfortunately, the way decisions are now based is on how the world is changing rather than on what is true or false.

The two professors were joined by local leaders teaching from the 6 different about this event and materials, go to hpbaptist.net/reasonablefaith.





# Online Training LEADERS EQUIPPED

by Bong Abagon, staff writer



When you put 55 adult leaders in an online training session with Lifeway's Adult Ministry Specialist, David Apple, it results in volunteers who are excited about a future beyond measure! Yokohama International Baptist Church (YIBC) hosted the live stream Sunday School Training on September 24<sup>th</sup> with David Apple on the other side of the globe.

"What is our mission?" David Apple questioned while doing the live online training. The answer: "discipleship." While the first part of his session focused on the big picture, Six Strategic Numbers Regarding Making Disciples Through Sunday School, the second part focused on the practical aspects, Ten Tips for Teaching Adults through Sunday School. This trainer of more than 20 years also employed a memory tool for making disciples through Sunday School.

The conference was holistic as it emphasized growing believers and reaching others. Ben Howard, YIBC's

Associate Pastor for
Discipleship and Education
focused on sharing the
Gospel in a cross-cultural
context. Later, the attendees
divided into age related
groups. The adult leaders
spent time with David
Apple, and the children's

leaders spent time with Sonja Lowe, children's director.

The event raised the level of consciousness in the area of leadership. Joanne Hagiwara, teacher for younger children shared her insights. "Every church needs a process of making disciples and I believe that volunteer teachers are an essential part. Without them a church will flounder."

Not all of the 55 attendees are long-time teachers. Atsuko Funo is a teacher for Adults International Bible Study but sees the new challenge with excitement. She will work with 1st and 2nd graders as a translator for Japanese kids. Tamaki Nagasawa, teacher for Seeker/New Believer's Class, represents the sentiment of many, "I'm not qualified nor have skills, but God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called."

David Apple also touched on the importance of preparation. Some may see this to be crucial for those who teach adults or youth, but Joanne Hagiwara sees

it crucial for teaching younger kids too. "I see my time preparation as 30 minutes each day, and believe that most of my teaching comes from the overflow of my study."

Distance was not the only unique character of this event. Time was also a unique factor. Training was held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., yet David Apple was in a Richmond, Virginia where it was 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Many volunteers made this training possible, but one worth mentioning is Dr. Hiro Akashi from YIBC who translated all the worksheets and Powerpoint into Japanese for participants whose heart language is Japanese.

"We have great expectations," comments Terry Lowe, pastor of YIBC, "It is anticipated that this will be an annual event with David Apple perhaps coming in person." The immediate effect of this training is the creation of a New Seeker/New Believer class with three ladies doing the teaching in Japanese to reach Japanese ladies who have been recently coming to YIBC. It will also multiply volunteer numbers as each teacher seeks helpers to fill the roles of *inviter* and hospitality coordinator within the class. Perhaps another exciting result is hearing the men of the church committing to developing more classes for men.

### AROUND the SBC

Baptist Convention



PENSACOLA, FL — Long before most people were aware of Diana Davis' fresh ideas, her daughter, Autumn Wall, witnessed her mom's imagination and creative spark, "She constantly used her creative ideas to help us understand that serving God is an adventure." Together, they co-authored Across the Street and Around the World: Ideas to Spark Missional Focus, a book that offers more than 1,000 missional living ideas.

Read More: http://www.bpnews.net/47773/missions-ideas-flow-from-diana-davis-and-autumn-wall





NASHVILLE, TN — Past elections: dire Christian predictions not new. A common theme through two centuries of presidential elections has been passionate opining. Thomas Kidd, distinguished professor of history at Baylor, told the Baptist Press, "we should remember that no candidate or political party will do the church's work for it, and that the Lord remains sovereign regardless of who wins." Read More: http://bpnews.net/47783/past-elections-dire-christian-predictions-not-new

AUGUSTA, GA — David H. McKinley, pastor-teacher of Warren Baptist Church, discusses three common questions every pastoral leader faces In this blog, he lists some guiding principles he trys to put into practice.

Read More: http://www.sbclife.net/Articles/2016/09/SLA3



### **2016 ELECTION SPECIAL**

TWO VISIONS, TWO AMERICAS: PRAY AND ACT

# Casting a Vote for Religious Freedom:

### **Q&A WITH DAVID JEREMIAH**

Interviewed by Jerry Pierce, Decision Magazine, Managing Editor

This article was taken from Decision magazine, September 2016; ©2016 Billy Graham Evangelistic Association; used by permission, all rights reserved.



**Casting Votes:** Christians must be informed about the issues and must pray for wisdom about which candidates they will vote for.

Q: How would you assess where we are now as a nation spiritually, compared to the state of the culture when you went to seminary in the 1960s?

A: My father was a pastor, and I grew up in a godly home. Even though obviously we've never been a nation that was predominantly lived out in Christian devotion, during my time of growing up, the Christian consensus was very much alive in this country. Even people who did not believe what you believed respected you because you believed it. There was

truth. Now that is all gone. The culture now is more like Europe than like the United States that I grew up in.

Q: How would you counsel voters who believe none of the presidential candidates represent their core beliefs?

A: I would say this: Everybody wants to find someone who represents who they are. Unfortunately, there isn't anybody like that, not in this election, probably not ever again.

We're down to the point where we need to elect somebody whom we're pretty certain

won't be against us, somebody who will allow us to live out our faith. The decision we have before us right now, from my vantage point, is pretty straightforward. The next president will select between two and four [Supreme Court] justices who will reign over the cultural issues of our nation for the next 30 years. One of the most interesting things about the Supreme Court is it is the least democratically selected body of leaders in our nation, and they now wield the most influence. Supreme Court justices have more power than many kings and dictators.

### Q: In your mind, what is at stake with federal court appointments?

A: President Obama has replaced roughly 30 percent of the district and appellate judges on the federal benches, so we're facing a judicial time bomb. In other words, out of that core group of people on the federal bench, with the wrong person making selections, they will choose from liberal appellate and district judges to place in nomination to the Supreme Court, and then it will be over for religious liberty as we have known it.

### **Q:** How should a Christian voter prioritize the issues?

A: One of the most important questions going forward is, will our people be able to live their lives and worship God in freedom, or will the Supreme Court and its decisions continue to squeeze evangelicals, so that we are forced to violate the law or violate our conscience toward God? I think that's the biggest issue—whether we can live and worship the Lord and live according to the dictates of our conscience, or get forced into a corner of political correctness and have to make a decision of whether to go to jail or follow our faith.

Q: Living in California as you do, you've seen firsthand a lot of the social progressivism before the rest of the country has experienced it. What do you foresee for Gospel-minded Christians in the next four to eight years?

A: There's both good and bad. The church has always flourished when it was under pressure. Prosperity has never been good for the church. Adversity has consistently been good for the church. The New Testament was written in a time when Rome was running rampant over Christianity and you knew who the real Christians were. They stood up and were counted. I think one of two things is going to happen: Either we're going to see a revival of some sort, and with that a renewal of the principles upon which this country was built, or we're going to fall into a time of great pressure on Christians.

I think this current election may have a great deal to do with which direction that goes. And I believe that apart from a spiritual renewal, a Great Awakening like the ones we've had in the past—during which we would return to our roots spiritually—what we're going to face is more and more the church under the pressure of the government, more and more being pressured to conduct weddings that we will never conduct, more and more being told to say things that we can't say.

I don't think that means we should be discouraged as believers. The Gospel has never been more necessary than it is now. All of these things that we talk about don't in any way impact the fact that Jesus Christ is still the answer and that salvation is still the main business of the church.

## Q: You mentioned praying for God to move hearts. How should our commitment to prayer and spiritual awakening be balanced with the privileges of citizenship in America?

A: I'm reminded of that old metaphorical statement "praise the Lord and pass the ammunition." We have to do both—pray and act. We have to pray like crazy for God to intervene in this country and break us. Incidentally, I also think if we're going to see a spiritual change in this country, I believe it will happen through our young people.

I was with a bunch of young people yesterday and I was reminding them that all of the Great Awakenings, including the beginning of the modern mission movement, started among young people. One girl said, "I told God the answer is 'yes.' I don't even know what the questions are, but whatever You want me to do, the answer is 'yes.'" So I believe we need to pray with all of our hearts that God will do a work in our churches and especially in our youth. And while we're all doing that, we don't want to sit on our hands and not do the other things that we can do, such as vote, and try to have an informed vote based upon the issues that we know will really matter. So we have to praise the Lord and pass the ammunition.

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#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

David Jeremiah is the pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church near San Diego and the featured preacher on the internationally syndicated Turning Point radio and television broadcast. Decision interviewed him on the importance of the 2016 presidential election and what it could mean for Christians.



## **Martial Arts Ministry**

A VENTURE THAT REVOLUTIONIZED EVANGELISM

by Bong Abagon, staff writer

#### **GOD WILL BLESS**

YOU WITH SOULS
OUT OF YOUR
PERSISTENCE

**IN EVANGELISM** 

comes to mind when you hear the word Karate!!? Two men, Pastor Ed Perez of Tamuning Christian Fellowship and Pastor Ray Bosi of The Living Lighthouse Christian Church in Guam come to my mind. Ed and Ray started a venture that revolutionized their evangelism and created a lot of excitement in church.

It started with Pastor Ray's seminary student in the Philippines many years ago. This student's desire was to reach people using his passion for martial arts. Now, this student is one of the most popular youth evangelists in the Philippines with satellites reaching internationally

under the ministry called Tough Guys International.

In 2015, Ed and Ray launched their evangelism ministry with ten people. Registration was free and thanks to Southern Baptist's Cooperative Program giving, the students were able to purchase their uniform.

"Martial Arts is about discipline and part of our routine is to be disciplined for Christ by attending bible study, attending church and memorizing verses," says Ray who is also proficient in black belt.

"Tamuning Christian Fellowship has seen five people baptized and we are excited about the future" adds Ed in an earlier interview.

Ray excitingly shared, "Just in this evangelism, we have seen seven young people baptized in our church."

Part of the strategy is the promotion program where 18 martial artists received their second level belt. The evening was accompanied by gospel preaching. "It's incredible how the youth themselves are the ones bringing their families and friends."

How can the ministry multiply if pastors themselves are not going to be involved? Ray answers, "We need you to be trained in order for this ministry to multiply, we need more black belt pastors who will use martial arts as a means to reach others."

Ray closes with this challenge, "If you have something in mind that you want to do, don't be afraid to do it. Try it. If you fail, do something else—God will bless you with souls out of your persistence in evangelism!"



## CALENDAR

view the online calendar at hpbaptist.net/calendar

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 6 Disaster Relief Appreciation Day
- 8 General Election Day
- 11 Veterans Day
- 16 East Asia 1 Day Conference
- 16-17 New Workers Orientation (cancelled)
  - 17 Evangelism Luncheon
- 17-18 HPBC Annual Meeting, Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel
  - 24 Thanksgiving Day

#### **DECEMBER**

- 4-11 Week of Prayer & Mission Study for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
  - 25 Christmas
  - 26 Christmas holiday observed





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

#### CHURCH PLANTER MISSIONARIES

**CHRISTOPHER AND JUDY EVANS** finish their term as church planter missionaries to OBN Seafarers on December 11, 2016. Pastor Jerry Saludez of Waipio Baptist Church will coordinate the work and facilitate the adopting of boats by Oahu churches.

#### SYMPATHY TO

**REV. SAMUEL F. LONGBOTTOM, JR.**, age 89, passed away October 19, 2016, in Tomball, Texas. He and Marian were appointed in 1954 as missionaries with the Foreign Mission Board, SBC. Their first assignment was to the Territory of Hawaii where he pastored several churches. In 1961, joined the newly-started Baptist mission in the country of Vietnam. In 1976, they ministered in Taiwan. Officially they retired from the International Mission Board (IMB) in 1990, but many years of ministry followed. He is survived by his beloved wife of 66 plus years, Marian; six children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. As a suggestion and in lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the International Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230-0767 or online at imb.org, Samaritan's Purse, or to the Building Fund of FBC Conroe.

#### RETIREMENT

Retirement announced for **TERRY AND SONJA LOWE** of **YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH** on December, 2016. Terry served as a pastor of YIBC for 11 ½ years. *My calling was to be the instrument to 'turn the ship' and God has done that,*" summarizes Terry of his ministry with YIBC. Terry and Sonja will move back to their home in Riverside, CA where they plan to serve and wait for the Lord to open doors.

#### FILIPINO OUTREACH

WAIKOLOA BAPTIST CHURCH partnered with PASTOR MARINO RAMONES to begin a Filipino Outreach on October 2, 2016. Twenty-one people joined the first meeting. Be in prayer, too, for Pastor Mar as he recently underwent an angioplasty procedure. WBC has also partnered with KOHALA BAPTIST CHURCH and PASTOR ROMY EDER of HILO BAPTIST CHURCH for the Filipino Outreach in Hawaii. Pray for WBC as they also look into starting a Hispanic Ministry this November.

## **Central Baptist Sponsors Conference:**Spiritual Disciplines for Real People

Central Baptist invites you to join them for a conference featuring Dr. Don Whitney, professor of Biblical Spirituality at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He will be teaching on SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES FOR REAL PEOPLE. Dr. Whitney's teachings on Scripture reading, prayer, and Christian meditation have been transformational to the devotional life of many. Numerous people have shared how their spiritual growth has been fruitful, as they have learned to approach their time with the Lord with much more biblical wisdom. These are truly principles that ANY Christian of any maturity level can benefit greatly from, whether they have read through the Bible multiple times or are just starting out!

Below is a blub that churches can put in your bulletin:

**SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES...FOR REAL PEOPLE Conference** with Dr. Don Whitney, Professor of Biblical Spirituality at SBTS

#### Central Baptist Church (1217 Nehoa St.) January 13-14, 2017

Developing the simple, Biblical means God has given to every Christian for pursuing intimacy with and conformity to Christ.

Attendance is free, but space is limited!

Visit: **cbchawaii.net** to register and for information Or contact us by e-mail at cbc@cbchawaii or call 808-232-5185.

## **Biblical Spiritual Disciplines...** *for REAL people* **January 13-15**

Central Baptist Church | 1217 Nehoa St., Honolulu

Developing the simple, Biblical means God has given to every Christian for pursuing intimacy with and conformity to Christ

#### Conference with Dr. Don Whitney

#### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

#### Friday January 13th

7:00p Praying the Bible, Part 1

8:30p Praying the Bible, Part 2

#### Saturday January 14th

8:30a The Biblical Basis of Meditation on Scripture

10:00a Method of Mediation on Scripture, Part 1

11:30a Lunch Break

1:00p Methods on Mediation on Scripture, Part 2

2:30p Family Worship

Sunday, January 15th

10:45a Dr. Whitney preaching at Central Baptist Church

# Dr. Whitney serves as Professor of Biblical Spirituality and Associate Dean at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is founder and president of The Center for Biblical Spirituality and also a former pastor. For more information, visit biblicalspirituality.org.

Free, but space is limited! Register early at, cbchawaii.net

Questions? Call 808-232-5185 or email cbc@cbchawaii.net

ISAIAH 42:12



