

# Pacific CONNECTOR

HAWAII PACIFIC BAPTIST CONVENTION

LET THEM GIVE GLORY  
TO THE LORD  
AND **PROCLAIM** HIS  
PRAISE IN THE ISLANDS.

*Isaiah 42:12*

*Boiling lava in Kilauea Volcano,  
sending rivers of molten rock into  
the Pacific ocean*

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*from the* EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Chris Martin**

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# Building the Kingdom

## SMALL STEPS AT A TIME

In praise of God's Word in his life, the psalmist wrote,

*The Lord is my portion; I have  
promised to keep your words.*

*I have sought your favor with all my  
heart; be gracious to me according to  
your promise.*

*I thought about my ways and turned my  
steps back to your decrees*

*I hurried, not hesitating to keep your  
commands.*

*Though the ropes of the wicked were  
wrapped around me, I did not forget  
your instruction.*

*I rise at midnight to thank you for your  
righteous judgments.*

*I am a friend to all who fear you, to  
those who keep your precepts.*

*Lord, the earth is filled with your  
faithful love; teach me your statutes.*

*~ Psalm 119:57-64*

As we are at the midpoint of 2018, I want to encourage you to join with me to review and evaluate the ways that God has moved and guided our ministries at the beginning of this year to clarify His place and position in our work.

During my ministry at times, God

has revealed a complacency or disobedience of mine to His plan during a season of evaluation. My inability to understand my need was often due to challenges and successes, both situations blinding me to my misdirection. Mercifully, God restored me to a place of blessing and obedience as I repented of my sin and returned to His ways.

One of my favorite phrases of the psalmist rests in verse 60: "I hurried, not hesitating to keep your commands." Upon the discovery of our discretions, the character of our return to faithfulness is not a casual response, but intentional haste to God's will. His desires force our speed to obey.

My prayer for you and me is that God would reveal His more in-depth plans for us in our times of review that we may fulfill His total goals for our service to Him. Remember, the earth is filled with His faithful love for us!

As always, your HPBC staff team is ready to assist you in pursuing the vision and plans that God has given you for ministry. If we can serve you, please call us at 808 356-8329 or email me at [chris@hpbaptist.net](mailto:chris@hpbaptist.net).

Mahalo,  
*Chris Martin*

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BAPTIST CONVENTION



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JULY AUGUST  
2018



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# Retreat Offers Pastors Rest, Renewal, and Refreshment

Hawaii Pastors gathered for 2 ½ days, May 21-23, at the Pu'u Kahea Conference Center in Waianae to retreat, refresh, and re-create.

Pastors from Kauai, Oahu, and the Big Island participated. The name of our HPBC conference center, Pu'u Kahea, is a Hawaiian word that can be translated "Hill of Calling." We thank God for providing a wonderful time for men who are living out their calling as pastors. Your Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention sponsored this event. It was funded by your church's gifts to the Cooperative Program.



“ Pu'u Kahea is a Hawaiian word that can be translated “Hill of Calling.”



# Hawaii Volcano Blasts Churches Into Action

by David Roach, chief national correspondent for Baptist Press, the Southern Baptist Convention's news service

PAHOA, Hawaii (BP) -- Amid a lava flow that has destroyed three dozen structures and the threat of a violent volcanic eruption, Hawaii's churches "are working in really neat ways," said Chris Martin, executive director of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC).

Hawaii's Kilauea volcano has destroyed 36 structures, including 26 houses, since it began releasing lava through vents May 3.

Congregations on Hawaii's Big Island have banded together to pray, secure housing for some of the area's 2,000 evacuees and, beginning next week, operate a mobile shower unit.

"The main focus of our people so far," Martin told Baptist Press, has been ministry "to the needs that are immediate. But our history and our practice has been a long-term presence with those that have been affected by disasters."

"Stepping in to meet needs," Martin added, will "open great doors" for Gospel witness.

Since May 3, the Kilauea volcano has been releasing lava through vents in the ground, destroying 36 structures, including 26 homes, the Associated Press reported. Some 60,000 gallons of flammable liquids had to be removed from a geothermal power plant near the vents, according to CBS News.

Geologists warn that within a week, the largest eruption of Kilauea in a century could spew ash and refrigerator-sized boulders five miles high and scatter them across a three-mile radius.

"If it goes up, it will come down," U.S. Geological Survey volcano hazards coordinator Charles Mandeville said, according to AP. "You don't want to be underneath anything that weighs 10 tons when it's coming out at 120 mph."

At Puna Baptist Church in Pahoa, Hawaii, 10 member families have had to evacuate their homes and two of those homes have been destroyed by lava, associate pastor Rob Thommarson told BP.

"What we've done immediately is try to help all the families get into some



photo courtesy of Baptist Press

immediate emergency housing," said Thommarson, himself among the evacuees. "Everybody is staying with family, friends and church members."

If the evacuation "continues for weeks or months," Thommarson said, Puna will attempt to move its evacuated members into "intermediate housing" with more privacy.

The local Big Island Baptist Association's mobile shower unit has been moved onto Puna's parking lot and likely will begin serving residents early next week, said Thommarson, a retired International Mission Board missionary. A prayer tent nearby will

be manned by volunteers available to pray with evacuees.

Local churches of various denominations will band together to provide evacuees with food and clothing, Thommarson noted. A community prayer meeting is scheduled for Friday evening.

Neither Puna nor nearby Paradise Park Baptist Church have had their facilities threatened by lava, Martin said.

"Several" pastors and other church members in the area, Martin said, "have been using their vehicles to help people move" their belongings from harm's way.

HPBC disaster relief units are on standby, Martin said, and working with local officials to determine when and how they can best help.

Both Martin and Thommarson requested prayer from believers across the country as the lava flow continues.

.....  
*Reprinted with permission from Baptist Press*

Pastor Steven Hedlund from Kohala Baptist Church is providing a prayer and comfort tent on Wednesdays at the Shelter. This is a great way to help people as they are stressed and do not know when this crisis will end.

Please continue to pray for the displaced families, volunteers, and first responders for comfort and strength as they deal with this disaster. Offerings to help the churches and displaced families can be given to HPBC and marked in the memo lava disaster. You may also give online at [hpbaptist.net](http://hpbaptist.net)



HPBC Disaster Relief was also called into action in April in response to flooding on Kauai and Oahu when over 28 inches of rain in a 24 hour time fell across the two islands.

# Leadership Training

HPBC LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENTS—**SEPTEMBER 16-22, 2018**

**Why?** To equip pastors, church staff, and church leaders in the areas of sharing the gospel, strategic planning, developing teams, and basic leadership training.

**How?** Bringing hand-picked seasoned practitioners in these areas to provide practical training on multiple Hawaiian Islands.

## Guest Training Leaders and Topics



**Terry Dorsett**

Executive Director for New England Baptists

Terry will lead four sessions with a focus on developing leadership teams in the smaller church. He has served in New England since 1994—first as a pastor, then a church planter, a director of missions, and finally a church planting catalyst before becoming executive director in 2015. He is passionate about multiplying Christ-followers in New England. He is the author of *Developing Leadership Teams in the Bivocational Church*.



**Nathan Lorick**

Executive Director for Colorado Baptists

Nathan will lead four sessions on motivation, mobilization, strategy, implementation and next steps to share the gospel. Nathan is the author of *Dying to Grow* as well as the initiator of the ICross app that shares the gospel in over 60 languages and the “Game Plan” evangelism initiative. When not traveling Nathan enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, reading and running.

**Where?** Hilo, Central Oahu, and East Oahu

Location #1

Kaumana Drive Baptist in Hilo on Big Island

Sunday, Sep. 16 - 5:30 - 8:45 p.m.

*Sessions 1 and 2*

Monday, Sep. 17 - 6:00 - 8:45 p.m.

*Sessions 3 and 4*

Location #2

Mililani Baptist in Central Oahu

Tuesday, September 18 - 5:30 - 8:45 p.m.

*Sessions 1 and 2*

Wednesday, September 19 - 6:00 - 8:45 p.m.

*Sessions 3 and 4*

Location #3

Waialae Baptist in East Oahu

Friday, September 21 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

*Session 1*

Saturday, September 22 - 8:30 – noon

*Sessions 2, 3, and 4*



**Kenneth Priest**

Director of Convention Strategies for the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention

Kenneth will lead four sessions to help churches develop a shared strategy to revitalize the church they serve. Kenneth serves as an adjunct professor in church revitalization at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and adjunct professor of evangelism and church growth at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served churches in Texas and North Carolina in various roles of evangelism, educational ministry, and second chair leadership.





**Hawaii Pacific**  
BAPTIST CONVENTION

# I am **HAWAII PACIFIC** Missions.



**Sue Nishikawa  
Offering**

*for Hawaii Pacific Missions*

**Hawaii Pacific Goal**

*\$120,000*

**Our Church Goal**



Mission offering materials are made possible by gifts from your church through the Sue Nishikawa Offering and the Cooperative Program, and are made available by the HPBC Woman's Missionary Union and the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.







# PU'U KAHEA HILL OF CALLING

By Craig Webb

## 41 YEARS LATER

It's been 41 years since we had our Kalihi Baptist Church farewell retreat in 1977. My mom and dad, Henry and Patti Webb, had served Kalihi Baptist for eight and a half years and in that time the church family held church-wide retreats twice a year on holiday weekends. So when I drove out to Waianae to visit with Camp Pu'ukahea co-director, Jimmy Tucker, I almost didn't recognize it. The grounds and the buildings are clean and inviting. Sitting on 14 beautiful acres, PKCC has eight buildings that provide overnight accommodations for up to 172 people. Three of the buildings have meeting areas that can comfortably accommodate between 26 to 170 people. There's also a large gathering tent that can hold over 200 people.

*Lindsey Lai (left), volunteers (top right)  
Jimmy and Ashley Tucker (bottom right)*

Pu'u Kahea has been owned and operated by the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC) since 1949. Jimmy and Ashley Tucker are the Directors of Pu'u Kahea Conference Center, and Lindsey Lai is the Office Manager. Pu'u Kahea is also blessed by countless volunteers who come from all over and stay at Pu'u Kahea and work on the grounds, help cook, serve, and provide hospitality for guests. More info about reservations, pricing, and volunteering are available at [pkcc.org](http://pkcc.org).



**HPBC Women's Retreat  
October 19-20, 2018**

**Pu'u Kahea Conference Center, Waianae**

**Begins at 3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 19th**

**Concludes at 9 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 20th**

**Cost is \$50, if registered by August 1**  
(includes accommodations, dinner Friday, and three meals Saturday)

Just for women—join women of all ages and walks of life in worship, fellowship, and learning to grow in God's Word. The theme is *Filled to Overflow* from 1 Thessalonians 3:12.

Guest speakers are Chris Adams and Kathy Morales. Chris served as LifeWay's Women's Ministry Specialist for over 20 years. Kathy is the Women's Ministry Specialist for the Canada National Baptist Convention. We will also have breakout sessions led by some of our very own HPBC women!

*Chris Adams*



*Kathy Morales*



Our goal is to be challenged to let God fill us with His Living Water and that His Living Water would overflow into our circles of influence—our families, friends, neighbors, acquaintances, and people we meet by divine appointment.

Your Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention is sponsoring this event. It is funded by your church's gifts to the Cooperative Program.

Visit [hpbaptist.net](http://hpbaptist.net) to register or call the convention office at 808-946-9581.





Mike Martin

# Four Suggestions for Putting a SALARY COMPENSATION PACKAGE Together for a Pastor

Each year a congregation and/or leadership is called upon to develop a framework on determining what is the best course of action in compensating current pastoral leadership or hiring a new pastor who is starting. Listed below are four general categories to consider in putting together a salary composition package:

## 1 Base Salary

The base salary should include items based upon objective criteria for the position. As a church, you should determine to answer the question: "What are the qualifying factors associated with the position?" Most job descriptions are categorized in three main areas known as KSAs (Knowledge requirements, Skills, Abilities). These should be determined by the position requirements and not on the individual themselves. Some areas to consider are: educational requirements (i.e. are you expecting the individual to have a bachelor's or master's degree), experience in ministry, and professional certifications. Other areas include the ability to communicate, personal and professional interaction both inside and outside the ministry, and leadership skills. Another factor to consider is the size and scope of the ministries involved. Another question to answer is whether this is a full-time (40-50 hours a week) or part-time position. Will the individual be allowed to have other jobs or contract work that will provide other income. Finally, when determining compensation, you should take into consideration the local cost of living and what other professionals in your area are paid with similar education, experience, and abilities.

## 2 Fringe Benefits

It is important to understand any labor laws that may impact fringe benefits. In Hawaii, the Prepaid Health Act of 1974 states that any employee that works four consecutive weeks of 20 hours is entitled to Medical Benefits. Also take in consideration items associated with flex spending plans, educational costs, SECA offset to name a few.

## 3 Retirement Plan

A minister must be more proactive in preparing for their own future. We have partnered with GuideStone Financial Resources to help provide guidance in retirement benefits. A church that is actively contributing to cooperative program and to a minister's annuity, can receive matching funds from both the convention and GuideStone. If you need any resources on this, please feel free to contact GuideStone or the convention offices. In addition to the annuity, GuideStone can work with individual churches to set up a 403(b) plan for payroll deductions so a minister can tax defer his income.

## 4 Accountable Reimbursement Plans

The Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 had a significant impact on reimbursement plans for a church in 2018. In 2018, all unreimbursed employee expenses will not be allowed as a tax-deductible expense. Churches that currently have a Nonaccountable Reimbursement Plan in place might evaluate the tax impact on a minister. For example, if a church has an auto allowance under the nonaccountable reimbursement plan, they may receive the auto allowance as part of their paycheck and pay taxes on it but also get the deduction for unreimbursed employee miles. However, with the new tax law, that that deduction will not be allowed in 2018. A consideration is to have an accountable reimbursement plan and turn in a mileage log for reimbursement and the reimbursement would not be taxable income to the minister.

These four areas of consideration lay the framework on putting a salary composition package for a pastor. As always, it is good to consult an HR expert or tax professional in understanding the taxable/non-taxable parts of the salary composition. Also, feel free to contact me at the convention offices at (808) 356-8339 if you have any questions.

If you have news you would like to share, please email us at [info@hpbaptist.net](mailto:info@hpbaptist.net), or like us and post it at: [facebook.com/hawaiiibaptist](https://facebook.com/hawaiiibaptist)

## Korean Language Pastors and English Language Pastors Worship and Fellowship

In 2018 the Korean Pastors monthly meeting included several Honolulu pastors who were invited to strengthen relationships among Korean and English Speaking churches. On Monday, May 14 this culminated with a special worship time and luncheon at Antioch Baptist Church in Aiea. The worship time included pastors singing songs simultaneously in Korean and English, a bi-lingual message brought by Antioch Pastor Oliver Lee, and finally a powerful "Korean-style" prayer meeting where all pastors prayed out-loud in their heart language.



## Tokyo Baptist Church Celebrates God's Grace and Faithfulness

On May 19, 2018, Tokyo Baptist Church family, with a focus on celebrating God's grace and faithfulness, appreciated Pastor Dennis and Judi Folds for their 19 years of pastoral leadership and ministry. Pastor Dennis is leading the church through a one-year leadership transition process.

Tokyo Baptist Church (TBC) is a member of HPBC and the Asia Baptist Network (ABN). TBC is an international family of believers from more than 50 nationalities with a vision to reach Japan, Asia, and the rest of the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.





### Yokohama Baptist's New Pastor: Ben Howard



Pastor Ben Howard was installed as the Senior Pastor of the Yokohama International Baptist Church on Sunday, May 14, 2018. He and his wife, Beth, have been serving at YIBC since January 2016 as Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Education.



### Church Anniversary and Pinoy Festival

Word of Truth held a church anniversary Pinoy-style for the community with food, Filipino games, and fellowship.



### Mission Trip to the Philippines

Pastor Daniel Capinpin and members of Word of Truth took a mission trip to Busel Busel, Santiago, Ilocos Sur earlier this year. The purpose of the mission trip was to do house-to-house evangelism, and medical and dental missions to support a church plant in Busel Busel, Santiago Ilocos Sur. The team also visited 3 churches that were planted by Word of Truth.



### Hamama Community Church Hosts Event to Serve the People of Kahalu'u

Hāmama Community Church in cooperation with KEY Project in Kahalu'u hosted the inaugural Ku'i Festival at the KEY project center. Pastor Ikaiha Higa and Youth Pastor, Kai'ini Aranaydo, led the event highlighting native practices in the valley. Pawa'a Community Church sent 20 members to help with the event that drew over 200 people from the Kahalu'u community. Hāmama Community Church is a church plant supported by your gifts to the Cooperative Program.



# What's Coming Up *for HPBC*

**JULY**  
9-13

## Oahu Baptist Network Youth Camp

July 9-13, 2018. Pu'u Kahea Conference Center  
More info at [oahubaptist.net](http://oahubaptist.net)



**JULY**  
9-13

## Waialae Sports Camps

July 9-13, 2018. Petrie Community Park, 9 a.m.-Noon  
Palolo Valley District Park, 3 p.m.-6 p.m.  
Visit [waterhouselecture.org](http://waterhouselecture.org) for information.



**AUGUST**  
18

## Spoken For Women's Conference

August 18, 2018. Kalihi Union Church, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Guest Speaker is Robin Jones Gunn! For details, call Vicky at: 808-284-3887 or go online to [shespeaksmistry.org/event.html](http://shespeaksmistry.org/event.html)

**SEPT**  
16-18  
18-19  
21-22

## HPBC Leadership Training in September

Big Island and Oahu — 3 locations/dates  
Join us for fantastic leadership training on the Big Island (Kaumana Drive, Sept. 16-17) and on Oahu (Mililani, Sept. 18-19 and Waialae, Sept. 21-22). Terry Dorsett, Nathan Lorick, and Kenneth Priest will lead different sessions. Learn more about the training on page 6 or visit [hpbaptist.net](http://hpbaptist.net).

**OCT**  
19-20

## Filled to Overflow: HPBC Women's Retreat

October 19-20, 2018. Pu'u Kahea Conference Center  
Join us for 2 days and one night at the Pu'u Kahea Conference Center in Waianae for a retreat just for women. Learn more on page 7 or visit [hpbaptist.net](http://hpbaptist.net) to register.



**NOV**  
6-7

## 2018 Missions College

November 6-7, 2018. Olivet Baptist Church  
HPBC Missions College is two days of intentional missions training by International Mission Board (IMB) personnel for missions leaders and missions teams. Missions College allowed Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention pastors, staff, leaders, and church members the opportunity to engage in all areas of missions. Whether you are a well-seasoned veteran or just getting started, you won't want to miss it. IMB field personnel will take you through the process of researching and understanding your location, or for more experienced leaders they will help you develop in-depth strategies to take your missional work to the next level. This is an invaluable time to meet those who are full-time missionaries that will share their experiences.



**NOV**  
8-9

## HPBC 76th Annual Meeting

November 8-9, 2018. Olivet Baptist Church  
The HPBC Annual meeting is not only our chance to affirm new member churches, approve the operating budget, and select new officers, it's family time. The annual meeting is for biblical fellowship, mutual encouragement, ministry celebration, and worship.



# 2018 CALENDAR



## January

1

### Call to Prayer Month

- 1 New Year's Day
- 7-14 January Bible Study
- 15 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*
- 21 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

## February

2

### "True Love Waits" Emphasis

- 3 **WMU Annual Meeting @ Olivet BC**
- 10 **HPBC Executive Board**
- 11 Racial Reconciliation Sunday
- 12-18 Focus on WMU
- 17 Children's Ministry Day
- 19 *President's Day*
- 19 **Women's Tea**
- 23-25 **The Gathering**

## March

3

- 3 **Disaster Relief Training, Oahu**
- 4-11 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 4-10 Youth Week
- 18 Church Planting Emphasis Sunday
- 18 Substance Abuse Sunday
- 22-24 **Missions Adventure Camp**
- 26 *Prince Kuhio Day (observed)*
- 30 *Good Friday*
- 31 **VBS Training**

## April

4

- 1 Easter
- 5-7 **Wives in Ministry Retreat**
- 8 Cooperative Program Sunday
- 14 **Pinewood Derby & Mission Fair**
- 15 Baptist Doctrine Study
- 22 SBC Seminaries Sunday
- 27-28 **HBEEA Conference**

## May

5

- 6 Senior Adult Sunday
- 12 **HPBC Executive Board**
- 13-19 Christian Home Week
- 20-27 Baptist Association Emphasis
- 21-23 **Pastor's Retreat @ Pu'u Kahea**
- 27 Life Commitment Sunday
- 28 *Memorial Day*

## June

6

- 4-8 Keiki Camp
- 11 *King Kamehameha Day*
- 12-13 Southern Baptist Convention
- 17 Baptist Men's Emphasis
- 24 Mission: Dignity Sunday

## July

7

- 1 Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sunday
- 4 *Independence Day*
- 22 Loveloud Sunday

## August

8

- 5 Social Issues Sunday
- 12 Student Evangelism Day
- 17 *Statehood Day*
- 19-25 Worship Music Week
- 25 **HPBC Executive Board**

## September

9

- 2 Discipleship Rally
- 2 Single Adult Sunday
- 3 Labor Day
- 2-8 **Week of Prayer Hawaii Pacific Missions / Sue Nishikawa Offering**
- 14-15 **Hawaii Baptist Early Edu. Assoc.**
- 16 Anti-Gambling Sunday
- 16-22 **HPBC Leadership Training Events**

## October

10

### Cooperative Program Emphasis Month

- 7 Personal Evangelism Commitment Day
- 14 Global Hunger Sunday
- 19-20 **Women's Retreat**

## November

11

- 4 Disaster Relief Appreciation Day
- 6 General Election Day
- 5 **New Workers Orientation**
- 6-7 **Missions College**
- 8-9 **HPBC Annual Meeting**
- 12 *Veterans' Day*
- 22-23 *Thanksgiving*

## December

12

- 2-9 Week of Prayer & Mission Study for International Missions & the Lottie Moon Christmas offering
- 24-25 *Christmas*



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## REGISTER NOW FOR SWBTS MTS PROGRAM **SPECIAL RATES**

Our Executive Director, Chris Martin, has been working with Dr. Craig Blaising at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SWBTS) to provide **affordable theological education for Hawaii pastors, staff, and other church leaders**. They are offering special pricing for their 36 hour Masters of Theological Studies (MTS). This degree could later be applied to completing the full Master of Divinity (MDiv).

If you apply, are accepted for Fall 2018, enroll, and take classes for Fall 2018, you can lock in your tuition rate at \$100 per hour for the duration of their MTS degree (\$300 per 3 hour class)—however long that takes—provided you stay in continuous enrollment Fall and Spring (summer would be optional) until the degree is completed. If you drop out for a semester, the rate upon readmission would be the normal tuition. They will also waive the 2018, \$300 semester fee. Note: Those who begin in 2019 will be at the normal tuition rate. **We highly encourage you to APPLY NOW.**

**Max Stabenow, SWBTS Director of Admissions**, will be the seminary contact person for information and admission questions for the prospective MTS students from Hawaii. Contact him by phone at 1-817-923-1921 ext. 2704 or by e-mail at [mstabenow@swbts.edu](mailto:mstabenow@swbts.edu).