

Pacific CONNECTOR

HAWAII PACIFIC BAPTIST CONVENTION

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

Isaiah 42:12

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The Manila Bay skyline as seen from Harbour Square.

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from the
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DIRECTOR**



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“*For we are his
workmanship,
created in Christ
Jesus for good
works, which
God prepared
ahead of time
for us to do.*

Ephesians 2:10 CSB

Building the Kingdom SMALL STEPS AT A TIME

Writing this article as we near the end of 2018, I am reminded of the dedication and faithfulness of God to the churches of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention in pursuing His Kingdom plans throughout Hawaii, the South Pacific, and Asia. We are on his mission and it is a joy to serve Him with you.

As 2019 has arrived, the collective prayer of your HPBC staff team is that we would be able to assist your ministry to excel in the ways God is leading you. Whether your vision is to enhance existing works, increase missional efforts, resource new strategies, or any other idea that God places on your heart, we want to help you find the next step for ministry success. God has not placed us here to idly spend our days, but to forge ahead in exciting “good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do” (Eph. 2:10) — and those works are to be transformative in our communities, islands, and our world for the sake of the Gospel and for the glory of the Father.

Mahalo for trusting us to serve you! I pray that 2019 will be a turning point in the churches of the HPBC— a remarkable year of ministry that propels our churches forward on God’s paths for the future.

As always, your HPBC staff team is ready to assist you in any way that we can to advance and support your ministry. If we can serve you, please call us at 808-356-8329 or email me at chris@hpbaptist.net.

Mahalo

We are
**HAWAII
PACIFIC**
Missions.



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2018 HAWAII PACIFIC BAPTIST CONVENTION ANNUAL MEETING

A CELEBRATION MARKED WITH SWEET FELLOWSHIP AND A MISSIONS FOCUS

We are
**HAWAII
PACIFIC**
Missions.

By David Roach

Messengers to the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention received evangelism training from International Mission Board personnel serving in East Asia and welcomed into their fellowship congregations in Okinawa, Japan, and the Philippines.

Gathering around the theme “We Are Hawaii Pacific Missions,” 191 messengers and 87 guests met Nov. 8-9 at Olivet Baptist Church in Honolulu. In addition to churches in Hawaii, the convention’s 155 cooperating congregations include churches in Guam, Saipan, American and Western Samoa, South Korea, Japan, Thailand, and now the Philippines.

Messengers approved a budget of \$2,375,000 for 2019, which reflects a marked increase of giving through the Cooperative Program and an increase of gifts to the Sue Nishikawa Offering for Hawaii Pacific Missions. With the

reclassification this year of the Pu’u Ikahea Conference Center, this resulted in a decrease in the overall numbers compared the 2018 budget. Anticipated receipts include \$1,300,000 in Cooperative Program receipts from churches; \$740,000 from the North American Mission Board (the majority which is earmarked for church planting/evangelism) and \$65,000 from LifeWay Christian Resources.

The convention will continue to forward 20 percent of CP receipts to Southern Baptist Convention missions and ministries and retain 80 percent for funding Hawaii Pacific missions and ministries. The budget does not include any shared ministry expenses.

The day before the annual meeting, Hawaii Pacific Baptists received missions and evangelism training from eight IMB missionaries to East Asia at a Missions College One Day event also hosted by

Left:
Chris Martin leads a time of prayer for the two new churches—Central Baptist, Okinawa and International Baptist of Manila—entering the HPBC. Members joined him on the platform to lay hands on the members of the new churches.

far right:
The HPBC Credentials Committee welcomes messengers and guests and helps them register.

bottom left:
The “Master’s Touch” Group of Olivet Baptist

middle:
The Worship Team from Central Baptist Church, Honolulu lead in worship on Friday night of the HPBC Annual Meeting.



photos courtesy of Clyde Kakiuchi

Olivet Baptist. Topics covered included strategies for striking up Gospel conversations and how to engage unreached people groups.

Among addresses at the HPBC annual meeting, Pastor John Reimer of Koza Baptist Church in Okinawa, Japan, spoke on "clarity from God's viewpoint." Citing Psalm 90:12, he said, "God wants us to know the passing of time because time is important to God. He wants us to make the most of our time. What are you going to do with your remaining days?"

An IMB regional director for East Asia spoke from Luke 2:10-11 on believers' call to "bring good news of great joy." "What is worse than being lost?" he asked. "Being lost and no one is looking for you ... It is our responsibility to look and find the lost."

HPBC executive director Chris Martin underscored the annual meeting theme and told messengers, "Now is the time for us to be on God's mission."

Chris Martin (far left) along with our new Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention convention officers. Second left to right: Sterling Lee (1st VP), Alan Krober (2nd VP), Lizzy McElrath (Recording Secretary), and Steve Irvin (President).

Messengers voted to receive two new international churches into their fellowship: Central Baptist Church in Okinawa and International Baptist Church in Manila, Philippines.

Elected as HPBC president was Steve Irvin, pastor of Pali View Baptist Church in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Officers reelected included: first vice president, Sterling Lee, pastor of First Baptist Church in Pearl City, Hawaii; second vice president, Alan Krober, pastor of Mililani (Hawaii) Baptist Church; and recording secretary, Lizzy McElrath, a member of Olivet Baptist.

Next year's annual meeting will be Nov. 7-8 at the Kauai Beach Resort in Lihue, Hawaii, on the Island of Kauai.

Based on reporting by the staff of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention. David Roach is chief national correspondent for Baptist Press, the Southern Baptist Convention's news service. BP reports on missions, ministry and witness advanced through the Cooperative Program and on news related to Southern Baptists' concerns nationally and globally.



top right: Pastor Alan Tamashiro, Puna Baptist on the Big Island, expressed appreciation for the support of sister churches during the devastating Lava eruptions earlier in 2018.

bottom left: John Reimer, former US Marine and current Lead Pastor at Koza Baptist Church in Okinawa, preaching on the opening night of the HPBC Annual Meeting.

middle: Chris Martin welcomes new workers to the HPBC

bottom right: Chris Martin, Executive Director/Treasurer of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention brought a challenging message on Friday evening.





MISSIONS COLLEGE ONE DAY

Reaching the world for Christ. A day for developing in-depth strategies to take missions work to the next level.



Jason Queen



Scott Bradford

International Mission Board Missionary, Donn Broeker, trained three different groups "changing the world through prayer." Pictured here are two of those groups.



The Annual Meeting week included a "Missions College One Day" event co-sponsored by the International Mission

Board (IMB) and the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC). Eight on-the-field East Asia Affinity Group IMB missionaries provided a full day of training for pastors, church leaders, and missions teams in the area of evangelism, strategy, prayer, church planting, and student missions. Here are some of the highlights of the training:

Jason Queen taught on how to have natural gospel conversations with non-Christians and how to lead non-Christians in an evangelistic 8-lesson Bible study.

Scott Bradford taught attendees how to develop a master plan for helping their church effectively engage a people group or population segment.

Donn Broeker taught practical sessions on how to be more intentional and focused in our prayer life and lead our churches to do the same.

Jeff Waligora led a broad-spectrum overview of the need and of the missions work going on in East Asia.

Steve Ellis trained leaders on Compass Church Planting program.

HPBC leaders from Guam, Okinawa, and four of the Hawaiian Islands participated. The day culminated in a powerful Missions Worship Celebration where multiple churches provided worship leadership including the choirs of Olivet and Nu'uano Baptist and the praise team from Pawa'a Community Church. Guest speakers, Steve Ellis (IMB East Asia Affinity Leader) and Elden "PK" Kaeo (Associate Pastor at FBC Pearl City), brought challenging messages.



The Missions College One Day attendees joined in an evening Missions Worship Celebration. The flags in the worship center represented our HPBC churches and members' ethnicities.

Elden "PK" Kaeo, Associate Pastor at FBC Pearl City, brought a passionate and challenging message at the Missions Worship Celebration.



HPBC Signs Partnership Agreement with the International Mission Board East Asia Peoples Affinity Group



Steve Ellis reminded us at the Annual Meeting of our call to "bring good news of great joy."

The HPBC Executive Board approved a 3-year partnership with IMB East Asia Affinity Group with a goal "to proclaim the Gospel to people in East Asia." The simple agreement which begins in 2019 and goes through the end of 2022 has the following commitments:

The Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention leadership will facilitate and promote connections between HPBC church leaders and pastors and East Asia Peoples Affinity Group leadership.

The East Asia Peoples Affinity Group personnel will provide training through events like the annual Missions college.

The East Asia Peoples Affinity Group will represent International Mission Board at the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

The agreement was signed during the HPBC Annual meeting by Executive Director/Treasurer, Chris Martin, and IMB's Steve Ellis, Regional Director for the East Asia Affinity Group.

CHURCHES Around Hawaii and the Pacific Use Fall as *Community Outreach Opportunity*

A Fall carnival is a great way to reach out to your community and share the Gospel message.

According to Alan Krober, Senior Pastor at Mililani Baptist Church (MBC), “we ran our annual Fall Carnival again this year as a safe and free Halloween alternative. It’s our largest community outreach event of the year. This year we had over 900 people from our community participate in our Fall Carnival and had 73 volunteers from our church helping out that night. It was a fun night for everyone with lots and lots of candy. We had carnival type games with candy as prizes. There were



“ This year we had over 900 people from our community participate in our Fall Carnival.

also multiple bounce houses, pony rides, live music, face painting, balloon animals, craft centers, photo booth, door prizes, shave ice, cotton candy, popcorn, and hot dogs.”

Krober also stressed, “Follow-up is essential!” Here are some of the elements of their follow-up:

1 We had a registration table for all the families who came where they received free tickets to be used for any of our games. As part of the registration process, we asked families to list their home church. When no home church is listed, these families are moved to the top of our list for follow-up.

2 We provided some type of takeaway. In the past, we provided a gospel tract in every registration packet but found it to be minimally effective. Kids cared about the candy but the registration materials often got discarded. This year, we upgraded to a 3-D style pumpkin tract and found that this fun style was more popular with the kids and at least went home with them as opposed to being found in our garbage cans at the church.

3 We shared the Gospel message at the event. As we’ve done this again and again, we’ve worked harder to make sure that the Gospel message is shared with everyone

who attends. This means that mid-way through the event, we pause all activities and present the Gospel to everyone there. We also added multiple craft centers where the craft activities present the Gospel message. Our pony rides are the most popular center at the Fall Carnival for our younger children. Because of the wait involved, we moved several craft activity centers that all present the Gospel to that area. Instead of just waiting in line, the kids can participate in the crafts until it’s their turn on the pony. Throughout the church, we include promotional material for all of our children’s ministries and other ministries that may interest the parents there. By the bounce houses, we put chairs for the parents to relax and still be able to see their kids while they’re playing. In those areas, we made sure to have someone from our church present, and actively sharing and building relationships.

4 We used high-value photo booth as part of our follow-up strategy. As part of our carnival, we had a professional style photo booth. It had photography lighting and a decorated backdrop. It's nice enough that there's usually a line there waiting to get a family picture. We printed hard copies of all these photos and use them as part of our follow-up strategy. Those who have a home church get the picture mailed to them. But those without a church will have a visit



from a team from our church. We deliver their photo along with information about our church and a bag of candy (it's a great way for us to clear out any leftover candy from the event). Our goal is to visit all of our unchurched families within two weeks of the event. We pray for all of the families and then send out teams of two to deliver the photos. Teams introduce themselves as a member of MBC and thank the families for coming. We then ask if there is anything that we can pray for them and then invite them to our church's Sunday services. If the conversation leads to the Gospel, our teams have been trained to be able to share the Gospel message when the opportunities arise. The families are then added to our children's ministry database and are invited to future events. We're in the process of rolling out a regular children's ministry newsletter and will give families the option to subscribe to it.

Overall, the Fall Carnival is a great way to reach out to our community and share the Gospel message with them. It does take a lot of planning and work, but it's worth it.

Here are other photos of Fall Festivals around the Islands:



New Life Church in Kona Shares the Love of Christ with Fall Festival

Pastor Jay Parks shared, "Our church was looking for an opportunity to bless and love on our community. We had the idea of hosting a fall festival at the school in Holualoa. We asked permission and were greeted with excitement. We hosted our first Fall Fest and had an amazing turnout. A couple of years ago we had over 600 people come and we shared Jesus and our heart for the community as a church.

The last two years the school has helped us organize it and it has become an amazingly successful event. This year we saw around 1000 people come and participate. It was an incredible night. Our church provided most of the cars for the Trunk or Treat, as well as the bounce houses, door prizes and prizes for pumpkin carving contest. God has truly blessed this outreach."



Church Plant Reaches Community

Pa'akai Community Church, a church plant in Kona on the Big Island, held a fall community outreach where they did face painting, shared the gospel, distributed water bottles, candy, and gospel tracts.



Fall Block Party

Olivet Baptist Church had over 500 people from the community and 100+ volunteers come out to their fall block party. Some were believers who didn't know we were here, while most others were nonbelievers who we had a chance to connect with and look forward to continue connecting with. We collected contact information as a means to follow up with them throughout the holiday season and to invite them to our Christmas Eve service and other events.

AROUND

Hawaii AND THE Pacific

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

Calvary International BC Celebrates 60 Years

Calvary International Baptist Church in Bangkok celebrated their 60th Anniversary Saturday and Sunday (September 22-23, 2018). The celebration included a community family fun day on Saturday with games, food, and crafts. Sunday, Calvary International joined with her five language congregations including Thai, Burmese, Karen, Nepali, and Tamil for an Anniversary Worship Celebration. Senior Pastor Martin Chappell and his wife Carrie have served Calvary International since 2002.

Calvary International in Bangkok Celebrates 60 Years



Inamine to Retire after 42 Years at Kino'ole

At the end of January 2019, Gail Inamine will be retiring after serving 42 years as Minister of Education & Administration at Kino'ole Baptist Church. She was recognized for her years of service at the HPBC Annual Meeting.

Chris Martin recognizes Gail Inamine for her 42 years of service.



Elise and Lucy Tafao Retire After 27 Years in Samoa

Elise has been the Senior Pastor of Falelauniu Baptist Fellowship and Lucy has led the Samoa Baptist Academy. Elise has disciplined and trained countless pastors and planted numerous churches in Samoa.

Elise Tafao and children at Sāmoa Baptist Academy



Oahu Bible Institute (OBI) Awards Certificates to 17 Students

Congratulations! Students received award certificates at the Oahu Bible Institute (OBI) Award Ceremony held at Kalihi Baptist Church on November 14, 2018. Ten students completed the Christian Ministry Certificate (12 hours) and 7 students completed the Christian Ministry and Introduction to Christian Studies Certificate (24 hours). Thank you David McQuitty, students, OBI staff, and the Shiraki Memorial Foundation.

Students receiving certificates at the Oahu Bible Institute (OBI) Award Ceremony.



Hiratani Honored

FBC Pearl City names building in honor of Pastor Moriyoshi "Mori" Hiratani in recognition of his 46 years as Pastor serving from 1957-2003. His wife Lillian proudly displays the building's name plate.





Joel Cuellar, Evangelism Pastor, Tokyo Baptist Church, baptizing



Ikaika Higa, Pastor of Hamama Community Church, baptized 6 at the end of October



Four were Baptized in November at Pawa'a Community Church led by Pastor Arjay Gruspe. Those baptized included Alpha, a member of the military from Kenya; Jami, a University of Hawaii (UH) Diver from Alaska; Haley, a UH Swimmer from California; and Mhairi, a UH Water Polo player from England



Waikoloa Baptist Church on the Big Island baptized two new believers on November 11, 2018. Student Pastor, Trent Thompson (left), and Transitional Pastor, Henry Webb (far right) led the baptism.

SEPTEMBER LEADERSHIP TRAINING

165 Attend Training in Multiple Locations

The training was sponsored by HPBC, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, and the North American Mission Board. Nathan Lorick, Terry Dorsett, and Kenneth Priest each led four sessions at each location. Topics included Evangelism, Developing Leadership Teams, and Church Revitalization. There was a combined attendance of 165 at these three locations. The training was held at Kaumana Drive Baptist in Hilo on the Big Island and Oahu at Mililani Baptist and Waialae Baptist. The purpose was to equip pastors, church staff, and church leaders in the areas of sharing the gospel, strategic planning, developing teams, and basic leadership training.

Left: Kenneth Priest, Director of Convention Strategies for the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, taught on strategic planning and church revitalization

Middle: Nathan Lorick, Executive Director for Colorado Baptists, led four sessions on motivation, mobilization, strategy, implementation and next steps to share the gospel

Right: Terry Dorsett, Executive Director of the New England Baptist Convention, taught about bi-vocational ministry



TRANSITIONAL PASTOR TRAINING

Pastors and Teams Trained in the Transitional Pastor Process

Henry Webb and Craig Webb led a two-day, 16-hour, Transitional Pastor Training event this past September 22-23 in Hilo. Henry is currently the Transitional Pastor at Waikoloa Baptist. The Transitional Pastor Process was developed by Henry Webb, Ernest Mosley, Roy Edgemon, and Bill Hogue at LifeWay. Each participant received a 145 page Transitional Pastor Manual. Seventeen persons from six Big Island churches participated in the training that was held at Legacy Community Church. Participants learned how to take a church through (or help with) the eight stages of transition. For more information about this process contact Craig Webb at craig@hpbaptist.net.



Henry Webb leads Transitional Pastor Training for pastors and their teams in Hilo.

NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

Executive Board Members Meet for Orientation

The HPBC Executive Board met one week after the Annual Meeting for orientation. Executive Board members consist of ministers, laymen, and laywomen. Members come together four times per year to determine policy, approve calendar of activities, and make funding decisions which impact the Convention as well as the churches the Convention serves. At the Annual meeting, messengers approved several new members.



The HPBC Executive Board prayed for the 155 churches of the HPBC.

SHARE THE GOSPEL

"Everyday Evangelism" Training

Tuesday & Wednesday — **JANUARY 15-16**

First Baptist Church Pearl City
1445 Hoolaulea Street, Pearl City, HI

If you know enough gospel to be saved by it, you know enough to share it. Matt Queen is a professor and the chair of the Evangelism School at Southwestern Seminary. Trainees will receive a copy of his book "Everyday Evangelism." This event is sponsored by the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention, the North American Mission Board, and Southwestern Seminary. There is no charge to attend but space is limited. Register online now at hpbaptist.net to reserve your spot.

Dr. Matt Queen will help you share the gospel without memorizing anything!



Southern Baptist Disaster Relief HAWAII UPDATE



2018 has been a year with numerous natural disasters in the United States.

From with flooding in Pennsylvania, fires in California, and hurricanes in the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama and Florida; so too has Hawaii and the Pacific seen its share of destruction. Causing havoc were two hurricanes (Lane and Olivia), a lava eruption on Big Island, wildfires on Maui, and historic flooding on the islands of Kauai and Oahu earlier in the year.

Hawaii Pacific Disaster Relief answered the call with response to Kauai and Oahu's flooding in April. With help from California Disaster Relief, teams mudded out or helped clean 28 homes on Kauai in the Hanalei area. We were able to share the gospel and present Bibles to those families and see one person come to Christ!

We responded to Hilo when the lava erupted in Leilani Estates with a Chaplain to help support churches as they served in their community. We sent the mobile feeding trailer from Oahu to support the feeding led by The Salvation Army. We will keep the mobile feeding unit on the Big Island for future needs.

We responded to Hilo again after Hurricane Lane flooded Hilo and the Puna District. With the help of Southern Baptist of Texas Convention (SBTC) Disaster Relief team, we mudded out or cleaned 22 homes. We presented the gospel to those families and presented a Bible to them as well.

Pastor Jay Wright, with Lahaina Baptist Church, led volunteers and the community to help families clean up their homes or sift through burned possessions. He also led volunteers to help with flood recovery after

Hurricane Olivia flooded homes. Pastor Jay chairs the Maui VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters) and represents our Disaster Relief on Maui.

Texas Baptist Men donated a 20-foot trailer to our Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) ministry and SBTC donated equipment to outfit another recovery trailer. SBTC also sent a team to outfit our shower/laundry trailer in August.

Darrell McCain, Hawaii Pacific Disaster Relief Director, responded to S. Carolina to white hat (lead) the Incident command in Longs, S. Carolina. He organized teams to help families clean out their homes after Hurricane Florence flooded the area. Two of our volunteers, Gary and Sue Miller, from Waikiki Baptist Church served in Florida on the mass feeding team. They were preparing 12,000 meals per day.

Reprint from Baptist Press:

Last week Typhoon Yutu overwhelmed a U.S. territory, the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), which is part of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC). Meanwhile, Southern Baptists have been in the midst of organizing a response.

On Oct. 24, Yutu reportedly swallowed the 67 square-mile island of Saipan, endangering the roughly 52,000 inhabitants. Saipan is the northernmost island of CNMI, roughly 3,860 miles west of Hawaii.

As of Tuesday (Oct. 30), officials were still working to clear roads and repair the airport,

said Darrell McCain, disaster relief director for HPBC. Only military and humanitarian relief were allowed to fly into the island.

"The Baptist Association of Micronesia (BAM) is sending a disaster relief team to start assessing and working on [Church 360 in Saipan]," said McCain in written comments.

Typhoon Yutu delivered a blow to Church 360, a church plant, tearing down walls and rendering some of their meeting spaces unusable. Church volunteers, however, cleaned up, and they managed to host a worship service this past Sunday (Oct. 28).

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) teams hope to repair the church and use it as a base of operations to serve the community, McCain said.

Note from HPBC Disaster Relief Director, Darrell McCain:

Pastor Rob Puckett from Calvary Baptist Church on Guam is coordinating the response to Typhoon Yutu. We will need teams that have some construction skills and a team leader that knows how to install roofs. Contact Darrell McCain at darrell@hpbaptist.net if you are interested in serving.

We've added the ability to make donations online by bank draft, debit, or credit card at hpbaptist.net. Thank you for your continued prayers, service, and generous support.

MODELING *Servant Leadership* for Your Children

by Craig Webb

Note: The article originally appeared in LifeWay's Deacon Magazine, Fall 2018 Edition. Reprinted by permission.

I asked my dad to write this article, and he said, "Craig, you need to write it." I wanted to say, "If you were a real servant leader, you would write it." I realized that my response was a violation of Paul's caution to young Timothy in 1 Timothy 5:1. I also knew my dad was deferring to me as an act of serving and encouraging me.

Servant leadership in my parents and children

I've always seen my parents as the epitome of "servant leadership" and "servant modeling." My dad, Henry Webb, wrote: "Deacons: Servant Models in the Church" in 1978. That book has been a steady seller ever since. And while I would never hold myself up as a model of servant leadership, I do see this God-given quality in my three almost grown children.

In fact, the reason my dad said I should write the article was that he sees this virtue in each of my children. I do agree with my dad about that. My oldest son, Aaron, is serving Christ with Campus Outreach International in Chiang Mai, Thailand. I believe that one of the most attractive qualities that draw Thai students to Aaron is his servant's heart. My son, Carl, is helping to start a new business that will help persons with traumatic brain injuries. My daughter, Gracie, regularly serves young children in the kid's ministry. She has a particular affinity for special-needs children and is a "buddy" on Sunday mornings for these special children.

To be sure, I am not raising up my family as the example or model. I want to lift up Jesus, the ultimate servant, and the values, qualities, and manner that He displayed. So, how do you raise children to follow after and emulate Jesus, the Servant Leader of Servant Leaders?

Learn from the Source and practice what He teaches you. Jesus, the all-powerful, pre-existent, the Word made flesh, Son of God, took on flesh and walked among us and chose the path of the suffering servant. He walked in power and humility. The way we demonstrate power as men of God is to walk as sons of God in His power and authority and lay down our right to be served by our wives and our children and instead choose to bless our wives and our children through humble service. We give up our right to have our way and choose instead to help others find their way.

Servant leadership is receiving Christ's powerful blessing; His teachings, His sacrifice, His humility, His grace; and we, in turn, offer that same servant leadership to those around us. I can and should direct these attitudes and actions toward my wife, my young or grown children, my

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:45

pastor, my colleagues, my parents, a store clerk, and any person I encounter.

So, where can you start?

Start by spending time with Jesus. He was and is the servant leaders of servant leaders. Read His words in His Word and talk to Him daily. No other discipline will help you become a servant leader more. Jesus chose to "disciple" the twelve by doing life with them for three years. They listened not only to the words Jesus spoke, but they also watched his every interaction and encounter.

Spend time with other servant leaders. Identify men and women who exhibit the character and characteristics of Jesus. Observe how they treat others and observe how others react to them. Show them honor and respect and listen to them. Get your kids in the presence of these men and women who have been with Jesus and smell like Jesus. Look for those who exhibit the values, characteristics, and qualities of persons who have been transformed by the Servant Leader of servant leaders (Jesus).

Until I was in the sixth grade, our family lived on the Island of Oahu in Hawaii. When a denomination leader or special guest from the mainland or Asia would be in the Islands, my mom and dad made an effort to expose my brother and me to these godly men and women. When my dad went to work at the Baptist Sunday School Board (now LifeWay), he would bring me to work and introduce me to men and women whom he respected. My wife and I have tried to do the same thing with our children.

Practical tip: Invite a man or woman or a couple of faith to your home for dinner. Have your children be a part of preparing and serving the meal. Include your kids in the conversation.

Finally, model service for your children in practical ways.

1 Serve your wife and your children through words of blessing.

Practice this also with your parents, persons you encounter throughout the day, your pastor, and your church family. Practice words of grace, thanksgiving, respect, and honor to each one.

Practical tip: Say positive words about your children in the presence of their peers and your peers. Make your correction private and your praise public.

2 Choose to serve rather than to be served.

Serving begins with your attitude toward Christ

and progresses to your family, your community, your work, your pastor, and church family. Look for opportunities to help and serve your children, your wife, and others in daily activities. Yes, there are times when others decide to serve or show kindness toward you. Receive those and express thanks. Be intentional about serving rather than being served.

Practical tip: Do something that would free up your wife or kids. Cook a meal. Leave early to pick up the kids and take them to ball practice. Get up from the dinner table first and clear and wash the dishes. Have your children help you. In the church parking lot, choose the furthest rather than closest spot.

3 Be loving when others serve you.

When you are at a deacon meeting, worship on Sunday, the bank, a store, or a theater, treat persons who are serving you with honor and respect. Avoid petty complaining. Express appreciation. Smile.

Practical tip: In a sit-down restaurant, address your server by the name on their nametag. If they don't have a name badge, ask for their name and use it each time they come to the table. In your children's' eyes you are elevating the role of a servant to a place of honor and respect.

4 Serve by supporting your pastor and church.

Much of the content of Deacon Magazine is devoted to helping you as a servant leader serve your pastor and your church well. Monitor how you speak about your pastor, fellow deacons, and church members in your home.

Practical tip: Create a pastor or staff member encouragement card from your family. Have the whole family participate. Include a generous gift card for a local restaurant.

5 Teach your children the servanthood of generosity.

Begin by demonstrating generosity by tithing (10%). Then give generously to your church beyond the tithe. Then use your God-given resources, influence, experience, and skills to advance the kingdom of God.

Practical tip: Gather with the family on a Saturday night and share with your children why and how much you give to the church. Pray with your family to dedicate your offering to God. Have one of your children put the offering in the plate Sunday morning.

Jesus modeled for us how to model servant leadership for our children when He said: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

Craig is an Assistant Executive Director of the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention and Contract Content Editor for LifeWay's Deacon Magazine.



HPBC Women Praying During a Women's Retreat Worship Service.

Inaugural HPBC Women's Retreat Draws 100 Women with 49 from Neighbor Islands!



Chris Adams



Kathy Morales

The first HPBC Women's Retreat was held Friday, October 19 through Saturday evening, October 20 at Pu'u Kahea Conference Center. The retreat featured keynote speakers Chris Adams, former Women's LifeWay Ministry Specialist, and Kathy Morales, Women's Ministry Leader for the Canadian Baptist Convention. Breakout sessions were led by Stephanie Beaulieu, Patti Webb, Dani Beth Crosby, and Diana Ventura.

HPBC Women creating artwork during the Women's Retreat at Pu'u Kahea Conference Center.



Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) 75th Annual Meeting & Missions Celebration Oahu and Big Island

You are invited to join us for this special celebration of looking back at what God has done through WMU, as well as what WMU is looking forward to in the future. Sandra Wisdom-Martin, National WMU Executive Director/Treasurer, will be our main speaker. We will also hear from current International Mission Board (IMB) field workers who will share about their work in East Asia.

Saturday, FEB 2, 2019, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Honolulu Country Club on Oahu, \$30 (includes plate lunch)

Monday evening, FEB 4, 2019
Hilo (specific location and time TBA, no charge to attend)

Please register online at hpbaptist.net.



QUESTIONS TO ASK During the New Year

By Donald S. Whitney

Once, when the people of God had become careless in their relationship with Him, the Lord rebuked them through the prophet Haggai. "Consider your ways!" (Haggai 1:5) he declared, urging them to reflect on some of the things happening to them and to evaluate their slipshod spirituality in light of what God had told them.

Even those most faithful to God occasionally need to pause and think about the direction of their lives. It's so easy to bump along from one busy week to another without ever stopping to ponder where we're going and where we should be going.

The beginning of a new year is an ideal time to stop, look up and get our bearings. For starters, here are 31 questions to ask prayerfully in the presence of God as you "Consider your ways." Think on the entire list at one sitting, or answer one question each day for a month.



1. What's one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?
2. What's the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?
3. What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family life this year?
4. In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?
5. What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?
6. What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?
7. For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?
8. What's the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?
9. What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?
10. What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in 10 years? In eternity?
11. What's the most important decision you need to make this year?
12. What area of your life most needs simplifying, and what's one way you could simplify in that area?
13. What's the most important need you feel burdened to meet this year?
14. What habit would you most like to establish this year?
15. Who do you most want to encourage this year?

16. What is your most important financial goal this year, and what is the most important step you can take toward achieving it?
17. What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your work life this year?
18. What's one new way you could be a blessing to your pastor (or to another who ministers to you) this year?
19. What's one thing you could do this year to enrich the spiritual legacy you will leave to your children and grandchildren?
20. What book, in addition to the Bible, do you most want to read this year?
21. What one thing do you most regret about last year, and what will you do about it this year?
22. What single blessing from God do you want to seek most earnestly this year?
23. In what area of your life do you most need growth, and what will you do about it this year?
24. What's the most important trip you want to take this year?
25. What skill do you most want to learn or improve this year?
26. To what need or ministry will you try to give an unprecedented amount this year?
27. What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your commute this year?
28. What one biblical doctrine do you most want to understand better this year, and what will you do about it?
29. If those who know you best gave you one piece of advice, what would they say? Would they be right? What will you do about it?
30. What's the most important new item you want to buy this year?
31. In what area of your life do you most need change, and what will you do about it this year?

The value of many of these questions is not in their profundity, but in the simple fact that they bring an issue or commitment into focus. For example, just by articulating which person you most want to encourage this year, you will be more likely to remember to encourage that person than if you hadn't considered the question.

So let's evaluate our lives, make plans and goals, and live this new year with biblical diligence, remembering that, "The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage" (Proverbs 21:5). But in all things let's also remember our dependence on our King who said, "Apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

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