



pacific connector



Hawaii Pacific
Baptist Convention

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Building the Kingdom

I pray that this edition of the Pacific Connector found you well and blessed, moving ahead through the first few months of 2022.



Dr. Chris Martin

Executive Director/Treasurer



808-946-9581
chris@hpbaptist.net



About the Cover

Gyeongbokgung Palace with cherry-blossoms in springtime, Seoul, South Korea



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As the world reopens from the pandemic, God reminds many hearts of the importance of missions. Sharing Christ with our neighbors, residents, and the global field proved challenging over the past few years, but the gospel message must continue outwardly. When the world seems most bleak, the hope of the gospel shines its brightest.

Your fellow Hawaii Pacific Baptist churches, HPBC staff team, and many partners stand ready to assist your efforts in engaging your world with the gospel. Your Cooperative Program gifts make many possibilities available to you and your church. From pastors' mission trips and local church mission support to church staffing and apprentice-type programs, through to seminary involvement, the resources for you and your church to move forward in these days are accessible through several levels of strategic initiatives. Allow these specifically designed resources to complement or strengthen your church's efforts to build up the local church and reach the world for Christ.

Overall, God has unique plans for you. Contact our team if you need assistance following any portion of his plans for your ministry. These are exciting days to be leading gospel-based ministries, and we look to serve you to be all that God has designed. Be inspired to see God moving through every element of your call to maximize your potential to follow his will. Your HPBC staff team is beside you in every opportunity ahead.

Continue to pray and strive for ways to serve God in obedience together. As always, your HPBC staff team is ready to provide for you in any way that we can to advance and support your ministry. If we can serve you, please call us at 808-946-9581 or email me at chris@hpbaptist.net.

Mahalo,

Chris Martin, Ph.D.
Executive Director/Treasurer
Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention

Pacific Connector — 2042 Vancouver Dr, Honolulu HI 96822 • 808-946-9581

Executive Director, Publisher: Dr. Chris Martin • chris@hpbaptist.net • 808-946-9581

Assistant Executive Director, Editor: Dr. Craig Webb • craig@hpbaptist.net • 808-946-9581

Associate Editor: Dawn Akutagawa • dawn@hpbaptist.net • 808-946-9581

Contributing Editor: Brandon Pickett | **Designer:** Patti Spencer

Contributing Writers: Roy Hayhurst, Chris Martin, Robert Miller, Diana Ventura, Craig Webb

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Do well. Do right.®

Pastors Encouraged to Participate in Biennial Church Compensation Survey

GuideStone®, Lifeway Research and Baptist state conventions have again teamed up for the SBC Church Compensation Survey. Normally a biennial survey, the 2020 survey was canceled due to the pandemic; it was last conducted in 2018.

Pastors and church employees are invited to participate in the brief survey, a resource used by churches of all sizes to determine applicable wages and benefits. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete at **[GuideStone.org/CompensationSurvey](https://www.guidestone.org/CompensationSurvey)**. The survey started on April 1 and goes until the end of June.

The survey's results will be available in August, in time for many churches considering their 2023 budgets. The survey is the largest free church compensation study available in the United States.

"We honor the Lord and strengthen the church when we give proper financial support to those who serve," GuideStone President Hance Dilbeck said. "GuideStone is committed to advocate for pastors and local church employees. We pray this compensation survey will challenge each of our churches to provide appropriate compensation

and to do so by following best practices."

Individual survey results can be contributed anonymously: Survey results are not reported individually. Lifeway Research will compile the results once the survey closes on June 30. Survey respondents will receive advance notice of the survey's availability.

Respondents should have the church's average weekly attendance, church membership and 2022 annual budget. Additional information needed to complete the survey is respondents' annual salary, annual contributions to a retirement plan and annual church-paid insurance premiums, annual housing allowance, Social Security offset and the rental value and utilities for church-provided housing.

Southern Baptist church ministers and staff have until June 30 to complete the online survey.

Roy Hayhurst is director of denominational and public relations services for GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.



Learn about best practices for pastor compensation here: tinyurl.com/GS-compensation



Pastors Forum

Engaging Pastors from Hilo to Bangkok

During most of 2020 and 2021, Hawaii Pacific Baptist pastors gathered via Zoom for encouragement and training. Topics in 2021 included disciple-making, preaching, and leadership development. During the first few months of 2022, we have focused on encouraging weary pastors.

We recognized that throughout Hawaii, the Pacific, and Asia our pastors have been faithful and strong leaders during a prolonged pandemic. At the same time, we recognize that they are tired. So we moved to forums on pastoral wellness in the areas of rest, mental, spiritual, and physical health, finances, marriage/family, identity and friendships.

We thank God for the amazing guest speakers and for great participation from pastors in all the Hawaiian Islands, Guam, Samoa, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand.

You can watch recordings from these forums on vimeo (links provided) or by scanning the QR codes provided.

Willie McLaurin, former pastor and interim president of the SBC Executive Committee, talked about how to have a game-changing ministry plan.


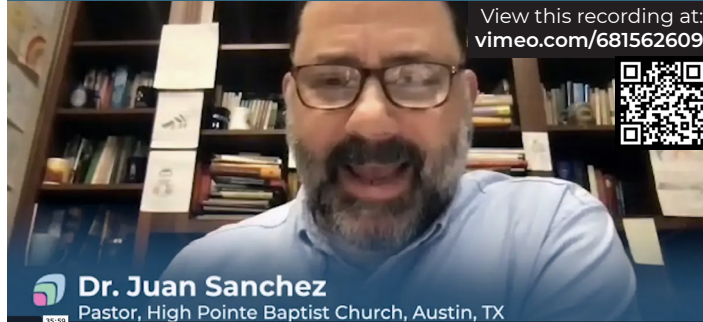
View this recording at: vimeo.com/689444422




Willie McLaurin
SBC Executive Committee Interim President and CEO

Juan Sanchez, senior pastor of High Pointe Baptist Church in Austin, Texas and assistant professor of Christian theology at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, spoke about pastors having healthy relationships with others.

View this recording at: vimeo.com/681562609

Dr. Juan Sanchez
Pastor, High Pointe Baptist Church, Austin, TX

Daniel Im, lead pastor of Beulah Alliance Church in Edmonton, Alberta, and author of *You Are What You Do: Six Other Lies about Work, Life, and Love and No Silver Bullets: Five Small Shifts that will Transform Your Ministry*, talked of pastors and their identity.

View this recording at: vimeo.com/692118978




Pastor Daniel Im

Ben Mandrell, president of Lifeway Christian Resources and former pastor, talked about pastors and their marriage.

View this recording at: vimeo.com/699627264




Dr. Ben Mandrell
President/CEO Lifeway Christian Resources

Mark Dance, director of pastoral wellness for GuideStone Financial Resources, spoke on pastors and Sabbath rest.

View this recording at: vimeo.com/676163140




Dr. Mark Dance
Director of Pastoral Wellness, Guidestone Financial





Woman's Missionary Union *Hawaii Pacific*

by Diana Ventura

WMU Missions Celebration

■ Held March 18-19 at Olivet Baptist ■

The Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) Missions Celebration took place on Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19, at Olivet Baptist Church. WMU is the missions partner that reminds us to live on mission. WMU also supports our missionaries through prayer and financial support.

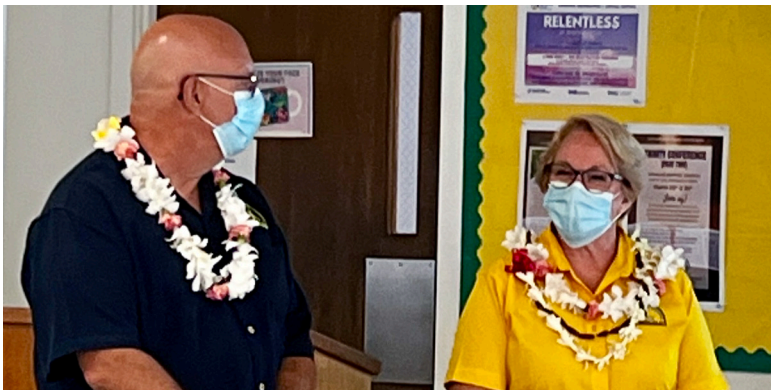
Every year we gather to celebrate how God is moving throughout the nations and in our communities. Men and women from Oahu, the Big Island, and Kauai gathered Friday night for worship, prayer, and testimonies from International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries. Participants returned Saturday morning for training breakouts led by Faith McFatridge, Dani Beth Crosby, Meredith Palicte, and Gay and John Williams.

The celebration included the election of next year's officers. The following were affirmed and recognized:

- *Ten Mendoza Jocson*, President
- *Liz McElrath*, Vice President
- *Charlene Vaughn*, OBN Liaison
- *Delna Okazaki*, Big Island Representative
- *Lorna Emiko Takaki*, Oahu Representative
- *Liana Benn*, Missions Friends
- *Sharae Santiago*, Kauai Representative
- *Hazel Capinpin*, Filipino Representative
- *Monica Kang*, Korean Representative



IMB missionaries Phillip and Ashleigh Irwin share stories of God's work.



John and Gay Williams, HPBC directors of Disaster Relief, talk about Disaster Relief ministry opportunities.



Dani Beth Crosby, family & communications minister, and Meredith Palicte, worship & internationals minister, at University Avenue Baptist, talk about ministering to families.

Pastors and Missions Leaders Gather for **3-Day Missions Training**

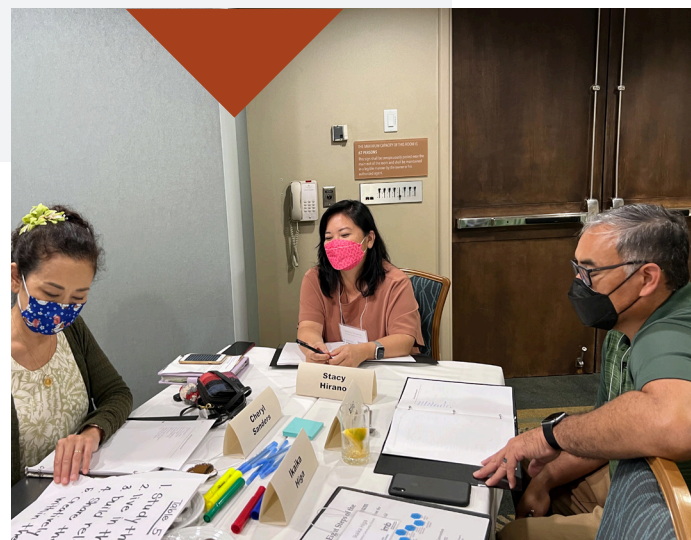
On February 24-26, 2022, HPBC hosted the International Mission Board's Drs. Hal Cunnyingham and Amanda Dimperio Davis for a three-day training, "8 Steps of the Missions Continuum." The training was held on Oahu at the Ala Moana Hotel conference area. Pastors and missions leaders from Oahu, Kauai, Hawaii Island, Maui, and Guam participated in instruction, Bible studies, and group activities.

Hal and Amanda covered the following topics:

- 4 Models for Missionary/Church/Agency/Field Relationships
- 5 Components of Missionary Assessment: Sending the Right People to the Right Place at the Right Time
- 6 Components of the Missionary Task
- 6 Critical Questions about Missions Involvement for the Local Church
- 8 Steps of the Missions Continuum
- 10 Questions to Aid in Understanding a New Culture
- Steps to Becoming a Missions-Sending Church
- Biblical Foundations for Missions
- Missionary Care
- Covenant Agreements

Hal Cunnyingham is Associate Vice President, Global Engagement, for the IMB and Dr. Amanda Dimperio Davis is Director of Globalization, Global Engagement for the IMB.

Cheryl Sanders, Stacey Hirano, and Arjay Gruspe complete group learning activity



something to Celebrate

Kahului Baptist Ordains Brennan and Tanaka as Elders

The members of Kahului Baptist Church affirmed and ordained Nick Tanaka and Noah Brennan to pastoral ministry on Sunday, March 13. Kahului Baptist has four men who serve as pastors and who together make up the council of elders.

Randy Pauley is the lead pastor.



Pau Hana Ohana Gather In-Person on Oahu's North Shore

Pau Hana Ohana is a group of retired Hawaii Pacific ministry leaders. They gathered on February 19 on the North Shore at Lillian Hiratani's home at their ocean-front garden. If you are a retired minister (or about to retire) in Hawaii, please contact Liz McElrath at lizzy.mcelrath@gmail.com. This group holds monthly meetings via zoom on the last Tuesday of each month for prayer and updates.



IMB's Victor and Darlene Hou Meet with HPBC Staff and Missions Leaders



OBI Students Receive Certificates in February

Five students (Daniel Catlin, Marion Hall, Isagani Jocson, Roy Oda, and Vince Tabudlo) received certificates from Oahu Bible Institute (OBI) for completing their coursework. The graduation celebration was held at First Southern Baptist Church of Pearl Harbor on February 27. Clyde Kakiuchi, President of Shiraki Memorial Foundation, prayed over the students. For information on OBI email Linda Taylor at obi.obn@gmail.com.



FBC Wahiawa Commissions Chaplains

First Baptist Church of Wahiawa affirming Ronnie and Danyana Brooker's call to ministry as military chaplains.

Mike Proctor is their Transitional Pastor.



something to Celebrate

Chappell Celebrates 20 Years As Pastor in Bangkok

Calvary International Baptist Church, Bangkok, Thailand celebrated Martin Chappell's twenty years of pastoral ministry at the church. Martin and Carrie served as International Mission Board Missionaries prior to becoming the pastor at Calvary. They are part of the Asia Baptist Network and the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention.



Waikiki Celebrates Baptisms

On March 13, Waikiki Baptist celebrated baptism at Ala Moana Beach Park.

Andrew Large is the pastor.



Waikoloa Gathers for Fellowship Meal

Waikoloa Baptist gathered for a Sunday Night fellowship potluck dinner on March 27. It's the first time in two years they have been able to gather this way to eat together as a church family. Trent Thompson is the senior pastor.



Waiehu Community Church Women Gather for Training

Waiehu Community Church women gathered for a weekend of training on March 18-19 with the theme "Taking Thoughts Captive." Patti Withers led the training.

Jay Haynes and Rocky Komatsu are co-pastors.



Komatsu Family Legacy

Seven Children Serving God, Four in Full-Time Pastoral Ministry

by Robert Miller, HPBC Director of
Regional Ministry



*Komatsu family on Lana'i
after Chris Komatsu's
installation service
at Lana'i Baptist*

While Mike and Danni Komatsu were busy raising seven young children and Mike was pastoring Lana'i Baptist Church, they hoped that all seven children would grow to be faithful church members. Little did they know that four of their boys would follow Dad's footsteps

into full-time pastoral ministry. Mike and Danni were surprised when their sons voiced their desire to follow God's lead into ministry. Mike served twelve years on Lana'i and seventeen years at Kahului Baptist Church. The time invested in ministry and their children would set a solid biblical foundation that



Komatsu family on Maui after the baptism of Rocky and Emily Komatsu's daughter, Ka'i

would significantly influence their children.

Fast forward to 2022, and today Maui County Baptist Association (MCBA), which includes the island of Lanai, has been populated with Komatsu pastors. Rocky (Emily) has been pastor of Waiehu Community Church on Maui for four years, where Mike and Danni, sister Carrie Beth (Johnny), brother Kenny (Sarah), and their families are members.

In 2021 Van Michael (Delaney) started his first lead pastor role at Kihei Baptist Church on Maui. Chris (Shawna) is the most recent addition to the

MCBA family. He began his pastoral ministry with Lana'i Baptist Church in March 2022, the same church where the Komatsu children were raised. Trevor (Amber) ministers in Florida. He is the NextGen Pastor at First Baptist Church of Jacksonville. Their sister Jessica (Aaron) also lives on the mainland and is active in her church.

Although only one of the four brothers, Chris, aspired to be a pastor, four brothers have responded to the call to vocational gospel ministry.

The connection between the brothers goes beyond the

last name. They are close friends. This allows them to speak openly and honestly about personal and ministry concerns.

It was never the goal of Mike and Danni to raise future pastors, but as they step back and reflect on their growing family, they are thankful that their children are serving the Lord, married to believers, and raising Godly children.

Mike and Danni are also grateful to God for blessing them with 16 grandchildren, with more to come.



Mike Komatsu speaks at his son's, Chris, installation service at Lana'i Baptist Church

BCM O'ahu Holds 4-Day Retreat During Spring Break

During UH Mānoa's spring recess, Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) O'ahu hosted a four-day retreat themed, "reCHARGE"; finding rest in Jesus and being reminded of our mission as believers. ➔

A group of twelve students and staff participated in Bible study sessions and refreshing and energetic activities. The retreat was finished by spending a day serving at Hāmama Community Church, one of the church plants in the Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention (HPBC).

International Ministries Takes International Students to Maui



International students and leaders on Maui



BCM O'ahu students and staff participating in the retreat



BCM O'ahu serves at Hāmama Community Church

⬇ International Ministries (IM) partnered with Kahului Baptist Church (KBC) to host international students on Maui for spring break in March. The ten students are currently studying on Oahu and come from Thailand, Korea, Japan, Brazil, and Hawaii. Through Bible discussions, sightseeing, meeting KBC members, and a joint service project, the students had opportunities to hear the gospel and meet believers as they visited a neighbor island. John Allison is the director of International Baptist Ministries. Randy Pauley is the lead pastor of Kahului Baptist.

International students serve outdoors while others clean and organize Kahului Baptist preschool rooms



Webb Leads Deacon Training for Olivet Baptist and IBC Manila

On Saturday, March 12, Hawaii Pacific Baptist Convention's (HPBC) Craig Webb led an in-person 3-hour training for pastors, staff, deacons, and other church leaders at Olivet Baptist Church. He covered the Biblical basis for deacon ministry, what it means to be a "Deacon on Purpose" (based on Tony Wolfe's book), nine Biblical qualities of a deacon, and how deacons can care in a crisis.

Jamie McElrath is senior pastor at Olivet Baptist. Craig led the same training via Zoom for International Baptist Church (IBC) Manila pastors, deacons, and prospective deacons.



In-person deacon training at Olivet Baptist



Deacon training via Zoom with IBC Manila

Guam Christian Life Fellowship Continues Ministry to H2 Workers in Guam

↓ In the last edition of Pacific Connector, we shared about Guam Christian Life Fellowship's (GCLF) ministry to H2 workers living in Guam. Several men have come to Christ and are being discipled.

Pancho Madrid is the pastor of GCLF.



Mario Nuestro is pictured sharing the gospel with the H2 workers. Three came to Christ during his presentation.



Jess Jennings, IMB missionary based in the Philippines (visiting Guam), meets with H2 workers who are from the area where he serves.



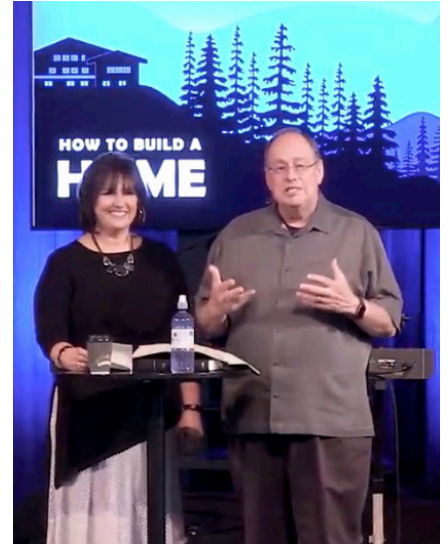
Kenneth Priest

At the beginning of April, Dr. Kenneth Priest began serving Valley Isle Fellowship, Wailuku, Maui as their transitional pastor. Kenneth is the founder of Revive This Church consulting ministry and adjunct professor with Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, MO. Kenneth and Debbi, his wife, have been asked to commit 1 year to VIF. In 2021, Kenneth served for five months as Transitional Pastor of Central Baptist, Honolulu. Contact Kenneth via email at kenneth.priest@vifmaui.com.



John Blackmon

John Blackmon will begin serving in July as an associate pastor at Calvary International Baptist, Bangkok, alongside lead pastor Martin Chappell. John and his wife Cheryl just completed ten years with Meansville Baptist Church in Georgia, and have felt burdened for Southeast Asia after two trips to the region in recent years. John is originally from Mississippi and Cheryl is from Florida. They have two children, Lillie Joanna and Josiah. John just completed a Ph.D. in Historical Theology from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.



Barry Campbell

On June 1, Barry Campbell will begin serving as the transitional pastor at Lahaina Baptist Church on Maui. Barry will retire at the end of May from Highland Baptist Church in Redmond, Oregon where he has served as pastor for 12 years. Barry served at Lifeway for sixteen years in consulting and helping pastors and churches. Before coming to Lifeway, he served as a pastor for 20 years. He's the author of *Toolbox for Busy Pastors and Smaller Churches: Healthy and Growing*. His wife, Marci, serves as a National/International Special Needs Ministry Consultant.



Wives in Ministry Hosts Regional In-person Gatherings

The Wives in Ministry team hosted island visits with lead pastor wives during the month of March and April. The first gathering took place on Kauai where the wives were invited to brunch at Diana Ventura's home. It was a well-needed time to reconnect in person and a reminder of the importance of meeting together.

The Wives in Ministry team also gathered pastor wives at Kona Baptist on Hawaii Island, at Valley Isle Fellowship on Maui, and at Barbara Webb's home on Oahu. For more information contact Diana Ventura, HPBC director of women's ministries, at diana@hpbaptist.net.

HPBC Disaster Relief Resumes In-person Training

Thank you to John and Gay Williams, HPBC Directors of Disaster Relief, who led the first in-person Disaster Relief training in a couple of years. Thank you Hawaii Kai Church and Mililani Baptist for hosting these events.

In order to respond to disasters with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, volunteers must go through training and certification. To train you must be eighteen years or older and a member of a Southern Baptist Church. You are required to retrain every three years and need to be

credentialed which includes a background check. For more information, contact John and Gay at disasterrelief@hpbaptist.net.

John Williams leads Disaster Relief Training at Hawaii Kai Church on Oahu



Hawaii Pacific Baptists Urged to Explore New Initiatives

In 2021, the HPBC Executive Board launched new initiatives to strengthen Hawaii Pacific Baptist Churches in theological, leadership, and missional development. Your Cooperative Program gifts will fund these initiatives supplemented by additional resources through your contributions to the Sue Nishikawa Offering for Hawaii Pacific Missions.

The initiatives will focus HPBC resources on these three areas:

1 Theological Development Initiatives

Scholarships are available for Hawaii Pacific Baptists pursuing theological training from one of our six Southern Baptist seminaries through on-campus, on-island, and online courses. We will also seek to develop engagements with seminaries for alumni and students.

2 Leadership Development Initiatives

From the leadership development initiatives, interns and apprentice positions for your ministry are back, in coordination with Cooperative Program support for entry-level ministry positions. These initiatives will serve those of you who have expressed the desire to train leaders in the field, shaped better to comprehend the contextualized nature of our ministry areas.

3 Missional Development Initiatives

Scholarships and subsidies, provided through your Cooperative Program gifts, will enable pastors and mission leaders to participate in mission trips or lead church teams to engage a new mission field. These initiatives will expand your missional reach to engage fresh mission efforts, whether at home or across the globe.

In coordination with the SBC seminaries, the North American Mission Board, and the International Mission Board, God is preparing Hawaii Pacific Baptists to lead the way forward in reaching the world for Christ, beginning in our regions. Prayerfully consider how your church can benefit from these initiatives in developing leaders for God's Kingdom work ahead.

We have prepared a page on our website with overviews, applications, and evaluation forms for several unique opportunities in each initiative area.

Scan the QR code or visit:
hpbaptist.net/initiatives

