

III. ANNUAL REPORTS

**Conference Minister Report:
State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches 6/13/2024**

This summer finds the Hawai'i Conference UCC involved in many initiatives – some older and some newer. As it should be, for that is the life of an organization – we provide continuity in the things we do while introducing novelty to keep us moving forward.

The newest initiative is the HCUCC identity emphasis: *HCUCC CARES*. This is the product of our Editorial Team. They asked two questions: Who is the HCUCC? What does the HCUCC do? The answer to the first question is that we – you and all people who make up our congregations and associations are the HCUCC. The answer to the second question is that we – all of us – CARES: we Connect, we Advocate, we Resource, we Embrace, we Serve.

A newer initiative, although we have been working toward it for a couple of years now, is the Capital Campaign: *Fatih Forward: Honoring Our Legacy and Building Our Future*. With this campaign we take seriously the charge of Psalm 78:4b “Let us tell the next generation of the glorious deeds of our God.” The total goal of \$12,000,000 will 1) provide for secure clergy retirement through Generations of Service, 2) nurture Inspired Church Leadership, 3) initiate Developing New Ministries in local congregations, and 4) aid in Revisioning Sacred Spaces. The four emphases of the campaign will allow the Conference to achieve resourcing which lies beyond the reach of present funding avenues.

An older initiative is the Ka Papa Ho'olālā/Strategic Plan 2018-2028. The Conference (remember that is you and I and everyone) is in year five of the ten-year plan. The Conference Council met in retreat in February to walk through the eight initiatives of the plan asking questions such as: What has been accomplished? What still needs to be done? Do we need to reprioritize? A report of the Council conversation will be made at the Aha Makua by Roberta Jahrling.

While not as weighty as the three initiatives above, the Conference Office has enjoyed its new home at 700 Bishop St for a year now. Being in the Topa Financial Center has alleviated concerns about property upkeep, delayed maintenance, and safety which proved to be a magnet of our focus at the Nu'uaniu location. Now our focus is free to give to the pressing needs of our local congregations.

Finally, the return of hosting the Aha Pae'aina in person has pushed us all. It's been five years since we last met in a space where we can hug and talk story with one another. The move back to an in-person meeting found us as an organization somewhat like I find my aging body after I set too long: a bit stiff and slow to get going. It is the deepest belief of the Aha Pae'aina planning team that we are created for community and our time together honors God.

David Popham
Conference Minister
May 1, 2024



**State Council of
Hawaiian Congregational Churches
(SCHCC)**

**Annual Meeting
Central Union Church
June 13, 2024**

President's Report

Aloha SCHCC Ohana,

As we come to the end of another fiscal year, please accept my sincere mahalo and appreciation for your willingness to continue working together for all of our Hawaiian churches. We, the State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches, will always face challenges,..... however, the important thing to remember is, as we continue helping our churches, we will do it with lots of love and Aloha and clear understanding.

During this fiscal year, we have dealt with joy and sadness and as shared in my April 2024 quarterly report, a very dear and special friend, Aunty Aletha Kaohi was called home by Ke Akua on April 09, 2024. Aunty Aletha was and will forever be a legend to remember.....not only because of her wisdom and knowledge of the SCHCC, but her love of sharing her experiences and many stories from being a member and supporter of SCHCC for sixty (68) years. She will also be remembered for her participation and involvement in the Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ (HCUCC) and the Hawaii Conference Foundation (HCF).

There have been many things keeping us busy and we will continue to be busy as we move forward. Much mahalo to our Officers and Board Members, and our regular "guest" attendees/participants.

The history of the SCHCC (shown below) is very important. This information will continue to be shared in my reports, so that each reader will hopefully, appreciate the what and the why of the State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches' existence.

Again, as a friendly reminder, I share this important information, to continue helping us learn about how this organization helps our Hawaiian Churches. To help you understand what "we" are about.....please take some time to read and share the history that follows:

About Us: *The State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches (SCHCC) traces its roots back to the 1948 'Aha Pae'aina of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association (the precursor to today's Hawai'i Conference of the United Church of Christ. The State Council was set up to provide leadership for Hawaiian churches, promote their work, and to nurture fellowship.*

The State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches was formally recognized at the 1952 'Aha Pae'aina. It continues today with approximately forty-four member churches working together to keep alive the legacy and traditions of the native Hawaiian churches out of a sincere love for the Hawaiian churches and our Lord Jesus Christ!

As representatives and supporters of our respective churches, organizations and each other let us keep moving forward together, in Unity, with faith, trust and love.

It is our hope that this brief history about the SCHCC is more clearly understood, as we continue working with our Hawaiian Churches.

Mahalo and God's blessings,

Sharon Matsuyama

**Sharon Matsuyama
President**

cc: Board of Directors



*Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ
202nd' Aha Pae'aina*

*State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches
(SCHCC)
Aha Iki – Central Union Church*

June 13, 2024
Advisor's Report

Aloha Kakou,

As another year comes to an end, mahalo Ke Akua for bringing us into a new year. Our annual meeting will be in person and held at Central Union Church.

We bid Aloha Oe and pay tribute to an advocate of our Hawaiian Churches in the passing of Aletha Kaohi. Aunty Aletha was a pillar of the SCHCC.

This past year, working with our non-profit attorney, Brian Ezuka, we filed for our State and Federal Tax Exemptions. We have received a conditional State Exemption till 2/12/25, pending approval of the Federal Exemption.

The Board of Directors approved the following documents in relation to the Federal Exemption.

1. Conflict of Interest Policy
2. Confidentiality Policy
3. Whistleblower Policy
4. Document Retention and Destruction Policy

To our Island Council Presidents / Representatives and Partner; Haunani Pacheco – **Kauai**, Joanne Kishimori – **Oahu**, Uluwehi Sai – **Molokai Topside**, Aileen Trout – **Maui**, Clem Malani, Jr – **East Hawaii**, Sam Masilamoney – **West Hawaii**, Toni Bissen- **Pu'a Foundation**, and David Popham – **Conference Minister**.

To our Executive Committee; Sharon Matsuyama – **President**, Lorna Motas – **Vice President**, Keoki Kiwaha – **Secretary**, Frank Mulec – **Treasurer**, Kealahou Alike – **Resource Person** and Boyd Matsuyama – **Advisor**.

Mahalo to our Officers and Directors for your leadership and unending support of the SCHCC.

The SCHCC leadership continues to Advocate for what is in the best interest of all Hawaiian Churches of the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ.

In His Service,

Boyd Matsuyama
Boyd Matsuyama – Advisor

State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches (SCHCC)
Repair and Maintenance of Small Membership Hawaiian Churches (R & M) Annual Report
`Aha `Iki June 13, 2024

The SCHCC Repair and Maintenance of Small Membership Hawaiian Congregational Churches (R & M) reports the following:

OUTSTANDING PROJECTS FOR 2018:

- **Helani Congregational Church (Hawaii Island)**-Per the April Island Council report from Rollin Rabara, the Hawaii County's request to test the soil is not required and the church can move forward with the project to repair the southside wall of the chapel. However, the former contractor is not able to do the project and the church is now seeking a new contractor. Fencing on the South and West side of the parking lot has been completed.

COMPLETED PROJECTS FOR 2022:

- **Kalaikamanu Hou Congregational Church (Molokai)**-Uluwehi Sai reported on Oct 7, 2023, that plumbing issues with a grease trap stalled the project. They have paid for the kitchen hardware, fitting and freight charges and are working hard to keep within the balance of the remaining funds of \$10,914 to complete this project. She reported on January 10, 2024, that all their projects are completed just prior to the community Thanksgiving Lunch. **Congratulations Kalaikamanu Hou!**
 - **Waialua Congregational Church (Molokai)** Jo Simms reported that all R & M work has been completed and submitted a final email report and photos of the before and after. **Congratulations Waialua!**
-

CURRENT PROJECTS FOR 2024:

There were five R & M applications that were received by December 31, 2023, for projects in 2024. The total amount requested from the R & M was \$108,233.00. **See the spreadsheet for details for each project.**

These requests were from the following churches: Liliuokalani Protestant Church (O`ahu), Wai`oli Hui`ia Church (Kauai), Kapa`a First Hawaiian Church (Kauai), Kalapana Maunakea Congregational Church (Hawai`i Island) and Opihikao Congregational Church (Hawai`i Island)

Two churches, Lili`uokalani Protestant Church, and Wai`oli Hui`ia Church have projects involving installation of septic tank systems. Kalapana Maunakea Congregational Church and the Opihikao Congregational Church requested funds for termite tenting and the Kapa`a First Hawaiian Church planned to repaint the interior and exterior of the sanctuary, fellowship hall and repair kitchen cabinets.

On January 16, 2024, a meeting was held by the R & M committee members, a motion was made to approve the 2 grants to install the septic system at Lili`uokalani Church and Wai`oli Hui`ia Church. This would allow the HCUC to following the Federal Environmental Protection Agency's mandate regarding the septic tank installation deadline in Hawaii. In addition, these two churches have already been identified as churches that must comply immediately.

Lili`uokalani Protestant Church received \$25,300 and Wai`oli Hui`ia Church received \$14,700 from the Hawaii Conference Foundation in February 2024.

At the January 16 meeting, the R & M Committee further agreed that the three churches, Kapa`a First Hawaiian Church, Opihikao Congregational Church and Kalapana Maunakea Congregational Church requests would be deferred and prioritized for consideration for fiscal 2025.

At the SCHCC BOD meeting held on January 27, 2024, recommendations to 1) change the R & M application deadline from December 31 to November 15 and 2) add an addendum to the application were approved. The final drafts were presented at the April 27, 2024, SCHCC BOD meeting.

On April 15, 2024, the R & M Committee, Lorna Motas, chairperson, Debbie Wong-Yuen, Committee Member and Boyd Matsuyama SCHCC Advisor met via Zoom. Committee Member, Kahu Barry Mick was absent.

The follow items were discussed:

- The revised SCHCC R & M Application with the new deadline of November 15th.
- The Addendum to the Application, “Recommended Information for R & M applications”.
- The deferred funding from fiscal 2024 for Kapa`a First Hawaiian Church, Kalapana Maunakea Congregational Church, and Opihikao Congregational Church. Due to insufficient funds in the SCHCC, R & M 2024 fiscal year budget, funds to cover 3 church grant requests were deferred. The motion was made by chairperson, Lorna Motas to grant funding from the fiscal 2025 budget to the following churches:
 - Kalapana Maunakea Church, \$7,133 for termite treatment,
 - Opihikao Congregation Church, \$6,545 for termite treatment
 - Kapa`a First Hawaiian Church \$26, 322 for painting and kitchen repairs.

The motion was seconded by Debbie Wong-Yuen and approved.

At the April 27, 2024, SCHCC BOD meeting,

- The final draft of the R & M application form and the “Recommended Information for R & M Application” were presented. (The updated recommendations were approved on January 27 at the SCHCC BOD meeting). Both documents will be submitted to the HCUCC office and updated on the SCHCC website, under Affiliate, SCHCC, Repair and Maintenance of Small Membership Hawaiian Churches.
- The deferred grant funding for the three above mentioned churches was presented and this recommendation will be presented at the `Aha `Iki on June 13, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorna Motas

Lorna Motas-Chair of SCHCC, R & M Committee

Cc: Kahu Barry Mick, SCHCC R & M Committee Member
Debbie Wong-Yuen, SCHCC R & M Committee Member
Boyd Matsuyama, SCHCC Advisor

SCHCC-REPAIR AND MAINTAINENCE OF SMALL MEMBERSHIP HAWAIIAN CHURCHES SUMMARY OF FISCAL 2024 APPLICATION									
	NAME OF CHURCH	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJECT COST	CHURCH 1/3	OTHER GRANTS/FUNDING	R & M GRANT REQUEST	R & M recommended grant		
1	LILI`UOKALANI PROTESTANT CHURCH	CESSPOOL CLOSURE & SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION	\$51,832	\$17,277	NONE	\$34,555	\$25,300		
2	WAI`OLI HUI`IA CHURCH	SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION	\$50,500	\$10,500	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$14,700		
3	KAPA'A FIRST HAW`N CHURCH	PAINTING INTERIOR & EXTERIOR OF SANCTUARY AND FELLOWSHIP HALL, REPAIR KITCHEN CABINETS	\$65,094	\$25,094	NONE	\$40,000			
4	KALAPANA MAUNAKEA CHURCH	TERMITE TREATMENT OF CHAPEL & HALL	\$10,699	\$3,566	NONE	\$7,133			
5	OPIHIKAO CONG'L CHURCH	TERMITE TREAT SANCTUARY, SOCIAL HALL, OFFICE, SLEEPING QUARTERS	\$9,817	\$3,272	NONE	\$6,545			
	TOTAL		\$187,942	\$59,709	\$20,000	\$108,233	\$40,000		
NOTE: TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDING THROUGH R&M IS \$40,000									
	Lili`uokalani Protestant Church represents 63.3% of the \$40,000 and Wai`oli Hui`ia Church represent 36.6% of the \$40,000								
	Lili`uokalani Protestant Church	\$34,555	63.3% of \$54,555	\$25,300	represent 63.3% of \$40,000				
	Wai`oli Hui`ia Church	\$20,000	36.6% of \$54,555	\$14,700	represents 36.6% of \$40,000				
	Total	\$54,555							

RECOMMENDED INFORMATION FOR SCHCC REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE APPLICATION

Below outlines the necessary information needed on the Church Board/Congregation/or Members Meeting Minutes and the Island Council Meeting Minutes.

Church Membership Meeting Minutes to include the following:

- Name of church
- Date of meeting
- Location of meeting /Zoom
- Quorum established.
- **Include the Action to introduce and approve the R & M request.** Other church information shared at the meeting does not need to be included.
- **Minutes signed by the Church Secretary.**

Information specified within the church minutes regarding the R & M grant request:

- The project-for eg. Termite treatment of sanctuary and hall
- Bids and final contractor
- Date of the project- date of start and estimated completion date
- Cost of the project- e.g. \$30,000
- Church 1/3 share- e.g. \$10,000
- Outside grants or in-kind services? List this information.
- Grant request from the R & M committee- e.g. \$20,000
- Motion and approval
- **Minutes signed by the Secretary at the meeting.**

The church minutes are presented to the Island Council and at that meeting it must be approved with the above information.

If any information is missing, the Island Council should not approve the church's application.

Island Council Meeting Minutes to include the following:

- Name of Island Council
- Date of Island Council meeting
- Location /Zoom
- Quorum established.
- Action to introduce R & M requests and name the individual church's requesting R & M funding.
Each church info must be mentioned and listed in the Island Council minutes.
 - E.g. Aloha Church
 - The project-for e.g. Termite treatment of sanctuary and hall
 - Bids and final contractor
 - Date of the project- date of start and estimated completion date
 - Cost of the project- e.g. \$30,000
 - Church 1/3 share- e.g. \$10,000
 - Outside grants or in-kind services? List this information.
 - Grant request from the R & M committee- e.g. \$20,000
 - Motion and approval
 - **Minutes signed by the Island Council Secretary at the meeting.**

As of 4-15-24

**STATE COUNCIL OF HAWAIIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES
(SCHCC)**

**FUND FOR REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF SMALL
MEMBERSHIP HAWAIIAN CHURCHES**

Application Information

Funding for the Repair & Maintenance of Small Membership Hawaiian Churches is included in the annual budget of the Hawaii Conference Foundation (HCF). Monies so allocated must be spent within the fiscal year for which it is approved.

The SCHCC has been given the responsibility for administering the funds. The underlying philosophy of the HCF and SCHCC is to help Hawaiian churches help themselves by sharing in the efforts of each member church to raise funds (*i.e.* fundraising, solicitation of gifts, tithing goals, etc.) To accomplish this, we must all be partners in seeking how needed repairs can be made.

Often, requests from Hawaiian churches exceed the amount allocated in the budget, not surprisingly, given the age of some of the structures and facilities. The task of reviewing requests and determining which are funded and by what amount, falls to the SCHCC.

In so doing the SCHCC Committee for the Repair & Maintenance of Small Membership Hawaiian Churches (hereinafter referred to as R&M Committee) has given careful thought to a number of considerations including the following:

- The Need for the Project

How critical is the repair or maintenance? How would it affect the mission of the church? What might happen if it were not done? Is it time-critical? Must the work be done within a certain timeframe? What is the church's participation (*i.e.*, sharing the cost; providing in-kind services; a combination of both?)

- Priority Consideration

Priority of and support for all grant requests must first be given to the churches whose deeds are held by the HCF. The HCF, as Trustee, has a fiduciary responsibility which carries a legal obligation to support those churches.

In cases where a church that holds its own deed is faced with unusual extenuating circumstances that cannot be addressed because of the preferential obligation imposed by the Trust, SCHCC may suggest an alternative that avoids any conflict.

Applications for the repair and maintenance of septic systems and handicapped accessibility are also priorities of the fund. The first would be in compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Department of Health.

The second would be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- **Scope of Work**

The fund is available to cover the cost of the repair and maintenance to current existing structures on church premises including the *hale pule* (church building), *hale 'āina* (social/fellowship hall) and *hale ke'ena* (office building). The scope of work may include the repair and maintenance of windows, doors, floors, and roofs as well as painting, electrical, plumbing and fumigation work.

What the fund does not cover is the cost for sound systems, computer systems, carpeting, air conditioning, fans, appliances, and furnishings as well as parking lots, landscaping, gates, and fences.

- **Reimbursements**

Reimbursements for complete projects will not be considered unless, at the discretion of the R&M Committee, compelling and justifiable reasons dictate otherwise.

- **Completeness of Application**

All applicable items must be completed including the duly signed minutes of the meetings of both the Member Church and its respective Island Council. The minutes of the meeting of the church's governing body (*i.e.*, Congregation, Church Council) must include the type of project the funds are being requested for; the estimated cost of materials, labor, and skills to be hired; a clear showing of the total amount to be contributed by the Member Church in cash, in-kind services, or a combination of both and the action taken. *Refer to the Recommended Information for SCHCC Repair and Maintenance Application attached sheet.*

Projects costing more than \$5,000 must be supported by a Licensed Contractor's estimate.

- **Discerning Need**

Member Churches are encouraged to discern what is needed most. The work of reviewing and acting upon requests for assistance presents the SCHCC, through the work of the R&M Committee, with a challenge and an opportunity to be in partnership with our member churches.

There are no hard and fast rules. There is no checklist.

However, there are guidelines governing the work of the R&M Committee. The R&M Committee seeks to do its work prayerfully and thoughtfully relying upon the Holy Spirit for wisdom and guidance.

Reviewing the Application

1. A Member Church, applying for funds, forwards the completed Application Form, and the original minutes showing the action taken at the meeting of the church's governing body (i.e., Congregational, Church Council) and **duly signed by the Church Secretary.** The original application and the original meeting minutes, approved, are submitted to the appropriate Island Council President.

Distribution: Please provide the original application plus 2 additional sets (single-sided copies only) and the original minutes plus 2 additional sets (double-sided copies).

2. Upon approval by its Island Council, the Island Council President will forward the original completed application form of the Member Church, applying for the funds, to the Chairperson of the R&M Committee. The Island Council President will also provide the signed minutes of its meeting approving the submission of the application, **duly signed by the Island Council Secretary,** to the R&M Committee.

All applications are due by November 15th.

3. At the first scheduled meeting of the SCHCC Board of Directors following the November 15th deadline, the R&M Committee shall present its recommendation to the Board.

Whether an application is approved or denied, the Chairperson of the R&M Committee will inform the Member Church of the Board's decision by written notice or via email.

4. Upon approval by the SCHCC Board of Directors, the Chairperson of the R&M Committee shall inform the Executive Director of the HCF, in writing, of the name of the church and the amount of the approved grant. The Chairperson of the R&M Committee shall provide the HCF with the approved applications and the minutes of the SCHCC Board of Director's meeting in which the approval action was taken.
5. Upon completion of its project, the Member Church shall submit a written report to the R&M Committee, preferably with (before and after) photographs. At that time the account will be closed.
6. Any unused funds shall be returned to the SCHCC. Unused funds may not be applied to other projects.

If new projects are considered, churches must submit a new application.

(Revised: April 15, 2024)

B. Budget Worksheet

1. Sources of Income with Amount of Contribution

Local Church Contribution: _____

Other Sources of Funding: _____
(Include name and amount of any other grants you are applying for.)

Total Amount of Contributions: _____

2. In-Kind Donations *(Please give reasonable estimate of value. If necessary, use a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this application)*

Volunteer Hours: _____

Equipment: _____

Supplies: _____

Other: _____

3. Project Expenses

General Contractor - Proposed Bid Cost: _____
(Attach bid to application)

Required Materials – Total Materials Cost: _____
(Itemize and attach)

Total Project Expense: _____

4. Calculation for HCF Allocation:

Total Project Expense: _____

Less Total Contribution: _____

HCF Allocation Requested: _____

5. Cost Share

Total Cost of Project: _____ Amount Requesting: _____

===== **For Island Council Use Only** =====

1. Signatures

Moderator: _____ Minister: _____

Island Council President: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

2. Check off all that apply:

Signatures: _____ Moderator _____ Minister _____ Council President

Minutes: _____ Congregational/Church Council _____ Island Council

===== **Recommendation by Repair & Maintenance Committee** =====

1. Recommendation

Approval: _____ Denial: _____ Grant Amount Recommended: _____

Comments: _____

2. Signature

Committee Chair: _____ Date: _____

===== **Review & Approval of SCHCC Board of Directors** =====

1. Recommendation

Approval: _____ Denial: _____ Grant Amount Approved: _____

Comments: _____

2. Signatures

SCHCC President: _____ Date: _____

SCHCC Secretary: _____ Date: _____

(Revised: April 15, 2024)

Kahu Richard W. Wong Endowment Fund

`Aha `Iki Meeting

June 13, 2024

On June 25, 1990, Kahu Richard W. Wong established the “KAHU RICHARD W WONG ENDOWMENT FUND “to help Hawaiian churches for their:

- educational,
- mission,
- scholarship,
- evangelistic,
- personnel,
- and building needs.*” However, ***“Grants are NOT to be given to build, maintain, or renovate *income producing facilities.*”**

For calendar year 2024, the committee received one application from **Topside UCC Churches Council**. The application request covers a shortfall of funds to cover the personnel needs of the Topside UCC Churches Council to provide ongoing pastoral care for the 4 Moloka`i churches. There are two reasons for the amount requested: **\$21,904**. Firstly, the 2023 Moloka`i Annual Bazaar did not produce the anticipated funding and, secondly, there was an oversight in paying the Kahu annuity payments. This request is a sizeable amount of funding.

Kahu Richard Wong emphasized the need for **mission**: the redeeming work of God in saving, healing, restoring, and renewing the world. The Kahu Richard W Wong Endowment has funding to cover this shortfall. It is the unanimous decision of the committee to recommend approval of this application.

On February 6, 2024, the committee received a letter of thanksgiving for the grant award to Topside UCC Churches Council. Happily, that letter indicated that the 2023 Bazaar netted about \$20,000 in sales. It reveals that Topside member churches and the Moloka`i community worked to support the work of Kahu Janice Ogoshi.

Committee:

Aileen Trout, Chair, Lahuiokalani Ka`anapali Congregational Church

Linda Norrington, Waiola Church

Haunani Pacheco, Wai`oli Hui`ia Church

Boyd Matsuyama, Puka`ana Church



STATE COUNCIL OF HAWAIIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES
P.O. BOX 407
HOLUALOA, HAWAII 96725

William Kahuakai Keliihoomalu Scholarship Fund

(State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches)
Sharon Matsuyama, Chairperson (808-936-1385)
c/o Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ
700 Bishop Street, Suite 825 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SCHCC Annual Meeting
June 13, 2024

Aloha e na hoahanau me na hoaloha,

The deadline for applying for funding through the William Kahuakai Keliihoomalu Scholarship Fund is by October 15 of each year. Although it's been quite some time since requests for funding have been received, interested individuals are encouraged to learn more about this scholarship fund on the SCHCC website by logging on to www.hcucc.org then clicking on Affiliate Organizations.

The "William Kahuakai Keliihoomalu Scholarship Fund" was established as a memorial Scholarship in 1979, following the passing of Licentiate Kahu, William K. Keliihoomalu. The fund was started with a monetary gift of \$25.00 by Mrs. Ada Larrison, a friend of the family, and continued growing with support from members of the Keliihoomalu 'Ohana, Kalapana Maunakea Congregational Church, and many friends. She requested that this gift be placed in a Custodial Account with the Hawaii Conference Foundation, for the purpose of providing financial aid for seminary, postgraduate and continuing education expenses.

When the fund grew to the amount of \$500.00, the State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches (SCHCC) was appointed Custodian of this Scholarship fund, by Kahu Richard Kamanu. The State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches turned the funds over to the Hawaii Conference Foundation to be invested. An amount of \$5,000.00 was set, as the starting goal, for using the earned interest income, towards the granting of the scholarship fund, for the purpose stated.

The Keliihoomalu Ohana will be asked to review the current policy of the Scholarship Fund, then have discussion on the possibility of revising the policy, purpose, and guidelines.

If there are any questions, call the telephone number shown on the letterhead of this report.

In His Service,

Sharon Matsuyama

Sharon Matsuyama,
Chairperson - William Kahuakai Keliihoomalu Scholarship

**State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches
(SCHCC)**

KATHERINE & CLAY WERY FUND

202nd Aha Pae'aina/ Aha Iki
Central Union Church

Annual Meeting
June 13, 2024

Aloha Kakou,

The HCUCC was one of the beneficiaries of the estate of Katherine Wery and established the Katherine & Clay Wery Fund for Hawaiian Churches to be administered by the SCHCC.

In July 2016, Dr Naleen Andrade, hanai daughter of Katherine Hanley Wery, met with the SCHCC Executive Committee to discuss funding, benefiting small rural Hawaiian Churches.

- In December 2023, Topside Council applied and approved \$4,103.00, to host a community suicide workshop held at Ho'olehua Congregational Church. Presenters came from Kohokuola Foundation, Kukulu Kumuhana O Anahola and Stay Humble Pray.

Boyd Matsuyama - Chair

SCHCC Nominating Committee Committee Report & Nominations

May 1, 2024

At the January 27, 2024, quarterly meeting of the SCHCC Board of Directors, it was confirmed that Kahu Keoki Kiwaha would oversee the nominating process for the election of SCHCC officers at our Annual Meeting on June 13, 2024. Additionally, Kahu James Aarona of Maui willingly volunteered to be a co-facilitator in this work.

Kahu Kiwaha and Kahu Aarona put together a Nominations Packet; and, after review and approval, began the process of mailing out those packets to our member churches. We encountered an issue in the original mailing of the packets. Thankfully our Island Council presidents and leaders made sure to send digital copies of the packet to our member churches while we resolved the issue with the physical packets.

To date, we received no nomination forms besides those of the current SCHCC officers who are each eligible for reelection. Therefore, the Nominating Committee officially moves the following Suggested Action:

To conclude the nominating process; and, elect the following slate – Sharon Matsuyama as President, Lorna Motas as Vice President, Kahu Keoki Kiwaha as Secretary, and Frank Mulec as Treasurer for the term beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2026.

With thanksgiving for the service and commitment of all who continue to serve our State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches and our island councils, we are happy to submit this report to the delegates to our SCHCC Annual Meeting held at Central Union Church in Honolulu.

Commemorating our 76th year, may Ke Akua continue to bless the work and ministry of the State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches, our island councils, our member churches, and our covenantal partners.

‘O māua no, me ka ‘oia‘i‘o,

Kahu Keoki Kiwaha, *Chairperson & Co-Facilitator*
Kahu James Aarona, *Member & Co-Facilitator*
SCHCC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches
Annual Report
June 13, 2024

Kaua'i Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches (KCHCC)
President's Report

Member Churches

Hanapepe Hawaiian Congregational Church
Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church
Ko'olau Hui'ia Church
Ka 'Ohana Ni'ihau Church
Wai'oli Hui'ia Church
Waimea UCC Church

It is with deep sadness that I report the passing of Aletha Kawelukawahineholooliomaloe Goodwin Kaohi. Aunty Aletha passed away on April 9, 2024. She was our living treasure, and she was an integral part of the Kauai Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches. There are no words to express our appreciation to her for the countless hours she spent giving of herself to her church, her family, her friends, and her community. She will be deeply missed by everyone that had the pleasure of knowing her.

The Kaua'i Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches met on May 6, 2023, October 15, 2023, January 21, 2024, 4/10/24. We also met for a special meeting on December 18, 2024 to approve 2 grant requests. We have found that Zoom meetings, are for now, the easiest method of meeting. Our officers for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Officers:

President:	Haunani Pacheco	Wai'oli Hui'ia Church
Vice President:	Linda Kaauwai-Iwamoto	Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church
Secretary:	Bonnie Shimatsu	Hanapepe Hawaiian Congregational
Treasurer:	Naomi Yokotake	Wai'oli Hui'ia Church
Advisor:	Rev. Barry Mick	Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church

This past year, after 3 plus years of restricted contact with each other, our churches and their congregants have returned to in-person services and activities. Our Hawaiian churches continue to service their communities.

Maintenance of our aging buildings has been ongoing. Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church replaced their roof. Painting the interior and the exterior of their Sanctuary, and their Fellowship Hall is planned.

Wai'oli Hui'ia Church received a grant from the State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches that will partially fund the upgrading of the cesspool that services the parsonage and office, to an Individual Wastewater System and fundraising for the repair of the bell in the Sanctuary has commenced.

Hanapepe Hawaiian Congregational Church also received a grant to help fund their termite tenting. They also completed bathroom plumbing repairs. Ko'olau Hui'ia Church decided not to upgrade to a certified kitchen because of the cost and instead renovated their existing kitchen. They finally completed their water valve assessment after installation of a new back-flow valve.

Ka 'Ohana Ni'ihau Church repaired their front door. Waimea UCC received a grant to reshingle their church tower.

Upon recommendation of the SCHCC, Wai'oli Hui'ia Church voted to adopt a Safe Church Policy primarily because of their Youth Programs. Other churches were encouraged to investigate a Safe Church Policy if they hadn't already adopted one.

All our churches are experiencing increased problems with homeless people on their premises. Wai'oli Hui'ia has recently issued 2 Trespass notices with the help of KPD.

A big Mahalo to all those who assisted our churches with Pulpit Supply. It is truly a blessing to have Linda Kaaui-Iwamoto, Walt Weiss, Glenn Frazier, Hokulani Shiningstar, Alpha Goto, Pam Goto, Kordell Kekoa, and others.

Mahalo to our churches who made time to service our community with ingenious programs such as Back to School Bingo, Rummage Sales, Mahealani Moon Music Kanikapila, Bible Club, Keiki Nights, He Brews, Youth Camps, and Spiritual Retreats, Bible Clubs .

Each church had well attended Easter Services. Easter activities included Sunrise Service, washing of feet, Easter egg hunts, breakfast or lunch.

Lihue Christian Church will be hosting the 'Aha Mokupuni on May 3rd and 4th. Kahu Cheri Dennis, their new Kahu, is excited to have her church host the 'Aha Mele.

Wai'oli Hui'ia Church welcomed back Stan Hankins who is their Transitional Pastor.

A big mahalo to our Board members and our member church representatives for their dedication and willingness to serve our Hawaiian churches.

Our past year has been one of rediscovery and reconnection to those who are faithful to the Lord's work. It is time to holomua and bring our lost sheep back into our fold. We all need to think out of the box so our churches can thrive and spread the "Good News" for generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Haunani Pacheco
President

Oahu Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches Report – for Aha Iki - 2024

OCHCC met on April 20, 2024, at Kalihi Moanalua Church. Reports sent in:

Kahikuonalani Church

Pastor Rick Hirakawa, Moderator David Wong, Delegate Joanne Kishimori

Worship Service: 9am on Sundays in person. Video sent to YouTube.

Events:

- February 25 – Our annual Scout Sunday took place with our chartered Troop 75 and Cub Scout Pack 75. After the worship service we had lunch and observed the 190th anniversary of the founding of Kahikuonalani Church(1834).
- March 31 – David Wong was duly elected by the church as an alternate delegate to OCHCC.
- April 6 – David Wong organized a safety workshop with Danny Tengan as the presenter. Our renters and other users of the facility were also invited.

Kawaiaha`o Church

Kahu Kenneth Makuakane, Board of Trustees Chair Suzanne Boatman
Delegates to OCHCC - Arminta Nishimura and Kaiulani Hess

Worship:

- Sunday, 9:30 am. In person and live stream on YouTube Kawaiaha`o TV,
- Sunday Bible Study in person for Kane and Wahine are held after Sunday worship services.
- Sunday School begins in the Sunday worship service and continue in CE after the youth scripture reading during the worship service.

Programs, Events, Meetings, Projects:

- Kawaiaha`o Church Membership Class with follow-up sessions with the Director the Pastoral Care Mission Pillar.
- Na Makamae O Kawaiaha`o "Treasures of Kawaiaha`o", the work of digitizing archival records with a team of supportive workers.
- Membership Meeting, Sunday, April 28, 2024, 10:45 am in the Sanctuary.
- Host Alii Sundays, in honoring Ke Akua through our Lord Jesus.
- Minor repairs to the school kitchen are being completed.
- Roof, gutter, and Bell Tower repairs.

Liliuokalani Protestant Church (LPC)

Kahu /Pastor: Guest Ministers

Moderator John Hirota, Church Delegate: Laurie H. Kauleinamoku

Worship Services: Sunday, 10:00 am, in person only. From February to April, the following guest ministers were Kahu D Neal MacPherson, Kahu Manu Naeole and the Kamehameha Deputation Team, Kahu Alpha Goto, Kahu Kordell Kekoa, Kahu David Popham, and Kahu Wallace Kuroiwa.

Programs, Events, Meeting, Projects:

- March 3, 2024 – LPC General Membership meeting after worship service
- March 31, 2024 – Easter Sunday and blessing of our new bibles.
- April 20, 2024 – LPC Spring Kalua Pig Fundraiser

Life Celebrations:

- Vandalyynn (Enoka) Anana, Douglas Neddles Gilman Sr. Gertrude Ann (Hirota) Cabacungan, Brian Ho`okala, Emily (Cipriano) Chun

Pearl City Community Church

Guest pastors

Moderator Dominic Inocelda, Delegate Millie Yee

Worship Services;

10:00 am to 11:00 am in person, streaming online for viewers.

11:00 am to 11: 15 am, Sunday School

Programs, Events, and Projects:

- Pastoral Search Committee; 5 more members are needed.
- On board as a part time care minister is Sharon Inake. She will mostly do hospital, emergency, funeral. She will handle the new members class.
- We are currently the only Oahu church co-sponsoring Enhance Fitness with the YMCA and UH – Manoa.
- Members help as PCCC is a distribution site for Touch A Heart meals made by the formerly incarcerated.
- Welcome Class for prospective New members will be held on April 14, and 21 and will be received in Worship on Sunday, May 12, 2024.
- MMCo Weekend April 26, 27, 28 , 3-day clarification , weekend when the result of the audit questionnaire/survey will be presented, and a panel of local professionals will present information relative to planning for the best use of PCCC's properties.
- About 23 members attended the HIM Conference.

Kaumakapili Protestant Church

Kahu Heather Barfield, President Anne Leake, Delegate Wendy Garcia

Worship: Sunday mornings at 10:30am, Sunday School at 9:30am.

Events – On April 10, 2024, Kahu Heather Barfield was installed.

Life Celebrations – Gwendolyn Mae Keonaona Kamanu – 3/3/2024

Kalihi and Moanalua Church

Kahu Manu Naole , Moderator Toni Ku Daniels, Delegate Johnnie Ku

Worship: 11:00am, in person only.

Events: March 17, 2024 – Family Hoike, March 31 – Easter luncheon

Life Celebrations Testa Ku – 11/3/2023

Topside Moloka'i Council Report for 2024

The Topside Moloka'i Council, which includes the congregational churches of Ho'olehua, Kalaiakamanu Hou, Kalua'aha and Waialua sends greetings to all.

We thank our council officers who diligently represent their churches and meet each month on the second Tuesdays at 4 p.m. via ZOOM. Claire Iveson of Kalaiakamanu Hou continued as Chairperson of the Topside Moloka'i Council. Representatives from **Ho'olehua UCC**: Moderator-Rep Norman Levi and Pualani Akaka, Vice Moderator- Rep, **Kalaiakamanu Hou UCC**: Uluwehi Kakaio Sai, Moderator-Treasurer, Hi'ilei Kakaio Bernabe, **Kalua'aha UCC**: Earline Iaea, Moderator-Secretary, and **Waialua UCC**: Reps Tina Lindsey-He, Louise Laumauna Miguel, and Kahu Janice Ogoshi make up the rest of the council. The position of Vice Chairperson remains vacant.

Combined Services were hosted quarterly by each of the 4 churches beginning with Ho'olehua, Kalaiakamanu Hou w/Ho'ike, Kalua'aha and Waialua (Kupuna Sunday). Waialua also joined Kalua'aha once a quarter to do a "Shared Service" together.

Quarterly meetings were also held by the State Council of Hawaiian Churches via ZOOM. Appreciation to Uluwehi Sai for being the island representative for the Topside Moloka'i Council.

Although there are 6 SPI initiatives that originated in 2018 with HCUCC, the TMC continued to focus only on one imitative. SPI #3: Expansive concept of church: Actively support new or different ways of "being church". Each quarter a report is turned in from each church to the secretary to report activities that focused on SPI #3.

Special services were held throughout the year at various churches. Ash Wednesday, (2/22), Maundy Thursday, (4/6), Thanksgiving Eve, (11/22) at Kalaiakamanu Hou, Good Friday, (4/7), Christmas Eve, (12/24) at Ho'olehua. Easter Sunrise, (4/9), Christmas Eve, (12/24) at Waialua.

HCUCC meeting held on June 15, attending the Aha Iki with State Council via ZOOM were Kahu Janice and a delegate each from Kalaiakamanu Hou and Kalua'aha. June 17, for 'Aha Pae'aina (Aha Makua) via ZOOM included Kahu Janice and a delegate each from Kalaiakamanu Hou and Kalua'aha.

Scheduled meetings for 'Aha o Na Mokupuni O Maui, Moloka'i a me Lana'i for Winter, took place on Feb. 11, (Kahu Janice), Spring, May 20 in person and ZOOM at Po'okela Church, (Kahu Janice and a delegate from Ho'olehua, Kalaiakamanu Hou and Kalua'aha) were in attendance. Fall, Nov. 18, (Kahu Janice and a delegate from Ho'olehua) participated.

A modified preaching schedule for Kahu Janice was initiated in July 2023 This schedule lessened for her one Sunday church service on weeks 2, 3 and 4 of the months so she could spend more time getting to know the congregants of each church and do various activities with them without having to rush off to another church. Everyone favors this new schedule.

Bible Study sessions were prepared and shared on ZOOM by Kahu Janice for March, (Lent), July/August, (God's Grace & Forgiveness), Nov/Dec, (First Advent). It was open to interested congregants and friends from other churches.

Community events that people looked forward to was the re-emergence of the Topside Bazaar which took place on Nov. 4th. People in the community looked forward to the delicious plate lunch, other scrumptious goodies, cold, refreshing coconut water, fruits/vegetables and plants galore. Another successful event was the 400+ Thanksgiving meals prepared by volunteers with all the trimmings for the community via drive through and home delivery by volunteers for the homebound kupuna and families.

A gathering at Kaumakapili Church in March was held to talk about Ho'oponopono by Earl Kawaa. TMC's rep at this gathering was Uluwehi Sai. TMC sponsored in December, a 2-day suicide prevention training session called safe TALK sponsored by Kohokuola Foundation from Kauai with funds coming from State Council of Hawaiian Churches Wery Fund. One session was for teens/young adults at Moloka'i Middle and High School with a guest speaker who shared his testimony at a school assembly. The second session was for adults held at Ho'olehua Church. Positive comments received from participants.

Food Bank distribution occurred once a month at Waialua Church for the east side community. Kahu Janice helped the coordinator and other workers. She has gotten the opportunity to meet and talk with the people and families that come monthly to pick up food items.

A group project evolved from one of Kahu Janice's educational cohort group session. One woman from each of the four churches is a part of the Moloka'i Leadership Project. They have met once a month for over a year, conducting and reflecting on a listening or observation experience at church or in the community, then sharing the experience with each other reflecting on questions posed by Kahu like, what are we hearing and learning as we observe and reflect on God's activity in our churches? How do you see the spirit at work or present in your church or community? Participants in this group project enjoy meeting once a month.

Kahu Janice is continuing her ministry for Topside Moloka'i Churches. She has sent out informative monthly reports to our council members in which she reported about scripture passages, worship plans, info about Bible Study sessions, Pastoral Care, Leadership projects, Association/Conference news, Community involvement, Wider Church activities, meetings and other events from HCUCC, Maui, Lanai and Moloka'i. We are very fortunate to have Kahu Janice as our Kahu.

The Topside Moloka'i Council is doing their best to continue representing their congregants and working together to do God's ministry on island.

Blessings,
Earline Iaea
Secretary for Moloka'i Topside Council 2024

Maui Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches
`Aha `Iki
June 13, 2024

Ka`ahumanu Church:

Restoration & Repair: We have a long way to go on our repairs. It is on the job training.

Sanctuary (Hale Pule): We have been able to get a structural evaluation of the sanctuary. We are now working with the architects and structural companies and reaching out to contractors. Hoping to get roof and steeple patched soon.

Preschool Building (Hale `Aina): Punana Leo O Maui had to relocate to Christ the King Church this year due to needed repair. Building continues to be used by Punana for storage of donations for Maui Fire. The building is another project on the horizon for the congregation.

Cottage: Work on our continues on repairs and renovation being done by a couple of our members a couple of hours a week when they are available. Current plan is for the church to eventually become the church office.

Ministry: Much has changed since before the pandemic. We continue online with Facebook live. New faces and a lot of help from out of the pews. Pohnpei Ministry just started in April.

Music Ministry 7pm Tuesday nights – Arlene Pihana
Hawaiian Bible Study – 6pm Wednesday nights – Kahu Wayne
English Bible Study – 5:30pm Thursday nights – Jay HueSing
Keiki Kamali'i Sunday School & Youth Opio 2nd & last Sundays of the month
Pohnpei Ministry using Sanctuary Sunday afternoon, Monday & Friday Evenings

Worship Services: Sunday services have been good and consistent; partly due to a foundational bible study done last year using the Purple Book. Aha Hui Ka`ahumanu has new leadership that's wants to build on our relationship.

Christmas Eve Svc – 12/24/24

Joint Worship Svcs with Iao and Wailuku Union:

Ash Wednesday / Maundy Thursday / Easter Sunrise

Ali'i Sundays Na `Aha Hui (Royal Societies in Attendance): Kamehameha V (Lot Kapuaiwa), 12/10/23; King Lunalilo, 1/28/24; Queen Ka'ahumanu, 3/17/24; Royal Order Kamehameha Established 4/14/23. Aha Hui Ka'ahumanu Maui Chapter Established was originally scheduled for August but postponed due to Maui fires.

Kahakuloa Hawaiian Protestant Congregational Church:

No Report

Kaulanapueo Congregational Church:

A handful of members meet once a month. Because of a small membership, the responsibility for the care of the church falls on the few members. Nevertheless, the church sanctuary and Hale `Ai are in good shape. However, we must address plumbing

issues. Judy Buettner has taken the leadership role in securing contractors to do the work. Unfortunately, Kaulanapueo location makes it difficult to draw contractors.

Keawala'i Church:

The neighborhood around Keawala'i is changing: a big new subdivision is being built across from Makena Landing which will have a big impact on the community. In July, the church sponsored a golf tournament as a fundraiser for the outreach program. In addition, the church hosted 3 musical concerts for the community.

The fires in Kula and Lahaina impacted many families at Keawala'i, some directly and some indirectly. Various fundraisers were done that helped many families. Some of the members of Waiola attended services at Keawala'i after they lost their church in Lahaina, they were welcomed with open arms, but it was a sad time for all of us.

In October, the pastoral search committee announced they had found a candidate for the pastoral position at Keawala'i. On December 9, we had a meet and greet day with the candidate, Gary Persecepe, his wife, Resea, and son, Ashton

On Sunday, December 10, Gary preached the sermon and directly after the service, the church voted to accept him. He began his duties on February 25, 2024.

On February 11, we said Aloha and A hui hou to our interim minister, Scott Landis with lots of hugs, lei, and tears. Everyone enjoyed a farewell pa`ina.

Our Easter morning service was beautiful with the front lawn with 400 plus people in attendance . We look forward to the Aha Mokupuni in May and the `Aha Pa'e `aina in June.

Keolahou Congregational Hawaiian Church:

No Report

Lahuiokalani Ka`anapali Congregational Church:

The first quarter of year 2024 has been busy. It is encouraging to see that visitors are coming back to Lahaina even in the midst of the cleanup after the fire in Lahaina. Visitors have been generous with their monetary and volunteer support at the food distribution centers. There is a heartfelt concern for all people who are displaced. The increase, in visitor travel, has promoted incomes of our residents.

Easter services were well attended by many families with children and teenagers. Sadly, we lost the pianist that joined the church in August. The fires caused adverse effects where increased insurance costs forced her to relocate to the mainland; we are back to our ukulele band.

Olowalu Lanakila Hawaiian Church:

No Report

Paia Hawaiian Protestant Church(PHPC):

Pā'ia Hawaiian Protestant Church hosted Royal Order of Kamehameha Kahekili Chapter, Nā Wahine O Kamehameha and the Ka`ahumanu Society on Palm Sunday, March 24th followed by Hawaiian Food Luncheon Fellowship. Mahalo to Kahu Jimmy Aaron for sharing God's message. Appreciated the 'ike he shared related to the hīmeni

during our worship service. In the afternoon, we provided dinner for the residents at Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Shelter.

We celebrated Christ's Resurrection with a SonRise Worship Service. A hearty Prime Rib Fiesta awaited those who braved the (5:30am 🌅) dawning of a new day! We welcome Kamehameha Schools Deputation Team to our pulpit on April 21st to lead our worship service. We are thankful, sometimes overwhelmed with Joy for the opportunities Christ allows us to serve, fellowship, worship, giving Him all honor, glory & praise!

Waiola Church:

Accompanied by Congregational missionaries William Richards and Charles Stewart, Queen Keōpuōlani left Oahu in May 1823 to reside in Lahaina, Maui. She asked that the missionaries travel with her to “speak the good word and pray to God with her.” On the weekend of May 27&28, 2023 Waiola Church celebrated the 200th Anniversary of our founding with a community festival, lu'au, historic presentations, and a joyful Sunday service.

On August 8th the devastating Lahaina fire burned our Hale Pule, meeting hall, annex building (which housed Punanā Leo O Lahainā), and 5 affordable rental homes the Church owner leaving ashes and grieving hearts.

Clearing of Waiola Church's building remains, and fire debris has not yet taken place, but our members remain connected with the help of grace and modern technology.

Kahu Anela Rosa provides spiritual comfort via online messages. Our members and board of trustees hold meetings by Zoom, while newsletters, our Facebook page, and a survey (for members wishes on rebuilding plans) help with connection and communication. Our members, now scattered for housing around the island, attend services at sister churches, including Lahuioikalani Kaanapali, which offered shared ministry.

The graveyard is hand watered and cared for by Na Kia'i O Waine'e volunteers. Staff from Nāhi'ena'ena elementary school recently visited to celebrate their namesake at the royal tomb. New tender shoots from our burned 'ulu tree are carefully tended, eventually to be transplanted to approved sites.

All insurance money, and many generous donations have been received. Needed meetings are taking place for FEMA Public Assistance and other grants as Waiola continues to explore rebuilding, with the goal of restoring our historic physical presence while maintaining and expanding our spiritual one. God's loving presence is felt in our ties to Waiola and hopes for the future.

West Hawaii Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches (WHCHCC)

Annual Report for State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches
June 13, 2024

Helani Church:

Attendance is still increasing; Pulpit still being supplied by members and guest Kahu; Youth Camp was held in February with 32 Christian College Students from Norway hosting at Helani, event drew 54 youth campers ranging in age from 6-17; Still in the process of finding new Contractor to complete Southside Chapel wall project; Pipe entry gate at entry to church property is moving forward, and should be completed by the end of April.

Kahikolu Church:

Pulpit still being supplied by Kahu Naleen Andrade, Worship Service and Bible Study continues via Zoom; Litigation via mediation has prompted court ordered Settle Agreement by Judge DeWeese, results pending; Held new and current membership orientation in February, with 14 attendees; Monthly support continues for OCWM and HCUCC gift giving ministries 2024.

Kauaha'ao Church

Worship continues at 10:00 every Sunday; Pulpit still being supplied by Deacon Dave Williams and worship leader Delana Phillips and any guest Kahu; Pastoral search continues under the guidance of Kahu Johnathan Roach; Held annual remembrance service for those members who gained their heavenly wings, also held annual Henry Opukahaia service at Hokuloa Church in Punalu'u-Ka'u which is Henry's birthplace. Much Love for the Retirement of our Beloved Servant of GOD, Kahu Debbie Wong Yuen, we will truly miss her leadership at Kauaha'ao.

Pukaana Church

Pulpit continues being served by newly installed Kahu Keoki Kiwaha; Members attended and/or participated in the following, Installation of Kahu Keoki Kiwaha which was well attended, Wisdom of Kalaupapa at Kalaupapa, met with Toni Bissen from the Pu'a Foundation in Kona; Hosted West Hawaii Congregational Churches Spring Ho'ike on 05-18-24 (Saturday) with several of WHCHCC churches participating.

Kona Lanakila Church

Pulpit still being served by Kahu Charlene Taketa; Kahu Sam Masilamoney has resigned from Lanakila and has been called as designated term Pastor at United Protestant Church-Hilo. In person and zoom service options are still available, and Sunday School participants are still making an impact on church services.

Hau'oli Kamana'o Church

Unfortunately, there was no attendance at WHCHCC Zoom Quarterly meetings, and no reports submitted by Hau'oli Kamana'o over the past year. Kahu Sam Masilamoney had reached out to Kahu Mahina in the mid part of 2023 to have an in person meeting to discuss future participation in WHCHCC activities and was never able to accomplish the scheduling of that meeting.

SUMMARY

Overall, the past year for our WHCHCC participating churches has been fruitful, as several of our churches have had a slight increase in their attendance and we have experienced leadership changes within our Congregations and WHCHCC Board. Outside of our Board challenges with communication from leadership at our Beloved Hau'oli Kaman'o church we will continue to reach out, and trust that our Good Lord will open the way to allow that to happen. Please continue to Pray for our WHCHCC Board as we continue to "Holomua" our way into the next year.

Submitted by:

Rollin Rabara
Vice President WHCHCC

STATE COUNCIL OF HAWAIIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES
REPORT OF THE EAST HAWAI'I COUNCIL OF HAWAIIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES

Annual Meeting
June 13, 2024

Aloha na hoahānau,

The East Hawai'i Council Member Churches include:

Haili Congregational Church / Kūhiō Chapel
Kalapana Maunakea First Hawaiian Cong. Church
Laupāhoehoe Congregational Church
Ola'a First Hawaiian Church

'Opihikao Congregational Church
Pōhakupuka Congregational Church
Pu'ula United Church of Christ

The East Hawai'i Council have met last, in-person and in ZOOM with the help of Haili Church, on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at Kūhiō Chapel, Keaukaha. All officers present, minus one and all churches present. No Secretary Minutes ,no Treasurer's Report available, and no action items needed to act on. However, all the information and reports regarding the SCHCC meeting of Jan. 27th, 2024 has been distributed in handouts and made available.

Haili Cong. Church/ Kuhio Chapel, Present with verbal report.

Kalapana Maunakea First Hawaiian Cong. Church, Report on file, attached.

Laupāhoehoe Cong. Church, Report on file, attached.

Ola'a First Hawaiian Church, Report on file, attached.

'Opihikao Cong. Church, Present with verbal report.

Pōhakupuka Congregational Church, Absent, no report.

Pu'ula UCC, Present with verbal report.

It has been very difficult to operate as an organization in this Long COVID Pandemic period, but we can not forget to keep the faith, trust, and lean on Jesus.

Mahalo Ke Akua,

Frank J. Mulec

Frank J. Mulec, President



KALAPANA MAUNAKEA 1ST HAWAIIAN CHURCH

EHSSA & EHC MEETING April 6, 2024

But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge
in times of trouble. Psalms 59:16

We are blessed to have our Lord and savior always there for us in times of trouble, concern, and worry. He is our refuge and our strength and we know that we can rest in him and when we do we are able to sing his praises, for in praising him we can feel his love no matter the problem or anxiety. His love abounds and covers us, everyone.

It was a joy for Kalapana Maunakea Church to host our 2024 Spring Aha Halawai. We were joined by our churches from around the state and were blessed with fellowship, learning, and conducting our business in a God-Centered-atmosphere of love. Thanks to all our churches and our Associate conference minister as well as visitors who have just joined our AHEC 'ohana in Christ as well as all who are and have been blessed to be with us these past 25 years. God is good.

Kahu Mike Warren leads our church, minister, and continues to shepard our congregation. He also leads the State Christian Endeavor meeting sharing their vision and plans for the coming year. This year several of our church members will be traveling to Samoa to participate and fellowship together with Christian Endeavor World. Haili church, Kaulanapueo Congregational, and other Hawaii State churches will be there together.

We continue to broadcast on Facebook @ Kalapana Maunakea First Hawaiian Congregational Church. Blessings to those who faithfully attend in the sanctuary and those who join online. Our Sunday School has not begun yet but we are planning to begin soon with a Kama'iki Class.

We are still working on writing the grant for the termite treatment of our sanctuary and meeting hall. We just found out that we were not awarded our grant that we all voted on December 1, 2023 at our Christmas Ho'ike meeting at Kuhio Chapel in Keaukaha. We were previously denied this same grant in 2022 and are still waiting for approval from the State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches. We continue in patient prayer for railings for our steps. We have been denied that on 2 separate occasions over the years. At this past 2024 Spring `Aha Halawai many of our delegates were shocked that there was no railing and we all know that many kupuna attended. Keep SCHCC in prayer that the Lord will provide and we can get the help needed.

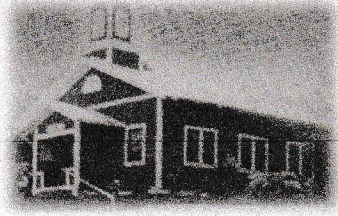
On July 6, 2024 Kalapana Maunakea will hold their Ho'ike and invitations will be sent out. All churches are invited to come and join us for that blessed event. The Royal Order of Kamehameha and other Societies are being invited as well as other organizations.

The Lord continues to bless and keep us down in Lower Puna and we are thankful for his blessings and sing his praises as we worship. We know this life is full of hardships and challenges but that Christ's love strengthens us and is a refuge for all. Be blessed always in love and grace.

Mahalo no e Ke Akua.

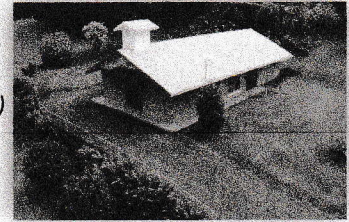
Loke Kamanu, Moderator

Kalapana Maunakea Church



**Laupahoehoe
Congregational Church**

*(36-106 Puualaea Homestead Road, Laupahoehoe)
c/o 74-229 Iiloha Street
Kailua Kona, HI 96740
konakuauhau@gmail.com*



April 6, 2024

*President Clement Malani Jr, Vice President Dawn Asato, Secretary Carol Malani, Treasurer Russell Paio,
Moderator Catherine Kaide, Director at Large Elaine Nahakuelua, Kahu Alvira Cacabelos*

Aloha in Christ,

***He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none;
and he that hath meat, let him do likewise. Luke 3:11***

Below are the activities Laupahoehoe Congregational Church has been involved in since our last report submitted on February 3, 2024.

- 2-14/15, attended the Aha O Na Kahu training at Kuhio Chapel
- 2-16/17, attended the Spring Aha Halawai at Kalapana Maunakea Church
- 2-18, community food distribution of donated lettuce
- 3-2, community food distribution of sixty packages of apples
- 3-3, community food distribution of donated lettuce, tomatoes, and cucumbers
- 3-9, attended the Haili Church Aha Mele & Hoike
- 3-10, community food distribution of donated lettuce
- 3-17, community food distribution of donated lettuce, tomatoes, and cucumbers

We meet every Sunday with Christian Endeavor at 9:30 am, Sunday School at 10, followed by Worship Service at 11 then our potluck lunch in our social hall. We continue to plan and attend functions to engage our community, mahalo ke Akua.


Russell Paio
Treasurer

Ola`a First Hawaiian Church
East Hawaii Sunday School Association and
East Hawaii Council of Hawaiian Churches
April 06, 2024 Quarterly Report

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." Hebrews 13:8.

Greetings from Ola`a to all our sister churches!

Ola`a begins each Sunday with a "Devotional Time" which is held prior to the Worship service. It is a time of scripture reading and sharing.

Ola`a's community feeding program continues to take place on the fourth Sunday of each month at the Kurtistown Park. Food is prepared by Kalei Tong and Linda Whang. Volunteers help with the feeding and the distribution of bags of food items to families.

This year, Ron Fujiyoshi represented Ola`a FHC at the Spring Halawai held at Kalapana Maunakea Congregational Church.

Ola`a ohana attended the Pu`ula Hoike held in January, and the Haili Hoike held in March. It is always a happy time to attend these events and to be able to visit with attendees of our Hawaiian churches.

Easter Service was held at regular Sunday Worship time. Kahu Lani planned a special program for members and visitors which was enjoyed by all. After service, attendees enjoyed gathering for lunch and a talk story time. It was a wonderful Easter celebration!

In His Service,



Judith Bailey
Representative



MEMO:

TO: State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches Board of Directors
 FROM: Toni Bissen, Pū'ā Foundation
 DATE: May 1, 2024
 RE: Annual Report to SCHCC

Aloha Kākou –

Lots going on at the Pū'ā Foundation, mahalo for the opportunity to share, last time I submitted a report was for the SCHCC board meeting – 4/27/24. **We are truly grateful for the partnership with SCHCC.** This is the annual report submitted to SCHCC and is organized as follows: I) 2024 schedule - Mana Wahine 'Eha highlighted; II) Mercy House I & II updates; III) Peer Support - Pacific Peer Connection updates; IV) Punahoa Heritage Forest updates, and V) 2023 in review and by the numbers.

I) 2024 SCHEDULE:

ACTIVITY:	DATES:
Mana Wahine 'Eha (see pix below & write up)	Jan. 9 to 11, 2024
Oahu Going Home Meetings	Every 3rd Tuesday of the month
WCCC - Classes: PreTransition; CH&WB	Summer 2024
WCCC - Waimanalo Workdays	Once a month
WCCC Resource Fair	Summer 2024
WCCC Keiki Days: Sunlight Sun Bright & Starlight Star Bright	Aug. 17, 2024 & Dec. 7, 2024
FDC - Classes PreTrans	Fall 2024
HYCF - Classes PreTrans	Fall 2024
Peer Support Trainings	March, May, June, July 2024



Hulo - Hulo - Mana Wahine 'Ehā 2024 - Pomaikai Loa! Over 100 participants spent time together at the 4th female empowerment conference for all that focused on trauma, healing, & justice at the Aulani - 1/9 to 1/11/24. We are thankful to everyone who came together to make the event such a success. Mahalo to our Kumu Hula panelists & moderator, Kupuna panelists & moderator, workshop facilitators, sponsors, contributors, partners, volunteers, planning committee, board & staff - TEAMWORK - MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

The aspiration of the Mana Wahine Gathering is to strengthen the capacity of those who attend, and enhance the wellness of each participant. Striving for that dream to work - feedback from participants included comments such as, "it was magical"; "I felt empowered, refreshed, rejuvenated"; "This year it went to an even higher level" - based on the reactions - aspiration actualized! Mahalo to SCHCC for the funding support.

II) MERCY HOUSE I & II:

The Mercy House Project provides housing for women reentering the community from prison and professional development and employment opportunities through Certified Forensic Peer Specialist training. Housing is made available to formerly incarcerated women, as well as for those pursuing additional leadership and vocational training to assist more formerly incarcerated women transitioning from prison. We have a new house mother - she was a resident and was promoted to the position. There are several applications that are being reviewed and processed for residency at Mercy House I.

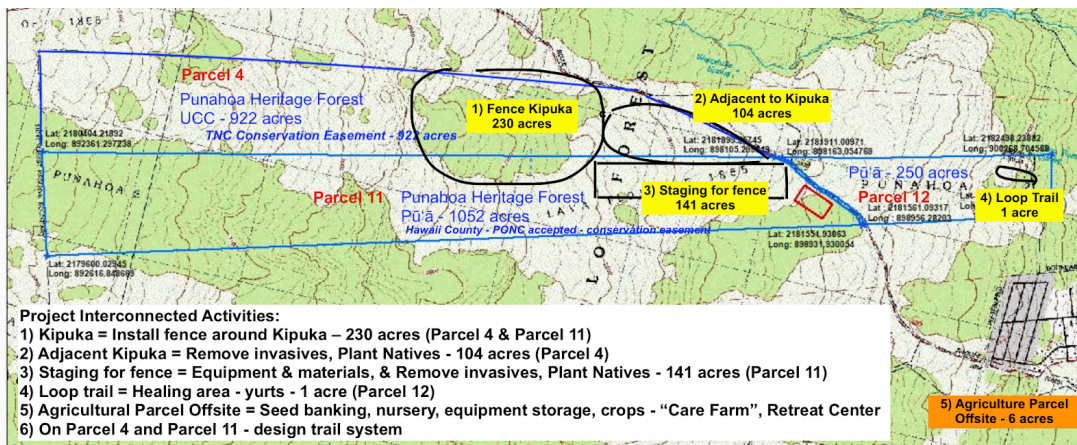
Mercy House II continues to be used for peer support trainings and meetings.

- 24 - Peer Support Meetings & Trainer Trainings - planned
- 5 - Trainings planned - Basic, Advanced, Train-the-Trainers

III) PEER SUPPORT - PACIFIC PEER CONNECTIONS CONNECTION

A small grant was awarded that is being used to build the capacity of a social justice peer-operated up and coming non-profit organization that will focus on vocational training, and employment opportunities, as well as leadership and professional development. Specifically, funds are being used to obtain an IRS 501c3 designation, business planning, staffing and various consulting needs. The activities of the organization will include: 1) peer support services; 2) peer support certification and training; 3) leadership, advocacy, and professional development training; 4) internship positions for justice involved women transitioning from prison; and 5) reentry coalition and partnership building activities to develop and strengthen the infrastructure for a seamless alignment of coordinated resources to transition from prison to community.

IV) Punahoa Heritage Forest - updated 6 point plan - See Topo Map below with Project Interconnected Activities



V) 2023 IN REVIEW & BY THE NUMBERS:

Serving justice involved women and their families:

- Courses, Activities, & Events include:
 - PreTransition courses taught at Women’s Prison, the Federal Detention Center, and Hawaii Youth Correctional Center,
 - Cultural Healing & Well-being classes taught at the Women’s Prison.
 - Workdays - Engaging in mālama ‘āina and mālama kanaka efforts - thru the Waimanalo Community Farming project
 - Mercy House for women exiting prison.
 - Community organizing with Oahu Going Home Consortium - involving public, private, and faith-based volunteers,
 - Conducting Peer Support - training, assisting with certification, and employment - **see collage**
 - Hosting the SAMHSA SIM workshop with a female focus - **see collage**
 - Keiki Day - **see collage**



2023 - By the Numbers:

Keiki Day - Christmas Event:

- 13 - WCCC Mothers
- 23 - Keiki

14 - Caregivers
20 - Volunteers
20 - WCCC Staff/Workline
90 participants

Oahu Going Home:Community organizing-public, private & faith-based volunteers

73 - total # of women released from the Women's prison
36 - Max Out - status
36 - Parole - status
30 - total # of women assisted

PreTransition & Cultural Healing & Well-being Classes; Waimanalo workdays; SIM Workshop

2 - PreTransition courses at Women's prison
1 - PreTransition course at Federal Detention Center
2 - PreTransition course at Youth Facility
6 - Waimanalo workdays
1 - SAMHSA SIM workshop

Peer Support Training, Internships, Certification, Trainers, Employed

48 - Total Trained
32 - Total Native Hawaiians(NH) trained
20 - Total NH completed internships & obtained Dept. of Health Certification
16 - Total NH employed
3 - Total NH trainers

2023 – Mercy House I - Residents

Jan to Dec.- there were 4 residents and a house mother

Mercy House II continues to be used for peer support trainings and meetings.

24 - Peer Support Meetings & Trainer Trainings
5 - Trainings held - Basic, Advanced, Train-the-Trainers