

Wai`oli Hui`ia Church Newsletter

March 2020



Talk Story

by Duncan Forgey

“Alloha o e” - translated as “My love be with you.”

Last words of Henry `Ōpūkaha`ia

Reading like a story out of the Bible, native Hawaiian Henry `Ōpūkaha`ia is a true testimony to the strength of the Christ Jesus. Every year, Wai`oli Hui`ia Church celebrates the life of this incredible native Hawaiian.

Henry `Ōpūkaha`ia was born in 1792 in Ka`u on the Island of Hawai`i. He was orphaned when both parents were murdered in tribal warfare. The young boy ran from the carnage with his younger brother clinging to his back. A warrior's spear found its mark which killed his brother but saved `Ōpūkaha`ia's life.

After this, he lived with his grandmother and an uncle, a local shaman (kahuna). Here, he was schooled in the rituals of the priesthood in preparation of becoming a kahuna. Due to an infraction of the native Hawaiian kapu (taboo) system, his grandmother was thrown from a high cliff and killed.

In 1807, at age 16, `Ōpūkaha`ia spoke no English but as a “cabin boy” secured a place aboard the ship *Triumph*. Captain Caleb Britnall and the sailors named him “Henry”, spelling his last name the way it was pronounced Obookiah.

For two years, he travelled aboard the *Triumph* to the Seal Islands in the Bering Sea, back to Hawai`i, east to Macao, and around the Cape of Good Hope to New York. On-board he established a friendship with sailor Christian Russell Hubbard and started lessons in reading and writing using the Bible as the primer.

America was mind altering to young Henry. Astounded that women were allowed to sit at the same table when eating, which was kapu in Hawai`i, he began to learn a totally different way of life, initiating a tremendous transformation. He studied in New Haven, Connecticut under the tutelage of Edwin Dwight, a senior at Yale College and relative Timothy Dwight IV, President of Yale College. He excelled in English grammar, Latin, Hebrew, geometry, and geography.

With these new skills, Henry's gateway to Christianity was wide open. Henry moved from farm to farm as the seasons changed, learning western ways of planting and harvesting. Soon, the young man fully embraced the Christian faith and wanted to spread the gospel back home. By 1814, his advocacy and public speaking about the Sandwich Islands (now known as the Hawaiian Islands) inspired the founding of the Foreign Mission School in 1816. Henry translated The Book of Genesis into the Hawaiian language and by 1815 finished *The Memoirs of Henry Obookiah*. Inspired by Henry's life, Missionary Samuel Ruggles dedicated himself to recording the Hawaiian language in a grammar/dictionary/spelling book and paved the way for the first Hawaiian primer and Bible stories in the Hawaiian Language.

`Ōpūkaha`ia fell sick with typhus fever and died in Cornwall on February 17, 1818. Henry was buried in Connecticut for 185 years until descendants brought him home to the Big Island on August 15, 1993. He is now buried facing the ocean at Kahikolu Church on the Island of Hawai`i. He is honored throughout Hawai`i as their first Christian convert and a young man whose talent and zeal helped bring Christianity to Hawai`i.



Coming Events MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Sunday, March 1st

Lent Bible Study, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm following worship service in the Mission Hall. Please bring your own lunch or a dish to share. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday, March 7th

15th Annual Kaua'i- Ni'ihau Prayer Luncheon, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Kilohana Luau Pavilion. \$25 per seat at our church table. Contact the Church office for tickets.

Sunday, March 8th

State of the Church & Election of Officers Meeting following the worship service in the sanctuary. All members are encouraged to attend.

Sunday, March 15th

Wai'oli's Annual Malihini Potluck Luncheon following the worship service in the Mission Hall.

Thursday - Saturday, March 19th - 21st

H.I.M. (Hawaiian Island Ministries) 2020 Conference held at the Honolulu Convention Center. The theme this year is "HOPE where do you look for it? We have our hope set on the Living God" H.I.M. is amazing! When the body of Christ gathers, it is nothing short of spectacular with praise music, 6 hope-filled general sessions, 65+ elective seminars and 30 + presenters. If you would like to attend and give your faith a booster shot, the church will cover the cost of the Conference ticket for our members and church 'ohana; attendees will be responsible for their own airfare to Honolulu, hotel and meals. Contact the church office if you would like to attend this year.

SAY HELLO TO BEN



We are so thankful to have Ben Nause, soloist and actor, as our new talented pianist!!! Ben graduated from Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania where he received a B.M. in Music Education. Ben loves performing in theatre events and currently accompanies the Island School Chorus. Welcome!!!

2 'FIRSTS' FOR GUEST SPEAKERS

How great to have Kahu Alpha Goto back for his first time in the Wai'oli pulpit since his retirement and Duncan Forgey, who included soloist Wendy Elsasser, for his sermon debut. Duncan shared his personal testimony of his life and how he came to his current Christian commitment.



WAI'OLI 'OHANA COMINGS AND GOINGS



Always good to see Chuck Norris when he and his family are in town (pictured here with Wai'oli Deacon and member Ryan Gardener) as well as the smiling face of Karen Bruns.



Carol Anne and Michael Desmarais from Ontario, Canada are with us again for four months. Congratulations on your 11th anniversary! Mahalo Carol for adding your beautiful voice to our choir during your stay.



Nice to say hello once again to Russ Krummell and Louise Leon Guerrero who moved to Princeville from Castro Valley, California in 2016. You are always welcome at Wai'oli Hui'ia!!



WAI'OLI 'OHANA BIRTHDAYS

March 04 - Chris Coscino

March 06 - Martha Boswell

Jeanette Wentsel

March 09 - Sarah Chrisman

March 14 - Wendall Haley

March 15 - Gayla Spencer

March 16 - Barbara Baker

March 18 - Shann Hashimoto

March 19 - Dotti Bradbury

March 20 - Nicolle Jones

March 21 - Madison Yokotake

March 23 - Taryn Nalani Hashimoto

March 25 - Barbara Hollenbeck

Madelynn Forgey

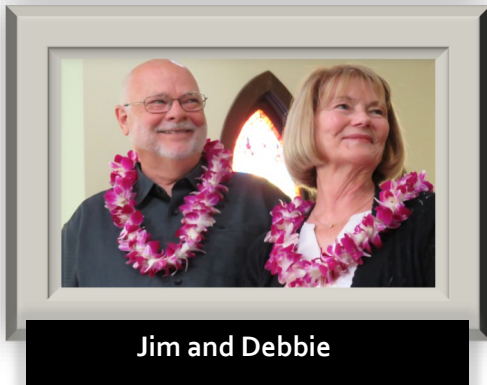
March 29 - Heleolani Mainamaka'ohu'ena Yokotake

Happy Birthday



God loves you!

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS JIM AND DEBBIE OLIVER



Jim and Debbie

The members of Wai`oli Hui`ia are so pleased that Jim and Debbie Oliver have chosen Wai`oli as their permanent home of worship. A special cake and fresh roasted ground coffee by Susan and Mike Ferrell's son-in-law Tim followed the service.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP & FRIENDSHIP

GOOD FOOD marked the first ever Wai`oli Men's BBQ! The gathering was held at our beautiful, newly renovated parsonage with the help of Kahu David and Grace.



Absent in the picture...
Mike Ferrell
Stan Fiorito
Gary Pacheco

HENRY `ŌPŪKAHA`IA SUNDAY



Wai`oli's Annual special Sunday worship service honoring Henry `Ōpūkaha`ia was led by Keola and Naomi, our two lovely young ladies, Michaela and Hannah, followed by a hula featuring Wai`oli's hula maidens.

Henry is credited with starting Hawai'i's conversion to Christianity.

CLAYWORKS SUNDAY SCHOOL ADVENTURE

Kilohana Clayworks hosted our Sunday School Children for a two-step luminary making activity. 16 from Wai`oli attended. Every luminary was special and unique showcasing each artist's creativity. Then Costco for pizza and afterwards, most of the group attended the Hawai'i Youth Symphony Orchestra concert at the KCC Performing Arts Center. Amazing musicians! Fun afternoon!! Clayworks has reserved Monday, March 16, 1:00 pm for the final glazing activity.



***Sunday Worship Service 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.**

***First Sunday of every month - Communion Sunday**

***Sunday Worship Service ukulele/instrumental and choir rehearsal - 8:30 a.m. Sundays in the Sanctuary.**
Visitors are always welcome to join us. Just bring your lovely voices and instrument of choice.

Visit us on Facebook at Wai`oli Hui`ia Church • office: 808.826.6253 • email: waioli@aloha.net

**GIVE
ONLINE**

Grow Your Giving: Did you know you can grow your gifts to Wai`oli Hui`ia Church by donating online? It's easy, fast and secure! We can accept your donation through our mobile card-reader on most Sundays after the church service, or visit our web-site: 'www.hanaleichurch.org' to donate online. To request a recurring donation to help support our ministries throughout the year, contact our church treasurer, Susan Ferrell, through our church office 808.826.6253. Mahalo!

*Lord please
hear my
prayer*

For...Frank Harman, Gary Pacheco, Gayla Spencer, Beth Sims, Haunani Pacheco, Jan Drammer's daughter, 4 year old Kawehi`o`lani Weldon, Chippy Morishige, Samantha Fischer, Barbara Hollenbeck and all others with medical issues ... family of Jacob Maka, family of Sam Mahuiki, Jr., ... Wai`oli Hui`ia Church's Pastoral Search Committee ... Our Sunday School students and teachers.

Team Worship Service Angels

DATE	CHURCH CLEANING	WORSHIP LEADER	GREETERS/USHERS	COMMUNION/FLOWERS
Mar 01	John Armour	Janey Kanter	Rod & Laurie Damery	Mildrene Swan & Naomi Yokotake
Mar 08	Pam & Mal Dohrman	Mal Dohrrman	Rod & Laurie Damery	Haunani Pacheco
Mar 15	Pam & Mal Dohrman	Keola Yokotake	John Armour & Ward Thompson	Wendy Elsassar
Mar 22	Naomi & Val Yokotake	Duncan Forgey	Robin Clemens & Madelynn Forgey	Robin Clemens
Mar 29	Pam & Mal Dohrman	Mal Dohrman	Ryan Gardener & Robin Clemens	Marau Beck