

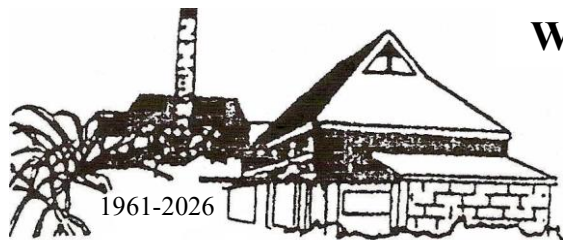
# Section I:

## General Information



204th 'Aha Pae 'Āina schedule (Draft 5/27/26)

Time	6/11/26 Thursday	6/12/26 Friday	6/13/26 Saturday
7:30am	<b>Youth at Camp Mokulē'ia</b> (6/10-13)	<b>Breakfast</b> (Waipahu UCC)	<b>Breakfast</b> (Waipahu UCC)
8:00a 8:30a		<b>Worship - Tent</b> Christian Endeavor	<b>Worship - Tent</b> Justice and Witness
9:00am	<b>'Aha Nā Kai 'Ewalu</b> (Ewa Community Church) <b>SCHCC Annual Meeting</b> (Kaumakapili Church)	<b>Plenary Session</b>	<b>Business Session</b>
10:00a 11:30a		<b>Break</b>  <b>Plenary cont'd</b> Shari Prestemon	<b>Closing Worship</b> Nā Mahalo and installation of new officers
12:00p		<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lunch (grab and go)</b>
1:00p 2:30p 3:00p 4:00p	<b>'Aha Makua Registration opens</b> (at Waipahu UCC)  <b>Opening of the 'Aha Makua</b> (Tent)	<b>1:00 Plenary- Tent</b>  <b><u>1:30-2:30- Workshop 1</u></b> (Various locations) AI Ethics Insurance Board Pacific School of Religion Treasurers  <b><u>2:45-3:45- Workshop 2</u></b> (Various locations) Missional Teams Moderators Hale Pule Kokua  <i>Youth join 'Aha around 4p</i> <b>4:00 Plenary – (Tent)</b>	HCUCC Council meeting during lunch (Daniel's Den) <b>Conclusion of 204th Aha Pae 'Āina</b>
5:30p	<b>Dinner</b>	<b>Dinner</b>	
6:30p	<b>Opening Worship</b> (O'ahu Association) Rev. Shari Prestemon	<b>6:00p E Hīmeni Kākou</b> Rejoicing with Music	
7:30p			



## WAIPAHU UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Rev. Daniel Kidder-McQuown



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June 11, 2026

Aloha, E Komo Mai!

On behalf of our eight Leeward host churches, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegates and churches of the Hawai'i Conference of the United Church of Christ's 204th 'Aha Pae'āina, being held on the campus of Waipahu United Church of Christ. It is our honor to make your visit comfortable, safe, and pleasant, so that you are free to build relationships, connect with each other, and grow together. We are excited to share our different cultures and cuisines with all of you, our United Church of Christ 'ohana, as we spend time discerning together and reflecting on the new thing that God is doing in our communities, in our churches and in our lives.

While you are our guests, please do not hesitate to ask if there is anything that you need, or if you have any special concerns. We will do everything we can to make your time smooth and enjoyable.

When Jesus visited his friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, it was a time of building connections. At the upcoming Aha, our volunteers may be busy like Martha, focused on making your stay a good one. But just because we are busy, please do not hesitate to stop and ask us anything.

In Christian Service,  
Rev. Daniel John Kidder-McQuown and our Host Churches

*Your Hosts for the 204th 'Aha Pae'āina:*

Ewa Community Church  
Filipino United Church of Christ  
Honolulu Marshallese United Church of Christ  
Kahikuonalani United Church of Christ  
Nu'u Lotu United Church of Christ  
Pearl City Community Church  
Samoan Church of Hawai'i, LMS Nanakuli  
United Church of Christ Pohnpei Ministries Waipahu  
Waipahu United Church of Christ  
And Rev. Ron Pfeifer, Mililani Presbyterian Church

June 2026

Aloha mai kakou and welcome to the 204th Aha Pae'aina,

Mahalo nui loa to the west Oahu UCC churches for hosting the Aha Makua. A particular thank you to the Waipahu United Church of Christ, their newly settled minister, Daniel Kidder- McQuown, and members of the church for providing the venue for the Aha Makua. Once again we will be meeting under a tent which worked so well for us last year at Kapa'a UCC.

The theme for this year's gathering is "Building Bridges – Kūkulu Uapo," based on Romans 14:19 "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification." All are invited to come and participate in helping to build bridges by attending the workshops and meetings during this Aha time. Here is the opportunity for all to build pelina (relationships), exhibit maluhia (peace), mana'olana (hope) and aloha (love).

We look forward to Shari Prestemon, UCC's Associate General Minister and Co- Executive of Global Ministries, who will be the keynote speaker. The Youth Event will be taking place at the same time as the Aha Makua but the youth will, as usual, join the Aha at certain times.

Friday night dinner will be a surprise that is sure to delight and tickle the palettes of all. Friday dinners are all about a grand sharing of cultural traditional foods and bridging and connecting the different tastes in aloha and love.

Come, together "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification."

Blessings,  
Roberta Jahrling,  
Chair Conference Council

## Workshop descriptions

### **Generative Artificial Intelligence and Pastoral Ethics (Hall I)**

Tools based on Generative Artificial Intelligence have popped up in a number of places, ranging from stand-alone websites such as ChatGPT to add-ons to online tools such as Google Gemini to additions to local applications such as Microsoft Copilot. As with many new technologies, they raise questions of ethical use. How can Christians in general and authorized ministers in particular employ them with integrity and stay aware of ethical boundaries?

The Rev. Eric Anderson is Chair of the Committee on Ministry for the Hawai'i Island Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the UCC Media Justice Ministry. While serving as an IT consultant in New England, he contributed to early ethical guidelines for clergy using social media.

### **Building Community Through Bible Study and Shared Practices (Daniel's Den)**

This workshop explores how Bible study and shared spiritual practices can foster vibrant, faith-filled community within intergenerational settings. Rev. Dr. Heesung Hwang will engage ministry leaders in experimenting with diverse learning styles and educational approaches that can be adapted to their own contexts. The workshop will also feature resources from PSR's Theological Education for Leadership (TEL) to advance the preparation of congregational leaders and opportunities for churches to participate in the Congregational Renewal Cohort program.

The Rev. Dr. Heesung Hwang is the Associate Professor of UM Studies, Christian Education, and Leadership, Academic Director of TEL/CRC at Pacific School of Religion.

### **Safe Ministries: Abuse Prevention Resources and Claims Lessons Learned (Hall II)**

In this interactive one-hour workshop, participants will explore key principles of abuse prevention and learn practical strategies to protect their ministries. Drawing on lessons from past claims at churches, we will review screening tools, online training modules, and sample policies to support safe and effective ministry practices.

Farnaz Ansari is the SVP of Marketing and Sales at Insurance Board. She oversees the distribution force and marketing efforts at Insurance Board and holds a Property & Casualty Insurance License and Associate in Risk Management (ARM) designation. Additionally, Farnaz is a certified abuse prevention facilitator through the Certified Praesidium Guardian program and boundary trainer through the Faith and Trust Institute.

## **Treasurers Basic Basic Basics**

**(Sanctuary)**

Do you find finances to be a mystery? What do all these numbers mean?!? Join us for a Financial Basics discussion where we break it down for you in an easy to conceptualize way. We'll also cover some commonly asked questions, understanding your Custodial Account statements, and will provide accounting recommendations. Be a part of the conversation!

Nan Katsuda serves as the Chief Financial Officer for the Hawai'i Conference Foundation and as Controller for the Hawaii Conference UCC. A licensed CPA, she brings extensive accounting and financial management experience across the nonprofit, corporate and government, and military sectors. Her professional background includes roles with Hawaiian Airlines, Aloha United Way, and the Marine Corps Base Hawai'i.