



**S e p t e m b e r 2 0 2 3**



On Sunday, August 20, over 200 of us gathered in real time for our *Prayer for Maui* service. The following are excerpts of prayers shared.

A recording of the service can be viewed on our website.

"I want you to know that we are praying with you. And we offer our deepest collective embrace as we join you in grieving this great loss. For every family member, for every partner, child, friend, relation, animal companion, that has been taken in these fires, we bow to honor the many lives that have been lost and are missing."  
 --Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister, UCC

"Some of us cannot find the tears because we're heartbroken in this moment. And that is okay. We cannot find the words to express our grief, and that too is okay. The loss that we have experienced is tremendously great. But I just want you to know tonight that you are not alone."  
 --Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President, UCC

"So, all we can do in this moment is surrender these beautiful souls to you, to ask you to gently hold them for us because we are no longer able. With your Healing Spirit, comfort those who are in pain from such devastating loss and soothe all of us who weep this day and in the many hours to come."  
 --Danette Kong, Retired Chaplain on Maui

**DONATE**  
 Hawaii'i 2023 Wildfires Relief Fund  
[bit.ly/hcuccrelief](https://bit.ly/hcuccrelief)  
 We are working with our churches on Maui to distribute funds to those in need in devastated areas.  
 We are praying with Maui.  
 HAWAII CONFERENCE OF CHRIST  
[www.hcucc.org](http://www.hcucc.org)

"Of course, we will attend to needs on Maui. Of course, we will assist with recovery and rebuilding. But first we must grieve. While in our past we have learned to set aside our emotions to get on with getting on, we cannot do that this time. The tragedy is too immense. The connections are too close. The weight is too heavy. Let us grant one another the grace that it is not well with our souls and to find in that not-wellness the God who comforts those who mourn."  
 --David Popham, Conference Minister

**give aloha**  
 Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

During the month of September, you can donate up to \$249 to each non-profit organization participating in Foodland's *Give Aloha* campaign! Is your church participating? Don't forget to bring your church's donation number when you shop!

*A series of conversations for those passionate about the call and witness of the church in the world and for the future*

**Daring Faith Conversations**  
 REIMAGINING CHURCH IN A NEW CULTURAL CONTEXT

SESSION 1  
 SEP. 10, 2023  
 SUN. 1-2 PM  
 VIA ZOOM

Rev. Diane Weible will lead us in our first conversation:

**WHAT IS THE NEW CULTURAL CONTEXT AND WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD OUR CONGREGATIONS BE ASKING?**

**RE M I N D E R**  
 The month of OCTOBER is **Pastor Appreciation Month!**  
**Sunday, October 8, is Pastor Appreciation Day!**

**Prayers of Aloha**  
 Praying for & with each church of the Hawaii'i Conference UCC

We encourage you to pray for any or all of these churches listed for the month of September, in whatever way you are moved.

- Honolulu Cosmopolitan UCC ♡
- Nu'uaniu Cong'l Church ♡
- Honolulu Marshallese Ministry ♡
- Nu'u Lotu ♡ Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church ♡ Ho'olehua Cong'l Church ♡ Nahiku Hawaiian Church ♡ Hualoaha Cong'l Church ♡ Mokuaikaua Church ♡ Kanana Fou Church

♡  
 We also encourage you to pray for our O'ahu Association this month.

"Sent forth by the Spirit, we walk humbly in Christ's footsteps pursuing peace, justice and the renewal of all creation."



"Of course, we will attend to needs on Maui. Of course, we will assist with recovery and rebuilding. But first we must grieve. While in our past we have learned to set aside our emotions to get on with getting on, we cannot do that this time. The tragedy is too immense. The connections are too close. The weight is too heavy. Let us grant one another the grace that it is not well with our souls and to find in that not-wellness the God who comforts those who mourn."  
 --David Popham, Conference Minister

**S e p t e m b e r 2 0 2 3**



On Sunday, August 20, over 200 of us gathered in real time for our *Prayer for Maui* service. The following are excerpts of prayers shared.

A recording of the service can be viewed on our website.

"I want you to know that we are praying with you. And we offer our deepest collective embrace as we join you in grieving this great loss. For every family member, for every partner, child, friend, relation, animal companion, that has been taken in these fires, we bow to honor the many lives that have been lost and are missing."  
 --Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister, UCC

"Some of us cannot find the tears because we're heartbroken in this moment. And that is okay. We cannot find the words to express our grief, and that too is okay. The loss that we have experienced is tremendously great. But I just want you to know tonight that you are not alone."  
 --Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President, UCC

"So, all we can do in this moment is surrender these beautiful souls to you, to ask you to gently hold them for us because we are no longer able. With your Healing Spirit, comfort those who are in pain from such devastating loss and soothe all of us who weep this day and in the many hours to come."  
 --Danette Kong, Retired Chaplain on Maui



During the month of September, you can donate up to \$249 to each non-profit organization participating in Foodland's *Give Aloha* campaign! Is your church participating? Don't forget to bring your church's donation number when you shop!

*A series of conversations for those passionate about the call and witness of the church in the world and for the future*

## Daring Faith Conversations

REIMAGINING CHURCH IN A NEW CULTURAL CONTEXT

SESSION 1  
 SEP. 10, 2023  
 SUN. 1-2 PM  
 VIA ZOOM

Rev. Diane Weible will lead us in our first conversation:

**WHAT IS THE NEW CULTURAL CONTEXT AND WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD OUR CONGREGATIONS BE ASKING?**

MEETING ID: 891 7854 5287  
 PASSCODE: 697952  
3136 244925 418 2020 4510 0275532377  
 www.hawaiiconference.org



We encourage you to pray for any or all of these churches listed for the month of September, in whatever way you are moved.

- Honolulu Cosmopolitan UCC ♡
- Nu'uano Cong'l Church ♡
- Honolulu Marshallese Ministry ♡
- Nu'u Lotu ♡ Kapa'a First Hawaiian Church ♡ Ho'olehua Cong'l Church ♡ Nahiku Hawaiian Church ♡ Hualoaha Cong'l Church ♡ Mokuaikaua Church ♡ Kanana Fou Church

♡  
 We also encourage you to pray for our O'ahu Association this month.

**RE M I N D E R**  
 The month of OCTOBER is **Pastor Appreciation Month!**  
**Sunday, October 8, is Pastor Appreciation Day!**

"Sent forth by the Spirit, we walk humbly in Christ's footsteps pursuing peace, justice and the renewal of all creation."

## DONATE

Hawaii's 2023 Wildfires Relief Fund

[bit.ly/hcuccrelief](https://bit.ly/hcuccrelief)

We are working with our churches on Maui to distribute funds to those in need in devastated areas.

We are praying with Maui.

HAWAII CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
[www.hcucc.org](http://www.hcucc.org)