



May 2025

EXPLORING AI IN MINISTRY

TUESDAY
MAY 20.25
6:30 PM HST
VIA ZOOM

What is **AI**? How is it being **used**?
What are the **possibilities**?
What are the pastoral **ethical questions**?
How do we address the **fear around AI**?
What are legit fears and what is fearmongering?

Pastors who use AI from the Hawai'i Conference will do some demonstrations and engage in a time of questions & answers for fellow clergy, lay leaders, and Committees on Ministry.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

The **Innovation and Engagement Missional Team** is sponsoring this virtual workshop on May 20.

Irene Willis Hassan, Rennie Mau, and Ben Sheets, pastors in the Hawai'i Conference who use AI, will do some demonstrations and engage in a question-and-answer time for fellow clergy, lay leaders, and COMs.

To register, email:
vmaunakea@hcucc.org



Do You Know What to Do If ICE Shows Up?

Protect your neighbors! The HCucc Justice and Witness Missional Team sponsored an online training to equip our churches in case of an encounter with Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE). To request resources and a link to the recording, please email media@hcucc.org.

YOU HAVE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS:

DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR for an immigration agent.

DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent. You have the right to remain silent.

DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer. If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.

KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS

THIS MONTH'S EMERGING THOUGHT

"The Jewish Passover prayer, 'Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth,' immediately places us in communion with the God who sustains life by providing the food staples upon which we depend.

Our recognition of God's providential hand means food is no longer just what we digest to continue living. Rather, food is now a sacrament, an avenue of God's grace and care in the sustaining of life."

—David Popham, Conference Minister, May issue of *The Friend*

PASTORAL TRANSITIONS

David Huber has been called as the designated term pastor of **UCC Judd Street**; he begins on May 17.

Jonathan Pak will conclude his ministry with **Waikeola Congregational Church** on May 27.

Cara Ann Maeda will be installed as settled pastor of **Hilo Coast UCC** on May 31.



Prayers of Aloha

Praying for & with each church
of the Hawai'i Conference UCC

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



Honolulu Cosmopolitan UCC,
First United Protestant Church,
Kokokahi UCC, 'Opihikao
Congregational Church, Tuvalu
Fou Church of Hawai'i, Hilo
Marshallese Ministry, Lihu'e
Christian Church, Hilo Coast
UCC, Samoan Church of HI LMS
Nanakuli



We also encourage you to pray for our **Hawai'i Island Association**, our partners in the **Congregational Christian Church of Samoa**, and the **UCC's Office of Public Policy and Advocacy** this month.

REMINDERS

May is **Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month!**
We celebrate our *Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries (PAAM) churches!* Find resources online:

hcucc.org/paam-sunday



Register for the 'Aha Pae'aina by **Monday, May 12, 4 p.m.**

hcucc.org/aha-paeaina

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



Website: hcucc.org

Connect with us on Facebook & Instagram: [f](https://www.facebook.com/hcucc) [@hcucc](https://www.instagram.com/hcucc)

Hawai'i Conference Office: 700 Bishop Street, Suite 825; Honolulu, HI 96813 [808.537.9516](tel:808.537.9516)



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