



March 2026

Lenten Liturgies & Resources

Among the [UCC Lenten resources](#) this year is a selection of worship liturgies, created by the [UCC Movement for Palestinian Solidarity](#), designed to aid congregations in incorporating themes of Palestinian liberation, solidarity, and justice into their Lenten services. Here's the start of a prayer for Palm Sunday which is on March 29.

Prayer for Palm Sunday

*Divine spirit of disruption,
we lift up our hands and hearts,
our palms and our passion,
always aware that praise and procession
must be both proclamation and provocation,
that Hosanna is not decorative poetry
but a demand for collective salvation.*



—Rev. Micah Bucey

Read latest issue >>>

For this year's issues of **The Friend**, our 183rd year of publication, the Editorial Team is taking our inspiration from the book *The Past Before Us: Mo'okū'auhau as Methodology* and the 'ōlelo no'eau: **I ka wā ma mua, ka wā ma hope** (Look to the past to guide the future).

hucc.org/the-friend



THIS MONTH'S EMERGING THOUGHT

"Wherever you are tonight, you can make it. Hold your head high, stick your chest out. You can make it. It gets dark sometimes, but the morning comes. Don't you surrender. Suffering breeds character, character breeds faith. In the end, faith will not disappoint."

—Jesse Jackson (1941–2026),
in his speech to the Democratic National
Convention in 1988

PASTORAL TRANSITIONS

Elias Sevilleja (Filipino UCC), 87, retired ordained minister, died in the Philippines on April 18, 2025.

Hidemi Tsutsui ('Ewa Community Church, Waialua United Church of Christ, Kalihi Union Church, Lakeside Japanese Christian Church in Chicago, and Oceanview Church in San Diego.), died at 102 on January 4, 2026.

Mitch Nelson began his ministry as the settled pastor of Keawala'i Congregational Church. His first Sunday was **February 15**.

Lauren Buck Medeiros concluded her ministry with Lao UCC. Her last Sunday was **February 15**.

Kalani Wong began his ministry as the Bridge Pastor of Lao UCC. His first Sunday was **February 22**.

Jonathan Lilley concludes his ministry with First Chinese Church of Christ on **March 8**. He begins his new call as pastor of Pearl City Community Church on **March 15**.

REMINDERS

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Savings Time will begin on most of the Continent. Hawai'i will be 3 hours behind the West Coast.



Thursday, March 26

The **Conference Office** will be **closed** for the Prince Kūhiō holiday.



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 **March**, in whatever way you are moved.



Kahakuloa Hawaiian Cong'l Church, Waikoloa Marshallese Ministry, Kosrae Honolulu Cong'l Church, Keawala'i Cong'l Church, Waihee Protestant Church, Samoan CC Church Honolulu, Waianae Samoan Church, Imiola Cong'l Church, Waialua United Church of Christ, Hanapēpē United Church of Christ, United Church of Christ Pohnpei Maui, Waialua Cong'l Church



We also encourage you to pray for our **Association of Hawaiian Evangelical Churches (AHEC)**, our partners in the **United Church of Christ Philippines**, and the **UCC's Global H.O.P.E.**

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



Website: hucc.org

Connect with us on Facebook & Instagram: [f](#) [@ucc.hawaii](#)

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



March 2026

Lenten Liturgies & Resources

Among the [UCC Lenten resources](#) this year is a selection of worship liturgies, created by the [UCC Movement for Palestinian Solidarity](#), designed to aid congregations in incorporating themes of Palestinian liberation, solidarity, and justice into their Lenten services. Here's the start of a prayer for Palm Sunday which is on March 29.

Prayer for Palm Sunday

*Divine spirit of disruption,
we lift up our hands and hearts,
our palms and our passion,
always aware that praise and procession
must be both proclamation and provocation,
that Hosanna is not decorative poetry
but a demand for collective salvation.*



—Rev. Micah Bucey

Read latest issue >>>

For this year's issues of **The Friend**, our 183rd year of publication, the Editorial Team is taking our inspiration from the book *The Past Before Us: Mo'okū'auhau as Methodology* and the 'ōlelo no'eau: **I ka wā ma mua, ka wā ma hope** (Look to the past to guide the future).

hucc.org/the-friend



THIS MONTH'S EMERGING THOUGHT

"Wherever you are tonight, you can make it. Hold your head high, stick your chest out. You can make it. It gets dark sometimes, but the morning comes. Don't you surrender. Suffering breeds character, character breeds faith. In the end, faith will not disappoint."

—Jesse Jackson (1941–2026),
in his speech to the Democratic National
Convention in 1988

PASTORAL TRANSITIONS

Elias Sevilleja (Filipino UCC), 87, retired ordained minister, died in the Philippines on April 18, 2025.

Hidemi Tsutsui ('Ewa Community Church, Waialua United Church of Christ, Kalihi Union Church, Lakeside Japanese Christian Church in Chicago, and Oceanview Church in San Diego.), died at 102 on January 4, 2026.

Mitch Nelson began his ministry as the settled pastor of Keawala'i Congregational Church. His first Sunday was **February 15**.

Lauren Buck Medeiros concluded her ministry with Lao UCC. Her last Sunday was **February 15**.

Kalani Wong began his ministry as the Bridge Pastor of Lao UCC. His first Sunday was **February 22**.

Jonathan Lilley concludes his ministry with First Chinese Church of Christ on **March 8**. He begins his new call as pastor of Pearl City Community Church on **March 15**.

REMINDERS

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Savings Time will begin on most of the Continent. Hawai'i will be 3 hours behind the West Coast.



Thursday, March 26

The **Conference Office** will be **closed** for the Prince Kūhiō holiday.



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 **March**, in whatever way you are moved.



Kahakuloa Hawaiian Cong'l Church, Waikoloa Marshallese Ministry, Kosrae Honolulu Cong'l Church, Keawala'i Cong'l Church, Waihee Protestant Church, Samoan CC Church Honolulu, Waianae Samoan Church, Imiola Cong'l Church, Waialua United Church of Christ, Hanapēpē United Church of Christ, United Church of Christ Pohnpei Maui, Waialua Cong'l Church



We also encourage you to pray for our **Association of Hawaiian Evangelical Churches (AHEC)**, our partners in the **United Church of Christ Philippines**, and the **UCC's Global H.O.P.E.**

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



Website: hucc.org

Connect with us on Facebook & Instagram: [f](#) [@ucc.hawaii](#)

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