

Pastor's Corner ...

West Oahu Christian Church
Stan Miyamoto, Pastor
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Worship Services:

Japanese Worship /
Bible Study

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

English Worship

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Sunday School:

English Adult Sunday
School

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM

Children's Ministry:

Breakfast Program

8:45 AM – 9:15 AM

Children's Church

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Children's Activities
Program/Child Care:

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Upcoming Events:

Junko Performance

September 29

Aloha Reception:

September 29

God's Amazing Interventions

Isn't it exciting to be there when God begins unveiling a new thing? Of course, we know that God is always doing something new, but there are times when things seem to be the "same old, same old," and we wonder if God is even in what we are doing. So isn't it neat when we see God sovereignly ordering our steps? This summer gave us plenty to behold!

How does a 5-Day club for children give rise to a Youth Ministry? Well, God specializes in divine "accidents!" For many years we have been concerned about our youth "disappearing" once they reach Jr. High. Can you imagine the sadness when, after years of investing your heart and soul into the children, when they reach the 7th grade they stop coming around? We have asked God, many times, what we should do. Then, as we began our 5-Day club for elementary-age children, quite unintended by us, a youth group was born. Without planning it, we went from nothing, to a bunch of youths, in the blink of an eye - definitely a God thing! Now the Lord is opening creative avenues to follow up on what He has begun!

How does a church discipleship ministry go from intentional to intentionaler? By divine guidance! During the summer, our Small Groups Trimester featured a discipleship curriculum called the Alongsider. Part of this curriculum was too difficult for most of our participants, creating a dilemma! Here is an example of the best laid plans of man hitting the failure wall. No one wants to admit that, but our honest leadership team believes that honesty is the best way to improve. On the recommendation of a friend of our church, Robert Delaboria, some of us began reading a book called **Move, by Hawkins and Parkinson**. What an eye-opener! This answered questions we did not even know to ask. It was like we were aiming at the wrong dartboard, but had now uncovered the correct one. We now know how to be even more effective in helping people grow closer to Christ.

On September 5-7, our Conference's **General Assembly** (GA) was held in Hawaii. The theme was **Harmony in Christ**. The GA and Banquet exceeded our expectations and brought rave reviews! Many thanks to Donna Kranz and Jean Kam and their small army of servants from our Hawaii churches for bringing pastors, their wives, church delegates and members together to connect with one another, honor past saints, and worship at the throne of God! How does this happen? God alone! There was a truckload of obstacles, but as many people prayed fervently, God did what He does best – **respond to prayer!** God's sovereignty intervened in *amazing ways* to produce an *exceedingly blessed* General Assembly!

I cannot help but conclude that our God wants to make it very clear to us that He is always there, behind the scenes, working in amazing ways to work out His mighty will on earth as He does in heaven. Now, what's coming up for the Fall?

In Awe of Him, Stan

2013 Summer Activities Overview

by Tena Ponder Thacker & Joyce Tanji

The activities for this past summer began with a 5 Day Club from June 17-21 co-sponsored with Child Evangelism Fellowship. A total of 37 children and youths participated, along with over 20 adult volunteers. Since over half of the children attending this program were in 7th grade and above, a youth program was prayerfully instituted that first day of the program. The youth met separately, held their own discussions of viewed video segments, which was led by one of the youth, and planned songs and skits to present during the assembly time for the children of the Club.



“Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’”

Matthew

9:37-38



During that week the participants also went on a couple of outings. On Wednesday, the group went to Jungle River mini golf for an afternoon of fun. The staff was quickly reminded that folks at this age are always hungry! Then on Friday the group went to Wet'nWild Hawaii water park. This time the staff was prepared for the children's big appetites; and as they emerged from the water, a parking lot picnic was enjoyed by everyone. This spontaneous programming gave impetus to the Youth Ministry program (See report on page 3).

During the 5-Day Club, seven children accepted Christ. They were recognized during the following worship service with a certificate as well as presented with a personal Bible.

On July 26th, the youth group held another round of liquid fun at Wet'nWild Hawaii water park. After the fun in the sun, the youth group retired to the parking lot for another picnic of delicious musubi lovingly prepared by Phyllis Nakasone. The fun continued back at the church with an end of summer sleep over! (see report below)



Also at the end of July, school supplies were distributed to each child and a “Back-To-School” Celebration and a “Promotion” Sunday was held the day before school began.

Sleepover Activity by Jeanne Nagatani



On July 26, the children of WOCC had a sleepover at the church. We had a total of 25 children and 13 adult helpers participate in this event. It started with a small “kine” dinner followed by singing around a campfire and making s'mores. The children cleaned up and ended the evening by watching a movie and eventually falling asleep, some as late (early?) as 2 AM. We woke everyone up at 7:30 a.m., fed them breakfast and sent them home. *Phew!!* Thank you all for making this event a wonderful time for the children.

Youth Ministry by Jeanne Nagatani

A Youth Bible Sunday School class was started during the month of July. This class was designed for the high school aged children and young adults who no longer attended Sunday School with the younger children.

Prayers work! God sent Stephen Lathrop-Lee to our church to help with this ministry. He has been leading the youth Sunday School which meets in the Library (Pastor Stan's old office). This group meets from about 9:30 to 10:15 AM. If you know children in this age category, send them down to the Library on Sunday morning.

Furthermore, through discussions with many of the youths, one constant need was mentioned; help with their homework. Thus the Homework Assistance Project (HAP) began on Tuesday, September 3rd, and will be held every Tuesday from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at church. Besides help with homework, a short Bible lesson and snacks are served to all students in attendance.

Again, I know that prayers work because Stephen was instrumental in checking with the schools and finding out what was required, asking some of our congregants if they were able to help on this project and getting books online as the high school students are not allowed to take their textbooks home.

Our all powerful God, in his infinite wisdom, has answered our prayers for help with our youth. May we all be as faithful to Him as he is to us.

Your 2013 – 2014 WOCC Board Members by Darren Nako

The new Boards for 2013 – 2014 are off and running. Please support your Board members as they endeavor to do God's work in our church!

Board of Deacons

Chair – Darren Nako
 Vice Chair – Martin Arinaga
 Secretary – Jeanne Nagatani
 Finance – Martin Arinaga
 Christian Education – Joyce Tanji (co-chair)
 Evangelism – Jeanne Nagatani
 Fellowship – Tena Ponder-Thacker
 Policy – Neal Takamoto
 Member – Pastor Stan Miyamoto
 Japanese Ministry Liaison – Tomiko Takamoto (non-voting position)

Board of Trustees

President – Dennis Nagatani
 Vice President – Charles Nako
 Secretary – Joan Doi
 Finance – Nancy Murakami
 Auditor – Samuel Tanji
 Auditor – Dennis Nagatani
 Member – Pastor Stan Miyamoto

As we continue in our efforts to realign the leadership structure of WOCC, some traditional ministries usually chaired by a Board member have been moved outside of the Board structure. These include:

Benevolence – Helen Matsueda (Board Liaison – Darren Nako)
 Christian Education – Joan Doi, co-chair (Board Liaison – Joyce Tanji)
 Missions – Roberta Nagano (Board Liaison – Jeanne Nagatani)
 Worship – Daniel Miyamoto (Board Liaison – Neal Takamoto)

VISION STATEMENT

“To develop and strengthen the congregation to actively minister to the community”

WEST OAHU CHRISTIAN CHURCH

94-420 Farrington Hwy
Waipahu HI 96797

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Prayer Requests & Praises:

Individuals:

- **Jane Nako** has been informed that the cancer has returned for the third time. Please pray for God's miraculous intervention for healing. Pray for faith, peace and guidance for the family as they face the path ahead.
- **Merle Moribe** was hospitalized with an infection and irregular heartbeat. She has been treated and is recovering at home. Please pray for a return to full strength.
- **Eunice Shiratori**, who attends HCC, is in the ICU suffering from a very complex combination of ailments. Please pray for wisdom for doctors, and God's grace and guidance for the family.
- Other members, family and friends who are dealing with health issues

WOCC and OMS Conference Activities:

- PTL – The Lord has been opening doors to our beginning a youth ministry. Please pray for our youth and our young adults.
- The Hawaii regional churches worked together to host our Conference's General Assembly. Praise the Lord, it was a wonderful success!
- WOCC will begin looking at our bylaws again. Please pray for God's wisdom for our leaders.

If you would like to list or change your prayer request, please contact Stan Miyamoto: via a note, or e-mail at stanmiyamoto@gmail.com

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

John 14:13-14

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.wocc-hi.org