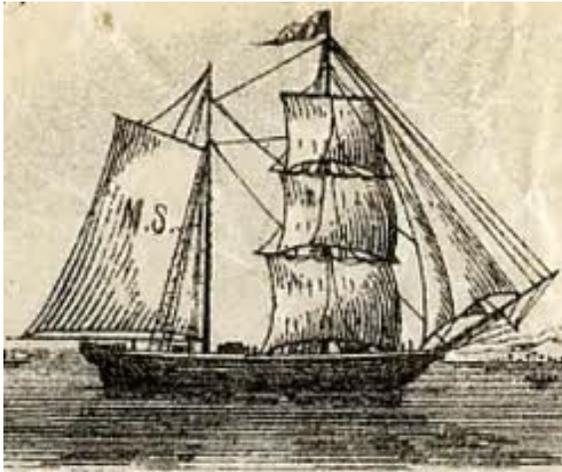


April 2012

The Morning Star

A MISSION PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HAWAII



*Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands
Annual Meeting*

“The Journey Between Memory and Hope”

Thursday, June 7, 2012

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Central Union Church Parish Hall

1660 S. Beretania Street

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Tickets: \$25.00 in advance

Next WBM Meeting

Thursday, May 17

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Hawaii Conference UCC
Headquarters
1848 Nuuanu Avenue

Invite a friend

Woman's Board of Missions for
the Pacific Islands

1848 Nuuanu Avenue
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817
(808) 791-5647



Editor: Clara D. Priester
Presiding: Karen Welsh

Keynote Speaker:

Reverend Nancy Lockwood



For tickets or more information call 791-5647

FROM OUR PRESIDENT: KAREN WELSH



Blessings to all our dear members! What an incredible season for the Woman's Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands. As I finish up my first term as President of this amazing organization I can testify to the many leaps of faith the women serving on my cabinet and our executive council have taken, especially in the past six months. I so admire all of the women who have willingly stepped forward to stabilize, sustain, and bless WBM with giving hands, hearts and spirits. In a recent ohana time we talked about how James, the brother of Jesus, emphasized the joint role of faith and actions and how they were made to work together. There is a simpatico relationship between the two and we need both to thrive and be alive. As we submit ourselves to the Spirit as willing vessels, we should be aware that shallow faith is dead. On the other hand, "good works" are just as dead if they are devoid of a solid and abiding faith. As we grow in our walk with the Lord, let us bear witness to the fact that a genuine faith cannot help but be accompanied by good works. Faith is the force behind all that we do, and all that we do is the finality of the faith. My encouragement is for each and every one of you to "keep the faith," through constant prayer, Bible study, and strong Christian fellowship. Know God's word, and have it written on your heart and do not forsake assembling yourselves on a regular basis with other believers. If you want to be blessed, I encourage you to attend our regular monthly WBM meetings. Your heart will be overflowing with joy! I know mine is always so full after our time together. I am especially looking forward to our time together at WBM's 141st Annual Meeting, to be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 7, at Central Union Church. I am looking forward to sharing a unique time together filled with praise, worship, an incredible message, a general meeting, and a time of fellowship over lunch. We have many exciting announcements to make in moving this historical ministry forward into the next 100 years of existence! I truly hope each and every one of you can make it!

WBM CABINET

- ❖ **Karen Welsh**
President, Big Island Representative
- ❖ **Kathleen Mumford**
VP Representative, Tri-Isle
- ❖ **Olive E. Bass**
VP Representative, O'ahu
- ❖ **Mokihana Powers**
VP Representative, Kaua'i
- ❖ **Myrtle Stewart-Vetekina**
Recording Secretary
- ❖ **Lenora Cossey-Taft**
Corresponding Secretary
- ❖ **Georgia Kay**
Interim Treasurer
- ❖ **Eleanore A. Chong**
Finance Committee Chair
- ❖ **Melinda Ahn**
Missions Chair
- ❖ **Clara D. Priester**
Interim Executive Director



Mahalo Nui Loa

Gloria Tamashiro
*Donations for the UCC Transition House
Donations of fabric for the Phillipines*

Jim Richards
Financial Advice

Lenora Cossey-Taft
Volunteering in our WBM Office

Irene Nomura
Warmth of spirit

Janet Akau
Donations for Stamp Project

Karen Welsh
Steadfast Leadership

Kapaa UCC
Donations for Stamp Project

Iao UCC
Host of our Mau'i Meet & Greet

Melinda Ahn
Compassion in Missions

Carolyn Winston
Spirit of community

Aunty Myrtle Stewart-Vetekina
Always doing more than what is required

Elly Chong
Georgia S. Kay
Wisdom & Guidance

Women's League, Central Union Church
Tremendous support

All of our members who have been faithful in attending our monthly meetings and committed to serving God, our community, and world by utilizing your unique gifts.

All of you who have graciously committed to serving as committee chairs.

WBM VISION STATEMENT

“The Woman’s Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands is a group of compassionate Christian women coming from a variety of churches and ethnic groups. Our purpose is: * to inspire and empower women to become active Christians, nurturing the Spirit in their individual lives, homes, community and the entire world, * to educate and encourage children in their highest potential, and *to be in partnership with sister organizations sharing similar values.”



CORE VALUES

Competence
Compassion
Commitment
Character
Community



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2012

Apr 28	Mau’i Meet and Greet
May 17	WBM Meeting (<i>O’ahu</i>)
May 28	Memorial Day
Jun 8-9	Aha Pae’Aina
Jun 7	Annual Meeting
Jun 11	Kamehameha Day
Jun 17	Father’s Day
Jul 4	Independence Day
Jul 19	Big Island Meet & Greet
Aug	No WBM Meeting
Aug 17	Statehood Day
Sep 3	Labor Day
Sep 17	Rosh Hashanah
Sep 20	WBM Meeting (<i>O’ahu</i>)
Sep 26	Yom Kippur
Oct 8	Columbus Day
Oct 18	WBM Meeting (<i>O’ahu</i>)
Nov 15	WBM Meeting (<i>O’ahu</i>)
Nov 22	Thanksgiving
Dec 20	WBM Meeting (<i>O’ahu</i>)
Dec 25	Christmas

YOU ARE INVITED

*The Woman’s Board of Missions
Tri-Isle Gathering
“Meet & Greet”*

*Iao UCC
2371 Vineyard Street
Wailuku, Maui 96793*

*Saturday, April 28, 2012
9:00 am to 12 noon*

WELCOME

New and Returning Members

Linda Shigetani

Lihue United Church, Kaua’i

Dr. Maryruth Eaves-Herrera

Haili Church, Big Island

Jeanette “Janet” Bell

Makakilo Baptist Church, O’ahu



Melinda Ahn

The Joy of Missions



Easter For the Homeless



Melinda, Myrtle, and Kiara with a homeless man and woman at Ala Moana Beach Park.

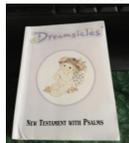
It was a beautiful sunny day on Easter Sunday! For many, this is a day of gatherings at sunrise services or ones with special programs and well-planned meals with family members. But sadly, for our homeless population, it is another day of struggling to survive. A group of us including my nephew Kaimana, myself, two of my grandchildren, my daughter, Kaliko, her son Julian, and her husband, Alejo, who had just returned from Afghanistan, caravanned out toward the Kakaako Water Front Park to deliver gifts to our brothers and sisters who are homeless, we began on the side streets of Kakaako. Our very own WBM member, Aunty Myrtle and her husband, Sione joined us. Their van was tightly packed with blankets, jackets, Bibles, towels, slippers, clothing, and more! We delivered these gifts to those who were homeless at Ala Moana, Chinatown, Aala Park, and finally to Thomas Square. Handwritten labels were secured to our gift bags so people who read them knew that the gifts came from the Woman’s Board of Missions for the Pacific Islands. The Bibles we gave were inscribed.

It was beautiful to see the faces of people light up as we walked through the parks! The actual act of getting out of my car and presenting gifts to so many people, who live without a home, is such a small strain. Seeing how happy they were that someone thought of them made my heart swell! So many were sleeping when we arrived and when they received their bags, they sat up immediately and began to eat their Easter eggs. One person at Thomas Square asked, “Is there candy inside the bags?” When she learned that there were, she exclaimed how that was such a treat!

What impressed me the most was how friendly and kind people were. They were so grateful and happy that we took some time to talk with them and for these very small gestures of God’s love. Perhaps, many people just do not look their way, because they may not want to address their feelings about the homeless. We should be careful to understand that we, ourselves, may only be one month away from such. The loss of a job, a permanent physical injury or serious illness, death of a spouse, a natural disaster, or an unexpected series of events could catapult any one of us into homelessness. May we seek to serve with the kind of compassion and mercy that Jesus demonstrated always.



Easter basket/bags with dyed eggs, chocolates, and candy.



Pack of card sized Bibles



270 eggs boiled ready to be dyed



Kaliko and Aunty Myrtle



After finishing our deliveries, I looked up and saw this rainbow, as if it was a sign from God that he was happy with our work!



Olive Bass, VP O’ahu

Missions in the Philippines

Please pray for Olive Bass and Janet Bell as they demonstrate the love and mercy of God to people in various locales in the Philippines. They will be visiting children in a school that Olive helped to establish in the Philippines. Janet is a new member of the WBM and eagerly joined Olive on this missions trip.

Missions in Malawi

Judy Asman will be traveling with a group to Malawi next month. Please pray for her and those who are preparing to visit, help and minister to the children in an orphanage there.

We thank God for our women who are serving in ways that dramatically impact those around the globe.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 2:8