

Section I:

General Information

194th 'Aha Pae'aina
TENTATIVE 'AHA MAKUA PROGRAM SCHEDULE
DRAFT 5/11/16 - Schedule subject to change

TIME	6/8/16 Wednesday	6/9/16 Thursday	6/10/16 FRIDAY	6/11/16 SATURDAY
6:30A				
8:00A			BREAKFAST (Parish Hall)	BREAKFAST (Parish Hall)
9:00A		UCC History & Polity Classes (Women's Building, 9a-6p)	OPENING OF THE 'AHA MAKUA OPENING WORSHIP PLENARY SESSION (Sanctuary) ↓	WORSHIP (Parish Hall) Keynote Address
10:00A 10:30A 11:00A	'Aha Youth Event Begins		BREAK PLENARY SESSION KEYNOTE ADDRESS PROK	BUSINESS SESSION Business Meeting Words of Thanks, Invitation to the 195th 'Aha Pae'aina Installation
12:00P			LUNCH (Parish Hall)	LUNCH (Parish Hall)
1:00P			PLENARY (Parish Hall) Budget Presentation Missional Team Reports WORKSHOPS Break WORKSHOPS	HCUCC Council (Meet during lunch in the Fireside Room) Conclusion of the 194th 'AHA PAE'AINA
5:00P			Taste of Oahu	
6:00P				



This year, there will be two keynote speakers. The first speaker on Friday morning, June 10, is the **Rev. Dr. Min Heui Cheon**, Executive Secretary of Partnership and Ecumenical Relations for the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK). She is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary in New York and has been a lecturer at Hanshin Graduate school of Theology and Chaplain and Vice-Principal of Youngghang Shema Christian School in Wonju, Korea.

The speaker on Saturday morning, June 11, is the **Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson**, who is Minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in the Office of the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. As the UCC ecumenical officer, she has responsibility for nurturing and coordinating ecumenical relationships through partner churches, councils of churches, theological dialogues and ecumenical initiatives. She is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary, and served previously with UCC Justice and Witness Ministries and the Florida Conference.





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Aloha Kakou!

It is a delight and privilege to welcome you to Central Union Church! I hope that your time on our campus brings a fresh wind of the Spirit to enliven your souls and prepare you for the road ahead in each of your congregational settings.

Throughout this Aha Makua, I will be praying that God's *Still Speaking* voice will inspire us to continue to boldly proclaim that God is love and God's love never fails us! Each of you represent a larger body who strive to be the Body of Christ for this time and in your unique setting. May you leave refreshed and ready to inspire your congregation!

As you venture around our campus, please feel free to slow down, sit in the midst of God's creation and soak up a healthy amount of grace. I look forward to meeting each of you and celebrate that through Christ, we are all brothers and sisters!

Blessings on you!

Rev. David Rivers
Senior Minister
Central Union Church



June 2016

Dear Delegates, Visitors and Friends:

Welcome to the 194th 'Aha Pae'aina, the annual gathering of churches and ministers of the United Church of Christ in Hawai'i!

We are honored this year to have guests from the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK). Our new friends will help us live out our theme, "Called as Partners," and celebrate with us the mission partnership being established between the South Seoul Presbytery of the PROK and the Hawai'i Conference.

We also welcome keynote speakers, the Revs. Min Heui Cheon and Karen Georgia Thompson, who are the ecumenical officers of the PROK and UCC, respectively. These denominational representatives originally conceived the idea of partnership between the Presbytery and Conference. So it is fitting that they are present to speak to us at this important and historic occasion.

Our gracious host this year is Central Union Church, and we give warmest, most heart-felt *mahalo* to the ministers, the Revs. David Rivers and Brandon Duran; to present and past moderators, Suzie Schulberg and Nathan Wong; to the volunteer coordinators, Sandy Fong, Valerie Tanaka, and Alice Taum; as well as to so many others of the church who welcome us to this tremendously sacred and ever joyous place!

Recently, a local church member asked me what churches are making a difference. Her membership committee was meeting soon to talk about revitalizing their church, and she was looking for ideas and stories. I started telling her of a congregation in Detroit I'd just heard about, and she interrupted, "But are there local models that are working?"

I paused—not because I couldn't think of any, but because there were too many. A flood of images overwhelmed me: churches, large and small, doing things and reaching out in ways that are making an impact on their communities and touching people's lives. But each doing it in their own, unique, God-equipped way. I mentioned a few churches, then stopped and said, "But your church has to figure out for itself what God intends for you. No book or consultant will tell you. You create your own model."

Our Hawai'i Conference is full of stories of people and churches making a difference. We may not always realize it, especially as we struggle to pay bills, fix the roof, find volunteers, and keep up with our own age. But hearing others' stories and sharing our own—the very substance of these 'Aha Pae'aina—remind us that God is indeed at work through us, together with partners, and as the Hawai'i Conference.

Thank you for making a difference! Let us as partners continue doing so!

Yours in Christ,

Charles Buck
Conference Minister

Aloha mai kakou, Talofa lava, to all the delegates, guests and friends of the Hawaii Conference.

Welcome to the 194th 'Aha Pae'aina here at Central Union Church. I would like to thank the Rev. David Rivers and members of Central Union Church for the invitation to host our annual gathering this year. It is a privilege to be here in this historical and beautiful Church to celebrate God's love, to fellowship, to worship, to listen/ learn, and to do the business of the church through the Hawai'i Conference of the United Church of Christ.

The official kick off of this year's Aha Pae'aina began with the start of the 'Aha Iki on June 8th here at Central Union Church. The Association of Hawaii Evangelical Churches (AHEC), State Council of Hawaiian Congregational Churches and affiliated groups will also hold their annual meetings June 8-9.

In this 'Aha Pae'aina, we welcome the presence and participation of our two keynote speakers, the Rev. Dr. Min Heui Cheon, Executive Secretary of Partnership and Ecumenical Relations for the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) and the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, Minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in the Office of the General Minister and President of our denomination. And we are looking forward to hear, learn and engage in conversations with them.

Among many other things that will happen at this 'Aha Pae'aina will be a formal establishment and celebration of a missional partnership between the Hawai'i Conference UCC and the South Seoul Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea. Also present at the 'Aha Pae'aina is a delegation consists of ministers and leaders from PROK. We welcome them and acknowledge their presence as we celebrate our missional partnership for the sake of the Christ we worship, love and serve, not only in Hawaii but in the Republic of Korea and throughout the world.

We appreciate your presence in these meetings of the 'Aha Pae'aina. We enjoy the new and the familiar faces as we gather together. May the Lord help each of us to love, adore and worship him—our great Savior. Have a good meeting.

Iese Tuuao, Chair
Hawaii Conference, UCC