

Waiokeola Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

4705 Kilauea Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96816-5372

To: Waiokeola Congregation
Fr: Moderator and the Waiokeola Congregational Church Council
Re: Suspension of On-site Worship Services & Cancellation of Congregational Meeting
Date: March 16, 2020

The Council met this past Sunday, March 15, 2020, and discussed the current COVID-19 pandemic and the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Hawaii State Department of Health as of the time of the Council meeting. And, as of this morning, March 16, the CDC released the, "President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days To Slow The Spread."

- CDC resources, [Coronavirus.Gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) and [President's Coronavirus Guidelines](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2020/03/15/);
- Hawaii Department of Health resource, [COVID-19 Daily Update March 16, 2020](https://www.hawaii.gov/health/covid-19/))

The Council thoroughly considered the spiritual needs of the congregation and our responsibility to "Love your Neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:39

It was decided to **NOT gather for worship** until the Department of Health lifts its recommendation to avoid gatherings and public events of 50 or more. The Department of Health guidance is to avoid such gatherings for the next 8 weeks, but may change depending on the Coronavirus situation.

In the meantime, each Sunday, we will be trying something new! During this break - Pastor Jon and our Director of Music, Larry Cross will offer a shortened worship service that will be videotaped and ready to view each Sunday.

Please go to our Waiokeola Congregational Church's website (waiokeola.org) this Sunday and the service should be on the opening page. It is not live-streamed, so please view at your convenience.

Tithes and Offerings can still be given during this break, by mailing your check to the Church office or dropping it off.

Finally, the Congregational Meeting scheduled for March 29 is cancelled and the second meeting will be scheduled later this year.

Please stay healthy and safe. We will notify our congregants when we will resume our Sunday morning worship services.

With His Love,

The Waiokeola Church Council and its Ministries