

LISTING INFORMATION

MAKAWAO UNION CHURCH

Paia, Maui, Hawaii

Conference: Hawaiian Conference, United Church of Christ

Association: Tri-Isle Association, Hawaii

UCC Hawaii Conference Staff Contact Person:

Rev. Dr. David Popham, Conference Minister

Hawaii Conference, United Church of Christ

1848 Nu'uuanu Ave.

Honolulu, Hawaii, 96817-2426

Phone: 808-437-9516

Email: dpopham@hcucc.org

Church Name: **Makawao Union Church**

Street Address: 1445 Baldwin Avenue, Paia, Maui, Hawaii

(Physical Location – NOT A MAILING ADDRESS)

Mailing Address: PO Box 790071 Paia, HI 96779

Church Email: makawaunion@gmail.com

Church Website: www.makawaunionchurch.org

Local Church Contact:

Jay Slaughter, Moderator

Email: jslaughter@hawaii.rr.com

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS, TRAITS AND ATTRIBUTES

Makawao Union Church is seeking an interim pastor to lead and guide a small, aging congregation that has been without strong, stable leadership since 2017. Our latest settled pastor resigned in September 2020, citing issues within the church as well as effects from the Covid pandemic. The previous pastor left in 2017 to take a position on the mainland and was succeeded by a local trained interim pastor who remained only a year. A committee was formed in early 2021 to locate an interim pastor. They brainstormed the qualifications, traits and attributes that were felt to be essential for a candidate and then sought input from the congregation via an online survey.

Results were compiled to create a picture of what the church would like to see in an interim pastor. Please review the following list prayerfully and carefully:

Have you experience and success as an interim pastor and feel called to meet the challenges that face this congregation?

Do you have a positive attitude that radiates kindness and being approachable, accessible to a congregation that varies in ages, stages and personalities? Can you be honest and fair in your actions and words?

Is there a ready and natural sense of humor that can delight or defuse whether in sermons or conversations?

Are you an effective listener, emphatic and compassionate, and trained to help people discuss and solve problems?

Do you possess any musical talents (singing or playing instruments) that could enhance, enrich and enliven worship experiences? Are you open to incorporating a variety of music venues in worship and social gatherings?

Makawao Union Church is a warm and welcoming community. We are eager to face the challenges and serious planning to be undertaken in order to help us transition toward a settled pastor and a viable future. We look forward to working together with an interim pastor on the tasks ahead for the betterment of our beloved Makawao Union Church.

MAKAWAO UNION CHURCH CONGREGATION

In 1861 King Kamehameha IV granted a charter to *The Makawao Foreign Church and Congregation* as a self-sustaining Congregational church whose services were conducted in English. The congregation primarily grew from the families of the original missionaries. These included land owners, professionals and other community leaders in local and state government.

Makawao Union Church has remained as a Schedule 1 Church. Our church supports many of the ministries and missions of the United Church of Christ and considers itself in association with the local Tri-Isle Association as well as the Hawaii Conference, UCC. We are a welcoming, caring congregation. Our congregational organization, demographics, worship style, and social vision are generally attuned with the UCC.

We have been in the pastor search process much of the time since the fall of 2017 when our over nine-year pastor returned to the mainland to pastor a smaller church. There were no issues with his pastorate. As the church proceeded with the Settled Pastor Search Process a local retired intentional interim pastor served for a year. Our new pastor was called and began her ministry in the fall of 2019. Her ministry with us began well. However, shortly after her installation, we had to totally shut down our campus, with only virtual and electronic interactions and communications available. These realities of COVID 19, the forced isolation so soon after her arrival, and major differences from her prior experiences made conditions very difficult for her to carry out her ministry. Subsequently she submitted her resignation in September 2020.

Currently our elected Church Council is managing the church. We sorely feel the need for Settled Pastoral Guidance to help and lead us as we sustain, grow and experience the unlimited possibilities ahead of our beloved church. We are eager to engage an Interim pastor to assist us as we begin the work in our Settled Pastor Search process. To this end, the Council has appointed an Interim Pastor Selection Committee. The committee, working with the Hawaii Conference UCC, has assembled this profile and will be soliciting and reviewing candidates for Interim Pastor for the Council to hire.

MAKAWAO UNION CHURCH, SERVING THE MAUI COMMUNITY SINCE 1861

The Makawao Union Church congregation moved from Makawao town to its present location in 1889. Halfway between the plantation towns of Paia (on the shore) and Makawao (upcountry), this was, at the time, a growing center of population. The church was surrounded by sugar cane fields, plantation housing, active villages, schools, the hospital and a sugar cane mill. The large Paia Community House (now our church Community Hall) was built in 1914 to serve the community as well as the church. The quite notable and impressive present sanctuary was built in 1916. Eventually the population center moved more to the Kahului area of Maui.

Over the years, though, members of the Maui community have continued to come to our campus to use our Community Hall and our Sanctuary. Prior to COVID, as part of our continuing outreach to the community, we made our facilities available to many diverse groups. Every night of the week there were various dancers, musical and concert groups, school plays, yoga, 12-step and educational programs on campus. In addition, our Sanctuary, well known, both in the Maui community, as well as nationally as an especially beautiful and acoustically inviting venue with a large pipe organ, has been actively hosting weddings, spiritual events and lectures, and over 12-15 musical concerts and recitals during the year. As Covid restrictions ease now, the use of the Sanctuary will expand and increase.

When our campus was forced to shut down, the opportunity was presented to us to use all of our Community Hall spaces to majorly expand our Thrift Shop, Secondhand Heaven. Because of COVID, many of the community's social outreach organizations have had to close or drastically curtail their activities. Our Thrift Shop is now very actively partnering with and supporting the missions of over 10 of these Maui social outreach organizations throughout the island. Secondhand Heaven is now also serving over 700 customers a month on campus. Through this new community outreach network, our congregation now has very greatly increased our church's mission and interaction with the greater Maui community. Our volunteers from the congregation strongly support this increasingly vital mission. In addition, the congregation always provides 7% of our pledged monetary income to support various Maui social agencies.

Financial Reimbursements

Annual base cash salary of \$32,000 plus housing, plus possible other standard benefits are offered.