



LAITY SUNDAY

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

September 6, 2026 ☩ 11 AM Service
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Parish Hall

Welcome to Central Union Church, where we believe that God dwells in you and in each person here today. When we see you, we see God's image, and we are honored and dignified by your presence. Thank you for coming.

"We Engage and Embrace ALL as we seek to Embody Christ!"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS...

From many places we gather here. This is a high point of our week. We see our friends. We make new friends. And we spend time with the loving Christ who meets us where we are, as we are. In this Sanctuary we worship and through worship the courage within us is kindled to inspire courageous living beyond this place.

Gathering Music *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Worship Team

Welcome and Announcements

* Sharing Aloha

Call to Worship (*responsively*) Martha Balkin

One: Come, children of God, rejoice in your Maker!

Many: **We sing songs and hymns, old and new; we celebrate with voices and instruments, with praise and prayers!**

One: Open your eyes to the life-giving presence of Jesus Christ.

Many: **For God is already here, among us and within us, bringing new life to all who believe.**

One: Let's praise God together!

*** Music** *One Thing Remains* Worship Team

Higher than the mountains that I face.

Stronger than the power of the grave.

Constant in the trial and the change.

One thing remains, one thing remains.

Chorus

Your love, Your love, Your love will never change.

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me.

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me.

Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me.

On, and on, and on, and on it goes.

It overwhelms and satisfies my soul.

And I never, ever have to be afraid.

One thing remains, one thing remains.

Bridge

In death, in life, I'm confident and covered by

The power of your great love.

My debt is paid; and there's nothing that can separate

My heart from Your great love.

CCLI Song # 5508444 CCLI License # 3179231

Brian Johnson | Christa Black Gifford | Jeremy Riddle © 2010 Christa Joy Music Publishing (Admin. by Bethel Music Publishing) Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music) Bethel Music Publishing

*** Music**

He Knows My Name

Worship Team

**I have a Maker, He formed my heart.
Before even time began, My life was in His hand.**

Chorus

**He knows my name. He knows my every thought.
He sees each tear that falls, And hears me when I call.**

**I have a Father, He calls me His own.
He'll never leave me, No matter where I go. (Chorus)**

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Tommy Walker © 1996 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Songs (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD...

Scripture

Romans 15:5-13

Pili Lee Loy

Sermon

Brody McMurtry,
Council Chair-elect

Reflective Music

Way Maker

Worship Team

**You are here, moving in our midst; I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, working in this place; I worship You, I worship You.**

Chorus

**(You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.**

**You are here touching ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.
You are here healing ev'ry heart, I worship You, I worship You.**

**You are here, turning lives around; I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, mending ev'ry heart; I worship You, yeah, I worship You Lord.**

Tag

**That is who You are. That is who You are.
That is who You are. That is who You are.**

Bridge

**Even when I don't see it, You're working.
Even when I don't feel it, You're working.
You never stop, You never stop working.
You never stop, You never stop working. (Tag)**

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TO RESPOND IN FAITH....

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Carol Alevizos

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

To give online to support our mission and ministry, scan this QR code
with your smartphone's camera OR type bit.ly/give2cuc into your web browser and select
"General Fund" from the drop-down menu.



Prayer

AND GO FORTH IN LOVE.

*God's love cannot be contained within the walls of this Sanctuary.
Take the love of Christ from this place into your homes, neighborhoods, and communities.*

* Music

I Will Sing of Your Love

Worship Team

**I will sing of your love, love, love
of your steadfast love for as long as I live,
and I will sing of your love, love, love,
for as long as I live.**

**I will sing of a love so wide
that it welcomes the neighbor and will not divide,
and I will sing of your love, love, love,
for as long as I live.**

**I will sing, "Let the children come.
Do not hinder them," for you love every one,
and I will sing of your love, love, love,
for as long as I live.**

**I will sing of the trees so tall
of the oceans so deep and your love for them all
and I will sing of your love, love, love
for as long as I live.**

Bridge

**Your love is stronger than the mountains,
soaks through me like the pouring rain.
It's no wonder that I'm answering your call.
Whenever someone needs a neighbor
and wherever there's a child in pain
we'll be working on a just world for all.**

**I will sing of your love, love, love
of your steadfast love for as long as I live,
and I will sing of your love, love, love,
for as long as I live.**

Words & Music: Christopher Grundy. Copyright © 2018 Hand and Soil Music. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-728809. All rights reserved.

* Closing Prayer *(in unison)*

Brody McMurtry

**Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can
ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and
in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

(Adapted from Ephesians 3:20-21)

* Benediction

Brody McMurtry

* Congregational Response

Worship Team

**Christ beside us, Christ before us, Christ behind us—king of our hearts;
Christ within us, Christ below us, Christ above us—never to part.**

Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.

*Please rise in body and/or spirit.

*Today's flowers have been lovingly arranged by **Jean Yokoyama**, and have been provided by the **Frances Kay Brossy Memorial Flower Fund** in memory of **Frances Kay Brossy**, a faithful and active member of Central Union Church who loved life and loved flowers.*

ANNUAL MEMBER AND BUDGET MEETING NEXT SUNDAY



The Annual Member and Budget Meeting of the congregation of Central Union Church will be held on **Sunday, September 13, 2026**, immediately following the combined **10:00 AM service in the Sanctuary**. There will be no 7, 9 or 11 AM service that day. The meeting will begin at 11 AM (or as soon thereafter as registration is complete), both online via Zoom and in the Parish Hall of the Honolulu Campus. The information needed to attend the Annual

Meeting via Zoom will be provided in a future notice.

JAZZ VESPERS RESUMES TONIGHT, SEPTEMBER 6TH!

Join us in the **Atherton Memorial Chapel** from **5:30 to 6:30 PM** on **September 6, 2026**, as we bring together amazing musicianship and holy inspiration for a service of prayer, meditation, silence and music. **(Coming up: September 6, October 4, November 1, December 6).**



SAY IT WITH FLOWERS



If you would like to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or other occasion with flowers at a Sunday worship service, please contact Dona Hanaike, through Natasha at (808) 440-3004, or flowers@centralunionchurch.org.

GUARD YOUR PERSONAL ITEMS

Reminder while on campus: We are fortunate to have a large, open campus with lots of people passing through for different reasons. To protect your belongings, we recommend not leaving things unattended in public spaces. Please be vigilant and guard your personal items and valuables.



SEPTEMBER BOOK STUDY

RECLAIMING OUR FAITH: A CONVERSATION FOR CURIOUS MINDS

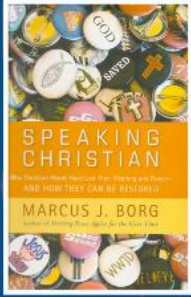
SEPTEMBER 2026 BOOK STUDY

**RECLAIMING OUR FAITH:
A Conversation
for Curious Minds**

Morning/evening
options each week:

Sep. 1, 8, 15, 22
TUESDAYS
6:00 - 7:30 PM
or
Sep. 3, 10, 17, 24
THURSDAYS
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

In the Rewick Board Room
CENTRAL UNION CHURCH



Have you ever found yourself sitting in a pew, hearing a traditional religious word like "salvation," "sin," or "faith," and feeling like it didn't quite capture the depth of what you experience in your daily walk with God? Sometimes, the words we grew up with can feel worn out, misunderstood, or even like a barrier to the spiritual life we actually live. This September, you are warmly invited to join us in the Rewick Board Room for a four-week book study as we explore **Marcus J. Borg's *Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power and How They Can Be Restored.*** Copies of the

book are available for purchase from Pastor Rushan or the Church Office for \$20.

There are two options to join the group:

- **Tuesdays (September 1, 8, 15, 22): 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM, or**
- **Thursdays (September 3, 10, 17, 24): 10:30 AM to 12 Noon**

Sign up online by typing <https://bit.ly/sep2026study> into your browser or using this QR code.



HELP US BRING SCRIPTURE TO LIFE—JOIN OUR TEAM OF READERS!



If you are interested in reading in a worship service, please join our pool of readers! We are always in need. To learn more and/or to sign up, use this QR code or type this link into your browser: bit.ly/readcuc.

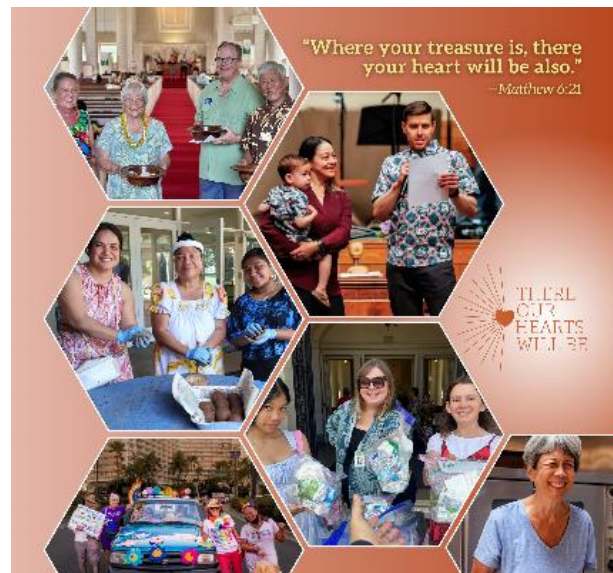
STEWARDSHIP - SHARE YOUR ESTIMATE OF GIVING

As part of our stewardship, we share our Estimate of Giving (EOG) which greatly helps our church to plan for the year ahead and live within our means. We trust that where our hearts go, our lives, choices, and resources will follow. Please spend some time in prayer and consider what you are



able to give in 2027 to support the ministry of Central Union Church. You may turn in your EOG card to the office, or complete it online by using this

QR code, or by typing bit.ly/pledgecuc into your browser.



FLORAL ARRANGERS NEEDED



Do you have a knack for arranging flowers? Would you like to learn how the church floral arrangements are made? The CUC Flower Committee is happily welcoming new people to learn and help with the floral arrangements that can be seen in our worship spaces each Sunday. If you're interested in being part of this blossoming ministry, contact Dona Hanaike for more info: flowers@centralunionchurch.org.

GET READY FOR GIVE ALOHA AT FOODLAND DURING SEPTEMBER!



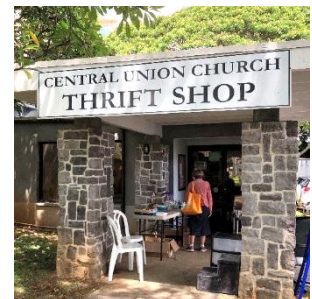
Throughout the month of September, you can donate to Central Union Church and Preschool at any Foodland checkout through the [Give Aloha](#) program! Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of each gift with a donation to our organizations, too!

HOW TO GIVE: Go to any Foodland cash register with your Maika'i card (free at any Foodland service counter) and make a donation with cash, check, or credit card, naming **Central Union Church #78511** or **Central Union Preschool #78270** as a recipient. You can donate any amount, up to a total of \$249 (per person, per organization). You can submit your receipt (which will list your Maika'i number, our organization's name, and the donation amount) to the Church Office by mail, or in the collection plate, to get credit on your giving statement. This is a great way to pay your September pledge and make your giving go further!

PLEASE pay your September pledge, or give an extra donation, through *Give Aloha* this September!

COME AND SHOP AT THE HONOLULU THRIFT SHOP!

Operating hours are Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 AM to 1 PM. These hours of operation also reflect the current hours at our Windward Thrift Shop (at the Central Union Windward campus). Hours may be further modified on certain dates depending on volunteer capacity. If you're interested in volunteering at the Thrift Shop, please contact: cuc@centralunionchurch.org.



HELP WITH SERVING ALOHA FOOD DISTRIBUTION



The **Serving Aloha** weekly food distribution can always use volunteers! There is a wide range of tasks that cover a range of physical abilities (bagging food, distributing to guests, registering guests for walk-in and drive-through distribution, and clean-up).

Volunteers should **check in between 9-10 AM** at the registration desk in the Women's Building. Wear close-toed shoes. Sunscreen and bottled water are also recommended. The distribution finishes at 1 PM, although "work shift" times are flexible. Questions? Contact Martha

Balkin at mecbalkin@gmail.com. Groups are encouraged to schedule their visit.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CENTRAL UNION CHURCH



Thank you for joining us in worship today. Your presence and participation are an important part of shaping this experience of worship for all of us. **Know that whoever you are and wherever you are in your journey of life and of faith, you are welcome here!**

If you are a guest here today, we would love for you to become a regular part of what God is doing in and through this church community. Let us know you visited today by completing this brief form here: bit.ly/cucguest, or by using this QR code, so that we can reach out to you and welcome you to our community.



Nursery: A staffed Nursery is available during the **9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services**. Children, ages birth through three years, may be left in the Nursery where they will be cared for during the service.

Sunday School: We offer a Sunday School program for children, age 3 through 5th Grade, during the **9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services**. Children participate in the first part of the service and will leave for Sunday School following the Time for Keiki.

Youth Group: We offer a Youth Group for young people in grades 6 through 12. This week, the Youth will meet **between Noon and 1:30 PM** up in the Youth Room.

Young(ish) Adults: We have a Young(ish) Adult ministry here at CUC for Generations X, Y, Z. We gather monthly and would love to connect with you! For more information, please email youngish@centralunionchurch.org.

Our Ministers are Every One of Our Members!
Senior Minister, The Rev. A. Rushan Sinnaduray

Please note: By attending events on campus, you may be included in photos and videos recorded by church representatives. Your presence grants your permission to be in these photos or videos, which may be used for communications or archival purposes.

If you do not wish to be photographed or included in communications, you may let a church representative know. Mahalo!

Central Union Church — A United Church of Christ 'Ohana
Celebrating transforming lives since 1887!
"We Engage and Embrace ALL as we seek to Embody Christ!"
1660 South Beretania Street – Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826 • 808-941-0957
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cuc@centralunionchurch.org • centralunionchurch.org

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